

SOUTH HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 10, 2025

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was held on Monday, February 10, 2025, in the Media Center of Memorial School, 1 Dyer Avenue, South Hackensack, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Mrs. Anzevino

Mrs. Anzevino led the Board in the Flag salute

Mrs. Anzevino read the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon.

Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, the Board Secretary caused notice of this meeting to be given to the public and the press on **February 6, 2025**. Said notices was posted at the South Hackensack Municipal Building, in the Lobby of Memorial School, and the South Hackensack School District Website.

Roll call was taken by Bert Arifaj, Board Secretary, and the following members responded to their names:

Present: Mrs. Anzevino, Ms. Davis, Mrs. Kellman, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino, Mr. Tornambe, Mrs. Zanca

Also Present: Mr. Arifaj, Mr. Chirichella, and Ms. Schaefer, Ms. Zahn

6 people in attendance

Presentations: None

Public Discussion on Agenda Resolutions: None

Mrs. Anzevino read the following statement:

Residents are requested to state their names, addresses and subject matter. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the District are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public. Members of the public should consider

their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in their comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

Approval of Minutes: 12/9/24, 1/7/25, 1/14/25

(On file in the business office) moved by Ms. Paladino seconded by Mrs. Zanca

Ayes:	Mrs. Anzevino, Ms. Davis, Mrs. Kellman, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino, Mr. Tornambe, Mrs. Zanca
Nays:	None
Abstain:	Mrs. Anzevino and Mrs. Kellman from 12/9/24 Ms. Davis from 1/7/25 and 1/14/25
Absent:	None

Report of the Superintendent:

Mr. Chirichella opened his discussion by giving the board the current enrollment for the district which is at 226 students. He shared some good news with the board which included Ms. Carroll's Grade 3 as the Bulldogs of the Month for the best attendance for the month of January. He congratulated all the students that were recognized during the second marking period honor roll Assembly that was held on Friday January 31st. He thanked the student council and their co-advisors on a very successful soup can drive. A total of 779 cans were collected and will be distributed to the Meadowlands Family Success Center. Mr. Chirichella shared with the board a draft of the 2025-2026 school calendar for their review. He reminded the board that the QSAC visit is scheduled for February 18th and the final preparations have been added to the district's portfolio. Mr. Chirichella also reminded any board member that has not completed their Financial Disclosure Statements that it needs to be completed by April 30, 2025. Mrs. Anzevino asked for clarification on resolution #16 and asked for the list of the substitutes. That information was provided to her. Mr. Arifaj explained the structure of the custodial staff. Mr. Paladino inquired about resolution # 12 and asked that it be amended to 2 days per week instead of 3 and that the time to get off the soccer field is strictly enforced as per the turf field request application. Mrs. Anzevino asked if there were any other questions on any of the other resolutions presented. No other comments or questions were voiced.

Mrs. Anzevino thanked Mr. Chirichella for working on the schedule for the LF/SH recreation basketball for the use of the gymnasium for their practices. Mrs. Kellman thanked Mr. Arifaj for taking the time to explain the questions she had in regards to the 2023-2024 Audit. Mr. Paladino commented about the HVAC. Mr. Chirichella thanked Mr. Paladino for bringing it to his attention and mentioned that he will have an internal discussion with our Supervisor of B&G and also schedule a committee meeting to discuss matters related to buildings and grounds. Mr. Paladino commented about the bussing to Hackensack High School and that students were not picked up when there was an early dismissal. Ms. Schaefer mentioned that no parents had complained to the district about issues with transportation. The district communicated with the bus company and Hackensack to discuss the matter. Ms. Schaefer mentioned that parents should make any complaints to the district whenever there are issues so that the matter can be resolved. Mr. Chirichella mentioned that at the beginning of the school year when there were some issues with overcrowding of the bus during Hackensack dismissal he did reach out to the principal to

have them work with us to ensure that only South Hackensack students are taking the bus.

The following resolutions were moved by Ms. Davis seconded by Mr. Tornambe

EDUCATION

1. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2024-2025:
Accept Monthly Discipline Report

Month	In/Out School Suspensions
September 2024	0
October 2024	1
November 2024	0
December 2024	0
January 2025	0

2. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2024-2025:

Accept Monthly Superintendent HIB Report and approves the actions recommended by the Superintendent for the following incidents: (if applicable)

Month	HIB Incidents
September 2024	0
October 2024	0
November 2024	2
December 2024	0
January 2025	0

3. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following for the school year 2024-2025:
The Monthly District Calendar (Attachment A)*

4. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve PK-8 Curriculum revisions for the 2024-2025 school year. *(on file in the Superintendent's office)*
5. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Scoliosis Screening provided by the University Spine Center on April 10, 2025 for grades 5th and 7th to be held in the Memorial School Health Office at no cost to the district.
6. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following field trip(s):

Teacher(s)	Grade(s)	Trip(s)	Date(s)	Time(s)
Susan D'Elia & Stephanie Competiello	5th	The Newark Museum of Art Newark, NJ	May 22, 2025	8:25am-1:15pm

7. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the 3rd Annual South Hackensack Police Department vs. 8th Grade Basketball Fundraiser:

Location	Date
Memorial School Gym	Wednesday March 26, 2025 @ 7:00pm

8. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve Gianna Devito for completion of The Montclair State University Office of Cooperative Education School Psychologist internship program at Memorial School for a total of 150 hours from February 2025 through May 2025.
9. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Bergen County Technical High School Financial Literacy Club to conduct a Financial Literacy Presentation at Memorial School for grades 7th and 8th on February 26, 2025.

10. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following request(s) for professional development:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Professional Development</u>	<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Kristen Iaconetti	Public Foundations Pre-K Virtual Launch Workshop Wilson Language Training Corp	March 4, 2025 9:00am-2:00pm	\$330.00

11. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Facility Use Application request from the Borough of Little Ferry to use the gym for practices on Wednesdays and Fridays dates February 19, 21, 26, 28, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
12. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Facility Use Application request from the South Hackensack Strikers to use the soccer/turf field for soccer practices and games - Mondays and Wednesdays for practices from 5:15 p.m. to sundown. and Sunday for soccer games - March 10 to June 30, 2025.
13. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the South Hackensack Recreational Night Gym and events for the following dates pending gym availability:

Event	Location	Dates	Time
Night Gym	In-House	February 24 & 27 2025 March 3,5,6,10,12,13,19,20,24,26, 2025	6:30pm-8:00pm
Spring Show	In-House	April 17, 2025	6:00pm-8:00pm

SPECIAL EDUCATION

14. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the "SEMI" Special Education Medicaid Initiative waiver for the school year 2025-2026.

PERSONNEL

15. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the appointment of the following faculty member with the revised start date effective February 13, 2025 to June 30, 2025.

Name	Step 2024-2025	Salary 2024-2025	Position
Kristen Iaconetti	BA3	\$59,924*	PreKindergarten Teacher

**salary will be prorated*

16. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the updated substitute list and the minimum wage adjustment for the 2024-2025 school year.
17. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the retirement of the individual listed below effective June 30, 2025.

Name	Position
Leslie Carter	Library Media Specialist

18. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the resignation of the individual below as a long term substitute instructional teacher for the PreKindergarten program effective January 24, 2025.

Staff Name
Jianna Miranda

19. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the hiring of the following hourly custodian effective February 11, 2025 to June 30, 2025.

Name	Rate of Pay
Edwin Dye	\$20.32/hour

**pending paperwork*

20. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the hiring of the following hourly custodian effective February 11, 2025 to June 30, 2025.

Name	Rate of Pay
Dragan Ninoski	\$20.32/hour

**pending paperwork*

POLICY

NONE

FINANCE

21. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Business Administrator to pay February 2025 bills.
22. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the following reports in accordance with NJAC 6A:23-2.11(a) and NJAC 6A:23-2.11(b). (*Attachment B*)

Board Secretary's Report
Treasurer's Report
Monthly Fund Transfer Report
November 2024

23. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.11-4 and upon consultation with district officials, certifies that to the best of its knowledge, no major account of funds have been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(a) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's needs.
24. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the actual payroll for the month of January 2025 in the amount of \$379,205.99 that the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Superintendent be, and they hereby are, authorized to sign warrants up to and including the above.
25. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the estimated payroll for the month of February 2025 in the amount of \$385,000 the President of the Board, the School Business Administrator and the Superintendent be, and they hereby are, authorized to sign warrants up to and including the above \$385,000.
26. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the Bill List for January 2025.

(Attachment C)

Fund 10	\$	821,432.27
Fund 20	\$	31,370.40
Fund 30	\$	0
Fund 40	\$	0
Fund 50	\$	20,955.27
Total	\$	873,757.94

Voided check # 047027

27. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve a Debt Service wire Transfer of \$200,000.00 for the payment of principal and \$8,250.00 for the payment of interest.
28. Be it Resolved that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the South Hackensack Board of Education approve the resolution attached approving the bylaws of the South Bergen VII workers' compensation pool.*(Attachment D)*

29. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education approve the Business Administrator to approve bids, approve account transfers, pay bills, approve construction change orders, in between board meeting on an emergency basis with lists of such bids, transfers, payments, construction change orders subject to presentation and ratification at the next business meeting of the board.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Anzevino, Ms. Davis Mrs. Kellman, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino,
Mr. Tornambe, Mrs. Zanca

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Resolutions Approved

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mr. Llukovi commented about the HVAC and the new preschool teacher hire. Mr. Llukovi mentioned that he had reached out to the district and HVAC matter was addressed. Mrs. Anzevino mentioned that the new preschool teacher begins her employment on February 13, 2025. Mrs. Llukovi commented about the supervision during bathroom use by students, preschool celebration at year end and curriculum. Mrs. Oliver commented about the HVAC. Mrs. Mea commented about the HVAC, cleaning, the new preschool teacher hire, pep rally, music teacher and the supervision during bathroom use by students. Mrs. Anzevino mentioned that the district has been advertising and job searching for a music teacher and not able to secure one yet. Mr. Chirichella mentioned the district has done shared services with SBJC for years and shared their part-time music teacher. SBJC and the district have had candidates but have not been able to secure one yet. Mrs. Zanca commented about 2025-2026 South Hackensack calendar coinciding with the Hackensack school district, chromebook repair letter and PEO holiday event and meetings. Mr. Chirichella mentioned that he will have an internal discussion with the Technology Coordinator and possibly schedule a committee meeting. Mr. Chirichella mentioned there is an existing policy and regulation on this. Mr. Chirichella mentioned he had communicated with Mrs. Anzevino and she was made aware of the outcome regarding the PEO photos. Mr. Chirichella mentioned the PEO meetings are being discussed and are in the process of getting a meeting scheduled for March. Ms. Paladino commented about Mrs. DeSalvo's rocking chairs previously located in the library media center and their whereabouts.

NEW BUSINESS

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Paladino seconded by Mrs. Kellman

1. Be it Resolved that the Board hereby accepts Jason Chirichella's resignation from the position of Superintendent/Principal, only, effective 12:01 a.m. on July 1, 2025, as detailed in his letter of resignation (attached hereto and made a part hereof), dated February 10, 2025. from that position.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Mrs. Anzevino, Ms. Davis Mrs. Kellman, Ms. Paladino, Mr. Paladino,
Mr. Tornambe, Mrs. Zanca
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Resolution Approved

Mr. Chirichella read a statement and thanked the board for all their support for the last 4 ½ to 5 years as Superintendent/Principal of Memorial School. He stated that he truly valued the experience and knowledge he gained and that it's been an honor and privilege to serve the children, the staff and the community.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Moved by Ms. Paladino seconded by Ms. Davis

All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Bert Arifaj
Board Secretary