

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

September 24, 2024 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: _____ @ _____ P.M.

Roll Call:

Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Fanelli	_____
Ms. Kwon	_____
Ms. Li	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
Ms. Wagner	_____
Ms. Yeoh	_____
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 - G.

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 September 10, 2024, Board of Education meeting minutes.

- B. **APPROVAL - Nursing Services Plan for the 2024-2025 School Year**
Motion to approve the Nursing Services Plan for the 2024-2025 school year as Appendix A attached.

- C. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT - School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill - HES**
The Board acknowledges that Hillside Elementary School successfully conducted its first emergency school bus exit drill, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.2, at 9:00 a.m. on September 18, 2024, at the school's location, 340 Homans Avenue. Andrew Enrique, Board Office Assistant, was the staff member in charge. The drill was for all students and was completed within 2 hours. The official report is attached as Appendix B.

- D. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT - School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill - TMS**
The Board acknowledges that Tenakill Middle School successfully conducted its second emergency school bus exit drill, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:27-11.2, at 12:15 p.m. on September 18, 2024, at Tenakill Middle School, 275 High Street; Keith McElroy, Assistant Principal, was the staff member in charge. The drill was for all students. The drill was completed within 1 hour and 30 minutes. The official report is attached as Appendix C.

- E. **APPROVAL- Reflective Practice Protocol for 2024-2025 School Year**
Motion to approve the Reflective Practice Protocol for School Year 2024-2025 for those teachers who were rated Highly Effective in the 2023-2024 school year, as per Appendix D attached. Teachers rated highly effective may choose to participate in this process.

- F. **APPROVAL - Board and District Goals - 2024-2025 School Year**
Motion to approve the Board and District goals for 2024-2025 school year, as per Appendix E.
- G. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities for Closter Junior Girl Scout Troop 97788**
Motion to approve the use of a classroom at Tenakill Middle School for the Closter Junior Girl Scout Troop 97788 for meetings during the 2024-2025 school year.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Wagner; Members: Ms. Salamea-Cross, Ms. Yeoh

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: Catherine Gibney
 Course No./Title: EDUC 6624 81-Orton-Gillingham Topics
 Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University
 Credits: 1

- B. **APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**
Motion to approve the following staff conferences for the 2024-2025 school year:

Staff Member(s): Keith McElroy
 Conference: Bergen County Curriculum Committee
 Location: Paramus, NJ
 Date: 9/29/24, 12/6/24 and 3/21/25
 Cost to Board: \$28.50 (Total round-trip transportation)

Staff Member(s): Margaret Churchill
 Conference: NVCC Workshop Facilitator WIDA Standards
 Location: Demarest, NJ
 Date: 11/15/2024
 Cost to Board: \$126.03 (Substitute and total round-trip transportation)

Staff Member(s): Silvia Jost
 Conference: New Jersey Science Convention

Location: Princeton, NJ
Date: 10/16/24
Cost to Board: \$385.16 (Registration, substitute and total round-trip transportation)

Staff Member(s): Margaret Churchill
Conference: WIDA Conference 2024
Location: Pittsburgh, PA
Date: 10/15/24 - 10/18/24
Cost to Board: \$500.00 (Registration, hotel, and transportation covered by NJTESOL)

Staff Member(s): Ashley Buckley, Alyssa Levy, Meghan Pleus, Lori Scalera, Andrea Watkins
Conference: 39th Annual Fall Conference - NJIDA
Location: Somerset, NJ
Date: 10/18/24 - 10/19/24
Cost to Board: \$2,173.66 (Total cost for registration, substitutes and transportation)

Staff Member(s): Deborah Gonzalez, Kathy Lee, Cassandra San-Emeterio and Margaret Tahtabrounian
Conference: WIDA Conference 2024
Location: Virtual
Date: 10/15/24
Cost to Board: \$0 (Conference paid with Title III Funds)

Staff Member(s): Deborah Gonzalez, Kathy Lee, Cassandra San-Emeterio and Margaret Tahtabrounian
Conference: NJ TESOL Conference
Location: New Brunswick, NJ
Date: 5/21/25 - 5/22/25
Cost to Board: \$599.36 (Total cost for for transportation only - conference paid with Title III Funds)

Staff Member(s): Dianne Smith
Conference: SNAP Conference
Location: Moonachie, NJ
Date: 10/17/24
Cost to Board: \$16.17 (Transportation)

Staff Member(s): Alexandra Earle, Suzanne Lang, Callie Stabile & Dara Weiss
Conference: Northern Valley Counselors Meetings
Location: Northern Valley Schools
Date: Various meetings during the 2024-2025 school year
Cost to Board: \$350 (Total cost for estimated transportation; meetings held at various locations)

Staff Member(s): Leanne Schettino
Conference: Using a Strengths-Based Approach in School Conference
Location: Virtual
Date: 10/18/24
Cost to Board: \$349.00 (registration)

Staff Member(s): Christine Cipollini
Conference: Behavior Threat Assessment Training - NJ K-12
Location: Virtual
Date: 10/24/24
Cost to Board: \$0

Staff Member(s): Chris Rota and Chelsea Smith
Conference: Behavior Threat Assessment Training
Location: Virtual
Date: 9/26/24
Cost to Board: \$0

C. **APPROVAL - Field Trips**

Motion to approve the following field trips for the 2024-2025 school year:

School: Tenakill Middle School
Group: Grade 8 Orchestra / Band
Month: May 2025
Destination: Six Flags
Location: Jackson, NJ

School: Hillside Elementary School
Group: Grade 3
Month: May 2025
Destination: Carnegie Hall - New York City

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Yeoh; Members: Mr. Choi, Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kwon

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 - 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 F attached:

- a. Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for August 2024.
- b. Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for August 2024.
- c. Transfer of funds for August 2024.

B. **APPROVAL - Monthly Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from September 11, 2024, to September 24, 2024, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$378,495.48
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$239,919.33
Capital Fund (Fund 30)	\$ 33,472.71
Total	\$651,887.52

C. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Jennifer Levy
Course: 1) Essential Strategies for Understanding in ELA
2) Teaching with Graphic Novels
3) Successful Independent Reading
College/University: Fresno Pacific University
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

Staff Member: Lauren Engle
Course: 1) Creating a Mindful Environment
2) Understanding Moods
3) Motivating Students Who Don't Care
College/University: University of LaVerne
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

D. **APPROVAL - Movement on the Salary Guide for the 2024-2025 School Year**

Motion to approve movement on the salary guide for the following employees for the 2024-2025 school year, retroactive to September 1, 2024:

Name	Current Placement	New Placement	Step	Base Salary
Sofia Capparelli	BA	BA +15	14	\$ 89,287

E. **APPROVAL - Change Order on Roof Project**

Motion to approve the change order to install new and replace existing gas regulators to handle the new gas pressure supplied by PSEG, with Duga Construction in the amount of \$10,600. The amount in the change order will be reflected against the allowance included in the base bid.

F. **APPROVAL - Purchase of Smartnet Wireless Controllers from Dyntek**

Motion to approve the purchase of Smartnet Wireless Controllers from Dyntek in the amount of \$12,022.48 using NASPO ValuePoint DataCom #AR3227 PA New Jersey #21-TELE-01506, NJ Start State Contract.

G. **APPROVAL - Purchase and Installation of Security Cameras from Eastern DataComm**

Motion to approve the purchase and installation of security cameras for the new wing at Hillside Elementary School from Eastern DataComm in the amount of \$8,259.30 through the Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission 25-11 School Communications & Safety Systems Cooperative Bid 24-25/25-26.

H. **APPROVAL - Out-of-District Placements**

Motion to approve the following 2024-2025 out-of-district placements for Closter Students:

<u>NJSMART#</u>	<u>Tuition</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Placement</u>
9332692844	\$19,651.00	5	Hackensack
6350331826	\$74,529.36	K	Felician School

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Ms. Salamea-Cross; Members: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Micera

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

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

YEAS:

NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - School Psychology Clinical Intern for the 2024-2025 School Year**
Motion to approve Emily Linick, Fairleigh Dickinson School Psychology Clinical Intern, to work with Maci DeCarlo for the 2024-2025 school year, pending criminal history background check. Anticipated start date of October 15, 2024.
- B. **APPROVAL - Paraprofessional Staff Statement of Assurance - Part I of SY 2024-2025**
Motion to approve the Statement of Assurance regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff for the first half of the school year 2024-2025.
- C. **APPROVAL - Felician University Field Placement for the 30 Hours of Observation**
Motion to approve Corinne Kohlmann-Patoray, Felician University student, to observe for 30 hours in Katharine Meyers' classroom, pending criminal history background check.
- D. **APPROVAL - Leave of Absence for Jeffrey Roem, Grade 5 Math & Science Teacher**
Motion to approve Jeffrey Roem, Grade 5 Math & Science Teacher, for a paid leave of absence starting October 4, 2024, with a tentative return date of November 4, 2024.
- E. **APPROVAL - Family and Medical Leave Act for Alexandra Earle, TMS Counselor**
Motion to approve Alexandra Earle, TMS School Counselor, for a Family and Medical Leave Act starting October 14, 2024, with a return date of November 11, 2024.
- F. **APPROVAL – Hillside Elementary School Academic Support/High Impact Tutoring Staff**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for Hillside Elementary School Academic Support Program (Grades K - 2) and High Impact Tutoring (Grades 3 and 4 - funded by the High Impact Tutoring Grant) starting October 22, 2024, at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher:
- Katherine Dunn
 - Deborah Gonzalez
 - Catherine Gordon
 - Lauren Finan
 - Alyssa Levy
 - Cassandra San-Emeterio
 - Substitutes: Catherine Gibney, Sarah Menchise
- G. **APPROVAL – Tenakill Middle School Academic Support Program Staff**
Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for Tenakill Middle School Academic Support Program starting October 22, 2024, at a rate of \$50.00/hour per teacher:
- Paul Aguirre
 - Margaret Churchill
 - Erika Dunn
 - Michelle Durocher
 - Olivia Nikol
 - Christopher Rota
 - Brittany Steele
 - Substitutes: Rachel Fineman, Catherine Ianni, Roy John, Ornit Katzin, Michael Wowkun

H. **APPROVAL - Retirement of Mary Jo Martino, Spanish Teacher**

Motion to accept the retirement of Mary Jo Martino, Spanish Teacher, effective October 1, 2024.

I. **APPROVAL - Catherine Park as Paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 School Year**

Motion to approve Catherine Park as a paraprofessional for the 2024-2025 school year, 5.75 hours per day, at a salary of \$20.89 per hour, with a start date pending criminal history background check.

J. **APPROVAL - Kelly Wilson as Spanish Teacher for the 2024-2025 School Year**

Motion to approve Kelly Wilson as Hillside School Spanish Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, full-time tenure track position, at a salary of \$98,817, MA Step 15, with a start date on or about November 11, 2024, pending criminal history background check.

K. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Sheriza Mohamed, Grade 5 Teacher**

Motion to accept the resignation of Sheriza Mohamed, Grade 5 Teacher, effective September 20, 2024.

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:

HIB

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.