

**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025

**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, The Star Ledger, and by filing a copy with the Borough Clerk as prescribed by this law.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Bhatt	P	Ms. Killean	P
Ms. Cheatham	P	Mr. Lifton	P
Mr. Derflinger	P	Ms. Michaels-LaMorte	P
Mr. Glassberg	P	Dr. Spigner	A
Dr. Johnson-Marcus	P	Mr. Suss	P

5. Showcase of Success

❖ Introduction of New Hires

Madeline	DeBaro	EMS School Counselor Leave Replacement (Campbell)
Ausrine	Dereskeviciute	Moss Special Education Teacher
Nicole	Hanson	CES 1st Grade Teacher
Michella	Maldonado	CES Self-Contained Teacher
Christine	Piovoso	CES 1st Grade Teacher Leave Replacement (Shapiro)
Bianca	Rodriguez-James	CES 4th Grade Teacher
Marjorie	Rosenberg	EMS Special Education Teacher
Stephanie	Tortolani	MHS Math Teacher
Jessica	Zalink	MHS Special Education Teacher

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

7. Presentations

❖ District Goals - Dr. Caputo gave his presentation.

8. Reports

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

Mr. Bhatt gave a report on the Equity Committee.

Mr. Derflinger gave a report on the Curriculum Committee.

Mr. Glassberg gave a report on the Construction Committee.

Ms. Killian gave a report on the Extra-Curricular/Athletics Committee.

Mr. Suss gave a report on the Finance/Facilities Committee.

- ❖ Student Board Member Report - Ms. Michaels-LaMorte gave a very short student report.

9. Old Business - None

10. New Business - None

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

August 12, 2025	Special Business Meeting (1)
August 12, 2025	Special Business Meeting (2)
August 12, 2025	Board Meeting

Dr. Johnson-Marcus motioned. Mr. Glassberg seconded. Motion carried 7-0-1. Mr. Suss 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)

Oftentimes 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. Rescind - Instructional and Non-Instructional Stipends

Move to rescind and approve the following Instructional Stipends for the 2025-2026 school year as listed (Agenda 07/22/2025, Section 13, A4):

Name	Assignment	2025-2026 Stipend
Rescind: Stefeny Stofa-Krombholz	Instructional Stipend - Music (.1)	\$905
Approve: Jordyn Gallagher	Instructional Stipend - Music (.1)	\$905

2. Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities

Move to approve the following co-curricular stipends for the co-curricular activities for the 2025-2026 school year as listed on the attached chart.

3. MHS and EMS Volunteer Clubs

Move to approve the following MHS and EMS volunteer clubs for the 2025-2026 school year as listed on the attached chart.

4. Reappointment – Substitute Custodians

Move to approve the appointment of the following as substitute custodians for the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Hourly Rate
Thomas Bilgrav	\$16.59/hour
Anna Thumann	\$16.59/hour

5. Reappointment – Substitute Secretaries

Move to approve the appointment of the following substitute secretaries for the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Rate
Rosemary Orlandini	\$16.59/hour
Lucy MacDonald	\$16.59/hour
Amy Jeney	\$16.59/hour
Patricia Yelencsics	\$16.59/hour
Lauren Cohn	\$16.59/hour
Jeanmarie Teitler	\$16.59/hour

6. Reappointment - Lunch Aides

Move to approve the following lunch aides in the Metuchen Public Schools for the 2025-2026 school year, at the rate of \$16.59/hour effective September 2, 2025:

Farida Vavro	Cheryl Weisberg
Nancy Chin	Sheri Kady
Donato Minutillo	Carol Spears

7. Appointment – Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Amy Fitzharris, Teacher at Edgar Middle School, for the 2025-2026 school year, at a salary of \$64,575/year, Step 2F, effective August 27, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

8. Leave of Absence - Paraprofessional

Move to approve the leave of absence of Marian Sharkawy, Paraprofessional at Edgar Middle School, effective August 27, 2025 through approximately January 1, 2026.

9. Reappointment - Bus Aide

Move to approve the reappointment of Sheri Kady, Bus Aide for the 2025-2026 school year, at the rate of \$16.59/hour.

10. Leave Replacement - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Christina Garison, Leave Replacement for Christina Risitano, Teacher at Edgar School, effective August 27, 2025 through approximately December 5, 2025, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day.

11. Resignation - Certificated Staff

Move to accept the resignation of Jennifer Pasquale, Teacher at Campbell School, effective August 13, 2025.

12. Rescind - Leave Replacement Appointment

Move to rescind the appointment of Amy-Michele Johnson, Leave Replacement for Melissa Gallo, Teacher at Campbell School, effective August 25, 2025 through approximately December 5, 2025 (Agenda 7/22/25, Section 13 A19).

13. Leave Replacement - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Rheanna Andersen, Leave Replacement for Alyssa Zimmerman, Teacher at Campbell School, effective approximately October 30, 2025 through approximately December 23, 2025, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day.

14. Appointment - Bus Aide

Move to approve the appointment of Hannah Molfetto, Bus Aide for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$16/hour pending criminal history clearance.

15. Appointment - Paraprofessional

Move to approve the appointment of Richa Katoch, Paraprofessional at Campbell School, for the 2025-2026 school year, at a salary of \$24,241/year, effective August 27, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

16. Appointment - Paraprofessional

Move to approve the appointment of Sapna Ullal, Paraprofessional at Campbell School, for the 2025-2026 school year, at a salary of \$24,241/year, effective August 27, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

17. Home Instruction

Move to approve Leah Horesh to provide Home Instruction for the 2025-2026 school year at the rate of \$62/hour as needed.

18. Appointment of Substitutes

Move to approve the appointment of substitutes for the 2025-2026 school year as listed on the chart below, effective August 27, 2025, pending completion of substitute training and criminal history clearance:

2025-2026 Substitutes for Board Approval 8/26/2025
Teacher sub with College bachelors degree - \$120/day
Teacher sub with certification - \$125/day
Teacher sub with 30+ credits - \$115/day
Nurse sub - \$210/day
Para sub - \$105/day

Nurse 1:1 sub - \$280/day	
Sub Name	Certification/Sub Category
Rheanna Anderson	Substitute with teacher cert
Hannah Chiusano	Substitute with college credits
Tiffany Choi	Substitute paraprofessional
Lauren Cohn	Substitute with college degree
Sophie Cohn	Substitute paraprofessional
Michael Colby	Substitute with teacher cert
Ryan Corrigan	Substitute with college credits
Mitch Dakelman	Substitute with teacher cert
Leenam Dalal	Substitute paraprofessional
Mayisha Dalmacy	Substitute nurse
Marisol DeLosSantos	Substitute with college degree
Rosaria DiLeonardo	Substitute paraprofessional
Amira Elsayed	Substitute paraprofessional
Sue Fackler	Substitute nurse
Gina Farkas	Substitute with college credits
Rosa Festa	Substitute with college credits
Christina Garison	Substitute with teacher cert
Annemarie Healey	Substitute with teacher cert
Pam Hicks	Substitute nurse
Amy Jeney	Substitute paraprofessional
Saima Khan	Substitute with teacher cert
Patricia Kobayashi	Substitute paraprofessional
Dora Labate	Substitute with college degree
Lisa Lombardi	Substitute with teacher cert
Sarah Mendoza	Substitute with college degree
Richard Miller	Substitute with college degree
Maria Nazareth	Substitute with teacher cert
Pili Nunez	Substitute with college degree
Farhana Omarzai	Substitute with college degree
Steve Pearson	Substitute with college degree
Laura Petty	Substitute with college degree
Christina Piovoso	Substitute with teacher cert
Mark Pollack	Substitute with college degree
Clare Puerzer	Substitute with college degree
Bari Quinn	Substitute with college degree
Jayalakshmi Sundaravaradhan	Substitute with college degree
Joe Wagner	Substitute with teacher cert
Merrill Yurch	Substitute with teacher cert

19. New Teacher Orientation Mentors

Move to approve the following mentors to work with new teachers at the New Teacher Orientation on August 26, 2025, for up to 6 hours at the hourly rate of \$51/hour.

Rick Carter	Kelli Holleran
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20. Leave Replacement - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Christine Piovoso, Leave Replacement for Alyssa Zimmerman, Teacher at Campbell School, effective approximately January 2, 2026 through approximately April 8, 2026, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day.

21. Appointment - Afterschool Assistance

Move to approve Amanda Marciante, Nga Fizur, Michele Brinkerhoff and Jillieanna Peguero to provide assistance in afterschool, extracurricular clubs for the 2025-2026 school year as needed, at an hourly rate of \$51/hour.

22. Rescind - Star Academy 2025 Summer

Move to rescind and approve the following staff member for the STAR Academy for the Summer 2025: (Agenda 6/24/25, Section 13, A22):

Name	Program	Stipend	Date	Grant Funding Source
Rescind: Kristina Bormann	Teacher for STAR Academy Small Group Instruction, 3 sessions	\$3000	July 8, 2025 - August 6, 2025	Title III
Approve: Kristina Bormann	Teacher for STAR Academy Small Group Instruction, 3 sessions	\$3000	July 8, 2025 - August 6, 2025	Locally Funded

23. Rescind - Academy 2025 Summer Substitutes

Move to rescind and approve the following staff as substitutes for Summer STAR Academy at the rate of \$51/hour (Agenda 6/24/2025, Section 13, A23):

Name	Program	Stipend	Date	Grant Funding Source
Rescind: Ann Leghorn-Orapallo	Substitute for STAR Academy Small Group Instruction, 3 sessions	\$51/hour	July 8, 2025 - August 6, 2025	Title III
Approve: Ann Leghorn-Orapallo	Substitute for STAR Academy Small Group Instruction, 3 sessions	\$51/hour	July 8, 2025 - August 6, 2025	Locally Funded

24. Lunch Aide Training

Move to approve the following Lunch aides to participate in the CPR/AED and First Aid training during the August 28, 2025, district in service day, at their hourly rate, not to exceed three hours:

Carol Spears	Nancy Chin
Sheri Kady	Donato Minutillo
Farida Vavro	Alma Lugo
Cheryl Weisberg	Karen Hogan

25. Professional Development

Move to approve the following certified staff to provide Professional Development at the August 28, 2025, In-service and to be paid at the hourly rate of \$51/hour, not to exceed 1 hour each:

Bob Ulmer	Julie Youngman
Nick Zaneto	Molly Yelencsics
Mark Mooney	

26. Appointment - Home Based Services

Move to approve the following Special Educators to provide home based services and parent training for the 2025-2026 school year at the rate of \$51/hour, as needed:

Katherine Upshaw	Ausrine Dereskeviciute	Brian Jeney	Christina Dybas
Emily Almeida	Shannon MacMenamie	Michella Maldonado	Dawn Valovcin
Michelle Herold	Jessica Kovacs	Alexis Wolford	Karen Calantoni
Kaitlyn Kodersha	Amrita Bindra	Dana Donatelli	Karla Riera
Courtney Crawford	Tara Siesputowski	Nicole Coursey	Christina Theiss
Lisa Granados	Emily Peluso	Emily Bianchi	Emily Rebelo
Eric Stein	Isabella Massaro		

27. Leave Replacement - School Nurse

Move to approve the appointment of Susan Fackler, Leave Replacement for Nga Fizur, School Nurse at Moss School, effective approximately December 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day.

28. Appointment - Metuchen High School Volunteer Coaches

Move to approve the following Metuchen High School Volunteer Coaches for the 2025-2026 school year as listed, pending criminal history clearance (Agenda 05/23/2025, Section 13, A1):

Name	Assignment
Deshawn Lewis	Fall Football Coach
Joelle Williams	Fall Field Hockey Coach

29. Leave Replacement - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Alicia Fernandez, Leave Replacement for Melissa Gallo, Teacher at Campbell School, effective August 25, 2025 through approximately December 5, 2025, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day.

30. Rescind - Leave Replacement

Move to rescind the appointment of Rebecca Porretto, leave replacement for Emily Presuto, Teacher at Edgar School, effective August 25, 2025 through approximately December 5, 2025, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day (Agenda 6/10/25, Section 13, A5).

31. Appointment - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Rebecca Porretto, Teacher at Campbell School, for the 2025-2026 school year, at a salary of \$61,000/year, Step 1A, effective August 27, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

32. Sheltered English Instruction

Move to approve Alicia Fernandez to participate in Sheltered English Instruction training for the 2025-2026 school year at the hourly rate of \$51/hour, not to exceed 15 hours.

33. Leave Replacement - Certificated Staff

Move to approve the appointment of Deborah Lee, Leave Replacement for Emily Presuto, Teacher at Edgar School, effective August 25, 2025 through approximately December 5, 2025, at a per diem rate of \$329.73/day.

34. Rescind - Mentor Teachers

Move to rescind and approve the following mentor teachers to work with the following mentee teachers for the 2025-2026 school year.(Agenda 8/12/25 Section 13, A14):

New Teacher/Leave Replacement	School	Mentor	Payment
Rescind: Amy Johnson Rebecca Porretto	CES EMS	Erin Santasieri Emily Mertz	\$1,000 \$550
Approve: Alicia Fernandez Deborah Lee Rebecca Porretto Christina Garison	CES EMS CES EMS	Erin Santasieri Emily Mertz Kelli Holleran Veronica Araneo	\$550 \$550 \$550 Up to 6hours at \$51/hour

Dr. Johnson-Marcus motioned. Mr. Derflinger seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

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

B. FINANCE

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Treasurer of School Monies and Board Secretary's Reports

Move to approve the Treasurer of School Monies' Report, and Board Secretary's Report as of June 30, 2025.

2. Payment of Bills

a) Board Secretary's Certification

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2A.10(d), the Board Secretary has certified that as of August 26, 2025 no budgetary line item accounts have obligations and payments which exceed the amount appropriated by the Board of Education.

Michael A. Harvier, Board Secretary

Date

b) Approve the Following Items Submitted by the Board Secretary

Payment of bills and claims, as shown on the attached list(s) that have been certified by the Board of Education and filed in the Business Office.

3. Budget Transfers

Move to approved budget transfers effective June 30, 2025.

4. ESCNJ Authorization

Move to authorize the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey to conference, discuss and solicit input in the development of the nursing services contract document for the 2025-2026 school year, which provides nursing services to the following non-public schools located in the Metuchen School District: Apple Montessori School, St. Joseph High School, Callicorp LLC DBA Friends of the Family, Metuchen Christian Academy and St. Francis Cathedral.

5. 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 #
10/3/2025	10/3/2025	Rutgers Historical Seminar: Palestine, Israel, and a History of War	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-008
10/3/2025	10/3/2025	Rutgers Historical Seminar: Palestine, Israel, and a History of War	Connolly, Laura	MHS	\$52.80	FFPI	26-015
10/10/2025	10/10/2025	2025 National Conference on Co-Teaching	Omark, Lindsey	Central Office	\$110	Other	
10/16/2025	10/16/2025	Learning Disabilities Strategy Summit	Siesputowski, Tara	Edgar	\$159	FFPI	26-019
10/17/2025	10/17/2025	NJIDA Fall Conference 2025: "Creating Literate Learners: Linking Research to Support Reading and Writing Realities"	Smith, Rebecca	Campbell	\$254.70	FFPI	26-017
10/20/2025	10/20/2025	NJCSS Annual Conference	Connolly, Laura	MHS	\$107.8	FFPI	26-016
10/21/2025	10/21/2025	New Jersey Science Convention	Nalepa, Lindsay	MHS	\$235	FFPI	26-021
10/21/2025	10/21/2025	New Jersey Science Convention	Lezama, Ann	MHS	\$235	FFPI	26-020
10/24/2025	10/24/2025	Rutgers Historical Seminar: War, Revolution, and the Abolition of Slavery in Latin America and the Caribbean"	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-009
10/29/2025	10/29/2025	Using Core Ideas to Construct Explanations of Science Phenomena	Jaworski, Trey	MHS	\$0	FFPI	26-022
11/14/2025	11/14/2025	Rutgers Historical Seminar: Nationalism and Nation-States in the Modern Middle East	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-010
12/5/2025	12/5/2025	Rutgers Historical Seminar: Women and Gender in Islam	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-011

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2/4/ 2026	2/4/ 2026	Making Crosscutting Concepts Explicit	Jaworski, Trey	MHS	\$10	FFPI	26-023
2/13/ 2026	2/13/ 2026	Rutgers Historical Seminar: Accidents and Disasters in the US and the World	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-012
2/25/ 2026	2/25/ 2026	Using Explanation and Argument to Assess Student Learning	Jaworski, Trey	MHS	\$10	FFPI	26-024
3/6/ 2026	3/6/ 2026	Rutgers Historical Seminar: Fascism and Nazism	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-013
3/18/ 2026	3/18/ 2026	Defining Problems and Designing Solutions for Engineering Phenomena	Jaworski, Trey	MHS	\$10	FFPI	26-025
5/1/ 2026	5/1/ 2026	Rutgers Historical Seminar: World War II on the Eastern Front: Nazi Germany, the Soviet Union, and the Fate of the Jews	Blaze, Kerry	MHS	\$35	FFPI	26-014

6. Out of District Student Placements - 2025-2026 School Year

Move to approve the following 2025-2026 school year out of district student placements:

ID#	School	Total
002025005	New Road School of Somerset	\$74,066.40
2028029	Cornerstone Day School	\$92,582.40
20291077	Hackensack Public Schools	\$22,015.00
2029040	Collier School	\$68,940.00
2028004	ECLC of New Jersey - Chatham Campus	\$82,334.00
2022011	The Eden School	\$154,145.70
20281109	Collier School	\$68,940.00
2031094	The Newmark School	\$66,133.80
2030057	Newgrange School	\$64,412.88
2026127	The Rock Brook School	\$78,933.60
20331644	Bright Beginnings Learning Center	\$56,368.50
2032001	Future Foundations Academy	\$105,480.00
2029010	The Rock Brook School	\$78,933.60
2031028	Future Foundations Academy	\$105,480.00
2029175	Cambridge School	\$64,500.00

7. IDEA Grant for 2025-2026

Move to approve the IDEA grant allocation for the 2025-2026 school year and the use of IDEA grant allocations towards special education needs:

IDEA Grant	Total Allocation	Public Allocation	Non-public allocation
Basic allocation	\$697,155.00	\$590,881.00	\$106,274.00
Preschool allocation total	\$19,505.00	\$19,505.00	\$0
Total allocation	\$716,660.00	\$610,386	\$106,274

8. ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) Grant 2025-2026

Move to approve the district's ESSA grant for 2025-2026 school year to accept the allocations and intended use as per the application.

Title	Total Allocation	Public Allocation	Non Public Allocation
Title IA	\$63,648	\$63,648	\$0
Title IIA	\$31,034	\$21,355	\$9,679
Title III	\$12,590	\$12,590	\$0
Title III Immigrant	\$5,631	\$5,631	\$0
Title IVA	\$10,000	\$6,881	\$3,119

9. Unified Club Advisor

Move to approve Beth Abbott for a stipend as Unified Club Advisor for the 2025-2026 school year at the amount of \$1,215 (IDEA grant funded).

10. Coordinators - FDU Orton Gillingham

Move to approve Ann Leghorn-Orapallo and Lauren Thompson to coordinate the FDU Orton Gillingham student practicum, at a rate of \$51/hour, not to exceed \$3,315 total (IDEA grant funded).

11. IDEA Funded Salary

Move to approve Sandra Spinelli's salary of \$25,567 to be partially IDEA grant funded up to \$18,516.

12. Resolution

WHEREAS, the Metuchen Board of Education ("Board") has determined that it is the District's best interests to pursue energy savings in accordance with New Jersey's Energy Savings Improvement Program laws; and

WHEREAS, the first step under the applicable laws requires the District to perform an Investment Grade Energy Audit ("IGEA") to identify potential energy savings measures;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby awards a contract to Spiezle Architectural Group for the IGEA in accordance with SAG's proposal to perform services in connection with same.

Mr. Suss motioned. Mr. Lifton seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

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

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

Nothing at this time

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

D. CURRICULUM

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

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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- Transportation	Board Cost- Subs.
MHS	Bridgewater Mall	Grades 9-12; Students will attend the Robocon. A robotics exhibition which includes a competition our robotics team participates in.	Kevin Smedley	9/27/ 2025 and 9/28/ 2025 (weekend trip/not an overnight trip)	30	\$400(bus) and \$250(truck Saturday) \$585(bus use on Sunday) and \$250(truck)	no subs needed
MHS	Ramapo Mountain State Forest	Grades 9-12; Students will improve physical fitness through hiking, focusing on building endurance and leg strength on the forest's varied terrain. Students will experience mental health benefits of spending time outdoors, including stress reduction and improved mood.	Anna Girin and Danielle Cermak	10/18/ 2025	40	\$0	no subs needed
MHS	Campbell Elementary School	Grades 9-12; Students will perform music for the annual Campbell School Halloween Parade. MHS Orchestra spend the weeks leading up to this performance learning repertoire for the event, and upperclassmen will learn how to conduct and lead the group.	Christopher McEwan, Jordyn Gallagher and John Messenger	10/31/ 2025	60	\$120	1 sub needed
MHS	Institute Woods, Rogers Refuge, Princeton Battlefield	Grades 9-12; This is a beginner-friendly hike. Students will wander easy trails, cross a swinging bridge, and will explore a Revolutionary War battlefield. This hike is mostly level, with a mix of wide paths and trail.	Anna Girin and Danielle Cermak	11/25/ 2025	40	\$0	no subs needed
MHS	Gravity Vault Rock Climbing Gym	Grades 9-12; Students will enhance physical fitness and coordination by practicing climbing techniques. Students will also develop problem-solving abilities by navigating climbing routes. This experience will promote self-confidence and perseverance through overcoming climbing challenges.	Anna Girin and Danielle Cermak	1/23/ 2026	35	\$0	no subs needed

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EMS	Metuchen High School	Grade 8; 8th grade orchestra students will spend the morning with the MHS Orchestra in order to see what they can expect next year in the high school orchestra. Students will sit with upperclassmen, ask questions about their experience at MHS, perform alongside them, and play team building games.	Christopher McEwan	2/4/2026	25	\$50	no subs needed
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2. Literary Coach for 2025-2026

Move to approve BDO Consulting Services LLC to provide professional development and literacy coaching services for the 2025-2026 school year, at a rate of \$1,500/day, not to exceed \$30,000, partially funded by ESSA Title IIA and IDEA.

3. Title III Immigrant Funds

Move to approve Guzman Educational Consultants, LLC to provide professional development and coaching for the 2025-2026 school year, to support the needs of multilingual learners who are Immigrant status, through Title III Immigrant funds, not to exceed \$5,631.

4. Title III Funds

Move to approve Guzman Educational Consultants, LLD to provide professional development for the 2025-2026 school year, to support teachers in meeting the educational needs of multilingual learners in content areas, through Title III funds, not to exceed \$3,000.

5. Curriculum Guides

Move to approve the following revised curriculum guides:

Curriculum Guides	
Subject/Course	Grade
English Language Arts K	K
English Language Arts 1	1
English Language Arts 2	2
English Language Arts 3	3
English Language Arts 4	4
English Language Arts 5	5
English Language Arts 6	6
English Language Arts 7	7
English Language Arts 9	9
Social Studies 6	6
Math 6 and Math 6 Advanced	6
Math 7	7
Pre-Algebra	6-7
Pre-Algebra	8
Algebra I	7-9
Algebra 2 and Algebra 2 Honors	9-12
Geometry and Honors Geometry	8-10
Precalculus and Honors Precalculus	10-12

Honors Calculus	12
Science: Earth Science	6
Science 7: Life Science	7
Science 8: Physical Science	8
Modern Biology and Honors Biology	9
Modern Chemistry and Honors Chemistry	10
AP Physics 1	11-12
AP Physics 2	12
Computers	6
Computers	7
Computers	8
Drafting/Computer Aided Design	9-12
Entrepreneurship	9-12
Business Information Management	9-12
Digital Marketing	9-12
AP European History	11-12
AP Government and Politics	11-12
AP Language and Composition	11
AP Literature and Composition	12
AP Psychology	11-12
AP US History I and II	10-11

6. Programs and Courses

Move to approve the following Program/Courses that comprise the district's approved curriculum documents for annual implementation during the 2025-2026 school year.

Course	Grade
Preschool Creative Curriculum	Preschool
ELA	K-8
Math	K-8
Science	K-8
Social Studies	K-8
PE and Health	K-8
World Language	K-8
Art	K-8
Music	K-8
Computer Science, Design Thinking, and Media	K-5
Construction Projects 6	6
Construction Projects 7	7
Engineering and Design	8
English as a Second Language	K-12
Life Skills	9-12
Transition to Adulthood	12 (Ages 18-21)
MHS Courses as per the 25-26 Program of Studies	9-12

Mr. Derflinger motioned. Ms. Killean seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0.

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

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

15. Announcements - Cheatham 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

Dr. Johnson-Marcus motioned to adjourn. Mr. Derflinger seconded. All in favor.

Adjournment at 8:57 pm.

Vincent Caputo
Vincent Caputo (Oct 1, 2025 09:37:25 EDT)

2025 - 2026
Co-Curricular Stipends

8/22/2025

Metuchen High School		2025 - 2026			
CO-CURRICULAR		Stipend	Dec. payment	June payment	Agenda date
Marching Band Director	John Messenger (3)	\$ 11,717.00	\$ 5,858.50	\$ 5,858.50	
Assistant Marching Band Director	John Flynn (3)	\$ 5,858.00	\$ 2,929.00	\$ 2,929.00	
Color Guard Director	Dillon Fernandes (3)	\$ 5,296.00	\$ 2,648.00	\$ 2,648.00	
Guard Instructor	Tara Girovasi Foley (2)	\$ 1,149.00	\$ 574.50	\$ 574.50	
Marching Band Percussion	David Patterson, Jr. (1)	\$ 1,127.00	\$ 563.50	\$ 563.50	
Jazz Band Director (Competing)	John Messenger (3)	\$ 2,343.00	\$ 1,171.50	\$ 1,171.50	
Jazz Band Director (Non-Competing)	John Flynn (3)	\$ 1,172.00	\$ 586.00	\$ 586.00	
Indoor Winds Director	John Messenger (3)	\$ 1,172.00	\$ 586.00	\$ 586.00	
Indoor Winds Assistant Director	John Flynn (3)	\$ 586.00	\$ 293.00	\$ 293.00	
Indoor Percussion Instructor 1	David Patterson, Jr. (1)	\$ 564.00	\$ 282.00	\$ 282.00	
Indoor Percussion Instructor 2	John Messenger (3)	\$ 586.00	\$ 293.00	\$ 293.00	
String Ensemble Director	Christopher McEwan (3)	\$ 2,929.00	\$ 1,464.50	\$ 1,464.50	
Blue Letter	Adam Levy (3)	\$ 6,191.00	\$ 3,095.50	\$ 3,095.50	
Bulldog's Bark	Emily Caponigro (3)	\$ 6,191.00	\$ 3,095.50	\$ 3,095.50	
Bulldog's Bark & Blue Letter (Business)	Lynda Wisniewski (3)	\$ 4,005.00	\$ 2,002.50	\$ 2,002.50	
Chorus/Choral	Stefeny Stofa Krombholz (3)	\$ 5,507.00	\$ 2,753.50	\$ 2,753.50	
Dramatics (Spring Play)	Stefeny Stofa Krombholz (3)	\$ 7,982.00	\$ 3,991.00	\$ 3,991.00	
Dramatics (Fall Play)	Jackie Jacobi (3)	\$ 5,796.00	\$ 2,898.00	\$ 2,898.00	
Mock Trial	Kevin Smedley (3)	\$ 2,962.00	\$ 1,481.00	\$ 1,481.00	
Model Congress	Christopher Giddes (3)	\$ 2,962.00	\$ 1,481.00	\$ 1,481.00	
National Honor Society (.5)	Matt Sutin (3)	\$ 1,481.00	\$ 740.50	\$ 740.50	
National Honor Society (.5)	Amanda Shorr (3)	\$ 1,481.00	\$ 740.50	\$ 740.50	
Student Council	Dawn Valovcin (3)	\$ 5,496.00	\$ 2,748.00	\$ 2,748.00	
Robotics	Kevin Smedley (3)	\$ 5,520.00	\$ 2,760.00	\$ 2,760.00	
Treasurer/Student Funds	Jonathan Stevens (3)	\$ 8,023.00	\$ 4,011.50	\$ 4,011.50	
Class Advisor Senior (.5)	Emily Caponigro (3)	\$ 2,276.00	\$ 1,138.00	\$ 1,138.00	
Class Advisor Senior (.5)	Sean Rapplea (2)	\$ 2,177.00	\$ 1,088.50	\$ 1,088.50	
Class Advisor Junior	Dawn Valovcin (3)	\$ 3,609.00	\$ 1,804.50	\$ 1,804.50	
Class Advisor Sophomore	Christina Dybas (3)	\$ 2,664.00	\$ 1,332.00	\$ 1,332.00	
Class Advisor Freshman	Julie Youngman (2)	\$ 1,969.00	\$ 984.50	\$ 984.50	
Total MHS Co-Curricular		\$ 110,791.00	\$ 55,395.50	\$ 55,395.50	
CLUBS		Stipend	Dec. payment	June payment	
Environmental Club (A)	Yoko Kato	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
Asian Heritage (C) .5	Yoko Kato	\$ 822.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 411.00	
Outdoor Club (C) .5	Anna Girin	\$ 822.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 411.00	
Outdoor Club (C) .5	Danielle Cermak	\$ 822.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 411.00	
French Club (C)	Anna Girin	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
German Club (C)	Susan Paredes	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Spanish Club (C)	Karin Flores	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Genders & Sexualities Alliance (C)	Ann Leghorn	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Houseband (C)	Adam Levy	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Math Club (C)	Jonathan Stevens	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Peer Leaders Club (C) .5	Drew Bandola	\$ 822.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 411.00	
Science Club (A)	Yoko Kato	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
Waksman Research (C)	Samantha Green	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Art Honor Society (C)	Kelly Murphy	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Math Honor Society (C) .5	Emily Caponigro	\$ 822.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 411.00	
Science Honor Society (A)	Ryan Clapp	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
English Honor Society (C) .5	Jessica Lanigan	\$ 822.00	\$ 411.00	\$ 411.00	
Tri-M Honor Society (C) .25 share	John Flynn	\$ 411.00	\$ 205.50	\$ 205.50	
Tri-M Honor Society (C) .25 share	Christopher McEwan	\$ 411.00	\$ 205.50	\$ 205.50	
World Language Honor Society (C) .33	Karin Flores	\$ 548.00	\$ 274.00	\$ 274.00	
World Language Honor Society (C) .33	Anna Girin	\$ 548.00	\$ 274.00	\$ 274.00	

2025 - 2026
Co-Curricular Stipends

8/22/2025

World Language Honor Society (C) .33	Susan Paredes	\$ 548.00	\$ 274.00	\$ 274.00	
Breaking the Chain (D)	Evan Robbins	\$ 2,136.00	\$ 1,068.00	\$ 1,068.00	
Power of Friendship (A)	Evan Robbins	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
RWJ Safety Ambassadors (A) .33	Karin Flores	\$ 405.00	\$ 202.50	\$ 202.50	
RWJ Safety Ambassadors (A) .33	Sarah Karger	\$ 405.00	\$ 202.50	\$ 202.50	
RWJ Safety Ambassadors (A) .33	Danielle Cermak	\$ 405.00	\$ 202.50	\$ 202.50	
Star Awards (A) .5	Danielle Cermak	\$ 607.50	\$ 303.75	\$ 303.75	
Star Awards (A) .5	Ann Lezama	\$ 607.50	\$ 303.75	\$ 303.75	
Tomorrow's Teacher Club (C)	Lindsay Nalepa	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Total MHS Clubs		\$ 31,620.00	\$ 15,810.00	\$ 15,810.00	
Total MHS Co-Curricular & Clubs		\$ 142,411.00	\$ 71,205.50	\$ 71,205.50	
Edgar Middle School					
Co-Curricular & Clubs					
		Stipend	Dec. payment	June payment	Agenda date
Art Club 5-8 (B)	Jennifer Gumbrecht	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
Chess Club/Games Strategies (B)	Jennifer Cecchine	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
Genders & Sexualities Alliance (C)	Caroline Forde	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Yearbook Club (C)	Shannon Connors	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
5th & 6th Grade Student Council	Vivian Petrakakos	\$ 3,309.00	\$ 1,654.50	\$ 1,654.50	
5th & 6th Grade Student Council	Jennifer Muller	\$ 3,309.00	\$ 1,654.50	\$ 1,654.50	
7th & 8th Grade Student Council	Rebecca Dwyer	\$ 3,309.00	\$ 1,654.50	\$ 1,654.50	
7th & 8th Grade Student Council	Emily Mertz	\$ 3,309.00	\$ 1,654.50	\$ 1,654.50	
Woodworking Club (B)	Nick Tay	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
Spring Play Drama Director	Sarah Jensen	\$ 3,309.00	\$ 1,654.50	\$ 1,654.50	
Spring Drama Musical Director	Chris Peckhardt	\$ 3,309.00	\$ 1,654.50	\$ 1,654.50	
Spanish Club (B)	Raquel Williams	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
Environmental Club (C)	Chrissy Kremer	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Math/Pre-Algebra Club (B)	Jennifer Cecchine	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
D&D Club (B) .33	Andrew Southern	\$ 468.00	\$ 234.00	\$ 234.00	
Advanced Orchestra (B) .33	Chris McEwan	\$ 468.00	\$ 234.00	\$ 234.00	
Literary Magazine (B) .33	Andrea Agnone	\$ 468.00	\$ 234.00	\$ 234.00	
Robotics Club (C)	Chrissy Kremer	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Tech Lab (C)	Emily Presuto	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Guitar Club (A)	Jordyn Gallagher	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
Fiddle Club (C)	Christopher McEwan	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Library Club (B)	Charmane Montgomery	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
Cheer Club (B)	Laurie Toth	\$ 1,404.00	\$ 702.00	\$ 702.00	
Treasurer	Lisa Chango	\$ 3,454.00	\$ 1,727.00	\$ 1,727.00	
Total EMS Co-Curricular and Clubs		\$ 45,619.00	\$ 22,809.50	\$ 22,809.50	
Edgar Intramurals					
		Stipend			Agenda date
	Rick Carter (Fall)(3)	\$ 3,272.00	Dec		
	Ken Smith (Fall)(3)	\$ 3,272.00	Dec		
	Ed Albanese (Winter)(3)	\$ 3,272.00	Mar		
	Rick Carter (Winter)(3)	\$ 3,272.00	Mar		
	Rick Carter (Spring)(3)	\$ 3,272.00	June		
	Ed Albanese (Spring)(3)	\$ 3,272.00	June		
Total EMS Intramurals		\$ 19,632			
Total EMS Curricular, Clubs & Intramurals		\$ 65,251			\$ 100,559.00

2025 - 2026
Co-Curricular Stipends

8/22/2025

Campbell School					
Club		Stipend	Dec. payment	June payment	Agenda date
Band Club Grade 4 (C)	John Flynn	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Orchestra Grade 4 (C) .25	Jordyn Gallagher	\$ 411.00	\$ 205.50	\$ 205.50	
Orchestra Grade 4 (C) .75	Chris McEwan	\$ 1,233.00	\$ 616.50	\$ 616.50	
Chess Club Grade 3&4 (C)	Jonathan Nolde	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Chorus-Grade 3&4 (C)	Stefeny Stofa-Krombholz	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Gym Club Grade 3 (C)	Kathy Keers-Nolde	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Gym Club Grade 4 (C)	Kathy Keers-Nolde	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Robotics/Lego Club-Grade 4 (C)	Tom Yakowenko	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
School Store-Grade 4 (C)	Alexandra Gonzalez	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Board Game Club Grades 1 & 2 (B) .5	Brian Jeney	\$ 702.00	\$ 351.00	\$ 351.00	
Kindness Club (C)	Jennifer Spak	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Kindness Club (C)	Lisa Levin	\$ 1,644.00	\$ 822.00	\$ 822.00	
Art Club - Grade 1-4 (A)	Amanda Rossmeissl	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
Breaking the Chain Club Gr 1-4 (A) .5	Jeremy Barnes	\$ 607.50	\$ 303.75	\$ 303.75	
Computer Club Grade 3 & 4 (A)	Joe Fitzgibbon	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 607.50	\$ 607.50	
SweNEXT Grade 4 (A) .5	Candace Evans	\$ 607.50	\$ 303.75	\$ 303.75	
SweNEXT Grade 4 (A) .5	Bailey Tocci	\$ 607.50	\$ 303.75	\$ 303.75	
Total CES Co-Curricular and Clubs		\$ 21,394.50	\$ 10,697.25	\$ 10,697.25	
Total for All Schools		\$ 229,056.50			

2025-2026 Volunteer Clubs

[illegible]

20250826 Board Minutes with att

Final Audit Report

2025-10-01

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-  Signer vcaputo@metboe.k12.nj.us entered name at signing as Vincent Caputo
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-  Document e-signed by Vincent Caputo (vcaputo@metboe.k12.nj.us)
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