

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, August 10, 2026

7:04 p.m.

Minutes of August 10, 2026

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have 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, the Washington Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be emailed on January 6, 2026, to the Clerk of Washington Township, posted on the district website and in both Brass Castle and Port Colden Schools.

Members in attendance: Amie Beyrent, Jasmine Francisco, Jennifer Knittel and Karen Graf, President. In addition, Keith Neuhs, Superintendent, Eva Preuett, Business Administrator, Jessica McDonagh, Principal and Susan Wardell, Principal.

Members absent: Edward Kemp, Vice President, Nicholas Riess and Robert Yencha.

Flag Salute

4. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the minutes of July 13, 2026, as presented. **(Attachment #1)**

MV: Francisco and Knittel voting yes, Graf and Beyrent abstained, motion carried.

B. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION: (Agenda items) **~NONE~**

(The public may speak for three (3) minutes unless they have requested to be on the agenda.)

C. SECRETARY'S REPORT:

5. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the Student Activity and Cafeteria Reports, as presented. **(Attachment #2)**

MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

6. Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the attached transfers, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #3)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

7. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the Bills List for July 2026. **(Attachment #4)**

MV: all voting yes, motion carried.

8. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the Board Secretary's and Cash Reports for the month ending June 30, 2026, as presented. **(Attachment #5)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington Township Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16, 10(c) 3, does hereby certify that as of the date of these reports, no line-item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line-item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (a);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent recommends that the Washington Township Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and further recommends, in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (c) 4, that the Board of Education Certifies that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (b), and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the year.

D. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: (Attachment #6)

9. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve up to three (3) additional days for the Child Study Team to service students in the district from July 1, 2026 - August 21, 2026, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

10. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the following personnel for the 2026-27 school year, pending completion of employment requirements, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Employee	Position	Salary/Rate/Per Diem
Victoria Andrews	Special Education Teacher	BA +15, Step 4 - \$61,115
Samantha Sikora	Media Specialist	BA, Step 2 - \$57,815
Zoe Nast	Long Term Substitute - Art	MA, Step 1 - \$60,715
Jeanette Nolan	Paraprofessional	Step C, \$20.50 hr.
Catherine Murray	Paraprofessional	Step B, \$20.00 hr.
Theresa Rooth	Paraprofessional	Step A, \$19.50 hr.
Rachael Dagostino	Paraprofessional	Step B, \$20.00 hr.
Nicole Rakowski	Paraprofessional	Step A, \$19.50 hr.
Allison Pawloski	Substitute	Daily Rate
Addison Conaboy	Substitute	Daily Rate
Dawn Harper	Substitute	Daily Rate
Breanna Smith	Substitute	Daily Rate
Sondra Duncan	Substitute	Daily Rate
Julianna Fox	Substitute	Daily Rate
Alazia Boulding	Substitute	Daily Rate

**** If ABA is required, an additional \$2.00 will be added to the Paraprofessional hourly rate.***

11. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the Professional Development Program, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Staff Member	Type of Travel/Workshop	Registration Fee	Dates	Mileage RT	Parking	Tolls	Lodging	Meals
Susan Peterson	Orton-Gillingham (virtual)	\$1750.00	July 20-24, 2026	-	-	-	-	-
Zaida Amon	AI Workflows for CEFM's	\$0	July 22, 2026	62	-	-	-	-
Eva Preuett	NJASBO for Business Administrators	\$199/class 8 x 199 = \$1,592	September 22, November 12, December 15, January 12, February 16, March 11, April 13, May 11	46.3 miles/ea. way	-	-	-	-

12. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the Lake Drive School Special Education Tuition Contract Agreement 2026-2027 for student #16147103 between the Washington Township Board of Education and the Mountain Lakes Board of Education, in the amount of \$94,050.00, effective July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

13. Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the submission of the FY27 ESEA Grant application as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Title I -A	\$54,357
Title II - A	\$ 9,610
Title III	\$ 715*
Title IV	\$10,000
Total	\$74,682

*** District rejects Title III funding as grant requires minimum \$10,000 allocation**

14. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the contract between Raptor Technologies and the Washington Township Board of Education for a visitor management system in the amount of \$4,036 for the 2026-2027 school year as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

15. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the following personnel for the 2026-27 school year, pending completion of employment requirements, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Employee	Position	Salary/Rate/Per Diem
Nicole Musso	Long Term Substitute	MA, Step 9 - \$70,565

16. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the following field trip for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent.

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Grade	Destination
4 th	Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island

E. PRINCIPALS' REPORT (Attachment #7)

F. CORRESPONDENCE: NONE

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education:

Facilities:

17. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the bus routes for the 2026-2027 school year, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #8)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Finance & Policy:

18. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the first reading of Policy 2422 Statutory Curricular Requirements, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #9)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Policy Alert 235

- P 2422 Statutory Curricular Requirements (M) (Revised)

19. Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy Alert 235 as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #9a)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Policy Alert 235

- P 0173 Duties of Public School Accountant (Revised)
- P 0174 Legal Services (M) (Revised)
- P 0177 Professional Services (M) (Revised)
- P & R 1570 Internal Controls (M) (Revised)
- P 1620 Administrative Employment Contracts (M) (Revised)
- P & R 6111 Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program (M) (Revised)
- P 6220 Budget Preparation (M) (Revised)
- R 6220 Budget Preparation (Revised)
- P 0143 Board Member Election and Appointment (Revised)
- P 1636.01 Notification of Promotion, New Job, and Transfer Opportunities (New)

- P 1648.15 Recordkeeping for Healthcare Settings In School Buildings – Covid-19 (M) (Abolished)
- P 5339.01 Student Sun Protection (M) (New)

20. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy Alert 236 as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #10)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Policy Alert 236

- P 0142.1 Nepotism (M) (Revised)
- P 1220 Employment of Chief School Administrator (M) (Revised)
- P & R 1552 Sexual Harassment – Staff (M) (New)
- P & R 2530 Resource Materials (Revised)
- P & R 2535 Library Material (M) (New)
- P 3362 Sexual Harassment (M) (Abolished)
- R 3362 Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Complaint Procedure (Abolished)
- P 4352 Sexual Harassment (M) (Abolished)
- R 4352 Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Complaint Procedure (Abolished)
- P & R 9130 Public Complaints (Revised)

21. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy 2260 Equity in School and Classroom Practices, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #11)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Policy Alert 237

- P 2260 Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M) (Revised)

22. Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to approve the second reading and adoption of Policy Alert 237 as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #11a)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

Policy Alert 237

- P 1230 Superintendent's Duties (M) (Revised)
- P 2200 Curriculum (M) (Revised)
- R 2200 Curriculum Content (M) (Abolished)
- P 2411 Career Education and Academic Counseling (M) (Revised)
- R 2411 Guidance Counseling (M) (Abolished)
- P 0162 Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)
- P 0162.01 Legal Notices (M) (New)
- P 1643 Family Leave (M) (Revised)
- R 2460.30 Additional/Compensatory Special Ed. and Related (M) (Abolished)

- P 5561 Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities (M) (Revised)
- P 6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M) (Revised)
- R 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M) (Rev)
- P 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M) (Rev)
- P 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)
- P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)

Personnel:

H. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION - old and/or new business ~*NONE*~

(The public may speak for three (3) minutes on non-agenda items unless they have requested to be on the agenda.)

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION - if required as indicated in items i below:

23. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Jennifer Knittel, the Board of Education of the Washington Township School District in the County of Warren, will adjourn into a closed meeting to discuss the item (s) which falls within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 b.

- a. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule.
- b. Individual privacy
- c. Collective bargaining agreements
- d. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- f. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- g. Pending or anticipated litigation
- h. Attorney-client privilege
- i. Personnel - employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential by Individual privacy. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

MV: unanimous, motion carried.

Time: 7:47pm

24. Motion by Jennifer Knittel, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to return to open session.

MV: unanimous, motion carried.

Time: 7:55pm

25. Motion by Jasmine Francisco, seconded by Amie Beyrent, to approve the revised employment contract for Zaida Amon, as the Facilities Coordinator, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, as recommended by the Superintendent. **(Attachment #12)**

RCV: Beyrent, Francisco, Knittel and Graf all voting yes, motion carried.

J. ADJOURNMENT

26. Motion by Amie Beyrent, seconded by Jasmine Francisco, to adjourn.

MV: unanimous, motion carried.

Time: 7:57pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Eva Preuett, Business Administrator/Board Secretary