



**BOONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

434 LATHROP AVENUE · BOONTON · NEW JERSEY · 07005

Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm on September 29, 2025, in the Boonton High School Media Center

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Daily Record, the Citizen and the Boonton Town Clerk; and posted on the District website and at the Board of Education Building at 434 Lathrop Avenue, Boonton, NJ.

ROLL CALL & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members present at roll call were Jennifer Darling, Patrick Joyce (arrived 6:42), Loren Katsakos, Irene LeFebvre, Matthew Mondino, Brianna O'Halloran, Andrew Portas. Absent were Christopher Cartelli, Elaine Doherty.

Also present were Mr. Thomas Valle, Superintendent, Mr. Steven Gardberg, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and approximately three members of the public. The Board led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School student representative: Fall sports, Week of Respect, Halloween dance
2. MCSBA: County meeting at BHS on 10/7
3. NJSBA: Workshop 2025 on 10/20 - 10/22
4. Other: Historical Society hosting Night of Local History at Java Smugglers, open house at Lathrop Manor (Firemen's Home), Christmas parade

SUPERINTENDENT

1. Personnel: Appointment of Sara Brogan to Dir. of Curriculum, Instruction & HR; new leadership model at John Hill School for a building principal (Peter Nosal) and assistant principal; discussion of assistant principal and vice principal; leave of absence for Meghan Stratton; Bill Hopkins started as our security officer
2. Programming: Corrective action plans for chronic absenteeism; discussion about Boonton and Statewide absenteeism
3. Policy & Practices: Cellphones in school
4. Facilities & Technology: Realtime communication among security officer and administration
5. Student Achievement Presentation: BHS student to compete internationally with US Soccer Federation; standardized test results and strategies for success

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

None

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

1. Steve Bossen: Policy for training expenditures, cell phone reimbursement

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mrs. Darling, the Board approved all resolutions in a consent agenda by roll call. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Ms. O'Halloran, Mr. Portas. NO: None. ABSTAIN: Mr. Portas (Admin PK8). ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Doherty.

MINUTES

Approval of the following Board of Education meeting minutes.

1. Regular session: September 8, 2025 (enclosure)
2. Executive session: September 8, 2025 (enclosure)

ADMINISTRATION

PK-8

1. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2025-2026 school year:

Grade/Group	Destination
Grades K-2 (CBI)	Roma Pizzeria/Boonton Lanes
Grade 3	Bronx Zoo
Grades 3-8 (CBI)	Roma Pizzeria
Grade 5	NJ Marine Science Consortium
Grade 6	Tourne
Grades 6-8 (Music)	Radio City Music Hall
Grades 6-8 (Field Hockey)	East Stroudsburg University
Grades 7 & 8 (AVID)	Sussex Community College

2. Bridges to Learning Before/After School Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following for the Bridges to Learning Before/After School Program at School Street School, John Hill School and Boonton High School for the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Position
Louisa Sinatra	Lead Teacher Sub
Paige Donnelly	Adult Support Staff Sub
Tina Cosentino	Adult Support Staff Sub

Lead Teacher Substitute - \$35 per hour
Adult Support Substitute - \$23 per hour

3. Revise Employment Contract for Long-Term Leave Preschool Teacher: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves to revise the employment contract for Ryleigh Marcus, Long-Term Leave Preschool Teacher, previously approved on July 14, 2025, effective from August 27, 2025 through November 23, 2025 to extend through June 30, 2026.
4. Unpaid Leave of Absence: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves an unpaid leave of absence for Charles Henschel, John Hill School Paraprofessional, effective September 29, 2025 through December 19, 2025.

5. Advisor: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Katelyn Barth as Broadcasting Club Advisor at John Hill School at a stipend rate of \$720 for the 2025-2026 school year.
6. Title I Coordinators for Parent and Child Nights: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following as Coordinators for Parent and Child Title I Nights for PreK-5 families during the 2025-2026 school year, at a rate of \$42 per hour, for up to 6 hours per night for planning and presentation of program:

Jesica Harbeson

Marianne Sayle

Dina Davis

7. Title I - Teachers for Parent and Child Nights: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following staff members for Parent and Child Title I Nights for PreK-5 families the 2025-2026 school year, at the rate of \$42 per hour, for up to 4 hours per night, for planning and presentation of program:

Jillian Catlett

Nicole Pollina

Ellen Christian

Renee Rivera

Laura Baseil

Stacy Calise

Pavlina Mineva

Tracy Col-Spector

Julie Kelly

Danielle Alfano

Kaitlyn Brown

Karen Kovall

Meagan Arahill

Kristin Groeneveld

Laura Sudak

Rachel Wolk

Kayla Baker

Erika Faruolo

Elisabeth Cunningham

Tracy Paulozzo

Amy Smith

8. Corrective Action Plan for Addressing Chronic Absenteeism: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a Corrective Action Plan for Addressing Chronic Absenteeism at School Street School for the 2025-2026 school year. (enclosure)
9. Extracurricular/Instructional Aide Services: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves 8.5 hours for Tina Cosentino, to assist and supervise Student State ID# 8359684319-B, during John Hill School Boys Soccer tryouts for the 2025-2026 school year at a rate of \$31.53 per hour.
10. Long-Term Leave Paraprofessional: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Matthew Robinson as a Long-Term Leave Paraprofessional at John Hill School, at a salary of \$39,954 (Step 1), prorated from September 30, 2025 through December 19, 2025.

PK-12

1. Appointment of Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Human Resources: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Sara Brogan to the position of Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Human Resources at a salary of \$165,000, prorated from January 1, 2026 for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year.
2. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2025-2026 school year:

Grade/Group

Destination

Grades K-12 (CBI)

Turtle Back Zoo

Grades 3-12 (CBI)

Boonton Lanes/Rockaway Mall

Grades 9-12 (CBI)

Roma Pizzera

Grades 9-12 (STEM)
Grades 9-12 (Honors/AP Art)
Grades 9-12 (CBI)
Grades 10-12 (AVID)
Grades 9-11 (AVID)

Liberty Science Center
Metropolitan Museum of Art
Sun High Orchards
Pace University
Ramapo College

3. Long-Term Leave Social Studies Replacement Teacher: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Dillon Preston as the Long-Term Leave Social Studies Replacement Teacher at Boonton High School, at a salary of \$62,605 (Step 1 BA), pro-rated from September 30, 2025 through November 21, 2025.
4. Partial 6th Period Stipends for AVID Counselors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves partial 6th period stipends for the following Boonton High School AVID Counselors for the 2025-2026 school year, as per the Agreement Between the BEA and the Board of Education:

Kelly Mabin - \$2887.50 (50% of total \$5775)
James Nash - \$2887.50 (50% of total \$5775), prorated from October 6, 2025
5. Partial 6th Period Stipend: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a partial 6th period stipend for Kathleen Foley for Science Lab in the amount of \$843.15 (14.5% of the total \$5775 stipend), effective from September 1, 2025, for the 2025-2026 school year, as per the Agreement Between the BEA and the Board of Education.
6. Addition to Substitute List: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Ilysa Berkowitz to the 2025-2026 substitute list as a substitute teacher/paraprofessional.
7. Volunteers: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following volunteers at Boonton High School during the 2025-2026 school year:

Steven Delaporte as a Winter Track Coach Volunteer and
Samantha Angelillo and Jillian Glaser as Spring Musical Volunteers
8. Staff for Crowd Control: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Elias Rosazza for crowd control at events as required for the 2025-2026 school year.
9. Corrective Action Plan for Addressing Chronic Absenteeism: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a Corrective Action Plan for Addressing Chronic Absenteeism at Boonton High School for the 2025-2026 school year. (enclosure)
10. Clinical Hours for 50-Hour Pre-Service Course: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Ian Leith, Alternate Route Candidate at Brookdale Community College, to complete 50 hours of clinical teaching at Boonton High School, under the supervision of Daniel Matarazzo, pending clearance of background check.
11. Supervisor for Open Gym/Open Field Activities: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Matthew Brandt as a supervisor for open gym/open field activities at Boonton High School during the 2025-2026 school year, at a rate of \$42 per hour.

12. Job Description: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Job Description for Coordinator of English Language Arts and Arts Departments. (enclosure)
13. Job Description: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Job Description for Coordinator of Social Studies and World Language Departments. (enclosure)
14. Home Instructors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Dean Del Guercio and Dina Davis to provide home instruction during the 2025-2026 school year, based on their individual certifications, at a rate of \$42 per hour.
15. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 1098355112-B for up to 10 hours per week beginning September 2, 2025, with instruction to be provided by district approved instructors at a rate of \$42 per hour.
16. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 9759813295-B for up to 5 hours per week, beginning September 9, 2025, with instruction to be provided by Prime Health Services – St Clare’s, LLC at a rate of \$57 per hour.
17. Outside Evaluation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Dr. Sostre-Oquendo, MD, to conduct a Psychiatric Evaluation for Student State ID# 4885742630-B, at a cost of \$1,000.

HIB REPORT

None

POLICY

None

OPERATIONS

Mr. Gardberg: School Street cafeteria tables

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.

\$90,308.39	09/18/2025	Cafeteria ACH (attachment)
\$1,158.00	09/18/2025	Cafeteria checks (attachment)
\$126.00	09/29/2025	Cafeteria check (attachment)
\$7,893.33	09/11/2025	General ACH (attachment)
\$155,683.91	09/18/2025	General ACH (attachment)
\$595,907.93	09/18/2025	General checks (attachment)
\$38,436.31	09/29/2025	General checks (attachment)
\$250.00	09/18/2025	Student Activity BHS checks (attachment)
\$875.00	09/18/2025	Student Activity JHS ACH (attachment)
\$103.72	09/29/2025	Student Activity JHS check (attachment)
\$72.99	09/18/2025	Student Activity SSS ACH (attachment)
\$719,336.45	August 2025	Electronic checks, incl. payroll (attachment)
2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending August 31, 2025. ([attachment](#))

3. Reports of the Board Secretary and Treasurer: The Board approves reports of the Board Secretary (attachment) and Treasurer (attachment) for the month ending August 31, 2025; major funds have not been over-expended; and sufficient funds are available for the remainder of the year.
4. Professional Development: The Board approves these professional development expenses, in accordance with OMB Guidelines, State travel regulations and/or employee contracts. (attachment)
5. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 9/29/2025 to organizations, provided all required documents are submitted. District teams have priority. No activities on days school is closed. Use of all gyms and fields are coordinated with the Athletic Director. All permits are pending building administration final approval and receipt of documentation.

Permit #	Requested by / Facility / Dates
2509-0002	Boonton PTA: Meetings JHS Media Center Tuesdays 9/9/2025 - 6/9/2026 (6:30 - 9:00 PM)
2509-0003	Boonton PTA: JHS Book Fair
2509-0004	JHS Art Room
2509-0005	10/2, 10/7, 10/9/2025 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)
2509-0006	10/8/2025 (8:00 AM - 8:00 PM) 10/3/2025 (3:00 - 5:00 PM) 10/10/2025 (8:00 AM - 3:00 PM)
2509-0007	Boonton PTA Tricky Tray Set up
2509-0008	JHS Cafeteria, Gym 11/14/2025 (4:00 - 9:00 PM) 11/15/2025 (3:00 - 10:00 PM)
2509-0009	Boonton PTA Family Game Night SSS Multipurpose Room 11/13/2025 (6:30 - 8:30 PM)
2509-0010	Boonton Hills & Valley LAX: Indoor Practice SSS Multipurpose Room Mondays - Fridays, 2/16 - 3/31/2026 (6:30 - 9:00 PM)
2509-0011	Boonton PTA: SSS Book Fair
2509-0012	SSS Multipurpose Room 10/20 - 10/23/2025 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM)
2509-0013	NW1 Field Hockey: Officials Meeting BHS Cafeteria 9/17/2025 (7:30 - 9:00 PM)
2509-0014	Boonton High School Field Hockey: Alumni Day BHS Cafeteria (rain location) 9/20/2025 (10:00 AM - 3:00 PM)

2509-0015 BHS Basketball Parents: Season Opening Dinner
BHS Cafeteria
12/12/2025 (5:00 - 9:00 PM)

2509-0016 Tri-Town Little League: Winter Clinics
SSS Multipurpose Room
Mondays - Fridays, 1/5 - 2/13/2026 (6:15 - 8:30 PM)

6. Enrollment as Member of the NJSIAA: The Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, as provided for in Chapter 172 Laws 1979 (N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3 et seq. and Policy 2431), herewith enrolls Boonton High School as a member of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) to participate in the approved interschool athletic program sponsored by the NJSIAA; and be it further resolved that this resolution will continue to be in effect until or unless rescinded by the Board of Education and shall be included among those policies adopted by the Board. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-3, in adopting this resolution the Board of Education adopts as its own policy and agrees to be governed by the constitution, By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the NJSIAA.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Clothing bins are full
2. Steve Bossen: Public relations to highlight getting schools ready in the summer; thank you for banning cellphones; Back to School Night at BHS; Atlas for aviation courses; staff training
3. Matt Mondino: Classroom heat; radio station in band room; classrooms that need AC

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Next meeting is October 13, 2025
2. Filling Board vacancy

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 7:57 pm by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Ms. O'Halloran, all present voted to approve the following resolution to enter Executive Session.

Be it resolved, that the following portion of this meeting dealing with the following generally described matters shall not be open to the public: Personnel matters; Current or Potential Litigation; and Matters of Attorney/Client Privilege. Be it further resolved, that it is anticipated that the matters to be considered in private may be disclosed to the public at a later date when confidentiality is no longer required. Be it further resolved, that private consideration is deemed required and is permitted because of the following noted exceptions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act: Would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy; Related to investigation of violations or possible violations of the law; Related to pending/anticipated litigation or contract negotiations in which the Public body is or may be a party; and Falls within the attorney-client privilege and confidentiality is required.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

Adjourn executive session and return to open session.

On a motion at 8:20 pm by Ms. O'Halloran and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 8:22 pm by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mr. Portas, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: