

NOTICE OF MEETING:

TO ALL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS:

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Union was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the DMK Black Box Theater, 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey pursuant to notice sent to each member.

Mrs. Scott-Hayden called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:

Ms. Dixiana Carbonell, Mr. Michael Cohan, Mrs. Elsie Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Guida Faria, Mrs. Nancy Minneci, Mr. Greg Nasta, Ms. Chastity Santana, Mrs. Kimberly Scott-Hayden

ABSENT AT ROLL CALL:

Mr. Ronnie McDowell (arrived 6:21 p.m.)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Dr. Gerald Benaquista, Ms. Marissa McKenzie, Dr. Jose Rodriguez, Mrs. Yolanda Koon

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr. Phil Stern, Esq. (arrived 6:21 p.m.)

Ms. Carbonell led the Board and audience members in the Pledge of Allegiance and read the district's mission statement.

Mrs. Koon read the statement required under the "Open Public Meetings Act" that adequate notice was published in The Union County Local Source, The Star Ledger and/or Tap into Union, posted in the Administration Building and the Clerk's Office of the Township; a copy of which is on file in the office of the Board Secretary.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Ms. Santana, seconded by Mr. Nasta, that the Board go into Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. to discuss the following subject matters without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b: personnel, legal update, HIB appeal

Please take notice that minutes will be taken of the discussion conducted during the executive session and the Board will disclose the minutes of the executive session when the disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Board of Education and provided that such disclosure does not violate federal, state or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney/client privilege.

Action may be taken when the Board reconvenes in public session.

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

The Board returned to public session at 7:26 p.m.

MOTION TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION:

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved by Mrs. Minneci, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the Board return to public session at 7:26 p.m.

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Mr. Cohan, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the following minutes be adopted:

1. April 14, 2026 – worksession
2. April 14, 2026 – executive session
3. April 30, 2026 – public hearing/regular meeting
4. April 30, 2026 – executive session #1 and #2

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Communications:

Use of Facilities:

REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP OF UNION POLICE DEPARTMENT

Request from the Township of Union Police Department to use two buses and two drivers for the Annual Junior Police Academy trip (U.S. Coast Guard Station, 61 Inlet Drive, Point Pleasant, NJ) on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Letters of Resignation:

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – PRATA

Letter of resignation from Ashley Prata, special education teacher-Jefferson School, effective July 1, 2026.

Letters of Retirement:

None

Requests for Leave:

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – ELSHIEKH ABREU

Request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA from Gihann Elshiekh Abreu, school counselor-Connecticut Farms Elementary School, September 1 2026-December 3, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – DELUCA

Request for paid FMLA from Frank Deluca, social studies teacher-Union High School, May 4, 2026-June 22, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – ESQUIVEL

Request for paid FMLA from Carlos Esquivel, security-Union High School, May 5, 2026-June 10, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – BAKER

Request for paid FMLA from Lynn Baker, paraprofessional-Union High School, April 13, 2026-June 22, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – ALFANO

Request for paid FMLA from Mary Rose Alfano, secretary-Union High School, May 14, 2026-June 30, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – KOVACS

Request for paid medical leave from Deanna Kovacs, teacher-Jefferson School, May 7, 2026-June 12, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – HUBBARD

Request for paid medical leave from Donna Hubbard, administrative assistance-Central Office, April 30, 2026-December 31, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE – BERZANSKIS

Request for unpaid FMLA from Michael Berzanskis, teacher-Union High School, May 4, 2026-May 25, 2026.

Requests for Leave Update:

REQUEST FOR LEAVE UPDATE – CRUZ

Update to request for paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA from Stephanie Cruz, CST-Livingston Elementary School, May 8, 2026-December 7, 2026.

REQUEST FOR LEAVE UPDATE – MANDERICCHIO

Update to request for unpaid FMLA from Stephanie Manderichio, teacher-Jefferson School, May 1, 2026-May 31, 2026.

Requests for Intermittent Leave:

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – GRILLIAS

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Maria Grillias, math teacher-Kawameeh Middle School, April 13, 2026-June 22, 2026.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – MURPHY

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Debbie Murphy, secretary-Jefferson Elementary School, April 22, 2026-May 26, 2026.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – ROTONDO

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from James Rotondo, custodian-Livingston Elementary School, May 1, 2026-April 30, 2027.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – CAPPIELLO

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Diane Cappiello, Executive Administrative Assistant-Business Office, June 1, 2026-May 31, 2027.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – GUNDERSEN

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Jamie Gundersen, teacher-Connecticut Farms Elementary School, September 1, 2026-June 30, 2027.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – PIOTROWSKI

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Stephen Piotrowski, teacher-Union High School, May 12, 2026-May 11, 2027.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – DeBELLONIA

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Antonio DeBellonia, teacher-Union High School, May 7, 2026-May 6, 2027.

REQUEST FOR INTERMITTENT LEAVE – BROWN

Request for paid intermittent FMLA from Yvonne Brown, teacher-Connecticut Farms Elementary School, March 26, 2026-March 25, 2027.

Comments from Public (on resolutions):

Mrs. Scott-Hayden - thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and that the Board values their input and appreciates their time. She reminded the audience that all comments are to be respectful and constructive, and to refrain from calling out and yelling. The Board is unable to engage in back-and-forth dialogue; however, your comments will be reviewed and considered, and if feasible, the Superintendent or designee will provide a response at a later date.

Cathy Jakivitz – 56 positions were not filled that is 5.5% of staff and only 1 administrator – that is not an o.k. number. You need to ask contractors to sharpen their pencils – you can save money. She is running for commissioner, and she will speak with the County Superintendent to cap administrators.

Ann Margaret Shannon – the last two years have been difficult times. It is wrong to lose Spanish teachers and librarians – when can teachers find the time for other subjects. Administrators have not been cut.

Virginia Jeffries – comments/questions were not answered from the May 14th meeting. F-32 and other contracts need caps. Mrs. Koon indicated that the contracts all have not to exceed amounts.

Superintendent's Report (presentation appended to minutes):

Student Liaison, Ava Soares, introduced herself; UHS senior and Salutatorian, to attend University of Delaware as a kinesiology major, captain of the UHS Dance Team, involved in NHS, NSHS, All In, EmpowerHER and Farmer Fam and senior class officer. Ava gave an update on the following:

- Spring Track – State Sectional Champions – 100 meter – Liyanna Muscat, 200 meter – Liyanna Muscat, 200 meter – Rondell Caines, 400 meter – Rondell Caines
- Spring Sports
 - Unified Flag Football – 5-1 season; first round of Union County Tournament for baseball – the team defeated Scotch Plains 6-5
 - State Playoffs – baseball, softball, girls flag football and volleyball – all made the NJSIAA State playoffs; boys volleyball team is currently #1 seed in the NJSIAA State playoffs – record is 17-8
 - Girls Softball – is working hard to end their season on a high note
 - Boys tennis – 9 wins
 - Golf team – won Union County Conference Valley Division Championship
- Senior Events at UHS
 - Senior Day
 - Prom – June 4th
 - Hershey Park Trip
 - Pool Party
- School Events
 - Ms. UHS
 - Spring concert
 - UHSPAC WorldStrides trip to Boston
 - Student Faculty football game
 - Club Unified Field Day
 - All in Affirmation Monday
- Senior Awards – over 100 seniors were recognized for outstanding achievements – approximately \$90,000 was given in scholarships
- AP Testing – 20 different subject areas and 463 11th and 12th graders registered to take the exam – 21% increase from the prior school year

Dr. Benaquista – UHS received a \$30,500 Climate Literacy Grant and NJDOE representatives visited Union High School to see these impactful initiatives firsthand.

Congratulations to the TUPS Teachers of the year:

- Veronica Ambrose – Battle Hill Elementary School
- Jenna Niotis – Connecticut Farms Elementary School
- Stacy Sanchez – Franklin Elementary School
- Janine Guerra-Da Silva – Hannah Caldwell Elementary School
- Heather Shanley – Livingston Elementary School
- Michelle Santos – Washington Elementary School
- Gillian Pilone – Jefferson School
- Brendan Roberts – Burnet Middle School
- Maria Grillias – Kawameeh Middle School
- Nicholas Ferroni – Union High School

Candlelight Vigil for the Belloso Family – May 21 - TUPS Dress Down Days to support the Belloso family – May 26, 27, 28

Union County District Highlights

- Commissioner of Education, Dr. Lily Laux visited Franklin Elementary School and Union High School
- UHS Flag Football – 6-0
- Evening of Jazz – May 21st
- Hannah Caldwell Elementary School – Multicultural Night – May 15th

Report on NJDOE – School Self-Assessment for Determining District Grades (2024-2025) and School Grade Report (full report appended to minutes) – score based out of 78:

- Battle Hill Elementary School – 74
- Burnet Middle School – 72
- Connecticut Farms Elementary School – 68
- Franklin Elementary School – 74
- Hannah Caldwell Elementary School – 74
- Jefferson School – 73
- Kawameeh Middle School – 76
- Livingston Elementary School -73
- Union High School – 72
- Washington Elementary School – 74
- District Grade - 73

Union High School – Senior Awards Ceremony – 120 scholarship and award winners – close to \$90,000 in scholarships award

TUPS Attendance Initiative – April 2026 – Attendance Award - Franklin Elementary School – 3rd graders – 96.873%.

HIB Report – Incidents to Report – May 13-May 19, 2026 – 0; Incidents to Affirm – May 1-May 12 – 5 founded, 2 unfounded, 2 inconclusive (see E-1-1/E-1-1A)

Education/Student Discipline Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Ms. Carbonell, seconded by Mrs. Minneci, for adoption:

E-1. *Agenda item reported at May 12, 2026 worksession (Report of HIB-May 1-12, 2026).*

E-1A. *Agenda item approved at May 12, 2026 worksession (Determination of HIB-April 15-April 30, 2026).*

E-1-1. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT OF HIB

Superintendent’s Report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) for the period May 13, 2026 to May 19, 2026 (no incidents to report) (*no vote required; for reporting purposes only*).

E-1-1A. AFFIRM SUPERINTENDENT’S DETERMINATION OF HIB

Affirm the Superintendent’s determination of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) for the periods May 1, 2026 to May 12, 2026, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

E-2. *Agenda item approved at May 13, 2026 worksession (continuation of suspension students #266543, #285026, #285024 and #316008)*

E-3. APPROVE LONG-TERM SUSPENSION AND HOME INSTRUCTION

Approve to continue long-term suspension and home instruction for student #266593 from the general education program.

E-4. APPROVE UPDATED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR PRESCHOOL PROVIDER YM-YWHA – 2026-2027

Approve the updated school calendar (to make up snow days) for preschool provider YM-YWHA for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

E-5. APPROVE KEAN UNIVERSITY RESEARCH STUDY

Approve the request from Kean University and researcher (a) Chinwe Ononiwu and (b) Natalie Smith to conduct the research study entitled “Teacher Perspectives on Social Emotional Learning in Early Childhood”, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Fiscal and Planning Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Ms. Santana, seconded by Mr. McDowell, for adoption:

F-1. TREASURER'S REPORT

That the Treasurer's Report dated April 30, 2026, be accepted.

F-2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

That the Secretary's Report dated April 30, 2026, be accepted.

F-3. CERTIFY TREASURER'S AND SECRETARY'S REPORT

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a), I certify that as of April 30, 2026, no budgetary line-item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the district Board of education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18:22-8.1.

/s/ Yolanda Koon

Yolanda Koon, Board Secretary

_____ Dated

Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6A:23-2.2(h), we certify that as of April 30, 2026 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the 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:23-2.2(d)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. This certification is solely based on the information provided by the School Business Administrator and Board Secretary and is assumed by the Board to be correct.

F-4. APPROVE APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS

Approve appropriation transfers in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-5. APPROVE LIST OF CONTRACTS/PURCHASE ORDERS

Approve the attached list of contracts and/or purchase orders (copyrighted materials and licenses) pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5 (bid exceptions to requirement for advertising) and 18A:18A-10(a) (purchase through State agency; procedure), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-6. APPROVE DISTRICTWIDE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES

Approve districtwide travel and related expenses pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7 and Board Policy File Code 6471 and in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-7. *Agenda item approved at May 12, 2026 worksession (student field trips).*

F-7A. APPROVE DISTRICTWIDE STUDENT FIELD TRIPS

Approve districtwide student field trip destinations and purposes pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.8, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-8. APPROVE LIST OF 2025-2026 STATE CONTRACT APPROVED VENDORS

Approve the amended list of the 2025-2026 State Contract Approved Vendors pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10(a) (purchase through State agency; procedure) to facilitate schools' purchasing, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-9A. APPROVED LIST OF CONTRACTS/PURCHASES (STUDENT ACTIVITY)

Approve the attached list of contracts and/or purchases pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(21) (paid by funds raised by or collected by students), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes:

School	Account Name/Account #	Vendor/Description	Amount
Burnet Middle School	2006/Band/Chorus	High Note Festivals-entrance fees to Dorney Park, etc.	\$4,923.00
Burnet Middle School	2006/Band/Chorus	US Coachways – bus transportation to High Note Festivals	\$3,577.65
Kawameeh Middle School	17/Music Department	US Coachways – bus transportation to High Note Festivals	\$3,800.00 (not to exceed)
Kawameeh Middle School	17/Music Department	High Note Restivals – entrance fees to Dorney Park, etc.	\$5,000.00
Kawameeh Middle School	19/Student Council	Cranford Pool – 8 th grade end of year pool party on 6/10/26	\$3,200.00 (not to exceed)
Union High School	3300/Girls Soccer	BSN Sports – end of season celebration	\$2,670.51
Union High School	2077/Performing Arts	Student Activity Transfer – to senior awards account	\$3,500.00
Union High School	2234/Step Team	Six Flags Great Adventure-participation in Dance Fest 26	\$2,500.00
Union High School	2012/Prom	Khi Rivers ENT – Prom DJ	\$2,000.00
Union High School	2012/Prom	Image Bar Photobooth – prom photobooth	\$1,275.00
Union High School	2221/Chromebook fees	Transfer to general account	\$4,045.00
Union High School	2201/School ID Fines	Transfer to general account	\$6,454.00
Union High School	2033/Marching Band	Transfer to scholarships for seniors (Account #2018)	\$1,950.00
Union High School	Asian Student Alliance	Academy Bus – class trip to Chinatown, NYC	\$1,288.00
Union High School	2025/Counseling/AP exams	AP Testing – 2026 AP exams	\$35,000.00
Union High School	2051/JROTC	Walter Alvarado – reimbursement for airfare/hotel accommodations for Drill Team Leaders Camp	\$3,581.49

F-9B. APPROVE FUNDRAISERS

Approve the following fundraisers, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes:

Event Name	Date	Purpose
Food Drive	May 11-29, 2026	Hannah Caldwell – Student Council – food drive to collect food for Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Church Food Pantry
Car Wash	May 20-August 31, 2026	UHS/Marching Band – to raise funds to offset 2026-2027 costs
Bake Sale	May 20-June 30, 2026	UHS/Environmental Club – to raise funds for supplies for school garden
UHS Music Showcase	May 20-June 30, 2026	UHS/Junior Class – to raise funds for Class of 2027 to reduce cost of Junior Class Trip
Ms. UHS Pageant – ticket sales	April 6-May 1, 2026	UHS/EmpowerMENT – to raise funds for club shirts and scholarships
4x4 Soccer Tournament	June 3, 2026	UHS/Soccer – to raise funds for Soccer Team end of year celebration and soccer clothing
Car Wash	July 11, 2026 and August 15, 2026	UHS/Marching Band to raise funds for 2026 competitive season
Friendship Bracelet Making	May 20-June 30, 2026	UHS/Key Club – to raise funds for DECON

F-9C. ACCEPT DONATIONS

Accept the following donations:

From	For Use By	\$/Item
Reading for Education	Livingston Elementary School	\$994.61
Reading for Education	Livingston Elementary School	\$26.09
Shutterfly, LLC	Livingston Elementary School	\$531.04
Ahold Delhaize USA Inc.	Livingston Elementary School	\$30.25
Shutterfly, LLC	Battle Hill Elementary School	\$1,565.58
Shutterfly, LLC	Connecticut Farms Elementary School	\$351.24
Pepsico Beverage Sales, LLC	Union High School	\$1,467.61
SAT Fundraising	UHS - Marching Band	\$140.00
Groundwork Elizabeth	Livingston Elementary School	\$250.00
Connecticut Farms PTA	Connecticut Farms – 4 th grade field trip	410.00

F-10. APPROVE 2025-2026 OUT-OF-DISTRICT STUDENT PLACEMENT LIST

Approval be given to amend the 2025-2026 out-of-district student placement list (month of May), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-11. APPROVE TUITION RATES FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Approve the following tuition rates for the 2026-2027 school year:

Preschool (full day)	\$14,869.00
Kindergarten	\$14,869.00

Grades 1 through 5	\$18,004.00
Grades 6 through 8	\$18,261.00
Grades 9 through 12	\$17,539.00
LLD – Mild/Moderate	\$17,740.00
M.D.	\$21,916.00
Emotional Reg. Imp.	\$22,971.00
Autism	\$26,919.00
Part-time Preschool Handicapped	\$0
Full-time Preschool Handicapped	\$25,390.00

F-12. APPROVE MEDIPRO SOLUTIONS – PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATIONS

Approve Ijeoma Hassan, M.D. of Medipro Solutions LLC to provide psychiatric evaluations in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-2(a) and N.J.A.C. 6A:32-6.1 through 6.3, for the 2026-2027 school year, at a rate of \$1,200.00 per evaluation (not to exceed \$7,500.00), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #11-000-213-330-01-54-0060-7027].

F-13. APPROVE PARTICIPATION IN NON-BINDING COOPERATIVE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Approve the district's participation in non-binding cooperative purchasing agreements for the 2026-2027 school year with the following:

1. Educational Data Services, Inc., 236 Midland Avenue, Saddlebrook, NJ
2. Hunterdon County ESC Cooperative Purchasing, 51 Sawmill Road, Lebanon, NJ
3. Educational Services Commission of New Jersey, 1660 Stelton Road, Piscataway, NJ
4. Somerset County Educational Services Commission, 568 Central Ave, Bridgewater, NJ
5. Sussex County Educational Services, 10 Gail Court, Sparta, NJ
6. Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council, 502 Millbrook Avenue, Randolph, NJ
7. Region 4 ES Interlocal, 7145 West Tidwell, Houston, TX
8. Sourcewell, 202 12th Street NE, P.O. Box 219, Staples, MN 56479
9. Omnia Partner Member ID: 947046 utilizing Omnia Partner, Region 4 ESC Contract #R200401, Minneapolis, Minnesota for ESIP project.
10. The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), 4845 Highway 271 North, Pittsburg, TX 75686
11. New Jersey Educational Computing Cooperative (NJECC)
12. PEPPM Consortium membership, a national contract program for district purchasing agent
13. NJ Edge Consortium membership, a non-profit technology services provider.
14. New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the County of Bergen (Lead Agency), One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, NJ 07601
15. Cooperative Pricing System Agreement with Morris-Union Jointure Commission (MUJC) (Lead Agency), 340 Central Avenue, New Providence, NJ 07974

F-14. APPROVE UCESC TUITION RATES AND OTHER SERVICES AGREEMENT

Approve the Union County Educational Services Commission (UCESC) 2026-2027 tuition Rates and Other Services Agreement, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-15. APPROVE LEARNWELL – BEDSIDE INSTRUCTION

Approve teachers employed through LearnWell to provide bedside instruction for district students on an “as needed” basis for the school year 2026-2027 in an amount not to exceed \$22,000.00, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7693-11-150-100-320-01-19].

F-16. APPROVE SILVERGATE – BEDSIDE INSTRUCTION

Approve teachers employed through Silvergate to provide bedside instruction for district students on an “as needed” basis for the school year 2026-2027, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7693-11-150-100-320-01-19].

F-17. APPROVE REACH HEALTH SERVICES

Approve Reach Health Services to provide (a) clinical counseling services and the wraparound program for the 2026-2027 school year and ESY in-district program at the cost of \$48,087.00 and \$2,128.00, respectively [Account #7043/11-000-219-320-01-19] and (b) individual student risk assessment at a rate of \$225.00 per assessment (not to exceed \$1,250.00) [Account # 7074/11-000-219-320-01-19], in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-18. APPROVE GREAT BEGINNINGS – EVALUATIONS

Approve Great Beginnings, Dr. Debora Buzinkai, for the following evaluations (not to exceed \$6,000.00) for the 2026-2027 school year, (a) Dyslexia evaluation-\$1,400.00, (b) Dysgraphia evaluation-\$1,400.00, (c) Dyscalculia evaluation-\$1,400.00, (d) any two evaluations listed-\$2,200.00, (e) all three evaluations listed- \$2,600.00, (f) Neuropsychological evaluation-\$3,600.00 (base), (g) evaluation for Autism-\$4,400.00, (h) placement-\$4,200.00, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-000-219-320-01-19].

F-19. APPROVE SUMMIT SPEECH – EVALUATIONS

Approve Summit Speech to provide acoustic evaluation for (a) K through 5th grade-\$550.00 per evaluation, (b) 6th through 12th grade-\$750.00 per evaluation, (c) audiological consultation at the rate of \$250.00 per hour (not to exceed \$1,500.00) for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-000-216-320-01-19].

F-20. APPROVE SPEECH AND HEARING ASSOCIATES – EVALUATIONS

Approve Speech and Hearing Associates to provide central auditory processing evaluations with report (includes comprehensive peripheral audiological evaluation) at the rate of \$750.00 per evaluation (not to exceed \$2,250.00) for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #11-000-219-320-01-19].

F-21. APPROVE PETTY CASH ACCOUNT – COMMUNITY BASED INSTRUCTION

Approve a petty cash account for costs associated with students' IEP driven Community Based Instruction (CBI) for the 2026-2027 school year at the following schools: (a) Burnet Middle School - \$5,250.00; (b) Kawameeh Middle School - \$2,800.00; (c) Union High School - \$17,700.00.

F-22. APPROVE ESTABLISHMENT OF PETTY CASH ACCOUNT – COMMUNITY BASED INSTRUCTION

Approve establishment of a petty cash account for costs associated with students' IEP driven Community Based Instruction (CBI) and Work Based Learning (WBL) at Battle Hill Elementary School – Extended School Year Program in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the 2026-2027 school year.

F-23. APPROVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AGREEMENT – ERESC

Approve Transportation Services Agreement with Essex Regional Educational Services Commission, on an as needed basis, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-24. APPROVE MARILYN KUBICHEK, M.D. – EVALUATIONS

Approve Marilyn Kubichек MD, FAAP to provide neurological evaluations and neurodevelopmental evaluations at the rate of \$725.00 per evaluation for the 2026-2027 school year (not to exceed \$40,000.00), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-000-219-320-01-19].

F-25. APPROVE TECHABILITIES CONSULTING – EVALUATIONS

Approve TechAbilities Consulting to provide the following evaluations for district students: (a) assistive technology evaluations at the rate of \$1,000.00 per evaluation (b) augmentative communication evaluations at the rate of \$1,000.00, (c) assistive technological or AAC consultation - \$150.00/per hour, (d) speech language consult/speech language therapy - \$125.00/per hour, and (e) assistive technology/AAC general training - \$175.00/per hour for the 2026-2027 school year (not to exceed \$25,000.00), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-000-219-320-01-19].

F-26. APPROVE LEARNING TREE MULTICULTURAL/MULTILINGUAL EVALUATION AND CONSULTING

Approve Learning Tree Multicultural/Multilingual Evaluation and Consulting to conduct educational, speech/language, social history and psychological evaluations for district students. The cost of each evaluation is as follows: (a) evaluations conducted in Spanish - \$830.00 per evaluation and (b) other languages - \$880.00 per evaluation (not to exceed \$4,000.00) for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-000-219-320-01-19].

F-27. APPROVE USE OF YMCA – CBI

Approve student use of the YMCA for Community Based Instruction (CBI) for the 2026-2027 school year student costs are not expected to exceed \$6,500.00, in accordance with the

information appended to the minutes, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7043/11-000-216-320-01-19].

F-28. APPROVE COUNSELING CENTERS FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Approve Counseling Centers for Human Development for mental health screening (#90791-initial diagnostic interview) at the rate of \$250.00 per screening (not to exceed \$1,000.00) for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-000-219-320-01-19].

F-29. APPROVE MOM AND DAD HOME HEALTH

Approve Mom and Dad Home Health to provide nursing services at the rate of \$107.00 per hour for RN/LPN weekdays and \$117.00 per hour for RN/LPN weekends and holidays (not to exceed \$100,000.00) for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #11-000-216-320-01-19].

F-30. APPROVE THE FAMILY CENTER AT MONTCLAIR

Approve The Family Center at Montclair for the following: (a) mental health screenings - \$200 per screening and (b) psychiatric evaluation - \$1,800 per evaluation for the 2026-2027 school year (not to exceed \$30,000.00), in accordance with the information appended to the minutes [Account #7074/11-00-219-320-01-19].

F-31. APPROVE BANKING SERVICES – CONNECT ONE BANK

Approve Connect One Bank for banking services (general fund and healthcare fund accounts) for the 2026-2027 school year.

F-32. APPROVE GENERAL COUNSEL AND SPECIAL EDUCATION COUNSEL – TAYLOR LAW GROUP

Approve the law firm of Taylor Law Group as General Counsel and Special Education Counsel at an hourly rate of \$190.00 (paralegals \$100/hr.), for the period July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027 (not to exceed \$350,000.00/\$300,000.00, respectively).

F-33. APPROVE SPECIAL LABOR COUNSEL – APRUZZESE, McDERMOTT, MASTRO & MURPHY

Approve the law firm of Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro & Murphy as special labor and special project counsel at an hourly rate of \$190.00, for the period July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027 (not to exceed \$50,000.00).

F-34. APPROVE BOND COUNSEL – WILENTZ GOLDMAN & SPITZER

Approve the law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, as bond counsel for the district, for the period July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, for compliance reporting (not to exceed \$5,000.00).

F-35. APPROVE ARCHITECTS

Approve the following architectural firms: (a) EI Associates, (b) Parette Somjen Architects LLC, (c) Spiezle Architectural Group Inc., and (d) Potter Architects, for the period July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, on an as needed basis (not to exceed \$350,000.00).

F-36. APPROVE ENGINEERS

Approve the following engineering firms: (a) Consulting & Municipal Engineers, (b) T&M Associates, and (c) Colliers Engineering, for the period July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, on an as needed basis (not to exceed \$200,000.00).

F-37. APPROVE AUDITOR

Approve the auditing firm of Suplee Clooney & Co. to audit the district's financials, for the period ending June 30, 2026 (not to exceed \$70,000).

F-38. APPROVE FINANCIAL ADVISORS

Approve Phoenix Advisors to manage secondary market disclosure obligations for continued compliance with disclosure requirements and Acacia Financial Group for year 2026 (not to exceed \$5,000.00).

F-39. APPROVE INSURANCE BROKER - FAIRVIEW INSURANCE AGENCY

Approve Fairview Insurance Agency as the property/casualty/workers' compensation brokerage service for the district, for the period July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027.

F-40. APPROVE HEALTHCARE BROKER

Approve Fairview Insurance Agency, as healthcare brokers, for the period of July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027 (not to exceed \$100,000.00).

F-41. APPROVE HEALTHCARE PLANS

Approve healthcare providers, (a) AETNA/Meritain Health – healthcare insurance for medical and prescription, (b) Delta Dental – dental insurance and (c) VSP – vision benefits for the period of July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027.

F-42. APPROVE FOOD SERVICE COMPANY – POMPTONIAN

Approve renewal of Pomptonian Food Service as company for district food services for the 2026-2027 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-43. APPROVE TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES

Approve travel and related expenses pursuant to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.8, 5.9 for the NJSBA Workshop Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey (October 20-23, 2026) for Board members and Central Office Administration: Gerry Benaquista, Superintendent, Marissa McKenzie and Jose Rodriguez, Assistant Superintendents, Kimberly Scott-Hayden, Board President, Michael Cohan, Board Vice President, Dixiana Carbonell, Elsie Conteh-Mackey Guida Faria, Ronnie McDowell, Nancy Minneci, Greg Nasta and Chastity Santana (Board members) and Yolanda Koon, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

F-44. *Agenda item approved at May 12, 2026 worksession (Beats by J-CBI event)*

F-45. APPROVE PETTY CASH FUND FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

Approve the Board Secretary petty cash fund for the 2026-2027 school year: Fund-Board Secretary, Amount: \$500.00 per month (not to exceed \$6,000.00); responsible party: Board Secretary.

F-46. APPROVE TO AMEND RESOLUTION – MUJC

Approve to amend the resolution approved on May 20, 2025 for Morris Union Jointure Commission (MUJC) to provide related services in accordance with students IEPs for the 2025-2026 school year, not to exceed \$640,000 (an increase of \$255,000) [Account #11-000-216-320-01-19/7043], in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

F-47. APPROVE RESOLUTION URGING RELIEF – HEALTHCARE COSTS

Approve resolution urging relief from rising public school employee healthcare costs.

WHEREAS, at a time of continued fiscal uncertainty and mounting challenges, local boards of education from across the state of New Jersey continue to suffer under the growing crisis posed by the rising cost of health benefits and are desperate for relief; and

WHEREAS, despite record levels of state investments in public education, these school districts are facing fiscal pressures similar to those confronting the state budget, including the unsustainable growth in health-care premiums and the mounting insolvency of the state’s public employees health benefits programs; and

WHEREAS, both within the School Employees’ Health Benefits Program (SEHBP) and the private market (self-insured), year-over-year double-digit increases are placing tremendous strain on district budgets and local taxpayers alike; and

WHEREAS, Governor Sherrill and legislative leadership have publicly acknowledged the urgent need to address rising health-care costs and the challenges facing the state’s health benefits plans and self-insured districts, including both the state and local portions of the State Health Benefits Program, the SEHBP and self-insured; and

WHEREAS, the seriousness of this issue is underscored by the mid-year SEHBP analysis released by the Treasury Department in March 2026, which concluded that “based on these projected losses and building in future trends, active premium rate increases for 2027 are likely to be in the double digits;” and

WHEREAS, these projected increases would follow the 31.9 percent premium increase that took effect in January 2026, further exacerbating an overall premium increase of nearly 74 percent in the preceding five years; and

WHEREAS, this growth in health-care costs far exceeds inflation, state aid increases and the fiscal capacity of local communities; and

WHEREAS, rising health-care premiums are consuming an ever-larger portion of already constrained school district budgets, forcing difficult decisions that directly affect students, staff and educational quality; and

WHEREAS, these cost pressures also have significant consequences for taxpayers, as districts are often compelled to utilize the full extent of their available tax levy, even after which

many districts remain unable to fully offset these increases due to the constraints of the property tax levy cap, despite the limited health-care exception; and

WHEREAS, for the families and students these districts serve, the downstream consequences — including district deficits, program cuts and school closures — mean the loss of community stability, continuity of services, and in many cases, access to the specialized supports that our most vulnerable students depend on; and

WHEREAS, these are also precisely the conditions that erode student achievement and weaken the family engagement that is central to strengthening New Jersey's public schools; and

WHEREAS, implementing real, sustainable solutions to the rising cost of health benefits and reforming how benefits are delivered through the SEHBP and self-insured would demonstrate the Governor's and Legislature's leadership and continued commitment to New Jersey's students, educators and families, which directly advances our shared goal of affordability and effective, efficient government for all New Jerseyans.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township of Union Board of Education, in the County of Union calls upon the Governor and State Legislature to provide immediate, short-term relief from the unsustainable increased health-care costs experienced by school districts in recent years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township of Union Board of Education, in the county of Union urges the Governor to engage in meaningful engagement with all affected stakeholders to develop and implement practical long-term reforms to the state's system and assist the self-insured of delivering health care to its public employees in order to generate meaningful, long-term savings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Mikie Sherrill, State Treasurer Aaron Binder, Senate President Nicholas Scutari, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Senator Joseph Cryan, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Assemblyman Ed Rodriguez and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

F-ATTY. *For informational purposes only – vote not required.* List of legal services paid as of April 30, 2026 for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Cohan advised the community the appointment resolutions indicate a not-to-exceed amount. F-47 – NJSBA recommended to all districts to adopt this resolution to send to legislators.

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Conteh-Mackey (F-39, 40, 41)

MOTION CARRIED

Operations/Technology Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the following resolutions were moved by Mrs. Faria, seconded by Mr. Nasta, for adoption:

O-1. APPROVE SECURITY DRILL/BUS EVACUATION REPORTS

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:41-1 and P.L. 2009, Chapter 178, approve the following security drill for the month of April 2026 and, if applicable, bus evacuation reports for the 2025-2026 school year, in accordance with the non-public information appended to the minutes.

O-2. APPROVE NEW LOCATION FOR CAMP INVENTION – LIVINGSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Approve new location for Camp Invention to be held at Livingston Elementary School, August 3-7, 2026 (8:30 a.m.-2:45 p.m.), for all students.

O-3. APPROVE REQUEST FROM TOWNSHIP OF UNION POLICE DEPARTMENT

Approve request from the Township of Union Police Department to use two buses and two drivers for the Annual Junior Police Academy trip (U.S. Coast Guard Station, 61 Inlet Drive, Point Pleasant, NJ) on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 from 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

T-1. APPROVE RECYCLING OF EQUIPMENT

Approve list of equipment for recycling, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Dr. Benaquista advised the community that due to the extreme heat and high humidity, and the safety of our students and staff, all schools will have half-day schedules tomorrow. He understands that earlier dismissals are disruptive.

14. Personnel Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Personnel Committee presents the following resolutions for the Board's consideration:

P-1A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS – NEW HIRES

Personnel Actions-New Hires be approved in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

P-1B PERSONNEL ACTIONS – EXTRA PAY

Personnel Actions-Extra Pay be approved in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

P-1C PERSONNEL ACTIONS – TRANSFERS

Personnel Actions- Transfers be approved, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

P-2. APPROVE SUBSTITUTE LISTS

Approve Substitute Lists for the 2025-2026 school year.

Name	Position	Rate
Suzanne Whitley	Daily Substitute	\$170.00/per day
Justin Gensch	Daily Substitute	\$160.00/per day
Sabrina Riley	Daily Substitute	\$160.00/per day

P-3A. ACCEPT LETTERS OF RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Accept letters of resignation/retirement from the following staff, with regrets:

Name	Position	Location	Eff. Date	Reason	Years of Service
Resignations:					
Ashley Prata	Special Ed teacher	Jefferson	7/1/2026	Resignation	10 yrs.

P-3B. APPROVE LEAVES

Approve leaves for the following staff:

Name	Position	Location	Eff. Dates	Reason
Leaves:				
Gihann Elshiekh Abreu	School counselor	Connecticut Farms	9/1/2026-12/3/2026	Paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA
Frank Deluca	Social studies teacher	UHS	5/4/2026-6/22/2026	Paid FMLA
Carlos Esquivel	Security	UHS	5/5/2026-6/10/2026	Paid FMLA
Lynn Baker	Paraprofessional	UHS	4/13/2026-6/22/2026	Paid FMLA
Mary Rose Alfano	Secretary	UHS	5/14/2026-6/30/2026	Paid FMLA
Deanna Kovacs	Teacher	Jefferson	5/7/2026-6/12/2026	Paid Medical Leave
Donna Hubbard	Administrative Assistant	Central Office	4/30/2026-12/31/2026	Paid Medical Leave
Michael Berzanskis	Teacher	UHS	5/4/2026-5/25/2026	Unpaid Medical Leave
Updated Leaves:				

Stephanie Cruz	CST	Livingston	Updated 5/8/2026-12/7/2026	Paid child rearing leave followed by unpaid FMLA/NJFLA
Stephanie Manderichio	Teacher	Jefferson	Updated 5/1/2026-5/31/2026	Updated Unpaid FMLA
Intermittent Leave				
Maria Grillias	Math teacher	KMS	4/13/2026-6/22/2026	Paid intermittent FMLA
Debbie Murphy	Secretary	Jefferson	4/22/2026-5/26/2026	Paid intermittent FMLA
James Rotondo	Custodian	Livingston	5/1/2026-4/30/2027	Paid intermittent FMLA
Diane Cappiello	Executive Administrative Assistant-Business Office	Central Office	6/1/2026-5/31/2027	Paid intermittent FMLA
Jamie Gundersen	Teacher	Connecticut Farms	9/1/2026-6/30/2027	Paid intermittent FMLA
Stephen Piotrowski	Teacher	UHS	5/12/2026-5/11/2027	Paid intermittent FMLA
Antonio DeBellonia	Teacher	UHS	5/7/2026-5/6/2027	Paid intermittent FMLA
Yvonne Brown	Teacher	Connecticut Farms	3/26/2026-3/25/2027	Paid intermittent FMLA

P-4. APPROVE STUDENT TEACHERS AND INTERNSHIPS

Approve student teachers and internships for the 2025-2026 school year, in accordance with the information appended to the minutes.

P-5. APPROVE ATTENDANCE AT ASBO INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND NJASBO ANNUAL CONFERENCE – KOON

Approve Yolanda Koon to attend the Annual NJASBO Conference, Atlantic City, New Jersey (June 2-5, 2026) for a total cost not to exceed \$1,000.00 (per contract).

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Residency Committee Resolutions:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Minneci reported on the following:

For informational purposes only (no vote required): The following totals are as of the April 30, 2026 Board meeting (2025-2026 school year):

	Total	Elementary	Middle School	High School
Students Removed:	0	0	0	0
Students Transferred	19	8	3	8

Approval of Bills:

Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, and moved by Ms. Santana, seconded by Ms. Carbonell, the Board concurs with the bills listed in the permanent bound register appended to these minutes and be ordered for payment.

DISCUSSION:

None

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell, Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

Unfinished Business:

Mrs. Minneci – attended (a) the Hall of Fame which honors former students – it was a great event, (b) Tomorrow’s Teacher Programs – where the students sign a letter of intent – it is a great program and hopefully these students will come back to work for the district and (c) the Climate Literacy Grant event – the court yards will grow vegetables and fruit and there are benches to enjoy the outdoor area. Memorial Day parade is Monday, and she hopes all will participate.

Ms. Carbonell – thanked all the students who attended and spoke at the last meeting.

Ms. Santana – it was great to hear the students who came and voiced their concerns at the last meeting. She also indicated that, if there was a vote, she would vote for all the 4th grades to have graduation. Also, to say a prayer for the family – there is a vigil for this family. The baseball team won and went to the Counties.

Mr. Cohan –attended Tomorrow’s Teachers - it was gratifying that we are working to build the future. He also attended the Awards Assembly and the Hall of Fame. We had two NASA scientists, a Hollywood producer, a judge, etc. He indicated what is important is what we do here. Despite all the challenges, we can still do great things.

Mr. McDowell – Ava Soares is the future Hall of Fame. Mr. McDowell read a letter to the Board and community from a teacher.

New Business:

Ms. Carbonell – thoughts and prayers to the Bellosso family.

Comments from the Public:

Virginia Jeffries – advised that the letter Mr. McDowell read is now subject to an OPRA request. She indicated that at the April 30th meeting the Board was in violation of policy 0164 because the public was not allowed to speak as indicated on the agenda. She indicated that there was no explanation of the change.

Susan Lipstein – read a statement indicating having one certified school librarian for the entire district is the absolute least the district can have. She indicated that representatives from the NJ Association of School librarians indicated Woodbridge and Union have ignored the State's school funding model. She asked members of the public to contact State Legislators and ask them to save the school librarians and school libraries. She also indicated to contact the Commissioner of Education and ask to strengthen the equitable access to school library program (see statement appended to minutes).

Yailin Ramirez – read a statement from Luisa Biaz asking the Board to rethink this matter because you can't balance a budget on the backs of students and teachers and asked that we keep children at the center of these decisions.

Lisette Cespedes – there was a situation with her son at KMS - not able to be in an honors class and she has been working with the Board, and he has remained in AP and is doing well. She indicated that there is a disconnect on celebrating the teachers because of all these cuts. We pay high taxes and we don't see it reflected in our schools.

Jennifer Reed – proposed budget and staffing – cuts are necessary, but most troubling is the cuts to librarians. She asked what was done on the administration levels? How does eliminating librarians help students? She indicated that the public expects transparency.

Michelle Zatta – indicated she emailed the Board – the district put a lot of money into Hannah Caldwell – we got here because of Hannah Caldwell and there is still an issue even though all this money was spent. She asked what are plans for our buildings and what are we doing for student scores?

Dr. Benaquista indicated only two rooms at Hannah have not measured properly and we are working on it.

Ann Margaret Shannon – F-47 – UTEA looks forward to working with Union and brainstorming. Please join the UTEA and participate in the health reform rally on June 18th.

Dr. Benaquista – the State has awarded a high-end tutoring grant and it will be approved at next month's meeting (\$320,000).

Mr. Cohan – OPMA requires an opportunity for public comment and the Board has discretion to make changes. At the April 30th meeting, it was announced that the Board would combine the comments from the public portion.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Ms. Santana, seconded by Mr. Nasta, that the Board go into Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss the following subject matters without the presence of the public in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b: personnel, legal update, HIB appeal

Please take notice that minutes will be taken of the discussion conducted during the executive session and the Board will disclose the minutes of the executive session when the disclosure will not result in unwarranted invasion of individual privacy or prejudice to the best interests of the Board of Education and provided that such disclosure does not violate federal, state or local statutes and does not fall within the attorney/client privilege.

Action may be taken when the Board reconvenes in public session.

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

The Board returned to public session at 10:05 p.m.

MOTION TO RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION:

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Cohan, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the Board return to public session at 10:05 p.m.

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the Board in public session it was moved by Mr. Cohan, seconded by Ms. Santana, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

AYE: Ms. Carbonell, Mr. Cohan, Mrs. Conteh-Mackey, Mrs. Faria, Mr. McDowell,
Mrs. Minneci, Mr. Nasta, Ms. Santana, Mrs. Scott-Hayden,

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Yolanda Koon

YOLANDA KOON
BOARD SECRETARY

