CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Closter, New Jersey

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
Tenakill Middle School
November 19, 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 meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act and NJ Statute, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published on the District's official website homepage. The date, time, and place of this meeting were also posted at each school building within the District, at the Board of Education office, and at the Office of the Borough Clerk. Through the end of this calendar year, a notice will also be published in the newspaper. That notice directs the public to the District's official website, where the full meeting notice may be viewed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
ACCESS for ELLs 2025-2026 Assessment Report
NJSLA 2025-2026 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 - E.
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 October 29, 2026, Board of Education meeting minutes.

B. **APPROVAL - Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying (HIB)**
Motion to affirm the Superintendent of Schools' decision regarding Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) incident TMS-2627-01, as reported to the Board in Executive Session at the October 29, 2026, meeting.

C. **APPROVAL - School Safety and Security Plan Statement of Assurance for 2026-2027**
Motion to approve the School Safety and Security Plan (SSSP) SOA for the 2026-2027 school Year.

D. **APPROVAL - Service Club Fundraiser - Thanksgiving Food Drive**
Motion to approve the fundraiser of a Thanksgiving food drive. All items collected will be donated to the Closter Food Pantry.

E. **APPROVAL - Home Instruction for Student #5848153805**
Motion to approve ten hours per week of home instruction for Student #5848153805 for a 30-day period, beginning as soon as possible.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE

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

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - C.

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:	Meghan Pleus
Course No./Title:	EDUC 6749 Syntax: Its Role in Writing and Comprehension
Institution:	Fairleigh Dickinson University
Credits:	1

Staff Member:	Ornit Katzin
Course No./Title:	1) MATH 6423 Learning/Teaching Pre-Algebra 2) MATH 6432 Learning/Teaching Algebra I
Institution:	NJCTL
Credits:	8 (4 credits each)

B. **APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

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

Staff Member(s):	Charlene Gerbig
Conference:	Jennifer Seravallo - Whole Book Reading
Location:	Paramus, NJ
Date:	12/1/26
Cost to Board:	$67.50 (Half-day substitute)

Staff Member(s):	Rachel Fineman and Jennifer Levy
Conference:	Visiting Leveled English Classes at NVD
Location:	NVRHS-D
Date:	12/3/26
Cost to Board:	$0

Staff Member(s):	Scott Lewis
Conference:	NJ AI Literacy Summit
Location:	NVRHS-OT
Date:	12/7/26
Cost to Board:	$135.00 (Substitute)

Staff Member(s):	Joseph Calabria, Kevin Cox, Vincent McHale
Conference:	NJ Techspo 2027
Location:	Atlantic City, NJ
Date:	1/27/27 - 1/29/27
Cost to Board:	$3,290.90 (Registration, hotels and incidentals & mileage)

Staff Member(s):	Alexandra Earle
Conference:	Bergen County School Counselors Association K-8 Meetings
Location:	Lyndhurst, Saddle River and Westwood, NJ
Date:	1/22/27, 3/12/27, 6/4/27
Cost to Board:	$33.09 (Mileage)

Staff Member(s):	Keith McElroy
Conference:	Getting MTSS Right: North Brunswick's Story of Progress & Learning
Location:	Virtual
Date:	12/2/26
Cost to Board:	$0

Staff Member(s):	Kindergarten: Songhee Lee, Wendy Manning, Kimberly Ramm, Megan Weis, Kaitlyn Yu Grade 1: Susan Carpenter, Kerra Corio, Katherine Dunn, Dana Hollywood/Kelly Kawaguchi, Donna Koniuch, Meghan Pleus Grade 2: Catherine Gordon, Jennifer Kennedy, Katharine Meyers, Grace Park, Catherine Ricca, Isabella Vitolo Grade 3: Allison Bachmann, Jodi Belnick, Allison Esposito, Lauren Finan, Charlene Gerbig, Melanie Jimenez
Conference:	In-House Literacy with Samantha Nash
Location:	Hillside Elementary School
Date:	Various Dates - December 2026, March 2027, May 2027
Cost to Board:	$1,215.00 (Substitutes)

C. **APPROVAL - Field Trips**

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

School:	Tenakill Middle School
Group:	TEP 8
Month:	May 2027
Destination:	NJ Law Center
Location:	New Brunswick, NJ

FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

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

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - E.
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 October 2026.
b. Board of Education's Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account /Fund status for October 2026.
c. Transfer of funds for October 2026.

B. **APPROVAL - Payment of Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from November 1, 2026, to November 17, 2026, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	$1,506,684.76
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	$ 1,508.50
Enterprise (Milk – Fund 60)	$ 704.82
Total	$1,508,898.08

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

Motion to approve the 1:1 nursing service contract for the student identified by ID#1281227531 as a medically fragile student pursuant to their Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-3.3, for the period of November 16, 2026, through June 30, 2027, at an estimated cost of $29,260.00. Allshifts Nursing will provide services at a rate of $55.00 per hour as the sole confirmed provider; however, other approved nursing companies may be used 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.

D. **APPROVAL – Special Education Placements**

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

NJSMART#	***Tuition***	***Grade***	***Placement***
1281227531	$106,835.90	2	BCSS Bleshman

E. **APPROVAL - Settlement Agreement for Student ID 5921639864**

Motion to approve the terms, stipulations, and conditions of the Settlement Agreement and Release between the Closter Board of Education and the parents of a student whose name and record are on file in the Superintendent's office. The Board President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to execute the Settlement Agreement and Release and any other documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

Moved by _____, seconded by _____ to approve Motions A - H.
Motions were _____ by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:
YEAS:
NAYS:

A. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Madilyn Palmer and Callie Stabile as Schedule F Scripta Club Coordinators for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve Madilyn Palmer and Callie Stabile as Scripta Club Coordinators (Schedule F) from November 1, 2026, through the end of the 2026-2027 school year.

B. **APPROVAL - Alyssa Levy and Andrea Watkins to Host Parent Information Nights**

Motion to approve Alyssa Levy and Andrea Watkins to lead two Parent Information Nights (one in fall and one in spring), designed to explain the Universal Literacy Screener and ways to provide support at home. Funds will be paid through the FOCUS Grant at $50.00 per hour for four hours per staff member.

C. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Rosa Kim, Tenakill Middle School Paraprofessional**

Motion to accept the Resignation of Rosa Kim, TMS Paraprofessional, effective November 19, 2026.

D. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Jack Halperin, Tenakill Middle School Paraprofessional**

Motion to accept the Resignation of Jack Halperin, TMS Paraprofessional, effective November 30, 2026.

E. **APPROVAL - Appointment of Catherine Park as Paraprofessional for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve the appointment of Catherine Park as a paraprofessional for the 2026-2027 school year, 5.75 hours per day, at a salary of $22.09 per hour, with a start date of November 20, 2026.

F. **APPROVAL - Siarra Sacasa-Martinez as Parent-Paid AG Behaviorist for Student ID #5220678010**

Motion to approve Siarra Sacasa-Martinez as parent-paid AG Behaviorist for Student ID #5220678010 for the 2026-2027 school year.

G. **APPROVAL - Substitute Teachers/Paraprofessionals/Custodians**

Motion to approve the following substitute teachers/paraprofessionals/custodians for the 2026-2027 school Year:

Name	***Certification***
Rosa Kim	Substitute Certification
Julie Mathew	Substitute Nurse Certification

H. **APPROVAL - Madison Tracy as Student Teacher for the 2026-2027 School Year**

Motion to approve Madison Tracy from St. Thomas Aquinas College to student teach in Elizabeth Brown's classroom for the 2026-2027 school year, pending criminal history background check.

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

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.