

Toms River, New Jersey, April 16, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools took place at High School North, 1245 Old Freehold Road, Toms River, on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 5:36 P.M.

Board President Mrs. Ashley Lamb read the following Opening Statement:

“Good Evening, Welcome to a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools.”

“This meeting was announced to the public through a notice published in the Asbury Park Press and in The Star Ledger on April 2, 2025, which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

A roll call of attendance indicated the following Board Members were present: Mrs. Maria Matarazzo, Mr. Joseph Jubert, Mrs. Katie Coyne, Mrs. Lisa Contessa, Ms. Kathy Eagan, Mr. James Capone, and Mrs. Ashley Lamb.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Citta, Assistant Superintendent DiMeo, Thomas, Business Administrator Doering, Board Secretary Saxton, and Board Attorney Burns.

Mr. Kevin Kidney was absent.

Mrs. Paola Pascarella was absent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5:38 P.M.

A motion was made by Mrs. Coyne, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the following Executive Session Resolution be approved:

Resolved, that the Board of Education, at this time, move to a closed session to be held in High School North Executive Session Meeting Room, 1245 Old Freehold Road, Toms River, New Jersey, for the purpose of:

Executive Session – To *Include* – HIB Appeal #68976, #64413; RICE #16528, #16598, #15709, #16075, #16450; Personnel; Legal Litigation Update; Contracts; Negotiations; Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report; Fire &

Security Drill Report; Suspension Report; Other. Subject to change as outlined under the Open public Meetings Act.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION – 6:40 P.M.

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Board return to Regular Session at 6:40 P.M.

All members present voting Aye.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Michael Citta led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence for the loss of two staff members Caleb De La Rosa and Sherylann Middleton. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENTS

Superintendent Michael Citta wished everyone a happy April and to those looking forward to Spring break. Superintendent Citta discussed the District being on track for an April 30, 2025 Budget Hearing. Superintendent Citta advised the State of New Jersey opened an application process for a tax levy incentive program which the District applied for, but has not heard back from the Department of Education as of yet, and will release that information in a timely manner.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Student Representatives from all three high schools updated Board on the academic and athletic successes taking place at their respective schools, as well as events taking place and fund raising activities.

Ryan Macom, High School East
Gabriela Kostova, High School North
Sophia Citta, High School South

STUDENT/STAFF AWARDS

The list of student, staff and volunteer award recipients is attached to the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance Committee – Acting Chair Mrs. Lamb

The Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools met on April 9, 2025 at 1144 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, New Jersey in Conference Room A from 5:30 P.M. to 5:33 P.M. The meeting was streamed for public viewing. Acting Committee Chair, Ashley Lamb, read the following opening statement:

“Good evening, welcome to the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was published in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger on April 2, 2025, which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

In addition to the Committee Chair, in attendance were Board members- Jimmy Capone, Lisa Contessa, Katie Coyne, Joseph Jubert, Marisa Matarazzo and Paola Pascarella, Superintendent- Michael Citta, Assistant Superintendents- Cara DiMeo and Pat Thomas, Business Administrator- Bill Doering, Board Secretary- Wendy Saxton and Board Attorney- William Burns. The meeting was open to the public and an opportunity for in-person public comment was provided after the last committee meeting of the evening.

As we do every month, the committee reviewed the expenditures listed in the Purchasing Agenda, which was emailed to the Board, and posted in the Board’s Google Docs folder, prior to the Budget and Finance Committee meeting. The Purchasing Agenda also included items of zero value, bids, change orders and resolutions. Purchasing Agenda questions by various individual Board members were answered by Mr. Doering and other members of the administration. The Purchasing Agenda for this month is in the amount of \$12,278,525.76 for the 2024-25 school year. The Budget & Finance Committee is recommending the approval of the Purchasing Agenda by the full Board.

Finally, the committee was advised as to the status of the 2025-26 Budget. A special board meeting is scheduled for later this evening, 7:00 PM, April 9, 2025, whereby a resolution will be proposed that relates to the proposed budget to be submitted for 2025-26.

Building & Grounds Committee – Mr. Capone

The Building & Grounds Committee of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools met on April 9th, 2025, starting directly after the curriculum committee meeting.

Mr. Capone read the following opening statement: “Good evening and welcome to the Building & Grounds Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was announced to the public through a notice published in the Asbury Park Press and the Star-Ledger on April 2, 2025, which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act.”

In attendance were board members Katie Coyne, Maria Matarazzo, Lisa Contessa, Paola Pascarella, James Capone, Ashley Lamb and Joseph Jubert, Superintendent Mike Citta, Business Administrator William Doering, Assistant Superintendents Cara DiMeo, and Pat Thomas; Manager of Facilities- Sam Pepe, Manager of Capital Projects Mark Wagner. The meeting was open to the public. An opportunity for public comment was provided.

NEW PROJECTS

Mr. Wagner discussed that design work is currently being completed to go out to bid on a Phased Roof Replacement at Beachwood Elementary School. Mr. Pepe noted that abatement activities were completed at classrooms at Hooper Avenue and Walnut Street and a readying for new floor finish. Mr. Wagner noted that district staff has completed some refurbishing of a room to create a Hope Pantry for students at Walnut Street. Work at 1144 Hooper Avenue is being completed by district staff in preparation to consolidate all district administrative functions within the 3rd floor. At High School South, switchgear work was performed by a district vendor to remedy a power issue. Additional work will be performed in the future being reviewed by a district vendor.

OLD PROJECTS

Work has concluded at HS North Media Center parapet wall. At SITE 203, JBAC, the award has been made and a Pre-construction meeting has been set. SITE 174, Intermediate South roof and exterior wall project will have much work completed over the Spring Break. Additionally, SITE 196, window replacement at Washington Street and West Dover will have the installation of the safety film added during the break. Various work orders continue to be worked on and closed out by district staff as well as the district water testing for lead in all district sites. A settlement with the contractor has been reached for SITE 189, Paving Group 2. This closes out that project.

COMMUNICATION

Mr. Wagner noted that a subcontractor for First Energy will be performing clearing operations near the Intermediate North School. Mr. Pepe received approval from the County for landscaping materials. These will be installed by district staff. The Ocean County Engineer advised the district that design work for the Parkway Exit 83 work may require access to school property. The school administration as well as the Security department have been advised. Additionally, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has sent notification of required submission of Benchmarking for Water and Energy Use at 1144. This is due by July 1, 2025. Lastly, communication received from the attorney representing a developer who is requesting an extension of the preliminary and final major subdivision of a site adjacent to Cedar Grove Elementary School.

Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee

The Citizens Budget Advisory Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools had a committee meeting on April 2, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.

Board President Lamb read the following opening statement: "Good evening, welcome to the Citizens Budget Advisory Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was published in the Asbury Park Press and The Star Ledger on March 3, 2025 which constituted at least 48 hours' notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act."

In attendance were Board members Ashely Lamb, James Capone, Lisa Contessa, Kevin Kidney, Katie Coyne, Joseph Jubert, Kathy Eagan and Paola Pascarella. Also in

attendance were Superintendent Michael Citta; Assistant Superintendents Cara DiMeo and Pat Thomas; Business Administrator Bill Doering; Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction Adrienne Gold, Director of Elementary Curriculum Rachel Cicala, Director of Funded Programs Rich Fastnacht, and Board Secretary Wendy Saxton. Maria Matarazzo arrived at 6:25 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Board President Ashley Lamb.

An introductory message and a 2025-2026 budget overview was presented by Superintendent of Schools, Michael Citta.

An overview of the handouts and documents being referenced in the presentation was presented by Business Administrator, William Doering.

The Curriculum and Instruction section was presented by Assistant Superintendent Cara DiMeo.

The Co-Curricular section was presented by Assistant Superintendent Patrick Thomas.

The Benefits/Utilities/Insurance/General Administrative section was presented by Business Administrator William Doering.

The Operations/Maintenance section was presented by Superintendent Michael Citta.

The Student/Special Services section was presented by Patrick Thomas.

The Transportation section was presented by Business Administrator William Doering.

The Technology section was presented by Assistant Superintendent Cara DiMeo.

The Revenues and Debt Service Fund section was presented by Business Administrator William Doering.

Superintendent Michael Citta stated the Toms River Regional Schools were the lowest spending school district per pupil in the State of New Jersey. Superintendent Michael Citta discussed the \$22.3 million revenue shortfall, the efforts to restore funds and to keep existing programs defined by T&E. The \$22.3 million revenue shortfall represented eliminating 297 teaching staff members along with various programs. Possible solutions: 1) The State gives an advanced State Aid payment. 2) The State restores to the School District \$24 million in back State Aid. 3) The District raises the tax levy, if allowed by the State with the tax levy incentives available, if the Board decides to

proceed in that direction at next week's meeting. Mr. Citta further explained the School District did not have the available space to sell a school building, especially if the Board decided to proceed with a funded full day preschool program in the future. The District could not cut teaching staff either, as the District's class sizes were already high and we are required to provide a thorough and efficient education.

Tentatively the public hearing on the budget for 2025-2026 school year is scheduled for April 30, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. @ High School North Auditorium.

Board comments and questions were discussed. The meeting was then opened for guests and press for comments and inquiries. (Board comments by Ms. Eagan, Mr. Kidney and Mrs. Lamb and public comment by Mrs. Whitaker)

Closing comments were made by Board President Ms. Lamb and she thanked the Administration for the detailed 2025-2026 Budget Presentation.

Adjourned 7:02 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Kidney.

Curriculum Committee – Mr. Kidney

The Curriculum Committee of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools met on April 9, 2025, within a virtual live-streamed meeting on the internet, beginning at 5:30 PM.

Committee Member, Katie Coyne, read the following opening statement: "Good evening and welcome to the Curriculum Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of Toms River Regional Schools. Notice of this meeting was announced to the public through a notice published in the Asbury Park Press and The Star Ledger on April 2, 2025 which constituted at least 48 hours notice as required by law under the Open Public Meetings Act."

In attendance were Board President Ashley Lamb, board members Joe Jubert, Paola Pascarella, Jimmy Capone, Lisa Contessa, Maria Matarazzo and Katie Coyne. Superintendent Mike Citta, Assistant Superintendents Cara DiMeo, & Pat Thomas, Business Administrator William Doering and Board Secretary Wendy Saxton were in attendance, as well. The meeting was live streamed to the public and an opportunity for public comment was provided.

Ms. Tiffany Lucey presented to the board on the work that the district has done to become educated about and create policy for *Artificial Intelligence* in teaching and learning. The presentation provided a brief snapshot of what our intentions are to provide preparation for our staff and students.

After, Mr. Fastnacht delivered the 2023-24 School Performance Reports presentation. Several questions were taken from the board regarding some of the information contained within the presentation.

Insurance Committee – Mrs. Coyne

The Insurance Committee of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools met April 7, 2025 from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM, via Google Meets. This quarterly meeting is not publicly advertised as the committee reviews insurance information, including workers compensation and liability claims, which may include items in litigation or names and case information for individuals, including staff members.

In attendance was Committee Chair, Katie Coyne, committee member Lisa Contessa, Business Administrator- William Doering and Superintendent- Mike Citta. Also in attendance was John Forrester and Ron Gillaspie with the district property and casualty insurance broker, Alliant/Boynton and Stuart Migdon with the district health insurance broker, Business and Governmental Insurance Agency (BGIA).

Regarding property/casualty insurance, Mr. Forrester and Mr. Gillaspie with Alliant/Boynton reviewed the quarterly report that was provided to the committee for the property/casualty insurance program. This document showed claim costs for the current year to date as well as the prior 5 years. The document also included Inservco Loss Reports for workers compensation and the other lines of insurance. It was noted that our claim costs continue to track well in terms of liability, property and auto claims. Workers compensation claims can fluctuate year to year, but ours have remained in a consistent range. After reviewing some key points about the claims data, our risk management program was discussed, in terms of the cost/benefit of fully insured/first-dollar programs compared to having higher deductibles and SIR's (self-insured retentions) and managing your own risk. The committee was also informed that we will ensure the district is utilizing the trainings available to our employees, notably in areas where we are seeing more risk or claim costs. Finally, Mr. Forrester

indicated that they hope to have renewal proposals to the district by May 1, 2025 for the 2025-26 year.

For the health insurance program, Mr. Migdon with BGIA reviewed a health plan quarterly report that was provided to the committee which covered 3 years of claims from December 2021 through November of 2024. Mr. Migdon discussed the plan costs and trends, and noted that these costs have trended up by 15.67% on a per member per month basis, due in large part to some significant medical claims and high prescription drug costs. Mr. Migdon will report back to the committee at the next quarterly meeting regarding the status of that trend, including the potential positive financial impact of switching to CVS/Caremark as our Prescription Benefit Manager as of April 1, 2025. Mr. Migdon will also update the committee regarding specific high-dollar claims in areas such as autism disorder. Other key plan statistics and metrics were also discussed, including PHC visits, visit types, care coordination encounters, prescription drug utilization and prescription drug generic dispensing ratios. The quickly rising costs of GLP-1 drugs was discussed as they have had a significant financial impact on the prescription plan. Finally, it was noted that claim costs continue to be significantly lower for PHC-attributed patients (those that consider PHC their primary physician).

Lastly, the committee was advised that prior committee members and committee chairs had expressed concern with the district emailing copies of the monthly Inservco bills (our third party administrator who administers the property/casualty insurance program and pays the bills), as those bills contain sensitive information about litigation as well as workers compensation and liability claims. It was recommended that the district no longer send those monthly bills to the committee as such payment and claim information is covered in summary form by the brokers on a quarterly basis anyway.

Personnel Committee – Mrs. Coyne

A Personnel Committee Meeting of the Board of Education of the Toms River Regional Schools took place at the Administrative Offices, 1144 Hooper Ave., Toms River, New Jersey on April 9, 2025 at 5:10 p.m. This meeting is not publicly advertised as the committee reviews personnel information which includes names of individual staff members as well as possible new staff members.

In attendance were committee members, Ashley Lamb, Board President, Katie Coyne, and Lisa Contessa. Also in attendance were Pat Thomas, Assistant Superintendent, Michael Citta, Superintendent, William Burns, Esq. and Dr. Megan Osborn.

The meeting was opened at 5:00 p.m. by Katie Coyne, Michael Citta, Superintendent, discussed with the members, extra-curricular, new hires and rice notices at the board meeting on Wednesday April 16, 2025.

The committee adjourned at 5:21p.m.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS AND PRESS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY (*limited to 3 minutes as per Board Policy # 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings, the first public session will be limited to a total of 30 minutes*)

Public comments were heard by Krista Whittaker.

APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOMS RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION AND OCEAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR JULY 1, 2025– JUNE 30, 2026

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval of the 2025-2026 Intergovernmental Services Agreement with the Toms River Board of Education and Ocean County Department of Corrections for July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF THE BUS EVACUATION DRILL REPORTS (FOR BUS RIDERS & WALKERS)

A motion was made by Ms. Eagan, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the Approval of the Bus Evacuation Drill Reports (For Bus Riders & Walkers) be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY AGREEMENT FOR NON-PUBLIC NURSING SERVICES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025-JUNE 30, 2026

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mrs. Coyne and carried that the Approval of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Agreement for Non-Public Nursing Services Effective July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY AGREEMENT FOR NON-PUBLIC INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT – B INITIATIVE SERVICES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025-JUNE 30, 2026

A motion was made by Ms. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Jubert and carried that the Approval of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Agreement for Non-Public Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – B Initiative Services Effective July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

**APPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY
AGREEMENT FOR NON-PUBLIC PUBLIC LAW 1977 CHAPTERS 192-193
SERVICES EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025-JUNE 30, 2026**

A motion was made by Ms. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval of Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Agreement for Non-Public Public Law 1977 Chapters 192-193 Services Effective July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

**APPROVAL OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY
AGREEMENT FOR MASTER COLLABORATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2025-JUNE 30, 2025**

A motion was made by Mrs. Matarazzo, seconded by Mr. Jubert and carried that the Approval of Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Agreement for Master Collaborative Educational Services Effective April 1, 2025-June 30, 2025 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF MOESC AGREEMENT FOR INSTRUCTIONAL, SPECIAL EDUCATION AND/OR TRANSPORTATION AIDE PLACEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2025-JUNE 30, 2026

A motion was made by Ms. Eagan, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the Approval of MOESC Agreement for Instructional, Special Education and/or Transportation Aide Placements for the Period of July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026 be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN BURLINGTON COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT AND TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

A motion was made by Mr. Jubert, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval of Agreement for Professional Services between Burlington County Special Services School District and Toms River Regional School District be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF PRESCHOOL EXPANSION AID GRANT STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES

A motion was made by Ms. Eagan, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the Approval of Preschool Expansion Aid Grant Statement of Assurances be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF REVISED 2024-2025 SCHOOL CALENDAR

A motion was made by Mrs. Matarazzo, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval of Revised 2024-2025 School Calendar be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

Mr. Burns read the Resolution for the Conveyance of Real Property

APPROVAL OF THE TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF REAL PROPERTY

A motion was made by Mrs. Matarazzo, seconded by Mrs. Contessa and carried that the Approval of the Toms River Regional Schools Board of Education Resolution for the Conveyance of Real Property be approved.

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE SECOND READING OF THE FOLLOWING POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND BYLAWS AS LISTED IN THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval and Adoption of the Second Reading of the Following Policies, Regulations and Bylaws as listed in the Agenda be approved.

{ Code = (M) Mandated; (R) Recommended }

- P 2365 Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- P 5756 Transgender Students (Abolish)

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA ITEMS #23 THROUGH #27 AS LISTED IN THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval of the Agenda Items #23 through #27 as listed in the Agenda be approved.

23. Approval of the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report

24. Approval of the Fire & Security Drill Report

25. Approval of Minutes: (Regular and/or Executive, where applicable)

March 19, 2025

April 9, 2025

26. Approval of Bills:

General		\$	11,008,544.94
Cafeteria		\$	456,321.17
Payroll (Gross)	March 14, 2025	\$	6,295,800.46
(Gross)	March 28, 2025	\$	
	6,316,398.97		

27. Board Secretary's Agenda + Addendum

School Year 2024-2025

Purchases – Pages 1 through 24 - \$ 12,278.525.76

Zero Values **Contract Extensions**
Student Transportation **Award of Bids**

School Year 2025-2026

Contract Extensions **Permission to Advertise**

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

APPROVAL AND CERTIFICATION OF THE BOARD SECRETARY’S REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22.1.11(c), I, Wendy Saxton, Board Secretary, certify that as of February 2025 no budgetary line items account has obligations and payments (contracted orders) which exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1, that the district’s accounts have been reconciled and are in balance.

Through the adoption of this resolution, we the Toms River Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-2.11(c), certify that as of February 2025 after a review of the Secretary’s monthly report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the Business Administrator and other appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:22-2.11 (c) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s needs.

A motion was made by Ms. Eagan, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the Approval and Certification of the February 2025 Secretary’s Monthly Financial Reports be approved:

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

PERSONNEL AGENDA (# 1-22) + ADDENDUM (# 23-25)

A motion was made by Mrs. Lamb, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the following Personnel Agenda (# 1-22) + Addendum (# 23-25) be approved:

PERSONNEL ITEMS 1-22

CERTIFICATED STAFF 1-6:

1. Recommended for Employment:

{Code = (R) Replacement; (TR) Temporary Replacement; (New) New Position}

A.	<u>Wendy Lamparelli</u>	(R)	<u>\$</u> 81,620
	HSE School Nurse	9/1/2025 - 6/30/2026	

2. Recommended Change of Employment:

{Code = (R) Replacement; (TR) Temporary Replacement; (New) New Position}

A.	<u>Dana M. Weber</u>	<u>Change to:</u> Director of Special Ed (R)	<u>\$</u> 155,000
	Supervisor of Special Ed	7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026	

3. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

A.	<u>Employee #13741</u> HA Art	Family	3/21/2025 4/7/2025 - 4/10/2025
B.	<u>Employee #16795</u> ED Health/Phys Ed	Maternity Ext.	3/22/2025 - 3/24/2025
C.	<u>Employee #12874</u> JAC+ Art	Medical	3/19/2025; 3/27/2025 - 3/28/2025 4/3/2025; 4/9/2025 4/10/2025 (a.m.) 4/11/2025 (a.m.)
D.	<u>Employee #17020</u> STR Grade 1	Family	3/20/2025 (p.m.)
E.	<u>Employee #16669</u> IN Technology	Medical	3/24/2025 (p.m.) 3/26/2025; 3/31/2025 (a.m.); 4/1/2025; 4/7/2025 (p.m.)

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F.	<u>Employee #16562</u> HSN Sped RR	Family	3/19/2025 3/20/2025 (a.m.) 3/28/2025; 4/8/2025 4/10/2025 (p.m.)
G.	<u>Employee #11325</u> WAL Instrumental Music	Family Ext.	3/31/2025 - 4/11/2025
H.	<u>Employee #16512</u> HSN ESL	Family	3/31/2025
I.	<u>Employee #11848</u> HSN Social Studies	Family	4/15/2025 - 5/2/2025
J.	<u>Employee #10712</u> STR Grade 2	Family	4/3/2025

4. Retirements:

A.	<u>Patricia E. Anderson</u> WS Kindergarten	7/1/2025
B.	<u>Lawrence W. Cuneo</u> IE Social Studies Gr. 8	7/1/2025
C.	<u>Charles F. Evers</u> IS Assistant Principal	7/1/2025
D.	<u>Lisa A. Fluck</u> SB Grade 2	7/1/2025
E.	<u>Mindy A. Mizvesky Padalino</u> IS Vocal Music	7/1/2025
F.	<u>Jami Rae Thoms</u> IE Sped LLD	7/1/2025
G.	<u>Employee #12184</u>	7/1/2025

5. Suspension with pay:

- A. Employee #16528 4/1/2025 – 4/11/2025
- B. Employee #16450 4/4/2025 – 4/14/2025

6. Deceased:

- A. Employee #17295 4/1/2025
IN Basic Skills Math

STAFF FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS 7-8:

7. Title I SIA Approvals: (Attached)

- A. Recommend approval for the attached list of employees to receive payment under Title I Funds for the school year commencing 9/1/2024 - 6/30/2025.

8. Title III “English For Adults” Program Approvals: (Attached)

- A. Recommend approval for the attached list of employees to receive payment under Title III Immigration Funds for the school year commencing 9/1/2024 - 6/30/2025.

SUPPORT STAFF 9-19:

9. Secretarial Services:

- A. Recommended Change of Contract Start Date:

Jean Letts* 5/5/2025
Central Registration – Secretary

**start date subject to release by current employer*

- B. Retirements:

Rose Marie J. Porzio 7/1/2025
HSE Admin Asst. – TREA

Lisa Simpson 9/1/2025
HSS Secretary

C. Deceased:

Employee #15180 3/22/2025
HSE Guidance Secretary

10. Special Education Paraprofessionals:

A. Recommended Change of Employment:
{ Code = (R) Replacement }

	<u>Change to:</u>	
<u>Bina S. Bodiwala</u>	WAL Tier II Paraprofessional	\$20,130.00
WAL Cafeteria/Playground	4/28/2025 – 6/30/2025	(Prorated)

B. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

<u>Employee #13131</u>	Family	5/15/2025 – 6/30/2025
HA Paraprofessional LLD		

<u>Employee #15714</u>	Medical	3/29/2025 – 5/31/2025
ED Tier II Paraprofessional		

C. Rescind Employment Offer (Not Accepting Offer):

<u>Katherine A. Mascaro</u>	3/24/2025 – 6/30/2025
BWD Tier II Paraprofessional	

D. Resignations:

<u>David M. Campau</u>	3/29/2025
SB Tier II Paraprofessional	

Marie E. Innarella 4/1/2025
IS Tier I Paraprofessional

Yeimy Y. Linares Barbosa 3/29/2025
HSE Tier II Paraprofessional

Katie M. McGinness 4/4/2025
IS Tier II Paraprofessional

E. Retirements:

Deborah H. Cirner 7/1/2025
HSS Sped Paraprofessional

Sarajeon Romano 7/1/2025
IS Tier II Paraprofessional

Samantha J. Siciliano 7/1/2025
HA Sped Paraprofessional

11. Cafeteria/Playground Aides:

A. Recommended for Employment:
{ Code = (R) Replacement }

<u>Denise M. Cooper</u>	(R)	\$6,855.28
Cedar Grove	4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025	(Prorated)

B. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

<u>Employee #10111</u>	Family	3/31/2025 – 5/14/2025
East Dover		(Rescind Leave)

<u>Employee #14776</u>	Personal	5/12/2025 – 5/30/2025
Cedar Grove		

<u>Employee #16018</u>	Personal	3/24/2025 – 4/28/2025
South Toms River		

Toms River, New Jersey, April 16, 2025

- C. Recommended for placement on the substitute list at a rate of \$15.49 per hour:

Effective Dates:

<u>Melissa Celiano</u>	4/17/2025
<u>Kerri Ann Hehner</u>	4/9/2025
<u>Jillian M. Putkowski</u>	4/17/2025
<u>Meagan M. Wood</u>	4/5/2025

- D. Resignations:

<u>Kerri Ann Hehner</u> South Toms River	4/9/2025
<u>Meagan M. Wood</u> Cedar Grove	4/5/2025

12. Custodial Department:

- A. Recommended for employment and approval to attend training to receive Black Seal/Low Pressure License to be reimbursed upon issuance of license at a cost of no greater than \$465.00.

<u>Jacob D. Doberentz</u> HSN Night Custodian	(R) 4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025	\$35,500.00 (Prorated)
<u>Philip A. Thompson</u> Night Roving Custodian	(R) 4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025	\$35,500.00 (Prorated)

- B. Recommended Change of Employment:

Change to:

<u>Virginia Aguilar Tapia</u> WAL Cafeteria Worker	HSE Night Custodian 4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025	+\$24,987.90 (Prorated)
<u>Matthew Tamaro</u> SB Night Custodian	SB Night Supervisor 4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025	+\$3,000.00 (Prorated)

- C. Recommended for placement on the substitute list at a rate of \$17.22 per hour effective 4/17/2025:

Kenneth F. Bradley III
Liam Gibbons

Timothy S. Haye
Kyle H. Goldenbaum

13. Food Services Department:

- A. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

Employee #17279 Family 3/18/2025 – 5/4/2025
WAL Cafeteria Worker

- B. Recommended for placement on the substitute list at a rate of \$15.49 per hour effective 4/17/2025:

Gail Koehler

14. Grounds Department:

- A. Resignation:

Vincenzo P. Bove 4/18/2025
Groundskeeper

15. Human Resources Department:

- A. Resignation:

Yamila M. Gordon 4/28/2025
AES/Human Resources
Generalist

16. Maintenance Department:

- A. Resignation:

Joseph Ciardella 3/19/2025
Tradesman – HVAC

17. Print Shop Department:

A. Retirement:

Susan C. Guida 7/1/2025
Print Shop Manager

18. Technology Department:

A. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

Employee #16892 Family 3/20/2025; 4/10/2025
Tradesman – Computer
Service Technician

19. Transportation Department:

A. Recommended for Employment:
{ Code = (R) Replacement }

Kelly A. Martino (R) \$35,054.00
Regular Bus Driver 4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025 (Prorated)

B. Recommended Change of Employment:

Johnny E. Iwanowski *Change to:*
Regular Bus Driver +\$8,089.00
Sped Bus Driver 4/17/2025 – 6/30/2025 (Prorated)

C. Recommended Leave of Absence Requests:

Employee #15514 Family 3/19/2025 (pm);
Sped Bus Attendant 3/21/2025;
3/31/2025;
4/1/2025 (pm);

Toms River, New Jersey, April 16, 2025

4/2/2025 - 4/3/2025;
4/7/2025

Employee #15985 Medical 2/5/2025 – 3/23/2025
Sped Bus Attendant (Revised leave end date)

D. Transfers Effective 4/1/2025:

	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
<u>Corey E. Johnson</u>	Regular Bus Driver 11-000-270-160-054-0100	Sped Bus Driver 11-000-270-161-054-0100

E. Recommended for employment to complete the probationary period:

		<u>Effective Dates:</u>
<u>William Avitto</u>	Sped Bus Attendant	4/18/2025 – 6/30/2025

F. Recommended for placement on the substitute Bus Driver's list at a rate of \$27.00 per hour effective 4/17/2025:

<u>Daniel J. Brendel</u>	<u>Trevor Mighty</u>
<u>John A. Goodridge</u>	<u>Melinda Simsen</u>

G. Recommended for placement on the substitute Bus Attendant's list at a rate of \$16.00 per hour effective 4/17/2025:

<u>Arlene M. Mazanec</u>	<u>Kayla D. Tomczak</u>
<u>Melinda C. Simsen</u>	

H. Suspension with pay:

<u>Employee#16075</u>	3/21/2025 – 3/30/2025
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I. Termination:

<u>Employee#16075</u>	3/31/2025
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J. Resignation:

Brianna J. Sheran
Sped Bus Attendant

3/29/2025

20. Extracurricular:

A. Half Year Spring 2024 – 2025 Extracurricular Recommendations & Payments Updates:

<u>Jake Bedford*</u>	HSE Rifle Squad	-\$981.25
<u>Brian Harkavy*</u>	HSE Rifle Squad	+\$1,962.50
<u>Danielle Mahon*</u>	HSS Rifle Squad	Volunteer
<u>Kevin McMahon*</u>	HSE Rifle Squad	-\$981.25

B. School Musical Recommendations & Payments Updates (2024 – 2025):

<u>Robert Dalton*</u>	HSN Orchestra	+\$480.00
<u>Joseph Elmo*</u>	HSN Orchestra	+\$480.00
<u>Karen Hillmiske*</u>	HSN Orchestra	+\$400.00

C. Spring 2024 – 2025 Coaching Recommendations & Payments:

<u>Tyler Pinto*</u>	HSN Asst. Boys’ Track	Volunteer
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D. Spring 2024 – 2025 Coaching Resignations:

<u>Tyler Pinto*</u>	HSN Asst. Boys’ Track	\$5,579.00; Step 3
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**On Approved Sub List*

21. Approval of Attached Resolution Authorizing Reduction in Work Force and Abolishment of Positions for the 2025-2026 SY:

	<u>Effective Date</u>
<u>Employee #15709</u>	7/1/2025
<u>Employee #16598</u>	7/1/2025
<u>PCN #A02-001</u>	9/1/2025

22. Off Payroll Report (Attached)

PERSONNEL ITEMS 23-25

SUPPORT STAFF 23-25:

23. Special Education Paraprofessionals:

A. Resignation:

Ronald Passenti 6/7/2025
STR Tier II Paraprofessional

B. Retirement:

Eileen P. Bocchino 7/1/2025
ND Sped Paraprofessional

24. Cafeteria/Playground Aides:

A. Recommended for Employment:
{ Code = (R) Replacement }

Diane M. Taylor (R) \$6,855.28
Pine Beach 4/28/2025 – 6/30/2025 (Prorated)

25. Transportation Department:

A. Recommended Leave of Absence Request:

Employee #15514 Family 4/14/2025 – 4/15/2025
Sped Bus Attendant

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ITEMS (# 1-10) + Addendum (# 11)

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the following Educational Programs Items (# 1-10) + Addendum (# 11) be approved:

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ITEMS 1-10

1. **Application for Reimbursement of Professional Graduate Courses** (Attached)
2. **Donations:**
 - A. Recommend the attached be accepted with thanks.
3. **Educational Activity Requests** (Attached)
4. **Extracurricular:**
 - A. Recommended approval for the High School North mariner Concert Band, Marching Band, Color Guard, Dance Academy and Theatre Program to attend a trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL. The travel dates will be Tuesday, March 17th to Sunday, March 22nd, 2026. The students will be participating in a parade performance, as well as professional through master clinics. The event will be at no cost to the Board of Education.
5. **Funded Programs:**
 - A. Recommend approval of the attached Elevate Career and Technical Education Innovation Grant Application funded by the New Jersey Department of Education.
6. **Graduate Reimbursement** (Attached)
7. **Student Services:**

- A. Out-of-District Day Placement Requests (Attached)
 - B. Tuition Pupils Sent Requests (Attached)
 - C. Nursing Services Requests (Attached)
8. **Recommended Professional Leave Requests** (Attached)
9. **NJIP Systematic Change Initiative:** (Attached)
- A. Recommend approval of the application for West Dover Elementary to participate in the systemic change initiative proposed by NJIP.
10. **Student HIB Appeals – ID #68976 UPHELD
ID #64413 TABLED**

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ITEM 11

11. **Educational Activity Requests** (Attached)

On roll call following the vote:

Ayes: Matarazzo, Jubert, Coyne, Contessa, Eagan, Capone, Lamb

Noes: None

Recused: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kidney, Pascarella

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Contessa congratulated Mason Pentz who pitched an amazing game against Jackson Memorial, which was a great team win for High School East.

Mr. Jubert congratulated Coach Frank who he had the opportunity to play for back in the 70's. The way Coach Frank coached was not just about baseball, it was about family, team work and work ethic.

Mrs. Coyne congratulated all of the award winners and Mrs. Weber on her new position. Mrs. Coyne stated that Toms River Schools has an amazing school district and wished everyone a happy Spring break and holiday.

Mr. Capone congratulated all of the award winners along with Coach Frank and wished everyone a happy holiday and great spring break.

Mrs. Lamb congratulated the students and staff that received awards and discussed the SAT scores from the previous year. The New Jersey State average in math was 519, the average in reading was 530, the average all together was 1049. Ocean County Districts placed in the top 5 in the 21 counties in the State of New Jersey. Ocean County had a math average of 701 and the reading score was an average of 679 for a total of 1380. Toms River Regional Schools contributes to those numbers since 4 of the 33 municipalities go to our schools. Congratulations to Ocean County.

COMMENTS FROM GUESTS AND PRESS – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY *(limited to 5 minutes as per Board Policy # 0167 – Public Participation in Board Meetings)*

Public comments were heard by Krista Whittaker.
Public comments were heard by Jennifer Howe.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mrs. Contessa, seconded by Mr. Capone and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 P.M.

All members present voting Aye.

Wendy L. Saxton, Board Secretary