

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024

**MEETING MINUTES
of the Metuchen Board of Education**
Metuchen High School
400 Grove Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

1. Call to Order

2. Flag Salute

3. Notice of Meeting

I hereby make this statement to indicate compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act known as Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of New Jersey, 1975, which became effective 90 days after enactment, January 19, 1976.

Notice of this meeting was given by providing the location, time and date of this meeting, and posting of the same on the front door of the Board of Education offices, by delivering copies to the Borough Hall and the Metuchen Public Library, The Home News and Tribune, and by filing a copy with the Borough Clerk as prescribed by this law.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Bhatt	P	Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P
Ms. Cook	P	Ms. Killean	P
Mr. Derflinger	A	Mr. Lifton	P
Ms. Dimbeng	P	Dr. Spigner	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Mr. Suss	A

5. Showcase of Success

❖ Edgar Wind Ensemble

The Edgar Wind Ensemble is proud to present music they studied for the Spring Concert. Students in the Wind Ensemble are composed of 7th and 8th graders. This is a new select ensemble at Edgar Middle School. The Wind Ensemble meets after school once a week. Tonight you will hear March from Suite in Eb (Mvt III) by Gustav Holst.

❖ Student Advisory Board

Job Choi - 3rd Grade
Derek Hall - 4th Grade
Alex Hermans - 5th Grade
Ayomi Cole - 6th Grade
Drew Chonka - 7th Grade
Sama Samim - 8th Grade

Eashaan Bhattacharyya - 9th Grade
Sydney Gordesky - 10th Grade
Danny Galligan - 11th Grade
Hannah Mindler - 11th Grade
Maggie Rivera - 12th Grade
Kyle Rutter - 12th Grade

❖ Sports Champions

MHS Boys Golf Team

GMC Champions

NJSIAA Group 1 Sectional Champions

Red Division Champions

Christopher Ahn
Shawn Ahn
Eric Anderson
Jacob Blom

Elior Chaplin
Theodore Gerlach
Aaron Grubman
Jakob Krombholz

Luke Krombholz
Jacob Leber
Gavin Moorman
Will Musselman

GMC Champion

NJSIAA Group 1 Sectional Champion

Luke Krombholz

MHS Girls Track and Field

GMC Champion

NJSIAA Sectional Champion

NJSIAA State Group Champion

3200m

Kaitlyn Connors

Middlesex County Champions

4x800 Relay

Ella Andersen
Kaitlyn Connors
Gianna Hernandez
Lilly Kupersmit

Middlesex County Champions Distance Medley Relay

Ella Andersen
Olivia Barry
Kaitlyn Connors
Gianna Hernandez

MHS Boys Track and Field

GMC Red Division Champion

800m

Eric Schleif

GMC Champions

Middlesex County Champions

4x800m Relay

Niko Hidalgo
Art Krumins
Harry Moorman
Kacper Ruzsala

NJSIAA Sectional Champions

4x800m

Niko Hidalgo
Harry Moorman
Kacper Ruzala
Eric Schleif

NJSIAA Sectional Champion

3200m

Alex Patelski

6. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)*

Yoko Kato, a teacher of Metuchen School District, came up with high school students that are a part of the Tree Ambassadors. They came up and spoke about their organization and what they do.

7. Presentations - None

8. Reports

- ❖ President's Report - None
- ❖ Superintendent's Report - None
- ❖ Committee Reports

Mr. Glassberg gave a report on the Construction Committee.

Dr. Johnson-Marcus gave a report on the Human Relations Commission and the District Leadership team.

Dr. Spigner gave a report on the Equity Committee.

- ❖ Student Board Member Report - Ms. Dimbeng gave her report.

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business - None

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

May 28, 2024	Special Business Meeting (1)
May 28, 2024	Special Business Meeting (2)
May 28, 2024	Board Meeting

Mr. Lifton motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus seconded. Motion carried 6-0-1. Dr. Spigner abstained.

12. Meeting Open to the Public *(for any topic)* - None

13. Recommendations of the Superintendent of Schools

(at this time the Board will take formal action on the following items – see attachments)

Often times it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a

matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate board committee. The members of the board committee work with administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied with the matter, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion before any final action is taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting.

A. PERSONNEL

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Appointment - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Christine Jarrach, Culinary Arts Teacher at Metuchen High School, for the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$62,659/year, Step 3E, effective August 26, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

2. Resignation - Certificated Staff

Move to accept the resignation of Jennifer Stranz, Math Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective June 30, 2024.

3. Salary Adjustment - Certificated Staff

Move to approve a change in base salary for Francine Galassa, Special Education Teacher at Campbell School, from Step 3H, \$67,725/year, to Step 4H, \$69,338/year, as a result of her earning Master's + 30 credits, effective July 1, 2024.

4. Coaches Metuchen High School Spring 2025 - Revision

Move to rescind and approve the following Metuchen High School coaches for the Spring 2025 school sports season as shown (Agenda 5/28/2024, Section 13, A5):

Name	Assignment	Step	Stipend
Rescind:			
Marty Holleran	Boys Track Head Coach	3	\$10,163
Joe DiMeglio	Girls Track Assistant Coach	3	\$6,948
Approve:			
Marty Holleran	Boys Track Assistant Coach	3	\$6,948
Joe DiMeglio	Boys Track Head Coach	3	\$10,163

5. Appointment - Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Mark Dubyna, Leave Replacement for Kevin Smedley, Industrial Arts Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective August 26, 2024 through approximately October 18, 2024, at a rate of \$311.76/day.

6. Appointment - Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Christine Piovoso, Leave Replacement for Megan Shapiro, First Grade Teacher at Campbell School, effective approximately September 30, 2024 through approximately May 2, 2025, at a rate of \$311.76/day.

7. Appointment - Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Christina Garison, Leave Replacement for Katie Upshaw, Special Education Preschool Teacher at Moss School, effective approximately September 11, 2024 through approximately December 3, 2024, at a rate of \$311.76/day.

8. Appointment - Custodian

Move to approve the appointment of Kelda Asian Arvizu, Night Custodian at Edgar Middle School, for the 2024-2025 school year, at a salary of \$42,122/year, effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

9. Supplemental Instruction

Move to approve Francine Galassa to provide supplemental instruction for the 2023-2024 school year at the rate of \$60/hour.

10. Appointment - Technology Staff

Move to approve Catherine LeMoreaux for technology assistance as needed, at a rate of \$21/hour for the 2024-2025 school year.

11. Appointment - Leave Replacement

Move to approve the appointment of Christine Piovoso, Leave Replacement for Lindsay Kaye, Special Education Teacher at Edgar School, effective approximately August 26, 2024 through approximately September 23, 2024, at a rate of \$311.76/day.

12. Salary Adjustment - Certificated Staff

Move to approve a change in base salary for Scott Delaney, Third Grade Teacher at Campbell School, from Step 2I, \$70,520/year, to Step 3I, \$72,240/year, as a result of him earning his Master's Degree, effective July 1, 2024.

13. Appointment - Additional Substitutes

Move to approve the appointment of additional substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year, effective June 3, 2024, pending completion of substitute training and criminal history clearance:

Last Name	First Name	Position	Rate
Connors	Cassidy	Substitute teacher with college credits	\$105/day
Gray	Katherine	Substitute teacher with college credits	\$105/day

14. Appointment - Re-Registration Support Staff

Move to approve the following support staff to work the Re-Registration sessions for incoming 5th and 9th grade families, effective July 1, 2024 through August 26, 2024, at their hourly rates, not to exceed 30 hours per support staff member.

Teri Coleman	Allison Sullivan
Pam Hatzlhoffer	Carolyn Taylor
Patricia Hallas	Laura Chiusano

15. Appointment - Substitute Bus Aide

Move to approve the appointment of Michael Molfetto, Substitute Bus Aide for Metuchen School District, effective June 5, 2024 through June 19, 2024, at a rate of \$20.20/hour.

16. Leave of Absence Extension - Secretary

Move to approve the extension of the leave of absence of Kate Eosso, Campbell School and Special Services Secretary, to approximately August 1, 2024 (Agenda 5/14/24, Section 13, A10).

17. Supplemental Instruction

Move to Approve Isabella Massaro to provide supplemental instruction from June 17, 2024 to June 30, 2024 at the rate of \$49/hour (ESSER Funded).

18. Retirement - Certificated Staff

Move to accept, with regret, the retirement of Deanna Kindler, First Grade Teacher at Campbell Elementary School, effective June 30, 2024.

Mr. Lifton motioned. Mr. Glassberg seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Dr. Caputo wished Deanna Kindler a happy and healthy retirement. Ms. Cook and Mr. Glassberg made kind comments and well wishes.

-----end of personnel section-----

B. FINANCE

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Professional Development

Move to approve the following professional development activities as shown on the following chart:

Start Date	End Date	Activity Title	Name	Building	Approved	Payment	FFPI Proposal #
5/31/2024	5/31/2024	Blood Drive	Youngman, Julie	MHS	0	No cost	
6/6/2024	6/6/2024	NTAC Threat Assessment Rutgers University	Riera, Karla	Campbell	0	No cost	
7/16/2024	7/19/2024	45 Hour New Jersey Clinical Supervision Workshop Series	Rubin, Samantha	MHS	\$595	FFPI	25-005
7/18/2024	7/18/2024	Safety Care Trainer Training	Dybas, Christina	MHS	\$700	Other	
10/29/2024	10/30/2024	ISAAC Virtual Conference	Bianchi, Emily	Campbell	\$165	FFPI	25-006

Mr. Lifton motioned. Ms. Cook seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

-----end of finance section-----

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Move to affirm the findings of the previously reported case.

- METHS050824001
- EMS051424001

- EMS051724001

Ms. Cook motioned. Dr. Spigner seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

-----end of policy section-----

D. CURRICULUM

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Field Trips

Move to approve the following field trips for students in the Metuchen School District as shown:

School	Destination	Class/Group/ Purpose	Teachers/ Advisors	Date(s)	No. Of Students	Board Cost- Transp	Number of Subs Needed
MHS	Metuchen Borough Hall	Grade 9 & 11; The Metuchen High School Tree Ambassador Students will present to the Metuchen Town Council about the goals and their experience as Tree Ambassadors in the MHS Tree Ambassador Program.	Yoko Kato	6/24/ 2024	6	0	no subs needed
MHS	Patriots on Broadway	Grade 12; Show about Putin coming to power.	Evan Robbins	6/19/ 2024	6	\$0	no subs needed

2. Student Observer - Spring 2024

Move to approve Chris Stankiewicz as a Student Observer from Rutgers Alternate Route Program at Metuchen High School for Spring 2024.

Name	School	Teacher
Chris Stankiewicz	MHS	Lindsay Nalepa
Chris Stankiewicz	MHS	Ryan Clapp

3. Student Observers 2024-2025 SY

Move to approve the following student observers from Rutgers Music Education Program, at Campbell School for the 2024-2025 school year:

Name	School	Cooperating Teacher
Katy Dinning	Campbell	Margie Thomas
Kayla Gater	Campbell	Margie Thomas
Shannon Solazzo	Campbell	Margie Thomas
Kenna Heim	Campbell	Margie Thomas
Tyler Brown	Campbell	John Flynn

Mr. Lifton motioned. Dr. Johnson-Marcus seconded. Motion carried 7-0-0.

-----end of curriculum section-----

14. Meeting Open to Public (*for any topic*) - None

15. Announcements - Mr. Bhatt made announcements.

16. Motion to Go Into Executive Session (*when applicable*)

Resolution to Close Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the Sunshine Act, N.J.S. 10:4-12 and 13, that the Board of Education will now meet in executive session to discuss _____ and that matters discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as the reason for confidentiality no longer exist.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Lifton motioned to adjourn. Mr. Glassberg seconded. All in favor.

Adjournment at 8:55 pm.