

**FLEMINGTON-RARITAN REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**February 13, 2025**  
**MINUTES**

The In-Person Regular Meeting of the Flemington-Raritan Regional Board of Education was called to order in conformance with the “Sunshine Law” by Mr. Birkenstock at 6:30 p.m.

In accordance with the State's Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending a notice of the time, date, location and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting on January 16, 2025 to the Hunterdon County Democrat and The Courier-News. Copies of the notice also have been placed in the Board Office and in each of the district schools, posted on the District website and filed with Flemington Borough Clerk and the Raritan Township Clerk.

Ms. Dawson took Roll Call.

Members Present

Jaclyn Arce  
Ryan Birkenstock  
Ryan Cirillo  
Lilian Colpas, arrived at 6:32 pm  
Gina Criscitiello  
Michael Owen  
Julia Whitley  
William Bentley

Members Absent

Warren Buckleitner

Attorney Present

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On the motion of Ms. Criscitiello, seconded by Dr. Bentley, the Board adopted the following resolution to meet in Executive Session at 6:31 p.m. viva voce.

**SUNSHINE RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes Boards of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Flemington-Raritan School District Board of Education that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss certain items involving:

- ✓ Matters of personal confidentiality rights, including but not limited to, staff and/or student discipline matters, and specifically: **HIB**
- Matters in which the release of information would impair the right to receive government funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters which, if publicly disclosed, would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters concerning negotiations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the purchase of real property and/or the investment of public funds, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving the real tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving anticipated or pending litigation, including matters of attorney-client privilege, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving personnel issues, including but not limited to, the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion, or discipline of any public officer or employee, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_
- Matters involving quasi-judicial deliberations, and specifically: \_\_\_\_\_

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board ~~will~~/~~will not~~ return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

The Board returned to public session at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cirillo read the District Mission Statement.

As a Community of One, WE:

Foster social, emotional, and academic growth within a connected learning community  
Respect, honor and embrace diverse family and community values by building collaborative partnerships  
Strengthen opportunities that nurture creative and critical thinkers  
Develop and inspire personal excellence.

**Every Student - Every Day - Every Opportunity**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **NJ Governor's Educators of the Year Award Recipients**

Mr. Birkenstock read the following statement: On behalf of the Board of Education, the Flemington-Raritan Education Association, and our entire District, we are proud to announce, acknowledge, and congratulate the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District's 2025 Educators of the Year! Their hard work, dedication, and contributions have helped our students grow, learn, and achieve. Our district continues to provide all students with an excellent education and a strong foundation for success because of outstanding staff members, including our Educators of the Year. Congratulations to each of this year's recipients. Also, the Board thanks the Flemington Shoprite for generously donating the flowers for our educators. A special thank you is also extended to the Flemington-Raritan Education Association and the FRSD Administrative Team for partnering with the Board of Education to honor our distinguished staff members.

The Board of Education, Dr. McGann and administrators recognized the Educators of the Year along with the NJ State School Counselor of the Year and offered congratulations. Administrators from each school shared kind words about the recipients.

The following educators were honored:

#### **Barley Sheaf School**

Teacher of the Year: Melissa DeDea, Health/Physical Education  
Educational Services Professional of the Year: Andrea Coleman, Teacher Assistant

#### **Copper Hill School**

Teacher of the Year: Zachary Bird, Special Education Resource/Grade 4  
Educational Services Professional of the Year: Marcella Yanez, Speech & Language Pathologist

#### **Francis A. Desmares School**

Teacher of the Year: Yasmin Jeges, Bilingual Kindergarten  
Educational Services Professional of the Year: Tara Maszczak, Teacher Assistant

#### **Robert Hunter School**

Teacher of the Year: Melissa Hadzimichalis, Grade 3  
Educational Services Professional of the Year: Kelly Robertson, Speech & Language Pathologist

#### **Reading-Fleming Intermediate School**

Teacher of the Year: Kelly Guarino, Grade 6 Mathematics  
Educational Services Professional of the Year: Barbara Ann Dunn Tomasco, Teacher Assistant

#### **J.P. Case Middle School**

Teacher of the Year: Michelle Genito, Grade 7 Language Arts  
Educational Services Professional of the Year: Christine Boyle, Teacher Assistant

**NJ State School Counselor of the Year -- Viviana Moncada**

On behalf of the Board of Education and our entire District, we are proud to announce, acknowledge, and congratulate Viviana Moncada who was named the New Jersey State School Counselor of the Year this year. Mrs. Moncada is a School Counselor at Francis A. Desmares School. She was previously named Educational Support Professional of the Year in 2022-2023 and the Hunterdon County School Counselor of the Year in the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Moncada has worked at Francis A. Desmares School since 2019. She has been a school counselor in New Jersey public schools for 18 years. Mrs. Moncada is a bilingual school counselor who works to create an environment where students and families feel supported and valued. Mrs. Moncada's accomplishments include organizing parent evenings, launching after-school programs, and coordinating summer programs. She also conducts workshops for teachers and staff. Mrs. Moncada also enriches students' education by organizing field trips, providing them with life-learning experiences they might not otherwise have access to, and collaborating with local donors to arrange holiday season donations for families in need. We are so grateful for Mrs. Moncada's contributions and we are so very proud of her achievement.

**Special Services & Preschool Department Highlights - Presented by Pupil Personnel Services and Special Education Director Dr. Danielle Hamblin, Special Education Supervisor Rebecca Burns, and Early Childhood Preschool Supervisor Amanda Cahill**

Dr. McGann welcomed Dr. Hamblin, Ms. Burns and Ms. Cahill who presented Special Services & Preschool Department Highlights. Dr. Hamblin spoke about the State target for inclusion and the progress made in improving on those targets noting that a five year grant from the New Jersey Coalition for Inclusion Education and the support from that grant helped the District expand the length of the preschool day and offer preschool to general education learners in years prior to the receipt of preschool expansion aid. Dr. Hamblin and Ms. Burns gave an overview of the alternative assessment, Dynamic Learning Maps, spoke about the excellence of the District's autism program and the addition of interventions such as the Wilson Reading System and how this program led to a 7% NWEA achievement growth. Ms. Cahill offered an overview of the observation methods for preschool, developmental screening processes for early intervention of preschool students and the curriculum and professional development opportunities for preschool. Dr. Hamblin encouraged everyone to attend The Whole Child Fair on April 8th at Reading Fleming Intermediate School and shared that she, along with Ms. Burns will be speaking at the 2025 Women's Conference with a focus on forums of communication and Dr. Hamblin and Ms. Cahill will be speaking at the 2025 Preschool Inclusion Leadership Conference.

Dr. McGann and Board members thanked Dr. Hamblin, Ms. Burns and Ms. Cahill for their hard work and presentation.

Dr. McGann reported that current enrollment is 3,323 students. Dr. McGann provided an update on transportation; current leadership at both HCRHS and FRSD have agreed to explore a new agreement that would continue the longstanding relationship between the two districts to provide transportation at the lowest possible cost to taxpayers. Additional details will be shared in the near future.

Dr. Burns spoke about honor roll achievements, noting the criteria for earning the distinction. At Reading-Fleming Intermediate School, 275 students earned honor roll and 204 earned high honor roll. At JP Case, 272 students earned honor roll and 172 earned high honor roll. Dr. Burns offered congratulations to all the students for their hard work.

**Approval of Minutes** – Executive Session – January 23, 2025  
Regular Meeting - January 23, 2025

Mr. Birkenstock asked for any corrections, additions or revisions to the minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Birkenstock announced that the meeting minutes were approved as written.

**CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD**

The public is invited to respectfully share their concerns, comments, and suggestions according to the Board's policy and by-laws. Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment on items of concern regarding the agenda only. The second public comment is for comment on any issue. Each speaker will have 3 minutes and the total session will be 30 minutes. The public is requested to sign the register and to state their name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable. While all comments will be considered, Board Members will not respond to speakers at this time.

Mr. Birkenstock set the session to 30 minutes with 3 minutes for each person.

No comment.

**THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL:****PERSONNEL**

Chairperson Gina Criscitiello, Next Meeting – March 3, 2025

Ms. Criscitiello shared an update on the personnel committee which last met on February 3rd. Mrs. Latzke began the meeting by updating and informing the committee regarding all open positions, a new hire recommendation for a special education teacher at JP Case, two leave replacements, as well as a few amendments to employee contracts to adjust their start date. Dr. McGann presented the committee with the first draft of the district calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. There was a request to move a March professional day from a Friday to a Monday. The superintendent agreed and shared that conversations occur with many people before a calendar is recommended for approval. These conversations include union leadership, PTO leadership, and sending districts such as Hunterdon Central, East Amwell, Delaware Township, and Readington. A final version of the calendar is expected to be ready for board approval by our next meeting. The next three items Dr. McGann went over were important, but were a quick conversation for the committee. Those three items were a revision made to the transportation aide job description; we discussed recognizing educators of the year at tonight's Board meeting; and then Dr. McGann finished up a quick update on district goals. The committee saved the worst for last, and that was hearing the recommendations for the second round of reductions. These staffing decisions weigh heavily on our entire district community. Each position and individual represents years of dedication and impact that cannot be easily replaced. These are incredibly difficult choices that no one wishes to face. Our district has already endured so much, and the path forward requires careful consideration of how these changes will shape our students' futures. Our next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for March 3.

**Personnel Item(s) 1-17 were approved under one motion made by Ms. Criscitiello, seconded by Mr. Birkenstock.**

**Aye:** Ms. Arce                      **Ms. Criscitiello**                      **Nay:** -                      **Abstain:** -  
**Dr. Bentley**                      **Mr. Owen**  
**Mr. Cirillo**                      **Ms. Whitley**  
**Ms. Colpas**                      **Mr. Birkenstock**

**Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence**

1. Approval was given for district staff member(s) to take a leave of absence or amend their leave during the 2024-2025 school year.
2. Approval was given to employ the following staff member(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, pending certification, fingerprints, background check, and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
1.	Lukeman	Courtney	JPC	Teacher - Resource Program Pull-Out & In-Class Support Grade 7	\$72,955 (prorated) / BA+15 / 9	April 14, 2025 or sooner - June 30, 2025	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K - 6, Students with Disabilities, Middle School with Subject-Matter Specialization: Mathematics in Grades 5 - 8 / Centenary University

3. Approval was given to confirm the employment of the following leave replacement(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, pending certification, fingerprints, background check, and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
1.	Arellano-Becerra	Fredy	JPC	Teacher Music / H. Faherty	\$61,770 (prorated) / BA / 1	January 30, 2025 - March 13, 2025	Music (Limited CEAS) / Kean University

4. Approval was given to employ the following leave replacement(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, pending certification, fingerprints, background check, and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
1.	Woerner	Katherine	CH	Teacher Preschool / C. Mastroianni - Kearns	\$61,770 (prorated) / BA / 1	February 20, 2025 - June 30, 2025	Preschool through Grade 3 (CEAS) / Chatham University

5. Approval was given to confirm the temporary increase in FTE of the following staff member(s), for the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	From:	To:	Effective	Salary/Degree/Step
1.	Fillman	Sarah	SS	BCBA Behavior Analyst	.70 FTE	.90 FTE	February 3, 2025 - June 30, 2025	\$69,961.50 (prorated) / MA / 10

6. Approval was given to rescind the January 23, 2025, offer of employment to Victor Cardona, Teacher Resource Program Pull-Out & In-Class Support Grade 7 at J.P. Case Middle School.
7. Approval was given to amend the January 23, 2025 motion:

to employ the following staff member(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, pending certification, fingerprints, background check, and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
2.	Tubman	Shannon	RFIS	Teacher Grade 6 Social Studies & Science / R. Jones	\$61,770 (prorated) / BA / 1	February 7, 2025 - February 26, 2025	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K - 6 (CEAS) / Students with Disabilities (CE) Pending / The College of New Jersey

to read:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
2.	Tubman	Shannon	RFIS	Teacher Grade 6 Social Studies & Science / R. Jones	\$61,770 (prorated) / BA / 1	<b>January 31, 2025</b> - February 26, 2025	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K - 6 (CEAS) / Students with Disabilities (CE) Pending / The College of New Jersey

8. Approval was given to amend the November 14, 2024 motion:

to employ the following leave replacement(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, pending certification, fingerprints, background check, and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
1.	Tullo-McVicar	Trinity	RFIS	Teacher Grade 5 English Language Arts & Social Studies / H. Wainwright	\$61,770 (prorated) / BA / 1	January 2, 2025, or sooner pending certification - May 5, 2025	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K - 6 (CEAS Pending), Middle School with Subject matter Specialization   English Language Arts in Grades 5 - 8 (CEAS Pending), Middle School with Subject matter Specialization   Social Studies in Grades 5 - 8 (CEAS Pending) / Centenary University

to read:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position/Replacing	Salary/Degree/Step	Effective Dates	Certification /College
1.	Tullo-McVicar	Trinity	RFIS	Teacher Grade 5 English Language Arts & Social Studies / H. Wainwright	\$61,770 (prorated) / BA / 1	January 23, 2025 - May 5, 2025	Elementary School Teacher in Grades K - 6 (CEAS), Middle School with Subject matter Specialization   English Language Arts in Grades 5 - 8 (CEAS), Middle School with Subject matter Specialization   Social Studies in Grades 5 - 8 (CEAS) / Centenary University

### Non-Certified Staff – Appointments, Resignations & Leaves of Absence

9. Approval was given to accept the resignation of the following staff member(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position	Purpose	Last Day of Employment
1.	Watkoskey	Anthony	SS	Transportation Aide	Resignation	February 4, 2025

10. Approval was given for the following volunteers to assist with extracurricular activities during the 2024-2025 school year, pending, fingerprints, background check, and health exam, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Position
1.	Gambrill	Jay	JPC	Volunteer Boys Lacrosse Coach
2.	MacRitchie	Graham	JPC	Volunteer Girls Lacrosse Coach

11. Approval was given to adopt a revised job description for the position of Transportation Aide.

### All Staff – Additional Compensation

12. Approval was given to confirm extra compensation for the following staff member(s) during the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max # of Hours	Rate
1.	Boelhouwer	Peter	JPC	Varsity Baseball Coach	132 hours	\$36/hr
2.	Krukowski	Megan	JPC	Varsity Softball Coach	66 hours	\$36/hr
3.	Smith	Holly	JPC	Varsity Softball Coach	66 hours	\$36/hr
4.	Logan	Jonathan	JPC	Varsity Boys Lacrosse Coach	132 hours	\$36/hr
5.	Sladky	Samantha	JPC	Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach	132 hours	\$36/hr
6.	Agabiti	Joseph	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
7.	Boccuti	Nora	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
8.	Boelhouwer	Peter	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
9.	Creighton	Kimberly	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
10.	Hall	Bryce	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
11.	Hand	Gina	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
12.	Krukowski	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
13.	Logan	Jonathan	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
14.	Lyman	Margaret	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
15.	McAnlis	Melissa	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
16.	Membreno	Ada	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
17.	Miller	Jennifer	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
18.	Pacholick	Mindy	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
19.	Sladky	Samantha	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
20.	Waldron	Taylor	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/24/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
21.	Bubeer	Julie	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr

22.	Connelly	Kathleen	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
23.	Creighton	Kimberly	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
24.	Ellenberg	Kelley	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
25.	Gardner	Elizabeth	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
26.	Genito	Michelle	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
27.	Graham	Sean	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
28.	Kodidek	Sherry	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
29.	Krukowski	Megan	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
30.	Logan	Jonathan	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
31.	Lyman	Margaret	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
32.	Membreno	Ada	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
33.	Miller	Jennifer	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
34.	Pirog	Michelle	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
35.	Sladky	Samantha	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
36.	Soltis	Amy	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
37.	Sorrentino	Giorgianna	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
38.	Squicciarini	Therese	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
39.	Waldron	Taylor	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/27/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
40.	Bubeer	Julie	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/28/25	26 minutes	\$36/hr
41.	Obregon	Maria	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/28/25	26 minutes	\$36/hr
42.	Smith	Holly	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/28/25	26 minutes	\$36/hr
43.	Soltis	Amy	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/28/25	26 minutes	\$36/hr
47.	Smith	Holly	JPC	Class Coverage - 1/30/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
44.	Brace	Shannon	RFIS	School Spirit Club Advisor*	10 hours	\$36/hr
45.	Kucharski	Amy	RFIS	Class coverage - 1/28/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
46.	Quattrochi	Megan	RFIS	Class coverage - 1/28/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr
47.	Vallecilla	Ameilia	RFIS	Class coverage - 1/28/25	40 minutes	\$36/hr

\*Club advisor salaries are funded by student activity fees.

13. Approval was given to confirm the employment of the following staff member(s) for extra compensation during the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max # of Hours	Rate
1.	Decanio	Daniel	RFIS	Home Instruction	700 Shared Hours	\$36/hr

14. Approval was given to employ the following Reading Fleming Intermediate School staff to chaperone a maximum of 6 activity and/or concert nights during the 2024-2025 school year. A maximum of 8 staff members will be used per activity night. A maximum of 9 staff members will be used per concert night.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max # of Hours	Rate
1.	Kaetzel	Maggie	RFIS	Activity/Concert Night Chaperone	15 hours	\$36/hr

15. Approval was given to appoint the following mentor(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Mentee				Mentor			
Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	*Stipend
1.	Arellano-Becerra	Fredy	JPC	Sewall	Catherine	JPC	\$550.00
2.	Tubman	Shannon	RFIS	Krajewski	Jamie	RFIS	\$550.00

\*Individuals may receive prorated rates based on actual time in service.

### Substitutes

16. Approval was given to confirm the employment of the following applicant(s) as substitute(s) pending fingerprints, background check, and health exam, during the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name
1.	Arellano-Becerra	Fredy
2.	Bragg	Marisa
3.	Woerner	Katherine

### Field Placement

17. Approval was given for the following student(s) to complete their university requirements, at no cost to the District, pending fingerprints and health exam, during the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	School	Purpose	Cooperating Teacher/ Position/Loc	Effective Dates
1.	Stratton	Gabrielle	Moravian University	Internship	Marcella Yanez/Speech Language Pathologist/CH	March 31, 2025-June 6, 2025

## INSTRUCTION AND PROGRAM

Chairperson William Bentley, Next Meeting – March 6, 2025

Dr. Bentley shared an update on the Instruction and Program committee which met virtually due to weather on February 6th. We received an update on Varsity Tutors which is offered to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. We are contracted for 150 weekly sessions, 2x/week. We have 63 students enrolled, 849 total sessions to date, 79% attendance rate. Students enrolled have been meeting and/or exceeding benchmarks. The committee discussed district policy 3245, as Katie Chardoussin is requesting permission to conduct research looking at challenges surrounding co-teaching involving Gen Ed and Special Ed teachers, and ultimately finding possible solutions to these challenges. The committee discussed the Honor/High Honor Roll 1st Trimester Results: RFIS: 479/724 achieved Honor Roll, 204/724 High Honor Roll; JPCase: 444/730 achieved Honor Roll, 172/730 High Honor Roll. Feedback to date suggests withholding changes to our current honor/high honor roll criteria. The committee discussed all upcoming conferences. Regarding the Young Women's Conference in STEM, the BOE would like to invite these students to an upcoming Board of Education meeting for deserved recognition. We received many donations, and the committee would like to give thanks to everyone for their generosity, especially the anonymous donation of \$1,500 toward unpaid lunch balances at Frances A. Desmares.

**Instruction and Program Item(s) 1-9 were approved under one motion made by Dr. Bentley, seconded by Ms. Criscitiello.**

Board members thanked everyone for their donations and congratulated Ms. Attiyah on the award of a STEM grant.

**Aye:** Ms. Arce                      **Ms. Criscitiello**                      **Nay:** -                      **Abstain:** -  
**Dr. Bentley**  
**Mr. Cirillo**  
**Ms. Colpas**                      **Mr. Owen**  
   **Ms. Whitley**  
   **Mr. Birkenstock**

1. Approval was given to employ the following staff member(s), or their alternate(s), for additional compensation during the 2024-2025 school year. If alternates are necessary, their employment will be confirmed as replacements at no additional cost.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
1.	Coster	Lisa	RFIS	6-8 Mathematics Curriculum Revision	100 shared hrs.	\$45/hr.
2.	Coster	Lisa	RFIS	6-8 Science Needs Assessment and Curriculum Revision	90 shared hrs.	\$45/hr.
3.	Ewing	Colleen	RH	Prepare and Present ESI-R Training	5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
4.	Beetle	Allyson	BS	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
5.	Cinquemani	Tiffany	RH	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
6.	Conover	Lisa	BS	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
7.	Javier-Mannino	Katherine	CH	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
8.	Martinez	Jamie	RH	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
9.	Partington	Meghan	FAD	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
10.	Salvato	Stacey	FAD	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.



11.	Schwiederek	Emily	CH	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
12.	Yaneez	Marcella	CH	ESI-R Training	2.5 hrs.	\$45/hr.
13.	Beetle	Allyson	BS	ESI-R Administration	40 shared hrs.	Hourly
14.	Conover	Lisa				
15.	Davis	Lisa				
16.	Kuster	Kelly				
17.	McDougald	Anne				
18.	Mikalsen	Anne				
19.	Ali	Samantha	CH	ESI-R Administration	65 shared hrs.	Hourly
20.	Bateman	Nicole				
21.	Chardoussin	Katie				
22.	Forrester	Alissa				
23.	Javier-Mannino	Katherine				
24.	MacRitchie	Tracey				
25.	Payton	Nicole				
26.	Posluszny	Jennifer				
27.	Ritter	Jamie				
28.	Royer	Leslie				
29.	Scherer	Lauren				
30.	Schwiederek	Emily				
31.	Shakespeare	Ashlie				
32.	Yanez	Marcella				
33.	Cascio	Leigh Anne	FAD	ESI-R Administration	40 shared hrs.	Hourly
34.	Minch	Pamela				
35.	Moncada	Viviana				
36.	Partington	Meghan				
37.	Pereira	Maria				
38.	Rollero	Danielle				
39.	Rowe	Kari				
40.	Salvato	Stacey				
41.	Thompson	Carla				
42.	Cinquemani	Tiffany	RH	ESI-R Administration	50 shared hrs.	Hourly
43.	Jaye	Alison				
44.	Kline	Christine				
45.	Kubu	Stephanie				
46.	Martinez	Jamie				
47.	McKenzie-DeAngelis	Margaret				
48.	McPeck	Jessica				
49.	Murray	Jaclynn				
50.	Pinto	Sharon				
51.	Youberg	Louise				
52.	Zarzecki	Erin				
53.	Ashey	Elizabeth	RH	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
54.	Bianco	Julie	JPC	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
55.	Bond	Michelle	RFIS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
56.	Cross	Devyn	RH	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
57.	Cunniff	Susanna	RH	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
58.	Fischer	Susan	BS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
59.	Genito	Michelle	JPC	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
60.	Gilmurray	Mindi	JPC	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
61.	Hlavsa-Suk	Dawn	JPC	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
62.	Humphrey	Christi	RFIS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
63.	Marciano	Patricia	BS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.

64.	Martinelli	Kelsey	BS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
65.	Medina	Vanessa	CH	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
66.	Mikalsen	Kathleen	BS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
67.	O'Leary	John	RFIS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
68.	Perkins	Madison	RFIS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
69.	Rowe	Kari	FAD	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
70.	Teeple	Christine	CH	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
71.	Truncale	Christopher	BS	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.
72.	Yoos	Dorothy	CH	Prepare for Professional Learning Days	4 hrs.	\$45/hr.

2. Approval was given to confirm the following staff member(s), or their alternate(s), for additional compensation during the 2024-2025 school year. If alternate(s) are necessary, their employment will be confirmed as replacements at no additional cost. These positions will be funded through the 2024 ESSA grant.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
1.	Attiyah	Hanan	FAD	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
2.	Cascio	Leigh Anne	FAD	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
3.	Dahms	Amy	CH	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
4.	DeLeo	Sarah	BS	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
5.	Fernandes	Amanda	RH	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
6.	Gorka	Alaina	FAD	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
7.	Lango	Cori	BS	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
8.	Yoos	Dorothy	CH	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
9.	Cascio	Leigh Anne	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	1 hr.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
10.	Koelle	Dawn	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	1 hr.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
11.	Lake	Katie	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	1 hr.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
12.	Klein	Lea	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	1 hr.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
13.	Stephan	Laura	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	1 hr.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
14.	Rowe	Kari	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	1 hr.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.

3. Approval was given to employ the following staff member(s), or their alternate(s), for additional compensation during the 2024-2025 school year. If alternate(s) are necessary, their employment will be confirmed as replacements at no additional cost. These positions will be funded through the 2024 ESSA grant.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Loc.	Purpose	Max. # of Hours	Rate
1.	Attiyah	Hanan	FAD	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
2.	Cascio	Leigh Anne	FAD	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.

3.	Dahms	Amy	CH	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
4.	DeLeo	Sarah	BS	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
5.	Fernandes	Amanda	RH	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
6.	Gorka	Alaina	FAD	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
7.	Lango	Cori	BS	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
8.	Yoos	Dorothy	CH	Departmentalization Exploration Committee	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
9.	Cascio	Leigh Anne	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
10.	Koelle	Dawn	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
11.	Lake	Katie	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
12.	Klein	Lea	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
13.	Stephan	Laura	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
14.	Rowe	Kari	FAD	Title I Schoolwide Planning Team	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
15.	Hilke	Michelle	RH	Title I Project Enrich Facilitators	320 shared hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
16.	Terhune	Autumn				Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
17.	Hilke	Michelle	RH	Title I Project Enrich Planning	2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
18.	Terhune	Autumn			2 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
19.	Kubu	Stephanie	RH	Title I Project Enrich Substitute	40 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
20.	Kathleen	Whalen	RH	Title I Project Enrich Substitute	40 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.
21.	Attiyah	Hanan	FAD	Technology Night Facilitator	6 hrs.	Hourly not to exceed \$55/hr.

4. Approval was given of the following field trip(s) for the 2024-2025 school year.

Item	Destination	Loc.	Grade/ Group	Anticipated Date	Cost not to exceed	Funding Source
1.	Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Center	Basking Ridge, NJ	BS 2nd Grade	May 19 & 20, 2025	\$900	Sustainable Jersey Grant
2.	Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Center	Basking Ridge, NJ	CH 2nd Grade	April 16 & 17, 2025	\$1800	Sustainable Jersey Grant
3.	Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Center	Basking Ridge, NJ	FAD 2nd Grade	May 28 & 29, 2025	\$1350	Sustainable Jersey Grant
4.	Somerset County Park Commission Environmental Center	Basking Ridge, NJ	RH 2nd Grade	April 10 & 11, 2025	\$1,350	Sustainable Jersey Grant
5.	Young Women's Conference in STEM	Princeton, NJ	JPC Students	March 13, 2025	\$600	New Jersey STEM Pathways Network Mini-Grant

5. Approval was given to accept the following curriculum, professional development, and/or technology-related donation(s) for the 2024-2025 school year.

Item	Donation	Donor	Value	Location
1.	Team Makers Assembly for 1st grade	PTO	\$595	RH
2.	American Heart Association Kids Heart Challenge Assembly	American Heart Association	\$0	FAD
3.	Eyes of the Wild Assembly	PTO	\$690	FAD
4.	Eyes of the Wild Assembly	PTO	\$840	CH
5.	Ball in the House	PTO	\$2,370	CH
6.	BenEnergy	PTO	\$750	CH
7.	Dialed Action Sports- BMX Assembly Focused on Making Responsible Choices	PTO	\$3,000	RH
8.	Gaga Pit Kit and Rubber Mats	PTO	\$6,980	RFIS
9.	Presentations to PreK - K students on proper dental brushing and flossing techniques, the importance of tooth-friendly foods, and the value of routine dental visits	Amanda Norman, Registered Dental Hygienist	\$0	FAD
10.	Hands-Only CPR Session for 3rd grade	Matthew Fernandes, the American Heart Association	\$0	RH
11.	Lunch Donation	Chick Fil A	\$277.50	District
12.	Donations Towards Unpaid Lunch Balances	Anonymous	\$1,500	FAD
13.	JP Case Music Program Donation	Abeyasinghe Family	\$50	JPC
14.	JP Case Music Program Donation	Anonymous	\$50	JPC
15.	JP Case Music Program Donation	Anonymous	\$250	JPC
16.	District STEM Labs	Glenn W. Bailey Foundation's STEM Sprouts Grant	\$25,000	District
17.	Flower Bouquets	ShopRite	\$250	District

6. Approval was given to dispose of items that are no longer usable and are not required as a trade-in or a replacement purchase for the 2024-2025 school year.

Item	Description	Location
1.	Library Book Surplus	RFIS

7. Approval was given of the following travel expenditures for staff member(s) or their designated alternate to attend professional development conferences/workshops. This travel is deemed educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and all travel expenditures shall be directly related to and within the scope of the staff member's current responsibilities and professional development plans.

Item	Last Name	First Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Includes (see below)	Max. Amount
1.	Andrews	Theresa	New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) Purchasing Training Workshop, Whippany, NJ	March 27, 225	R,M	\$230
2.	Andrews	Theresa	New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) Audit Review Training Workshop, Whippany, NJ	April 10, 2025	R,M	\$230
3.	Mazzaferro	Noelle	Nurtured Heart Approach, Certified Practitioner Training - Virtual	February 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, and 20, 2025	R	\$550
4.	Koch	Leigh Ann	School Health Academy School of Nursing Online Program Package - 10 Classes	January 31, 2025	R	\$169
5.	Accardi	Jaclyn	New Jersey Speech Language Hearing Association Annual Convention, Atlantic City, NJ	March 27 & 28, 2025	R,M,L	\$670
6.	Fonseca	Marisa	New Jersey Speech Language Hearing Association Annual Convention, Atlantic City, NJ	March 27 & 28, 2025	R,M	\$510

7.	Bostory	Kimberly	Women's Leadership Conference, Somerset, NJ	April 7, 2025	R,M	\$306
8.	Switkes	Amy	Women's Leadership Conference, Somerset, NJ	April 7, 2025	R,M	\$297
9.	Kelly	Tania	Women's Leadership Conference, Somerset, NJ	April 7, 2025	R	\$279
10.	Sellers	Alexis	NJPSA School Health and the Law Conference, Monroe Township, NJ	February 26, 2025	R,M	\$202
11.	Yuzon	Jinky	NJPSA School Health and the Law Conference, Monroe Township, NJ	February 26, 2025	R	\$150
<b>R = Registration Fee; M = Mileage; L = Lodging; F = Food; O = Other</b>						

8. Approval was given to apply for the Esports Industry Career Exploration Grant offered by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The funding will support the creation of an esports-focused space at JP Case, providing structured opportunities for students to explore high-skill, high-wage, and in-demand careers within the esports industry.
9. Approval was given to accept additional funds for the 2024-2025 New Jersey Learning Acceleration Program: High-Impact Tutoring Grant.

Title	Description	Amount
High-Impact Tutoring Grant	To provide high-dosage, intensive tutoring by focusing on high-impact tutoring interventions for elementary students who have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.	\$24,864

## OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION

Chairperson Ryan Birkenstock, Next Meeting – March 5, 2025

Mr. Birkenstock shared an update on the operations committee which last met on February 6th to review a variety of topics, including routine approvals and items related to special education. A significant portion of the meeting focused on discussing budget reductions across all areas, including personnel, supplies, and programs. Additional cost-saving measures were explored, and the administration will continue to assess the feasibility and potential impact of these options. The committee reiterated the importance of securing long-term fiscal stability, and as previously mentioned, the administration is preparing a five-year budget forecast. This forecast will provide insights into the sustainability of the current reductions and is expected to be presented at the next committee meeting, along with final budget numbers, including state aid figures. In facilities matters, the committee approved two referendum-funded projects: the replacement of the Frances A. Desmares elevator, which currently breaks down frequently, and the repaving of the RFIS blacktop. Both projects received approval based on the lowest bids and are scheduled for summer execution at the earliest. The administration is also investigating solar options for the district and continues to develop plans for future facilities projects to ensure they're properly being budgeted for. Ms. Dawson provided an update on the transportation department's progress, and the committee was excited to hear about the recent start of our new Transportation Supervisor. One initiative under consideration is the replacement of courtesy busing with a subscription-based service, following a model similar to that used by Hunterdon Central and other districts. The new Transportation Supervisor will evaluate the potential savings and impacts of this proposal. The committee also discussed the ongoing coordination with Hunterdon Central and the potential for a new agreement to be developed to continue our partnership in transportation. While no agreement has been reached to date, positive progress is being made and further discussions are expected. Updates are anticipated to be provided in future meetings. The committee went on to discuss a meeting where Board leadership and Dr. McGann, met with Raritan Township representatives Mayor Bob King and Councilman Scott Sipos to discuss the district's significant budget challenges. The meeting served to highlight how township decisions, including development projects and PILOT programs, directly impact school finances. While direct financial assistance from the township is not expected, township officials expressed understanding of the district's situation and committed to considering school district needs during their budget planning process. The meeting reinforced the collaborative relationship between district and township and laid the groundwork for ongoing discussions about shared priorities. The committee will meet again on March 5th.

**Operations and Transportation Item(s) 1-2 were approved under one motion made by Mr. Birkenstock, seconded by Dr. Bentley.**

**Aye:** Ms. Arce  
Dr. Bentley  
Mr. Cirillo  
Ms. Colpas

**Ms. Criscitiello**  
**Mr. Owen**  
**Ms. Whitley**  
**Mr. Birkenstock**

**Nay:** -

**Abstain:** -

1. Approval was given of the affiliation agreements between Flemington-Raritan Regional School District and the following Universities for the 2024-2025 school year:
  - a. Moravian University
  - b. Felician University
2. Approval was given to employ the following Translators/Interpreter(s) for the 2024-2025 school year, as follows:

Item	Last Name	First Name	Purpose	Max # of Hours	Rate
1.	Mosquera	Tiffany	Translator/Interpreter	440	\$75

## POLICY

Chairperson, Jaclyn Arce, Next Meeting – March 3, 2025

Ms. Arce shared an update on the Policy committee which last met on February 3rd and will meet again on March 3rd. The committee recommended adopting Regulation 5440, Honoring Student Achievement, a new policy for Flemington-Raritan, to recognize students' hard work through academic and non-academic awards, as well as public acknowledgment with parental consent. In grades 5th-8th grade High Honor Roll recognizes students who earn grades between 90-100 in all subjects during the marking period. The Honor Roll includes students with grades between 80-89 in all subjects during the marking period. Additionally, the committee suggests updating Policy 5512 (Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying) based on Strauss Esmay policy alert #234. The committee also reviewed Policy and Regulation 5516 (Use of Electronic Communication Devices), pending feedback from building principals, and Policy 5701 (Academic Integrity), which will be adopted alongside other AI-related policies after review with the Director of Technology, Student Data, and Assessment, Ralph Losanno. The committee continues its work on the policy audit and will begin reviewing new Policy Alert #234.

**Policy item(s) 1-3 were approved under one motion made by Ms. Arce, seconded by Ms. Criscitiello.**

<b>Aye:</b> <b>Ms. Arce</b> <b>Dr. Bentley</b> <b>Mr. Cirillo</b> <b>Ms. Colpas</b>	<b>Ms. Criscitiello</b> <b>Mr. Owen</b> <b>Ms. Whitley</b> <b>Mr. Birkenstock</b>	<b>Nay:</b> -	<b>Abstain:</b> -
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1. Approval was given to present the following new regulation for a 1st reading:
  1. R 5440 - Honoring Student Achievement
2. Approval was given to present the following new policy for a 2nd reading and adoption:
  1. R 5533 - Student Smoking
  2. P 9163 - Spectator Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Events (M)
3. Approval was given to adopt the following revised policy:
  1. P 5512 - Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M)

**MISCELLANEOUS (INFORMATION-ACTION)****Information**

1. Suspensions for the month of January 2025:

School	Infraction	Duration
RFIS	Inappropriate physical contact toward another student	1 Day
RH	Inappropriate physical contact toward a staff member	1 Day
JPC	Inappropriate language toward another student	2 Days
JPC	Threatening behavior	3 Days

2. Drill(s) to date for the 2024-2025 School Year:

Month	Fire Drills					
	BS	CH	FAD	RH	RFIS	JPC
September	9/12	9/9	9/10	9/10	9/12	9/6
October	10/8	10/21	10/2	10/11	10/24	10/17
November	11/6	11/19	11/12	11/15	11/13	11/4
December	12/10	12/19	12/3	12/13	12/9	12/17
January	1/14	1/10	1/17	1/17	1/27	1/28
Month	Security Drills					
	BS	CH	FAD	RH	RFIS	JPC
September	9/17	9/6	9/16	9/13	9/24	9/23
October	10/17	10/24	10/14	10/21	10/9	10/28
November	1/18	11/20	11/19	11/18	11/4	11/25
December	12/18	12/4	12/19	12/6	12/10	12/3
January	1/16	1/24	1/23	1/22	1/29	1/23

3. Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation(s) for the 2024-2025 school year:

School	Date of Incident	Report #	HIB (Y/N)	Additional Action Taken
CH	January 13, 2025	CH#1	No	Remedial actions outlined in report.

**Action Items**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Arce reported that correspondence was received regarding the budget and Class III officers.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Birkenstock encouraged everyone to attend the Budget Town Hall February 27 at 6 p.m. either in person or virtually.

## **CITIZENS ADDRESS THE BOARD**

The public is invited to respectfully share their concerns, comments, and suggestions according to the Board's policy and by-laws. Each speaker will have 3 minutes and the total session will be 30 minutes. The public is requested to sign the register and to state their name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable. While all comments will be considered, Board Members will not respond to speakers at this time.

Mr. Birkenstock set the session to 30 minutes with 3 minutes for each person.

Kim Tilly, Flemington Borough - shared support regarding the potential transportation agreement and the budget vote.

On the motion of Mr. Birkenstock seconded by Ms. Arce the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m. viva voce.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Tanya Dawson  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary