

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

March 19, 2025 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ *P.M.*

Roll Call:

Ms. Argenziano	_____
Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Estrems	_____
Ms. Lee	_____
Ms. Li	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
Mr. Paldi	_____
Ms. Salamea-Cross	_____
Ms. Finkelstein	_____

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

BOARD COMMITTEES

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to open the meeting to the public.

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per bylaw 0167. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to resume the regular order of business.

BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A and B.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. APPROVAL - Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the March 5, 2025, Board of Education meeting minutes.

B. APPROVAL - Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB)

Motion to affirm the decision of the Superintendent of Schools regarding Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB) incidents TMS-2425-15, TMS-2425-16 and TMS-2425-17 as reported to the Board in Executive Session at the March 5, 2025, meeting.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Finkelstein; Members: Ms. Argenziano, Ms. Lee

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - C.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. APPROVAL - Staff Coursework

Motion to approve the following courses for the 2024-2025 school year as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member:	Mary Auriti
Course No./Title:	EDUC 7644 Structured Literacy: Students with Reading Difficulties 4
Institution:	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits:	3

Staff Member: Mary Auriti
Course No./Title: Teaching Grammar in Context
Institution: Fresno Pacific University
Credits: 3

B. **APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

Motion to approve the following staff conferences for the 2024-2025 school year:

Staff Member(s): Christine Cipollini and Dianne Smith
Conference: A Comprehensive Approach to Behavior Consultation
Location: NVCC
Date: 4/22/25
Cost to Board: \$0

C. **APPROVAL - Athletic Team Practice**

Motion to approve the following athletic team practice for the 2024-2025 school year:

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: Spring Track Team - Grades 5-8
Month: May 2025
Destination: NVRHS-D Track
Location: Demarest, NJ

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Mr. Choi; Members: Ms. Estrems, Ms. Finkelstein

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - E.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Monthly Financials and Certification**

Motion to approve the following items as required, pursuant to NJSA 18A:17-9 and NJAC 6:20-2.13, as per Appendix A attached:

- a. Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for February 2025.
- b. Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for February 2025.
- c. Transfer of funds for February 2025.

B. **APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from March 6, 2025, to March 19, 2025, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$1,243,853.48
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 7,316.80
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$ 193.23
Total	\$1,251,363.51

C. **APPROVAL - Special Services Rates for SY 2025-2026**

Motion to approve the following special services rates for the 2025-2026 school year for Region III students who will attend Closter Public Schools. These rates will also be used to calculate the cost of services for in-district students when determining extraordinary aid:

	<u>Group</u>	<u>Individual</u>
Speech/Session	\$41.00	\$82.00
OT/PT/Session	\$44.00	\$88.00
MSR/Session	\$41.00	\$82.00
Counseling/Session	\$41.00	\$82.00
ELL Session	\$41.00	\$82.00

D. **APPROVAL - Tuition Rates for SY 2025-2026**

Motion to approve the following tuition rates for the school year 2025-2026:

Kindergarten	\$17,722
Grades 1-5	\$17,555
Grades 6-8	\$16,546
PreSchool Disabled	\$35,237
Learning and/or Language Disabilities	\$32,977
Emotional Regulation Impairment	\$26,591

E. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member:	Catherine Gibney
Course:	Orton Gillingham Topics
College/University:	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Remuneration:	\$590.00

Staff Member: Margaret Tahtabrounian
Course: 1) English Language Learners' Struggles - Signs of Difficulty or Disability
2) Achieving Success for English Language Learners
3) How the ELL Brain Learns
College/University: University of LaVerne
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Salamea-Cross; Member: Mr. Paldi

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - H.

Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Retirement of Diane Smith, Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve the retirement of Diane Smith, Hillside School Paraprofessional, effective June 30, 2025.

B. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Kenza Sehbi Tlemcani as Long-Term Leave Replacement**

Motion to approve the appointment of Kenza Sehbi Tlemcani as Pre-K Long-Term Leave Replacement Teacher (A.W.) from April 10, 2025, through the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; on the beginning of day 11, BA Step 0, \$55,000 pro-rated. Criminal history background check is already on file.

C. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Caterina Belvedere, Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve the resignation of Caterina Belvedere, Hillside School Paraprofessional, effective March 10, 2025.

D. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Hersh Vora, Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve the resignation of Hersh Vora, Hillside School Paraprofessional, effective March 14, 2025.

E. **APPROVAL - Substitute Teachers/Paraprofessionals/Custodians**

Motion to approve the following substitute teachers/paraprofessionals/custodians for the 2024-2025 school Year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>
Stacey Moses	Teachers Certification
Robert Taschler	Substitute Certification

F. **APPROVAL - Discretionary Leave of Absence for Edlira Gjata, Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve Edlira Gjata, Hillside School Paraprofessional, for a discretionary leave of absence from April 23, 2025, through June 30, 2025, with an anticipated return to work date of September 1, 2025.

G. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Abigail Capazzi as Hillside School Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve the appointment of Abigail Capazzi as HES Paraprofessional for 5.75 hours per day, at a salary of \$20.89 per hour, starting May 5, 2025, through the end of the 2024-2025 school year. A criminal history background check is on file.

H. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Maria Barricella as Hillside School Paraprofessional**

Motion to approve the appointment of Maria Barricella as HES Paraprofessional for 5.75 hours per day, at a salary of \$20.89 per hour. Her start date will be April 7, 2025, through the end of the 2024-2025 school year, pending a criminal history background check.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Micera; Member: Ms. Li

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motion A.

Motion was _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Second Reading of Policies / Regulations**

Motion to approve the second reading of the following policies / regulations:

- P 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Non-Resident Students
- P 5512 Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying
- P 5516 Use of Electronic Communication Devices
- P 5533 Student Smoking
- P 5701 Academic Integrity
- P 5710 Student Grievance
- P 7441 Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds
- P 8500 Food Services
- P 9163 Spectator Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Events
- P 9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

- R 5516 Use of Electronic Communication Devices
- R 5533 Student Smoking
- R 7441 Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds
- R 9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to open the meeting for public comments.

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to close the meeting to public comments.

CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve the following Closed Session Motion. Motion was _____ by a voice vote of the Board:

YEAS:

NAYS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

(If required)

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at _____ PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at _____ PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to adjourn the meeting at _____ PM.