

CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Tenakill Middle School

June 25, 2026 - 7:30 PM

Call to order: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.

Roll Call:

Ms. Argenziano	_____
Mr. Choi	_____
Ms. Estrems	_____
Ms. Lee	_____
Ms. Micera	_____
Ms. Ravid	_____
Mr. Shih	_____
Mr. Paldi	_____
Ms. Finkelstein	_____

NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

BOARD COMMITTEES

## PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to open the meeting to the public.

*Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per bylaw 0167. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.*

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to resume the regular order of business.

## BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve Motions A - N.

Motions were \_\_\_\_\_ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

- A. **APPROVAL - Board of Education Meeting Minutes**  
Motion to approve the June 11, 2026, Board of Education meeting minutes.
- B. **APPROVAL - Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB)**  
Motion to affirm the decision of the Superintendent of Schools regarding Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB) incident TMS-2526-26 as reported to the Board in Executive Session at the June 11, 2026, meeting.
- C. **APPROVAL - Readoption of all Job Descriptions**  
Motion to approve the readoption of all job descriptions currently on file in the Superintendent's Office, based on the original approval without content changes.
- D. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities by Closter Recreation Department - Summer Program**  
Motion to approve the Closter Recreation Department's use of Tenakill Middle School for their Summer Recreation Camp from June 29, 2026, to August 7, 2026.
- E. **APPROVAL - Marshall Equivalency Waiver for 2026-2027 School Year**  
Motion to approve the Marshall Equivalency Waiver for the 2026-2027 school year.
- F. **APPROVAL - Risk Management Services for the 2026-2027 School Year**  
Motion to approve the agreement with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Consulting Services Inc. to provide risk management consulting services for the 2026-2027 school year, and shall be compensated pursuant to the current agreement with the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group (NESBIG) fund. The appointment is through the Extraordinary Unspecifiable Service (EUS) N.J.S.A 18A:18A-5a (2).

G. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities Fees**

Motion to approve the Use of Facilities fee schedule for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Field - \$150/hour, plus the charge of custodial cost
- Gym - \$350 for the first two hours, max of \$500 per use, plus the charge of custodial costs
- Auditorium - \$500 per use, plus the charge of custodial cost and sound & lighting staff if necessary
- Classrooms - \$100 per room/day, plus a charge for custodial costs
  - Custodians - \$70 per hour (\$92 per hour on Sundays or Holidays)

H. **APPROVAL - Substitute Rates for SY 2026-2027**

Motion to approve the SY 2026-2027 substitute rates as follows:

- Substitute Custodian: \$22 per hour
- Substitute Nurse: \$225 per day
- Substitute Teacher: \$135 per day
- Substitute Paraprofessional: \$115 per day

I. **APPROVAL - Partnership Agreement with Ramapo College of NJ for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve the agreement with Ramapo College of NJ - Teacher Education Program in the School of Social Science and Human Services and the Closter Board of Education for the district's participation in the Archway Project - a collaborative teacher residency partnership, for the 2026-2027 school year.

J. **APPROVAL - School District Physician**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Dr. Nancy Rothenberg as the School District Physician for the 2026-2027 school year at an annual rate of \$4,000.

K. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities by Closter Recreation Department - SY 2026-2027**

Motion to approve Closter Recreation Department to use Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School gymnasiums for the 2026-2027 school year for men's basketball, youth basketball, and volleyball camp.

L. **RESOLUTION - Authorizing the Execution of a Deed of Conservation Restriction fo a Portion of Block 903, Lot 4**

WHEREAS, the Borough's Shade Tree Commission worked with the Borough's Board of Education to obtain a tree planning grant from the Trees for Schools grant fund; and

WHEREAS, in order to complete the grant process, a fully executed and recorded Deed of Conservation Restriction must be submitted to the Trees for Schools program in order for the Grant recipients to receive the final payment; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Deed of Conservation Restriction is to protect the State of New Jersey's investment in the trees planted through the Trees for Schools program. These plantings expand and strengthen tree canopy and provide long-term environmental benefits, including carbon sequestration and improved ecosystem health; and

WHEREAS, executing this document ensures that the parties responsible for the property acknowledge and agree to protect and maintain the trees. It also ensures that any future land use decisions take the protection of these trees into consideration; and

WHEREAS, the conservation restriction automatically expires ten years after it is recorded; and

WHEREAS, the trees were planted on a portion of Block 804, Lot 6, commonly known as Memorial Field, which is Borough-owned property, and additional trees were planted in the Right of Way of Block 903, Lot 4, which is school-owned property, therefore, Both the Borough and the Board of Education are required, as Grantors, to sign the Deed; and

WHEREAS, the Deed of Conservation Restriction was approved by the Closter Mayor and Council on its June 24, 2026, meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Deed was prepared, reviewed, and finalized by a member of the Borough Attorney's Office and the attorney for the Closter Board of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Closter Board of Education that the Board President and the School Business Administrator are hereby authorized to execute the Deed of Conservation Restriction as representatives of the Board/Grantors for the Right of Way of Block 903, Lot 4.

M. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities for Korean School**

Motion to approve the renewal of the Use of Facilities Agreement with the Korean Language and Culture School at the fees established for the 2026-2027 school year, utilizing the Tenakill Middle School auditorium and 17 classrooms.

N. **APPROVAL - Closter PTO Use of Facilities**

Motion to approve the Closter PTO to host events at Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School during the 2026-2027 school year.

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Ms. Lee; Members: Ms. Argenziano, Ms. Estrems*

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve Motions A and B.

Motions were \_\_\_\_\_ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

**A. APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following courses for the 2026-2027 school year as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member: Songhee (Joy) Lee  
Course No./Title: EDUC 710B: I'm So Stressed I Could Scream  
Institution: University of LaVerne  
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Alexandra Earle  
Course No./Title: Career Development Specialist  
Institution: Lindenwood University  
Credits: 3

Staff Member: Grace Park  
Course No./Title: 1) EDUC 712Y: ABCs of Effective Mainstreaming and Inclusion  
2) EDUC 720D: Neurodiversity: Building a Classroom Where All Students Thrive  
Institution: University of LaVerne  
Credits: 6 (3 credits each)

**B. APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

Motion to approve the following staff conferences for the 2026-2027 school year:

Staff Member(s): Floro Villanueva Jr.  
Conference: ESEA (Elementary & Secondary Education Act) Application Training and Work Session  
Location: Bergen Community College, Paramus  
Date: 6/29/26  
Cost to Board: \$0

Staff Member(s): Dianne Smith  
 Conference: School Safety & Security Symposium  
 Location: North Caldwell, NJ  
 Date: 7/14/26  
 Cost to Board: \$20.68

**FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Mr. Choi; Members: Ms. Micera, Ms. Ravid, Ms. Finkelstein*

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve Motions A - BB.

Motions were \_\_\_\_\_ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

**A. APPROVAL - Monthly Financials and Certification**

Motion to approve the following items as required, pursuant to NJSA 18A:17-9 and NJAC 6:20-2.13, as per Appendix A attached:

- a. Board Secretary and School Treasurer Financial Reports for May 2026.
- b. Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for May 2026.
- c. Transfer of funds for May 2026.

**B. APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from June 12, 2026, to June 23, 2026, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$1,021,913.15
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 2,500.00
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	\$ 973.81
Total	\$1,025,386.96

C. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Sandra Hernandez  
Course: LDTC 501 Theory and Remediation Practices in Support of Individuals with Dyslexia  
College/University: Felician University  
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

Staff Member: Gila Rachlin  
Course: All Eyes on IEP  
College/University: Colorado State University-Pueblo  
Remuneration: \$429.00

D. **APPROVAL – Purchase of a Multi-Year License Agreement with IXL Learning**

Motion to approve the purchase of a multi-year license agreement with IXL Learning for the IXL Math and ELA Grades K - 8, and PowerUp PD. The total cost for the site license is \$71,795.

E. **APPROVAL – Award of Contract to West Bergen Mental Health Care for Mental Health Support and Counseling Services for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve the award of the contract for Mental Health Support and Counseling Services to West Bergen Mental Health Care for the period of September 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, in an amount not to exceed \$93,800, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1), which designates mental health and counseling services as a professional service not subject to public bidding. West Bergen Mental Health Care has been the District's Mental Health Support and Counseling Services provider since SY 2021-2022, selected through a fair and open RFP process conducted pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(a)(5), and has consistently been awarded the contract based on qualifications, demonstrated performance, and the best interests of the District. The Board hereby authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the contract and any other documents necessary to effectuate the agreement, subject to the availability and appropriation of sufficient funds. Notice of this award shall be published on the district website in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1).

F. **APPROVAL – Special Education Placements**

Motion to approve the following 2026-2027 Special Education Out of District placements for Closter Students:

NJ SMART ID	TUITION	GRADE	PLACEMENT
8583886300	\$89,964.00	GR8	BCSS-SHIP EMERSON
4780672334	\$13,505.00	TOD GR4	BCSS-TOD
7946671740	\$7,045.00	TOD GR1	BCSS-TOD

NJ SMART ID	TUITION	GRADE	PLACEMENT
9597653741	\$108,310.00	GR7	CTC-Oakland
1595602128	\$108,310.00	GR7	CTC-Oakland
5437501562	\$94,000.00	K	IEA New Milford
4521677259	\$68,262.00	GR6	NVRHS-TIP
6416941621	\$68,262.00	GR8	NVRHS-TIP
5536231421	\$157,908.00	GR1	NVRHS - Valley Program
9237735305	\$94,063.00	GR2	NVRHS - Valley Program
3310955231	\$157,908.00	GR1	NVRHS - Valley Program
1543457212	\$94,063.00	GR4	NVRHS - Valley Program
7029692770	\$94,063.00	K	NVRHS - Valley Program
7834453772	\$1,600.00	GR2	REG III-ESY only
2287020694	\$1,600.00	GR5	REG III-ESY only
8310099361	\$1,600.00	GR7	REG III-ESY only
6138523559	\$1,600.00	GR8	REG III-ESY only
3591639644	\$1,600.00	GR7	REG III-ESY only

G. **APPROVAL – Report of Awarded Contracts**

Motion to approve the renewal, award, or expiration of the contracts previously awarded by the Closter Board of Education, as listed below, pursuant to P.L. 2015, c.47. All contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all applicable state and federal statutes and regulations, including N.J.S.A. 18A:18A et seq., N.J.A.C. 6A:23A, and Federal Procurement Regulations 2 CFR Part 200.317 et seq., per Appendix B.

H. **APPROVAL - Snow Removal - Contract Extension**

Motion to approve the two-year renewal of the Snow Removal Services contract with Green Meadows Landscaping Inc. for SY 2026-2027 and SY 2027-2028, pursuant to the renewal option under N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-42, and subject to the same terms and conditions of the original bid and contract. Services cover Hillside Elementary School (340 Homans Avenue) and Tenakill Middle School (275 High Street), at the following rates:

## Snow Removal Contract Rates — SY 2026-2027

Snowfall	Snow Plowing		Shoveling of Walkways	
	Hillside	Tenakill	Hillside	Tenakill
0 - 1.99 inches	\$1,050.00	\$710.00	\$900.00	\$710.00
2 - 3.99 inches	\$1,325.00	\$890.00	\$1,125.00	\$890.00
4 - 5.99 inches	\$1,650.00	\$1,110.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,110.00
6 - 7.99 inches	\$2,050.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,400.00
8 - 9.99 inches	\$2,575.00	\$1,750.00	\$2,175.00	\$1,750.00
10 - 11.99 inches	\$3,200.00	\$2,175.00	\$2,725.00	\$2,175.00
Above 12 inches	\$350.00/in	\$250.00/in	\$300.00/in	\$250.00/in

**Salt Application (as needed):** Hillside: \$625.00 | Tenakill: \$425.00

## Snow Removal Contract Rates — SY 2027-2028

Snowfall	Snow Plowing		Shoveling of Walkways	
	Hillside	Tenakill	Hillside	Tenakill
0 - 1.99 inches	\$1,085.00	\$730.00	\$925.00	\$730.00
2 - 3.99 inches	\$1,365.00	\$915.00	\$1,160.00	\$915.00
4 - 5.99 inches	\$1,700.00	\$1,150.00	\$1,450.00	\$1,150.00
6 - 7.99 inches	\$2,115.00	\$1,445.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,445.00
8 - 9.99 inches	\$2,650.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,240.00	\$1,800.00
10 - 11.99 inches	\$3,295.00	\$2,240.00	\$2,805.00	\$2,240.00
Above 12 inches	\$360.00/in	\$260.00/in	\$310.00/in	\$260.00/in

**Salt Application (as needed):** Hillside: \$650.00 | Tenakill: \$440.00

I. **APPROVAL – Educational Data Services Awarded Contract**

Motion to confirm the purchases for the 2026-2027 school year through the annual bidding conducted by Educational Data Services Inc. The amount awarded represents Closter's share of the total award amount for all of the districts participating in the cooperative bidding.

Adorama	\$380.00
Blick Art Materials LLC	\$51.81

Carolina Biological Supply	\$237.41
Cascade School Supplies	\$498.80
Charles J Becker dba Beckers	\$192.85
DEMCO	\$186.56
EAI Education dba Eric Armin	\$470.25
Flinn Scientific	\$39.58
Henry Schein, Inc.	\$985.83
Kurtz Bros, Inc	\$15.93
Lakeshore Learning Inc	\$22.49
Nasco Education LLC	\$330.41
Paper Clips Inc	\$49.67
Performance Health dba Medco	\$58.89
Pitsco	\$44.31
Really Good Stuff	\$63.63
S&S Worldwide	\$118.32
School Health Corporation	\$2,620.64
School Specialty LLC	\$21,144.37
Staples Contract	\$282.81
Super Duper Publications	\$206.59
The Library Store	\$50.55
United Supply Corp	\$1,060.62
Varsity Brands dba BSN Sports	\$1,301.81
VWR Funding dba Wards Science	\$52.89
WW Grainger	\$247.77
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$30,714.79</b>

J. **APPROVAL – District Share of the Northern Valley-wide Phone Upgrade Project**

Motion to approve Closter Public Schools' share of the Northern Valley-wide Phone Upgrade Project for the 2026-2027 school year, in the amount of \$80,967.37, to be funded from the Capital Reserve Fund as authorized by the Board of Education on April 30, 2026. Payment will be made to Northern Valley Regional High School District (NVRHS), which is serving as the lead agency responsible for conducting the bid and/or RFP process and awarding the overall contract on behalf of all participating districts pursuant to a shared services arrangement. The Closter Board of Education hereby authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to

execute any shared services agreement or other documents necessary to effectuate the District's participation in this project.

K. **APPROVAL – Procedures for the Close of Fiscal Year**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to pay supplementary bill lists and payroll, which shall become due on or before June 30, 2026, including all year-end payables; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Administrator be authorized to proceed with all necessary adjustments and transfers to close the books for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, as well as any and all entries and actions for the opening of the 2026-2027 fiscal year, including but not limited to the issuance and or cancellation of purchase orders, payment of bills, cancellation of stale dated checks, transfers between line items, award of contracts in compliance with the Public Contracts Laws; and other such actions as may be required by statute, code and Board Policy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the Superintendent and Business Administrator to process and issue the payment of bills and claims between Board meetings during the months of June, July, and August of 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all aforementioned actions shall be presented to the Board at its next meeting for ratification and/or approval.

L. **APPROVAL - Transfer of Funds as Excess Surplus, 2% Cap**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education hereby approves retaining as year-end fund balance as of June 30, 2026, an amount not to exceed the state-mandated cap of 2%, plus \$615,000.00 designated as excess surplus for use in the 2027-2028 budget, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any funds over the state-mandated cap shall be transferred into the district's maintenance reserve account and the district's capital reserve account in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.1 and 14.3.

M. **APPROVAL – Annual Deposit to Capital Reserve Account**

WHEREAS, NJSA 18A:21-2, NJSA 18A:7G-31, and NJSA 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year-end; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a Board of Education to transfer unanticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education wishes to transfer unanticipated current year revenue and/or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into the District's Capital Reserve account at year-end; and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education has determined an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Closter Board of Education hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

N. **APPROVAL – Annual Deposit to Maintenance Reserve Account**

WHEREAS, NJSA 6A:23A-14.4 et seq permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year-end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education wishes to transfer the unanticipated current year surplus into a Maintenance Reserve account at year-end, and

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education has determined that an amount not to exceed \$500,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Closter Board of Education hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

O. **APPROVAL – Transfer of Interest Earnings**

Motion to approve the transfer of accumulated interest earnings from the Capital Projects Fund (Fund 30) to the district's General Fund Account (Fund 10), including interest earnings on June 30, 2026.

P. **APPROVAL - Strauss Esmay Contract for 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve the contract with Strauss Esmay for policy management, alerts, and support for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$5,015.00.

Q. **APPROVAL – Contract with Asbury Park IT for SY 2026-2027**

Motion to approve the annual contract for the 2026-2027 school year with the Asbury Park Information Technology Center’s Payroll and Budgetary Services as noted below, with additional fees for printing, mailing, and adjustments as required:

Budgetary Accounting System	\$12,450.00
Payroll/Personnel System	\$ 9,600.00

R. **APPROVAL - 1:1 Nursing Services Contract**

Motion to approve the 1:1 nursing service contracts for students identified by IDs 9597653741 and 1595602128 as medically fragile students pursuant to their Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-3.3, for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, at an estimated cost of \$217,000.00. Services will be provided by Bayada Nursing at a rate of \$78.00 per hour as the sole confirmed provider; however, other approved nursing companies may be utilized as needed. This contract is awarded as a professional service pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1), as the services require qualified nursing professionals to provide care to students identified as medically fragile under their IEPs. The Board hereby authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to execute the necessary contracts and any other documents to effectuate this agreement.

S. **APPROVAL - Substitute Nursing Contracts**

Motion to approve the following substitute nursing contracts for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Bayada Home Healthcare
- Health Source Group
- Aveanna Healthcare
- Best Choice Nursing
- Homecare Therapies

T. **APPROVAL - Insurance Assessments through Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group (NESBIG) for SY 2026-2027.**

Motion to approve the payment of the following assessments through the Northeast Bergen County School Board Insurance Group (NESBIG) for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Workers’ Compensation Assessment in the amount of \$100,441.00, less a Surplus Return of \$32,964.00.
- Insured Assessment for School Board Legal Liability, Cyber Liability, Umbrella Policy, Environmental Liability, and Excess Liability in the amount of \$319,158.51.

Funds are to be charged to the appropriate insurance accounts within the 2026-2027 budget.

U. **APPROVAL – Appointment of Michael Donow, Treasurer of School Monies for SY 2026-27**

Motion to approve the appointment of Michael Donow as Treasurer of School Monies for SY 2026-2027 at a rate of \$500 per month.

V. **APPROVAL – SY 2026-2027 Transportation Contract**

Motion to approve the transportation contract for the Closter Board of Education Route 2 with Valley Transportation Co., Inc. for the 2026-2027 school year. The contract increase is within the CPI (3.58%) set by the New Jersey Department of Education. The total annual cost of Route 2 is a 2% increase for a maximum of \$86,011.20 or \$475.20 per day. The host LEA, Northern Valley Regional High School District, administers the transportation contract.

W. **APPROVAL – Award of Contract for the Gymnasium Wall Pocket Tables and Benches Project at Tenakill Middle School to Nickerson NJ, LLC.**

Motion to approve the award of the contract for the Gymnasium Wall Pocket Tables and Benches Project at Tenakill Middle School to Nickerson NJ, LLC, the lowest responsible bidder, with a base bid of \$92,282.75, which was found to be responsive in all material respects. Bids were received on June 16, 2026. This award is conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the required insurance certificate, labor and materials/performance bond, AA201 Project Manning Report, and executed AIA Agreement within ten (10) days of the date of this resolution. The Board Attorney is directed to prepare the agreement consistent with this resolution and the bid documents. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute the agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate this award.

X. **APPROVAL – Award of Contract for the Sidewalk Replacement Project at HES**

Motion to approve the award of the contract for the Sidewalk Replacement Project at Hillside Elementary School to S. Batata Construction, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, as follows:

- Base Bid – \$312,500
- Alternate No. 1 – \$84,875
- Alternate No. 2 – \$35,675

Total Contract Amount – \$433,050 (including a \$10,000 Contingency Allowance)

Bids were received on June 18, 2026, and the bid submitted by S. Batata Construction, Inc. was found to be responsive in all material respects. This award is conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the required insurance certificate, labor and materials/performance bond, AA201 Project Manning Report, and executed AIA Agreement within ten (10) days of the date of this resolution. The Board Attorney is directed to prepare the agreement consistent with this resolution and the bid documents. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute the agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate this award.

Y. **APPROVAL – Rejection of Lowest Bidder and Rebid of Project**

WHEREAS, the Closter Board of Education advertised for bids for Interior and Exterior Door Replacements at Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2026, the Board received three bids for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the apparent lowest bidder, C&M Door Controls, Inc., did not provide a DPMC 701 Form, which is a required form pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:18A-26, and therefore constitutes a material defect;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby rejects the bid submitted by C&M Door Controls, Inc. for the reasons set forth above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby rejects the remaining bids received for the Project pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-22(b) because the bids substantially exceed the Board’s budget for the project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board authorizes the Business Administrator to rebid the project in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:18A-22(a), and to make any and all necessary revisions to the bid solicitation documents.

Z. **APPROVAL - Auditor Engagement for FY 2026**

Resolved that the Closter Board of Education acknowledges the most recent peer review report for the accounting firm Lerch, Vinci & Bliss LLP, which resulted in a rating of “Pass.”

Be it Further Resolved that the Closter Board of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(i)2 authorizes the engagement of Lerch, Vinci & Bliss LLP to perform the annual audit of the financial records of the Closter Public Schools for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, at a fee not to exceed \$40,000, inclusive of all administration and related costs.

Be it Further Resolved that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized to execute the engagement letter with Lerch, Vinci & Bliss LLP on behalf of the Board.

AA. **APPROVAL - Closeout of the Roof Replacement Project**

Motion to approve the closeout of the Roof Replacement Project, which was funded through the referendum. The contract in the amount of \$1,239,000, including a \$100,000 allowance, was awarded to Duga Construction LLC. The following change orders were included in the project:

- Change Order #1: Curb to wall expansion joint at modular building parapet wall, and temp electric at gym FTUs at Hillside - \$40,036.48
- Change Order #2: Paint gas pipes at Hillside and Tenakill - \$11,260.80
- Change Order #3: Gas pipe pressure test at Tenakill - \$3,270.00
- Change Order #4: Replacement of gas regulators due to new roofing - \$10,600.00

The final project cost is \$902,722.00, with \$34,832.72 remaining unused from the allowance. The district has not yet received all required warranty documents from Duga Construction, LLC. The final retainage of \$3,540 is being withheld pending Duga Construction's submission of the required two-year maintenance bond as specified in the General Conditions of the Contract, as formally noticed by the Board Attorney on April 14, 2026. The Board reserves all rights to pursue claims against Duga Construction and its bonding company for any deficiencies or repair obligations arising during the two-year maintenance period following final project completion on October 1, 2024.

**BB. APPROVAL – Application & Acceptance of ESEA Grant**

Motion to approve the application and acceptance of the ESEA grant for the 2026-2027 school year in the following amounts:

<u>ESEA Total</u>	<u>\$ 103,694</u>	
Title I A	\$ 43,185	
Title II A**	\$ 16,745	** Through a consortium
Title III**	\$ 19,806	
Title III - Immigrant **	\$ 13,958	
Title IV **	\$ 10,000	

**PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Mr. Paldi; Members: Mr. Shih, Ms. Finkelstein*

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve Motions A - K.

Motions were \_\_\_\_\_ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

**A. APPROVAL - Resignation of Andrew Enrique, Business Office Assistant**

Motion to accept the resignation of Andrew Enrique, Business Office Assistant, effective June 30, 2026.

**B. APPROVAL - Appointment of Bina Rivard as PLUS Teacher**

Motion to approve the appointment of Bina Rivard as full-time, tenure-track, Hillside Elementary School PLUS Teacher, for the 2026-2027 school year, at a salary of \$101,850, MA Step 15, starting on September 1, 2026, pending criminal history background check.

**C. APPROVAL - Appointment of Nardin Gerges as Business Office Assistant**

Motion to approve the appointment of Nardin Gerges as full-time Business Office Assistant at a salary of \$53,700 pro-rated, starting on August 17, 2026, pending criminal history background check.

**D. APPROVAL - Appointment of Melanie Jimenez as Long-Term Leave Replacement**

Motion to approve the appointment of Melanie Jimenez as Grade 3 long-term leave replacement teacher for Kerry Vogel, starting September 1, 2026, through the end of the 2026-2027 school year, pending criminal history background check. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; then beginning on day 11, BA Step 0, (\$59,000) pro-rated.

E. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Sing Han as Special Education Long-Term Leave Replacement Teacher**

Motion to approve Sing Han as Special Education long-term leave replacement teacher for Brittany Travisano, from September 1, 2026, through December 1, 2026. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; then, beginning on day 11, MA Step 0 (\$67,000), pro-rated.

F. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Mentors for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve the appointment of the following mentors to provisionally licensed teachers in the 2026-2027 school year as follows:

- Erika Dunn to mentor Sing Han
- Jodi Belnick to mentor Melanie Jimenez

G. **APPROVAL – Staff Appointments**

Motion to approve the following appointments for the 2026-2027 school year:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>
Anti-Bullying Coordinator	Keith McElroy
Anti-Bullying Specialist (HES)	Dara Weiss
	Suzanne Lang
Anti-Bullying Specialist (TMS)	Alexandra Earle
	Callie Stabile
Affirmative Action Officer	Floro Villanueva Jr.
504 Compliance Officer (HES)	Dara Weiss
504 Compliance Officer (TMS)	Alexandra Earle
District Safety Specialist	Dianne Smith
District Testing Coordinator	Justin O'Neill
School Testing Coordinator (HES)	Dara Weiss
School Testing Coordinator (TMS)	Alexandra Earle
McKinney-Vento Liaison	Vincent McHale

H. **APPROVAL - SY 2026-2027 Substitute Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Nurses & Custodians**

Motion to approve Substitutes for the 2026-2027 school year as per Appendix C attached.

I. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Dianna Juechter, Hillside Elementary School Paraprofessional**

Motion to accept the resignation of Dianna Juechter, HES Paraprofessional, effective June 30, 2026.

J. **APPROVAL - Retirement of Nancy Gronek, Tenakill Middle School Paraprofessional**

Motion to accept the retirement of Nancy Gronek, TMS Paraprofessional, effective December 31, 2026.

K. **APPROVAL – Summer Nurse for TMS Summer Programs**

Motion to approve Mary Terese Lombino, as school nurse for the Summer Program in Tenakill Middle School, July 6 through July 30, 2026, at a rate of \$50.00/hour from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Ms. Micera; Member: Ms. Finkelstein*

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve Motion A.

Motion was \_\_\_\_\_ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS:

NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Second Reading of Policies and Regulations**

Motion to approve the second reading of the following policies and regulations, as per Appendix

D:

- Policy 5112 - Entrance Age
- Policy 0162 - Notice of Board Meetings
- Policy 0162.01 - Legal Notices
- Policy 1230 - Superintendent's Duties
- Policy 1643 - Family Leave
- Policy 2200 - Curriculum
- Policy 2260 - Equity in School and Classroom Practices
- Policy 2411 - Career Education and Academic Counseling
- Policy 5561 - Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities
- Policy 6112 - Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures
- Policy 6115.02 - Federal Awards / Funds Internal Controls - Mandatory Disclosures
- Policy 6311 - Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants
- Regulation 6115.01 - Federal Awards / Funds Internal Controls - Allowability of Costs

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to open the meeting for public comments.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to close the meeting to public comments.

**CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to approve the following Closed Session Motion.

Motion was \_\_\_\_\_ by a voice vote of the Board:

YEAS:

NAYS:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

**HIB  
Superintendent Evaluation**

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at \_\_\_\_\_ PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at \_\_\_\_\_ PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ , seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ to adjourn the meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ PM.