



**BOONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

434 LATHROP AVENUE · BOONTON · NEW JERSEY · 07005

Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm on April 7, 2025, in the Boonton High School Media Center

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order, and the following statement was read: 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, Daniel Piccioni, Andrew Portas. Matthew Mondino arrived at 6:38 pm. Absent were Christopher Cartelli, Elaine Doherty, Brianna O'Halloran.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

NJ Assembly members Aura Dunn and Brian Bergen regarding state school aid

LIAISON REPORTS

1. John Hill School student representative: Spring sports, AVID trip to Caldwell College, Spring Fling, band/choir concerts & Patriots game, spirit week, motivational speaker, 8th-grade end-of-year formal
2. Boonton High School student representative: National Honor Society, Gateway passion projects, Class of 2029 fundraiser, spirit week and pep rally
3. MCSBA: Unsung Heroes last week, next meeting is May 7
4. NJSBA: Workshop 2025 in October

WORK OF THE BOARD

1. Administration
 - Staffing: New ELA teacher, resignation of BHS teacher
 - Programming: 1st-grade performance, JHS performance, JHS wellness fair, Unsung Heroes, BHS art show, spring concerts
 - Give-back days for extended Memorial Day weekend plus June 13
 - Playground mulch
 - Textbooks and online resources
 - College partners: Fairleigh Dickinson, University of Delaware, County College of Morris
 - Ms. Buck to present about Seal of Biliteracy at a workshop
 - Academies and AVID
 - AI in Education

2. Operations
 - Budget / Health Insurance
 - Cafeteria tables at School Street
 - Playground mulch
 - CST Building renovations
 - Firemen's Field
3. Policy: Involving staff in AI policies

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

1. John Tolochko: Firemen's Field
2. Steve Bossen: Lawsuit against the State, Textbooks in physical or digital formats, Goals and plans for using state assessment data

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Mondino and seconded by Mr. Piccioni, the Board approved the Minutes of the following meetings by roll call. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mr. Piccioni, Mr. Portas. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. O'Halloran.

Approval of the following Board of Education meeting minutes.

1. Regular session: March 24, 2025 (enclosure)
2. Executive session: March 24, 2025 (enclosure)

ADMINISTRATION

On a motion by Mrs. Darling and seconded by Mr. Mondino, the Board approved Administration PK-8 resolutions #1-4 by roll call. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mr. Piccioni. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. O'Halloran.

PK-8

1. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2024-2025 school year:

| Grade/Group | Destination |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Grades K-2 (CBI) | Boonton Lanes |
| Grade 4 | Boonton Historical Society |

2. Teachers for Elementary Level Title III Family Engagement Events: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following teachers for Elementary Level Title III Family Engagement Events for the 2024-2025 school year, at a rate of \$40.00 per hour for up to 4 events per level and up to 3 hours per event, to be paid with Title III funds:

Karen Kovall

Stacy Calise

Jen Sannazzaro

3. Bridges to Learning Summer Staff: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the Bridges to Learning Summer Staff from June 30, 2025 through August 22, 2025 as per the attached (attachment).
4. Appointment of Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the appointment of Kristin Kubinsky to the position of ELA Teacher, John Hill School, at a salary of \$97,315 (Step 17 MA) effective August 27, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year.

PK-12

On a motion by Mr. Joyce and seconded by Mrs. Darling, the Board approved Administration PK-12 resolutions #1-7 by roll call. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mr. Piccioni, Mr. Portas. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. O'Halloran.

1. Memorandum of Understanding: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves a Memorandum of Understanding Between the County College of Morris and Boonton High School for the 2025-2026 school year. (enclosure)
2. Field Trips: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the following field trip destinations for the 2024-2025 school year:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Grade/Group | Destination |
| Grade 12 (Gateway Academy) | Grounds for Sculpture (Hamilton) |
| Grades 9-12 (Business Academy) | One Patriots Park |
| Grades 9-12 (Wrestling) | Casa Bianca |
| Grades 9-12 (CBI) | Denville Train Station, Walk through Boonton |
3. FBLA National Competition: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the registration fee of \$195.00 and chaperone cost of \$125.00 for Student State ID #6484569308-B to attend the FBLA National Competition in California in June 2025.
4. Teacher for High School Level Title III Family Engagement Events: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves Matthew Voswinkle for High School Level Title III Family Engagement Events for the 2024-2025 school year, at a rate of \$40.00 per hour for up to 4 events per level and up to 3 hours per event, to be paid with Title III funds.
5. District On-Roll Report: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator the Board approves the District's On-Roll Report for the month of March 2025. (enclosure)
6. Acceptance of Letter of Resignation from Certified Staff Member: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board accepts a letter of resignation from Vicki Cornell, Technology Teacher Boonton High School, effective June 30, 2025.
7. Home Instruction: Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the Board approves the provision of home instruction for Student State ID# 3812525668-B for up to 10 hours per week, beginning March 31, 2025 with instruction to be provided by LearnWell Education at a rate of \$60.75 per hour.

HIB REPORT

None

POLICY

None

OPERATIONS

On a motion by Mr. Joyce and seconded by Mr. Portas, the Board approved Operations resolutions #1-4 by roll call. YES: Mrs. Darling, Mr. Joyce, Mrs. Katsakos, Mrs. LeFebvre, Mr. Mondino, Mr. Piccioni, Mr. Portas. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Mr. Cartelli, Mrs. Doherty, Ms. O'Halloran

1. Payments: The Board approves these Check Journals.

| | | |
|--------------|----------|--|
| \$40,814.28 | 4/7/2025 | Cafeteria ACH (attachment) |
| \$78,328.98 | 4/7/2025 | General ACH (attachment) |
| \$693,669.59 | 4/7/2025 | General checks (attachment) |
| \$3,191.19 | 4/7/2025 | Student Activity BHS ACH (attachment) |
| \$707.11 | 4/7/2025 | Student Activity BHS checks (attachment) |
| \$586.00 | 4/7/2025 | Student Activity JHS checks (attachment) |

2. Payroll Expenses: The Board approves the following payroll expenses.

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| \$1,104,844.64 | 3/15/2025 |
| \$1,152,729.83 | 3/30/2025 |

3. Professional Development: The Board approves these professional development expenses, in accordance with OMB Guidelines, State travel regulations and/or employee contracts.

| Name | Date (s) | Workshop / Conference | Total Cost |
|-----------------|------------------|--|------------|
| Robin Schwalb | 5/5/2025 | School Law Student Rights: What NJ Social Workers Should Know, Virtual | \$60.00 |
| Steven Gardberg | 6/4 - 6/6/25 | Annual Conference NJASBO, Atlantic City, NJ | \$1,080.69 |
| Marianne Sayle | 5/9/2025 | Developing a Common Language for your ESP and Special Education Teachers, Monroe Twp, NJ | \$202.00 |
| Louis Castano | 7/21 - 7/25/2025 | NGSS Summer Institute for Grades K-12, Raritan Valley CC | \$546.17 |

4. Use of Facilities: The Board approves the District Facilities Use List of 4/7/2025 to organizations, provided all required documents are submitted. District teams have priority. No activities on days school is closed. Use of all gyms and fields are coordinated with the Athletic Director. All permits are pending building administration final approval and receipt of documentation.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| <u>Permit #</u> | <u>Requested by / Facility / Dates</u> |
| 2503-0007 | Boonton PTA: Spring Book Fair JHS Art Room Thursday 4/24 – Friday 5/2/2025 (8:00 AM - 3:00 PM) |

- 2503-0008 Girl Scouts
Annex Garden
Tuesday 4/1 & Wednesday 10/1/2025 (8:00 AM -8:00 PM)
- 2503-0009 Girl Scouts
Annex Garden
Wednesday 4/2-Tuesday 9/30/2025 (8:00 AM -8:00 PM)
- 2503-0010 BHS Track & Field Boosters; MC Championship
BHS Concession Stand & Bathrooms
Tuesday 5/20/2025 (1:45 -8:00 PM)
- 2504-0000 Boonton PTA: Fundraiser Pick Up
JHS Lobby
Tuesday 4/1/2025 (3:00 – 6:00 PM)
- 2504-0001 BHS Track & Field Boosters: Track Meet
BHS Concession Stand & Bathrooms
Tuesday 4/22/2025 (2:45 -7:15 PM)
- 2504-0002 BHS Track & Field Boosters: Track Meet
BHS Concession Stand & Bathrooms
Monday 4/7/2025 (2:45 -7:15 PM)
- 2504-0003 BHS Track & Field Boosters; MC Championship
BHS Concession Stand & Bathrooms
Wednesday 5/21/2025 (1:45 -8:00 PM)

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Next meeting is April 28, 2025

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion at 7:43 pm by Mr. Joyce and seconded by Mrs. Darling, all present voted to approve the following resolution to enter Executive Session.

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

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

Adjourn executive session and return to open session.

On a motion at 8:31 pm by Mrs. Katsakos and seconded by Mr. Mondino, all present voted to adjourn executive session and return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion at 8:32 by Mr. Piccioni and seconded by Mr. Mondino, all present voted to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven Gardberg
Board Secretary

BOARD APPROVAL: