THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
METUCHEN, NEW JERSEY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

MEETING AGENDA
of the Metuchen Board of Education
Edgar Middle School
49 Brunswick Ave
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**

Dr. Al-Sweel		Mr. Glassberg	
Mr. Bhatt		Dr. Johnson-Marcus	
Ms. Branch		Ms. Killean	
Mr. Casey		Mr. Suss	
Ms. Cheatham		Ms. Zimmerman	
Mr. Derflinger			

5. **Showcase of Success**
   - ❖ Introduction of New Hires

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

7. **Presentations**
   - ❖ Highlight on Edgar - by Suzy Azevedo

8. **Reports**
   - ❖ President's Report
   - ❖ Superintendent's Report
   - ❖ Committee Reports
   - ❖ Student Board Members Report

9. **Old Business**

10. New Business

11. Approval of Minutes of the Board of Education Meetings

August 25, 2026	Special Business Meeting (1)
August 25, 2026	Special Business Meeting (2)
August 25, 2026	Board Meeting

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

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. Salary Adjustment - Custodial Longevity
Move to approve a change in total salary for Veronica Arvizu, Custodial Department, from $48,239/year to $49,184/year as a result of completing 10 years of service, effective September 1, 2026.

2. Rescind and Approve - Instructional Stipends
Move to rescind and approve the following Instructional Stipends for the 2026-2027 school year as listed (Agenda 08/22/2026, Section 13, A2):

Name	**Assignment**	**2026-2027 Stipend**
Rescind:		
Ann Leghorn-Orapallo	Edgar RTI ELA 7	$9,376
Approve:		
Ann Leghorn-Orapallo	Edgar RTI ELA 7 (.6)	$5,626
Melissa Robbins	Edgar Science 6th Period Stipend	$9,376
Caroline Forde	Edgar ELA 6th Period Stipend	$9,376 (prorated)

3. Appointment - Bus Aide
Move to approve the appointment of Constance Price, Bus Aide for the 2026-2027 school year at a rate of $17.19/hour.

4. Appointment - Sub Bus Aides
Move to approve the following Substitute Bus Aides for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	**Hourly Rate**
Sandra Spinelli	$23.00/hour

Deb Stolz	$22.70/hour
Sandy Iacona	$23.00/hour

5. **Appointment - Paraprofessional**
   Move to approve the appointment of Nidhi Maurya, Paraprofessional at Moss School, for the 2026-2027 school year, at a salary of $25,735/year, prorated, effective approximately September 9, 2026 through June 30, 2027, pending criminal history clearance.

6. **Leave of Absence - Certificated Staff**
   Move to approve the leave of absence of Kelly Murphy, Teacher at Metuchen High School, effective September 1, 2026 through approximately September 30, 2026.

7. **Salary Adjustment – Certificated Staff**
   Move to approve a change in base salary for Jennifer Muller, Teacher at Edgar School, from Step 1N, $94,750/year, to Step 2N, $97,119/year, as a result of her earning her Bachelor's Degree +30, effective October 1, 2026.

8. **Appointment - Leave Replacement**
   Move to approve the appointment of Deborah Cordes, Leave Replacement for Nicole Coursey, Child Study Team at Metuchen High School, effective approximately October 1, 2026 through approximately March 29, 2027, at a salary of $332.43/day.

9. **Appointment of Substitutes**
   Move to approve the appointment of substitutes for the 2026-2027 school year as listed on the chart below, effective August 31, 2026, pending completion of substitute training and criminal history clearance:

2026-2027 Substitutes for Board Approval 8/31/2026	
Teacher sub with certification - $125/day	
Teacher sub with bachelor's degree - $120/day	
Teacher sub with 30+ credits - $115/day	
Nurse sub - $210/day	
Para sub - $105/day	
Nurse 1:1 sub - $280/day	
Secretary sub - 17.19/hour	
Sub Name	**Certification/Sub Category**
Corinne Ambrosi	Substitute with college degree
Avery Anderson	Substitute with college degree
Ana Ayala	Substitute Paraprofessional
Alicia Fernandez	Substitute with teacher cert
Ken Graf	Substitute with teacher cert
Katie Gray	Substitute with college credits
Deema Hamdan	Substitute nurse
Nirva Jansari	Substitute with college credits
Amy Jeney	Substitute Paraprofessional; sub secretary
Renata Kulka	Substitute with college credits
Justin Langan	Substitute with teacher cert
Michelle Legaspi	Substitute with teacher cert
Kamryn McEvoy	Substitute Paraprofessional
Hannah Mindler	Substitute with college credits
Maria Nazareth	Substitute with teacher cert

Olivia Patikowski	Substitute Paraprofessional
John Perillo	Substitute with teacher cert
Meghan Skinner	Substitute with college degree
Haley Sullivan	Substitute with college degree
Kaitlyn Sullivan	Substitute with college degree
Gabby Sullivan	Substitute with college credits
Christina Vicencio	Substitute Nurse
Sivapriya Vinayakarao	Substitute with college degree
Caleb Walters	Substitute with college credits
Julia Win	Substitute with teacher cert

10. Rescind and Approve -2026 New Teacher Orientation Workshop

Move to rescind and approve the following presenters for the New Teacher Orientation Workshop, at the listed rate, not to exceed 2 hours (Agenda 7/21/2026, Section 13, A21):

Name	**Rate**
Rescind: William Schlavis	 $52/hour
Approve: Joe Fitzgibbon	 $52/hour

11. Informal Mentor Teacher

Move to approve the following staff to serve as an informal mentor for the 2026-2027 school year, to be paid at a rate of $52/hour, not to exceed six hours:

Name	**School**	**Mentor**
Ausrine Dereskeviciute	Moss	Amanda Rossmeissl

12. Formal Mentor Teacher

Move to approve the following mentor teachers to work with the following mentee teachers for the 2026-2027 school year:

New Teacher/ Leave Replacement	**School**	**Mentor**	**Payment Traditional Route $550.00 Alternate Route $1,000.00**
Dracy Fruhschein	EMS	Suzy Palmer	$550.00 (prorated)

13. Rescind and Approve - Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities

Move to rescind and approve the name change of the following co-curricular activity for the 2026-2027 school year as listed (Agenda 08/25/2026, Section 13, A29):

Campbell School		
Club	**Name**	**2026-2027 Stipend**
Rescind: Concert Club (A) .5 Concert Club (A) .5	 John Flynn Christopher McEwan	 $619.50 $619.50
Approve: Instrumental Club (A) .5 Instrumental Club (A) .5	 John Flynn Christopher McEwan	 $619.50 $619.50

----------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 #
9/10/2026	9/10/2026	Math Olympiads for Elementary and Middle Schools	Valovcin, Sarah	Moss/Campbell	$0	No cost	
9/15/2026	9/15/2026	NJIP PLAs: Operationalizing IDEA & NJAC Chapter 14- Session 1- Basic Compliance	Siesputowski, Tara	Edgar	$0	No cost	
9/16/2026	6/9/2027	ASAP-NJ	Palermo, Samantha	Edgar/MHS	$50	FFPI	27-015
10/7/2026	10/7/2026	Top Ten IEP Drafting Tips for Creating Legally Appropriate IEP's for Special Education -Hybrid Course: Zoom Option	Siesputowski, Tara	Edgar	$106	FFPI	27-018
10/9/2026	10/9/2026	Fascism and Nazism workshop	Connolly, Laura	MHS	$55.68	FFPI	27-021
10/16/2026	10/16/2026	NJIDA Fall Conference Framing the Future: From Data to Dynamic Literacy Instruction	Bethe, Michelle	Campbell	$289.19	FFPI	27-026
10/19/2026	10/19/2026	NJCSS Annual Conference	Connolly, Laura	MHS	$109.74	FFPI	27-022
10/20/2026	10/20/2026	NJ science convention	Wang, Jingjing	MHS	$312	FFPI	27-020
10/20/2026	10/20/2026	NJIP PLAs: Operationalizing IDEA & NJAC Chapter 14- Session 2- LRE & the IEP	Siesputowski, Tara	Edgar	$0	No cost	
10/21/2026	10/21/2026	NJ Science Convention	Lezama, Ann	MHS	$295	FFPI	27-019
10/21/2026	10/21/2026	NJ Science Convention	Nalepa, Lindsay	MHS	$295	FFPI	27-017
10/22/2026	10/22/2026	All Means All: Special Education Conference 2026	Lemerich, Kathryn	Central Office	$19.74	No cost	
10/26/2026	10/27/2026	Art is Metamorphic	Banner, Margaret	Edgar/MHS	$295	FFPI	27-014

10/30/2026	10/30/2026	2026 AMTNJ Fall Grades K-12 Conference	Omark, Lindsey	Central Office	$185	Other	
11/13/2026	11/13/2026	NJTEEA Annual Conference	Rivera, Rebecca	Edgar	$225	FFPI	27-016
11/19/2026	11/22/2026	ACTFL Convention in Texas	Cermak, Danielle	MHS	$1,500	FFPI	27-023

2. Nonpublic Security Aid

Move to approve the following nonpublic security aid for the 2026-2027 school year. These expenditures are required for the district to fulfill certain legal obligations under state legislation to administer federal or state funds provided to nonpublic schools within our jurisdiction:

School	Vendor	QTY	Item #	Description	Price	Total
St. Joseph High School	CDW-G	2	MFG# DELL – P7525QT CDW#8323514 UNSPSC# 43211902	DELL PRO 75 PLUS 4K TCH MON P7525QT	$ 4,187.25	$ 8,374.50
St. Joseph High School	CDW-G	2	MFG# XPA1UB CDW# 4468202 UNSDC# 43212002	CHIEF XL FUSION MANUAL HEIGHT ADJ	$ 2,055.83	$ 4,111.66
St. Joseph High School	CDW-G	2	MFG# 1T9FW CDW# 8321040 UNSPSC# 43211507	DELL PRO MICRO + U7-265 1/32 WIIP	$ 2,780.57	$ 5,561.14
St. Joseph High School	CDW-G	1	MFG# 1K04G CDW# 8375133 UNSPSC# 43211503	DELL PRO 14 - U7-2554 512/16 WIIP	$ 1,764.84	$ 1,764.84

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

C. POLICY

Motion/Second/Comments/Roll Call

1. Second Reading of Policies and Regulations

Move to approve the second readings of the following policies and regulations:

- P 2200 Curriculum (M)
- R 2200 Curriculum Content (M) (Abolished)
- P 2411 Career Education and Academic Counseling (M)
- R 2411 Guidance Counseling (M) (Abolished)
- P 0162 Notice of Board Meetings
- P 0162.01 Legal Notices (M)
- P 2260 Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M)
- R 2460.3 Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related services (M) (Abolished)
- P 6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M)
- R 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Allowability of Costs (M)
- P 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M)
- P 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M)
- P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (M)
- P 5516 Student Use of Internet – Enabled Devices (M)
- R 5516 Student Use of Internet – Enabled Devices (M)
- P 2363 Student Use of Privately-Owned Technology (Abolished)

- P 8662 Transportation by Private or District - Owned Vehicles – To and From School (M)
- P 8660 Transportation by Private Vehicles – To and From School-Related Activities (M)

2. Appointment - Student Board of Education Member Representatives
Move to approve Jocelyn Branch and James Casey as the Metuchen High School Student Board of Education Representatives for the 2026-2027 school year.

----------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-Transportation	Number of Subs Needed.
MHS	Freedom Plaza at the Metuchen Train Station	Concert Choir and Chamber singers were asked to perform as a community service for the 25th Anniversary of September 11th. Students will sing God Bless America and the National Anthem.	Stefeny Krombholz	9/11/ 2026	15	$30	1
MHS	Bridgewater Commons Mall	Robotics team trip to off-season competition for two days	Michele Cook, plus 3 mentor volunteers	9/26/ 2026 and 9/27/ 2026	35	$420(bus) $330(bus) $425(truck for both dates)	No subs needed
MHS	Pines Manor	Safety Ambassadors will attend a training program hosted by the Robert Wood Johnson Trauma Prevention Team and Safety Ambassador Program. This will prepare them to teach safety lessons to the first graders at Moss	Danielle Cermak	10/6/ 2026	8 students	$90	1

MHS	Rutgers (Jersey Mike's Arena)	Girls Basketball Program-Grades 7-12) will attend the Rutgers Women's Basketball and the NJEA sponsor Recess Day. The event provides players with an opportunity to watch collegiate basketball, bond with teammates, and support women in sports.	Kathy Glutz Bob Capra Becky Dwyer Panos Tzetzos Drew Bandola Molly Grant	11/19/ 2026	52	$0	3

2. Consulting Services

Move to approve BDO Consulting Services LLC to provide professional development and literacy coaching services for the 2026-2027 school year at the rate of $1,500 per day not to exceed $26,561 funded by Title II grant.

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

14. Meeting Open to Public (*for any topic*)

15. 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

Vincent Caputo

Vincent Caputo (Oct 23, 2026 11:03:50 EDT)

20260908 Board Agenda

Final Audit Report 2026-10-23

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