



**BOONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

434 LATHROP AVENUE · BOONTON · NEW JERSEY · 07005

Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm on August 10, 2026, 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, Loren Katsakos, Irene LeFebvre, Mary McMahon, Matthew Mondino, Brianna O'Halloran. Members arriving after roll call were Justin Nguyen at 6:33 pm and Jenna Aiello at 6:45 pm. Absent was Elaine Doherty.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Questions from a member of the public about meeting agendas

LIAISON REPORTS

1. ESC of Morris County: Looking for tenant
2. MCSBA: Planning for 26-27 meetings
3. NJSBA: Construction in the building

WORK OF THE BOARD

1. Administration
 - Personnel: Appointments tonight, new resignations
 - K-12 #8 for a technology worker to serve as a substitute and K-12 #16 for two additional days for counselor summer work
 - School handbooks
 - State Assessments: NJGPA results expected soon
 - Professional Development: Administrator training
 - Genesis SIS: Training for administrators and staff
 - Facilities: SSS multipurpose room repainted and air conditioning; JHS flooring
 - Policy updates available for the committee
2. Operations
 - Finance: Healthcare
 - Local Government Energy Audit (LGEA)
 - QSAC walkthroughs at no charge by NJSIG
3. Policy: Revisions were distributed

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

1. Steve Bossen: Policy 2260 about hiring and Amistad Commission curriculum; Policy & Regulation 5516 about use of Internet-connected devices

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

CONSENT AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Approval of the following Board of Education meeting minutes.

1. Regular session: July 13, 2026 (enclosure)
2. Executive session: July 13, 2026 (enclosure)

ADMINISTRATION

PK-8

1. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Ahmed Messeleka, School Street School Custodian, effective August 31 2026.
2. Appointment of Custodian: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the appointment of Luis Barboza Gonzalez to the position of Custodian, School Street School, at a salary of \$51,955 (Step 11), prorated from August 17, 2026 for the 2026-2027 school year, pending background clearance.
3. Letter of Resignation: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Madison Geiger, John Hill School Long-Term Leave Replacement Preschool Teacher, effective July 28, 2026.
4. Long-Term Leave Replacement Preschool Teacher: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Karen Barrett as the Long-Term Leave Replacement Preschool Teacher, John Hill School, at a salary of \$64,700 (Step 2 BA) for the 2026-2027 school year.
5. Long-Term Leave Replacement Technology Teacher: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Suryakavinilavu Easwaramurthy as the Long-Term Leave Replacement Technology Teacher, John Hill School, at a salary of \$64,200 (Step 1 BA), pro-rated from effective August 31, 2026 through a date to be determined.
6. Appointment of Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Samantha Guider to the position of Special Education Elementary Teacher, School Street School, at a salary of \$74,505 (Step 7 MA) for the 2026-2027 school year, pending receipt of New Jersey Certification..
7. Preschool Family Handbook: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Preschool Family Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure)

8. Parent / Student Handbooks: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the School Street School and John Hill School Parent / Student Handbooks for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure) (enclosure)
9. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2026-2027 school year:

Grade/Class	Destination
Grades 4 & 5	S2S - Science to Science

10. Advisors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following advisors and stipends at John Hill School for the 2026-2027 school year:

Advisor	Position	Stipend
Yvonne Manca	Band Grades 6-8	\$2,875
Yvonne Manca	Chorus Grades 6-8	\$1,450
Pamela Jones	Junior Reporters	\$ 860
Laura Sudak	Coding Club Grades 3-5	\$ 760
Elizabeth Vecchio	Drama Director	\$1,800
Jennifer Sannazzaro	Green Team	\$ 860
Laura Affinito	Helping Hands	\$ 600
Kathryn Dinning	Junior Band Grades 3-5	\$1,450
Gregory LaPointe	Mathletes/Chess	\$1,200
Jennifer Sannazzaro	Newspaper/Broadcasting	\$ 720
Kathryn Dinning	Junior Chorus Grades 3-5	\$ 860
Katelyn Barth	Stars & Stripes	\$ 600
Zachary Sabatino	Student Council	\$2,000
Mary Beth Comer	Students for Change	\$2,000
Jennifer Crithary	Students for Change	\$2,000
Pamela Jones	Yearbook	\$1,450
Lauren Dedoussis	Wellness & Mindfulness Elem	\$ 760
Lauren Dedoussis	Wellness & Mindfulness Middle	\$ 760
Bevin Hughen	8th Grade Trip Co-Coordinator	\$1,099
Amanda Sheehan	8th Grade Trip Co-Coordinator	\$1,099
Kathryn Beiermeister	Activities Financial Coordinator	\$2,650
Zachary Sabatino	Enrichment Facilitator	\$2,650
Kathryn Beiermeister	Testing Facilitator	\$2,650

11. Detention Monitors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following as Detention Monitors at John Hill School at a rate of \$26.50 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year:

Lauren Shurn	Bevin Hughen	Jennifer Bridi
Cynthia Tserkis	Laura Sudak	Krystle Sacco
Karen Kovall	Zachary Sabatino	Gregory LaPointe
Joseph Diaz	Amy Hennessey-Smith	Ellen Christian
Joseph Tivolacci	Laura Affinito	Andrea Villeagas
Yvonne Manca		

12. Professional Development Plans: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Professional Development Plans for School Street School and John Hill School for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure) (enclosure)
13. Bridges to Learning Before and After Care Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Bridges to Learning Before and After Care Staff for the 2026-2027 school year. (attachment)
14. Bridges to Learning Enrichment Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Bridges to Learning Enrichment Staff for the 2026-2027 school year. (attachment)

PK-12

1. Emergency Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Emergency Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure)
2. Appointment of Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the appointment of Connor Dorgan to the position of Special Education English Teacher, Boonton High School, at a salary of \$64,200 (Step 1 BA) for the 2026-2027 school year.
3. Transfer Custodian: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a transfer for Sebastian Rua Isaza, Boonton High School Custodian, to John Hill School effective July 20, 2026, for the 2026-2027 school year.
4. Genesis 101 Training: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Cynthia Tserkis-Schlitt for Genesis 101 Training for up to 8 hours at a rate of \$36.75 per hour.
5. Detention Monitors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following as Detention Monitors at Boonton High School at a rate of \$26.50 per hour for the 2026-2027 school year:

Ed Haddad
Samantha Angelillo

Vanessa DeJesus

Barbara Gilbert

6. Common Lunch Monitors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following as Common Lunch Monitors at Boonton High School at a stipend rate of \$3,000 each for the 2026-2027 school year:

Ed Haddad
Steven Delaporte
Matthew Emering

Julie Rienzi*
Jennifer Tambakis
Emily Bohn

Devon Engelberger
Omar Perez

*Transition students

7. Substitutes/Workers: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following substitutes/workers for the 2026-2027 school year:

Substitute	Position(s) to be Approved
Thuraya Abdelal	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Rehana Abraham	Teacher / Paraprofessional / Secretary
Haya Ali	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Nicole Beck	Nurse
Patricia Bednar	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Isabella Bennett	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Arle Berkowitz	Nurse
Ilysa Berkowitz	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Julian Billa	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Jake Blumenthal	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Bridget Burke-Weiss	Teacher / Paraprofessional / Secretary
Susan Chara	Teacher / Paraprofessional / Secretary
Mazzy Cirinella	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Lorraine Clark	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Daniel Clavijo	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Meredyth Coleman	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Joshua Cooper	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Kellei Cosby	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Nicolette Costa	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Abby Crane	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Grace Cunningham	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Mohamed Derar	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Luca DiGiacopo	Maintenance Worker
Rinaldo DiGiacopo	Maintenance Worker
Sero DiGiacopo	Maintenance Worker
Fadia Drali	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Stephanie Eagan	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Jennifer Eckels	Teacher / Paraprofessional / Secretary
Adriane Eogo	Paraprofessional / Secretary
Deirdre Feeney	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Bryan Figuerora	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Sidney Figuerora	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Lisa Flemington	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Anthony Freda	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Eve Gada	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Tammi Grimes	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Samuel Gundlach	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Julia Hecht	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Christina Holster	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Janet Hunter	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Janet Long	Teacher / Paraprofessional / Secretary
Cynthia Mascia	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Diana Melo	Custodian
Abderrahmane Messeleka	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Victoria Mierzwa	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Keith Mitchell	Bus

Riham Mohamed	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Rakib Momen	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Kathleen Mooney	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Deborah Pawlikowski	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Mihaela Popescu	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Nancy Questa	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Mannal Ramadan	Nurse
Mark Riccio	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Matthew Robinson	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Veronica Rose	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Rajul Salunia	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Henry Samek	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Samantha Schessler	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Cheryl Schleicher	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Sawson Sheikho	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Eric Shollenberger	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Siddharth Suri	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Savannah Spann	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Ruzena Sucharova	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Debbie Trabucco	Bus
John Trahan	Bus
Jennifer Van Sadars	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Alex Vento	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Sara Whitman	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Lillian Whitney-Morley	Teacher / Paraprofessional
Michele Wolcesky	Secretary
Mariana Zamfirescu	Custodian
Elizabeth Zuffelato	Teacher / Paraprofessional

8. Substitute Rates of Pay: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following substitute rates of pay for the 2026-2027 school year:

Teachers/Aides - County or State Certificate:	\$130 per day
Secretary:	\$125 per day
Secretary Hourly Rate	\$16 per hour
Nurse:	\$200 per day
Custodian:	\$16 per hour
Technology Support	\$16 per hour
Maintenance Workers:	\$20 per hour

9. Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Kathleen Crooker as the Assistant Girls Lacrosse Coach at Boonton High School at a stipend rate \$5,658 (Step 2) for the 2026-2027 school year.
10. Volunteer Coach: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Nicole Krozser as a Volunteer Field Hockey Coach at Boonton High School for the 2026-2027 school year, pending clearance of background check.

11. 6th Period Stipends: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following 6th period stipends, in full or part, for staff at Boonton High School for the 2026-2027 school year, as per the Agreement Between the BEA and the Board of Education:

Full Stipend: \$5,775 each:		
Vince Coiro	John Sisto	Alyssa Blauvelt
Colin Bower	Sandra Green	Daniel Matarazzo
Gabriele Fillippini	Connor Dorgan	Christopher Hurd
Olivia DiTrollo	Rachel Olivo	Scott Allen
Michael LaVaglio	Lauren Galle-Carey	Jody Oliveri
Samantha Angelillo	Beth Forward	Nupur Bahl
Kelsey Corsaro	Matthew Voswinkel	Emily Bohn
Matthew Emering		

The following teachers will receive partial sixth period stipends for labs:

Kathleen Foley	14.6%	=	\$843.15
Matt Ross	73%	=	\$4,215.75
Giorgi Tchubabria	73%	=	\$4,215.75
Dean Del Guercio	58.4%	=	\$3,372.60

12. 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 2026-2027 school year:

Kelly Mabin - \$2887.50 (50% of total \$5775)
James Nash - \$2887.50 (50% of total \$5775)

13. Parent / Student Handbook: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Boonton High School Parent / Student Handbook for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure)
14. Professional Development Plan: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Professional Development Plan for Boonton High School for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure)
15. District Professional Development Plan: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the District Professional Development Plan for the 2026-2027 school year. (enclosure)
16. Additional Summer Days for High School Guidance Counselors: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves an extra two days of compensation for each of the following high school guidance counselors during the summer of 2026 at the daily rate of 1/200th of their annual salary, as per the BEA Agreement:

Kelly Mabin	James Nash	Deanna Wilks
-------------	------------	--------------

HIB REPORT

Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board affirms the findings and recommendations on the following Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying complaint:
JHS #13

POLICY

Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the reading of the following:

First and Final Reading:

Policy 5516 Student Use of Internet Enabled Devices ([attachment](#))
Regulation 5516 Student Use of Internet Enabled Devices ([attachment](#))

Final Reading:

Policy 0162 Notice of Board Meetings ([attachment](#))
Policy 0162.01 Legal Notices ([attachment](#))
Policy 1230 Superintendent's Duties ([attachment](#))
Policy 1643 Family Leave ([attachment](#))
Policy 2200 Curriculum ([attachment](#))
Policy 2260 Equity in School and Classroom Practices ([attachment](#))
Policy 2411 Career Education and Academic Counseling ([attachment](#))
Policy 5111.13 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students Choice School District ([attachment](#))
Regulation 5111.13 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students Choice School District ([attachment](#))
Policy 5460 High School Graduation ([attachment](#))
Policy 5461 High School Diplomas ([attachment](#))
Policy 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities ([attachment](#))
Policy 6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures ([attachment](#))
Regulation 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls - Allowability of Costs ([attachment](#))
Policy 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls-Mandatory Disclosures ([attachment](#))
Policy 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants ([attachment](#))
Policy 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs ([attachment](#))

OPERATIONS

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.

\$4,312.48	7/24/2026	Cafeteria ACH (attachment)
\$36,548.64	8/4/2026	Cafeteria ACH (attachment)
\$5,700.00	7/16/2026	Cafeteria checks (attachment)
\$1,926.40	7/24/2026	Cafeteria checks (attachment)
\$2,782.06	7/16/2026	General ACH (attachment)
\$82,940.57	7/24/2026	General ACH (attachment)
\$63,827.65	8/4/2026	General ACH (attachment)
\$55,831.80	7/16/2026	General checks (attachment)
\$68,341.83	7/24/2026	General checks (attachment)

\$1,593,225.45	8/4/2026	General checks (attachment)
\$3,391.00	7/16/2026	Student Activity BHS checks (attachment)
\$5,272.79	8/4/2026	Student Activity BHS ACH (attachment)
\$2279.00	7/16/2026	Student Activity JHS checks (attachment)
\$3,572,300.23	June 2026	Electronic checks, incl. payroll (attachment)

2. Transfer Reports: The Board approves Transfer Reports for the month ending June 30, 2026. ([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 June 30, 2026; major funds have not been over-expended; and sufficient funds are available for the remainder of the year.
4. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.

\$243,861.13	7/15/2026
\$248,431.87	7/30/2026
5. Professional Development: The Board approves these professional development expenses, in accordance with OMB Guidelines, State travel regulations and/or employee contracts. ([attachment](#))
6. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 8/10/2026 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. ([attachment](#))
7. Tuition Contract: The Board approves the tuition contract for Student State ID 4983874889, identified as McKinney-Vento eligible, for whom the Paterson Board of Education is financially responsible pursuant to NJSA 18A:7B-12, for 11 days in 2025-2026 for \$1,160.19.

8. ESEA FY27 Grant: The Board approves the submission of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA aka ESSA) Grant Fiscal Year 2027, in the following amounts

Title	Award
I-A	\$224,872
II-A	32,125
III	23,545
III Immigrant	16,131
<u>IV-A</u>	<u>15,788</u>
Total	\$312,461

9. IDEA FY27 Grant: The Board approves submission of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Grant Fiscal Year 2027 in the following amounts.

Title	Award
Basic	\$454,502
<u>Preschool</u>	<u>14,489</u>
Total	\$468,991

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Steve Bossen: Any updated policy for staff about Internet-connected devices? Can agendas and attachments be posted earlier? Can the SIS colors match Boonton? Instead of using the Tech Director's email address on Genesis pages, perhaps use an address not tied to a specific name. How does Genesis handle user security and parent accounts? Our company is also conducting an energy audit.

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

1. Next meeting is August 24, 2026
2. Cleaning of the grass and turf after the fireworks.
3. Retreat-style discussion: Successes include administrative team has been forward-looking to reduce otherwise-necessary cuts; listen to and learn from each other; AVID national demonstration school; Committee-of-the-Whole helped with the budget process; strong relationship with LP board. Opportunities include improving positive PR; publicizing the budget situation; alumni relations; concentrating on the core; utilizing students. Dreams include basic necessities of the building envelope, aesthetics, another HS academy.
4. Superintendent evaluation: Interest to renew/extend his contract

Mrs. Katsakos left the meeting at 7:47 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 8:09 pm by Ms. O'Halloran and seconded by Mr. Mondino, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: