

**WHITE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
565 COUNTY ROAD 519  
BELVIDERE, NEW JERSEY 07823  
908-475-4773**



**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 25, 2025**

For the Regular Meeting of the White Township Board of Education  
Monday, August 25, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the White Township Consolidated School Media Center.

*“White Township Consolidated School is committed to inspire, engage and educate our students by providing innovative, personalized opportunities for growth and learning. With a foundation based on academic excellence and a focus on social emotional learning, our students will achieve their full potential and become productive, responsible, resilient members of the community and contributing members of society.”*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Panetta called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

**II. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE**

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 either discussed or acted upon. In accordance with this provision of the act, the White Township Board of Education has sent notice of this meeting to the New Jersey Herald and the Express Times stating date, time, and place and posted the same in the White Township School and Municipal Building.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Robyn Gardella	<i>Present</i>	Mrs. Catherine Lensi	<i>Present</i>	Mr. Frank Panetta	<i>Present</i>
Mr. Tim Havlusch	<i>Present</i>	Mr. Kevin Murray	<i>Absent</i>	Mrs. Natalie Pinkerton	<i>Present</i>
Mr. George Jonkoski	<i>Present</i>	Ms. Michelle Nusser-Meany	<i>Present</i>	Mrs. Elizabeth Vesper	<i>Present</i>
				Mrs. Tina Ritchie	<i>Present</i>

Also present, Mr. William Thompson and Mrs. Lori Tirone.

**V. CSA REPORT**

- School Facilities
- Initiatives for 2025-2026
- Student Achievement

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Privilege of the Floor**

President Panetta opened the public hearing for public comment. No one from the public made any comments.

**VII. MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lensi, seconded by Mr. Havlusch to approve the following meeting minutes.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Board of Education meeting, held on the dates indicated as transcribed, be approved and filed.

July 28, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2025 - Executive Meeting Minutes

On a voice vote, all present were in favor.

**VIII. PERSONNEL** - Mr. Panetta, Mrs. Robyn Gardella, Mr. Havlusch, Mr. Murray

Mr. Panetta provided a committee update.

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mrs. Lensi to approve Personnel items 1 through 13.

**1. Approve Principal Waiver Form**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve a request for a waiver from the requirement of a full-time, non-teaching Principal for the 2025-2026 school year at the White Township Consolidated School.

**2. Approve Basic Skills Coordinator Stipend**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Deirdre Mulligan as the Basic Skills Coordinator for a stipend of \$8,000 for the 2025-2026 school year.

**3. Approve Basic Skills Coordinator-State Testing & Standardized Testing Responsibilities Stipend**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Dawn Werkheiser for the responsibility as the Basic Skills Coordinator-State Testing and Standardized Testing Responsibility for a stipend of \$1,697 for the 2025-2026 school year.

**4. Approve Extracurricular Activity Positions**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the following staff for Extra-Curricular activity positions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Staff Member	Position	Year	Stipend
Stewart Quinn	Archery (Head)	9	\$3,140.00
Rosie Magyar	Art Show (Head)	3	\$2,669.00
Margaret Sheneman	Bell Choir/Chorus Advisor (Head)	10+	\$3,373.00
Amy Stumpe	Drama (Assistant)	7	\$2,902.00
Katie Williams	Drama (Assistant)	7	\$2,902.00
Deirdre Mulligan	G&T Afterschool Activities (Head)	10+	\$3,373.00
Tadgh LaBar	Jump Start (Head)	1	\$2,669.00
Rebecca Dionne	Jump Start (Assistant)	3	\$2,436.00
Erika Puskas	Student Council (Head)	2	\$2,669.00

#### 5. Approve Teacher In Charge

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Gary Hutchison as the Teacher In Charge for a stipend of \$6,400 for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 6. Approve Substitute Principal

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Kathryn Wilk as a Substitute Principal for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 7. Approve National Junior Honor Society Coordinator

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Allyson Evans as the National Junior Honor Society Coordinator for a stipend of \$2,575 for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 8. Approve Eighth Grade Class Advisors

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Tadgh LaBar and Jackie Rebimbas as Eighth Grade Class Advisors for a stipend of \$1,500 each for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 9. Approve After Care Program Staff

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the following staff for the After Care Program positions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Staff Member	Stipend
Robert Bunn	\$40.00/hour

Kathy Cavitch	\$40.00/hour
Anthony Marinelli	\$40.00/hour
Stewart Quinn	\$40.00/hour
Dawn Werkheiser	\$40.00/hour

#### 10. Approve World Language Teacher

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Alejandra Contreras as a .4 World Language Teacher, with benefits, shared with Harmony Township School District for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 11. Approve Movement on the Guide

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the lateral move on the WTEA Salary Guide for Dana Rochelle, from Step 14/BA, to Step 14/BA+15, new annual salary of \$76,331 effective August 25, 2025.

#### 12. Renewal of Tenured Teaching Staff for the 2025-2026 school year

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve to renew now tenured teacher, Kim Rosano (McCormack) at Step 6/BA+15 at an annual salary of \$66,116, for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### 13. Approve Substitutes

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the following groups of substitutes:

##### Teachers:

Barofski, Madison (12/29)	Gratacos, Amber (08/29)	Stein, Jenne
Beaman, Meghan (07/27)	Hawk, Payton (05/29)	Smith, Abigail L. (01/28)
Bunn, Robert	Kotulick, Barbara (07/27)	Taylor, Donna (01/28)
Cavitch, Kathryn (07/29)	Madonia, Heather**	Thompson, Emilia (07/27)
Clark, Elizabeth (08/29)	Mahon, Aylia (10/27)	Torres, Chanel (10/29)
DenKer, Sara (10/27)	Meade, Deborah (08/26)	Van Horn, Jessica (01/27)
Formichelli, Cosmo (09/27)	Pavlock, Kaitlyn (07/29)	Wohlander, Jennifer (05/28)
Graham, Bonnie (09/28)	Porter, Kimberly (08/28)	Wilcox, Annmarie (03/30)
		Wisner, Jamie (07/30)

##### Nurses:

Conklin, Cindy (01/27)	Lennox, Genevieve (12/29)	Wheatley, Brianne (07/26)
Leatherman, Lauren (08/28)	Titus, Pat**	Woodhull, Melissa (06/30)

##### Custodians:

Fielding, Richard	Quigley, Duane
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\*\* Pending Background Check.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**IX. CURRICULUM** - Ms. Nusser-Meany, Mr. Jonkoski, Mrs. Pinkerton, Mrs. Vesper

Ms. Nusser-Meany provided a committee update.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lensi, seconded by Mrs. Vesper to approve Curriculum items 1 through 3.

**1. Tuition Contract - Technical High School**

**BE IT RESOLVED** to approve a Tuition Contract Agreement for the 2025-2026 school year between the White Township Board of Education (sending) and Warren County Technical School District (receiving) for tuition charges of \$84,000. The cost per pupil of \$3,000 multiplied by an estimated daily enrollment of 28 students. There are credits in the amount of \$14,706 for the prior year.(11.000.100.563.000.000)

**2. ESEA Grant Application 2025-2026 School Year**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the White Township Board of Education approves administration to submit the application to the State of New Jersey and accepts the award of the 2025-2026 ESEA grants.

Title I - A	\$48,929
Title II - A	8,932
Title III	1,436
Title IV Part A	10,000

**3. Tuition Contract - MD Student**

**BE IT RESOLVED** to approve a Tuition Contract Agreement for the 2025-2026 school year between the Hope Township Board of Education (sending) and White Township Board of Education (receiving) for a tuition charge of \$25,000.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**X. OPERATIONS** - Mrs. Gardella, Mr. Havlusch, Mr. Murray, Mr. Panetta

Mrs. Gardella provided a committee update.

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mrs. Lensi to approve Operations items 1 through 11.

**1. Acceptance of the Financial Report July 2025**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 requires the Board Secretary and the White Township Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that the sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation, and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10 further requires the White Township Board of Education receive and accept the monthly financial statements, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the month ending July 31, 2025 is presented for the Board to accept and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the White Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of and accepts the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the month ending July 31, 2025; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board Secretary and White Township Board of Education certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet the district's financial obligation.

## **2. Approval of Budget Transfers for July 2025**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10-(c)1 states that a report shall be presented to the Board showing all transfers between line-item accounts for each line-item account shown on the budget prepared in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:22-8; and

**WHEREAS**, transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for the time period of July 2025 were necessary to maintain the needs of the district and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, that White Township Board of Education ratifies and approves the transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for June in fiscal year 2025-2026, approved by the Chief School Administrator, so that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds would be available to meet the district's financial obligations.

## **3. Approval of July and August Bill Lists**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:19, Expenditure of Funds; Audit and Payment of Claims, provides Boards of Education to make payments on claims for goods received and services rendered payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount after approval by the board; or in accordance with payrolls duly certified; or debt service or when provided by resolution approval by a person designated by the board; and

**WHEREAS**, a list of bills for the months of July 2025 and August 2025 are being presented to the board with the recommendation that they be ratified, approved and paid; and

**WHEREAS**, each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the White Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, ratifies and approves the list of bills for payment in the sum of \$684,489.48 from July 25 through July 31, 2025 and sum of \$485,387.32 for August 2025; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the list of bills is on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the White Township Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay bills if it is determined that a need arises prior to the next board meeting.

## **4. Approve the Indoor Air Quality Plan**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the Indoor Air Quality Plan for the 2025-2026 school year.

**5. Approve the Integrated Pest Management Plan**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the Integrated Pest Management Plan for the 2025-2026 school year.

**6. Approve Psychological Evaluation Provider**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the Center for Assessment and Treatment located at 254B Mountain Avenue, Suite 300, Hackettstown, NJ to provide individual structured psychological interviews and assessments at a tentative cost of \$350 per assessment for the 2025-2026 school year.

**7. Approve Parental Transportation Contract**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve a parental transportation contract to transport Student ID #5543239546 to and from White School for the 2025-2026 school year at the cost of \$5,000.00

**8. Approve the Use of Facilities**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the use of the Media Center by the PTO from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for PTO Meetings on the following dates:

10/15/2025	12/10/2025	02/11/2026	04/08/2026
11/21/2025	01/17/2026	03/11/2026	05/13/2026

**9. Approve the Use of Facilities**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the use of the Cafeteria facility by the PTO from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the Book Fair on September 29, 2025.

**10. Approve the Use of Facilities**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the use of the Gymnasium facility by the WTYAA from November 1, 2025 through March 15, 2026 from 3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for Winter Youth Recreational Basketball.

**11. Approve Transportation Contract**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the transportation contract of \$16,875 with DCF Regional School to transport one student to and from DCF Regional School for 225 days in the 2025-2026 school year.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**XI. GOVERNANCE** - Mrs. Vesper, Mr. Jonkoski, Ms. Nusser-Meany, Mrs. Pinkerton

Mrs. Vesper provided a committee update.

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lensi, seconded by Ms. Nusser-Meany to adopt the first reading of Governance items 1 through 13.

1. P 0173 Duties of Public School Accountant (Revised)
2. P 0174 Legal Services (M) (Revised)
3. P 0177 Professional Services (M) (Revised)
4. P & R 1570 Internal Controls (M) (Revised)
5. P 1620 Administrative Employment Contracts (M) (Revised)
6. P & R 6111 Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program (M) (Revised)
7. P 6220 Budget Preparation (M) (Revised)
8. R 6220 Budget Preparation (Revised)
9. P 0143 Board Member Election and Appointment (Revised)
10. P 1636.01 Notification of Promotion, New Job, and Transfer Opportunities (New)
11. P 2422 Statutory Curricular Requirements (M) (Revised)
12. P & R 5117 Interdistrict Public School Choice (Revised)
13. P 5339.01 Student Sun Protection (M) (New)

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

**XII. BHS BOARD MEMBER UPDATE** - Mrs. Gardella

Mrs. Gardella reported:

- Dr. Jessica Garcia will be the new Superintendent at Belvidere.
- Fall Sports

**XIII. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

**XIV. NEW BUSINESS**

President Panetta wished the school a good year.

**XV. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Privilege of the Floor**



President Panetta opened the public hearing for public comment. No one from the public made any comments.

#### **XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lensi, seconded by Ms. Nusser-Meany for the Board to enter into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor The motion passed.

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board of Education discusses topics falling within certain specified exceptions to the requirement for public meetings;(N.J.S.A. 10:4-13) and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education wishes to discuss matters that fall within statutory exceptions to open public meetings

**BE IT RESOLVED** pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act(N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), that the Board adjourn from public session and enter into executive session at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to legal matters.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the matters discussed in executive session should be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but it is not known at this time when that may be. The Board expects to reconvene into public session in approximately 30 minutes. Action will be taken.

**BE IT RESOLVED** to return to Open Public Session at 7:27 p.m.

**MOTION** by Mr. Havlusch, seconded by Mrs. Lensi for the Board to reconvene public session.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

#### **XII. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Lensi, seconded by Ms. Nusser-Meany to acknowledge receipt of no HIB investigations.

On a roll call vote, all present were in favor. The motion passed.

#### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** by Mrs. Lensi, seconded by Mrs. Vesper.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lori A. Tirone", is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lori A. Tirone  
Board Secretary