

**CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
April 29, 2026
7:00 p.m. Library**

bI. CALL TO ORDER – OPENING STATEMENT

This meeting is called to order at _____ p.m. with the following opening statement read by _____:

“I would like to announce and have placed in the minutes that adequate notice of this meeting of the Califon Board of Education has been provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Proper notice of this Regular Meeting was provided to Hunterdon County Democrat and the Hunterdon Review. A copy of this notice has also been posted on the public bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filed with the Borough Clerk. The agenda of this meeting has been posted at the Califon School and on the district’s website.

II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

Mr. Christopher Keiser - President
Mr. Michael Reaves - Vice President
Dr. Rebecca Kipp-Newbold
Ms. Rita Lemley
Mr. Netz Sacro

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

AT THIS TIME, COMMENT IS INVITED ON RESOLUTIONS ON TONIGHT’S AGENDA ONLY. PLEASE STATE ALL OF YOUR COMMENTS IN SUCCESSION TO THE BOARD DURING YOUR SPEAKING TURN. BE AWARE THAT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO YOUR COMMENT. ALL COMMENTS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE BOARD AND IF APPLICABLE, WILL BE ANSWERED DURING THE BOARD COMMENT SECTION OF THE MEETING. PLEASE RESPECT THE 3 MINUTE SPEAKING RULE AS PER BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW #0167 AND BOARD MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES POSTED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE SO THAT BUSINESS OF THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the following minutes:

- March 17, 2026 Regular and Executive Session

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VI. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

VII. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Enrollment 87
 - HIB Report-
 - 2 Unfounded
 - 1 Founded - HIB Report Tracking Number 670418
 - Annual HIB Grades 24-25 = 78 out of 78
 - Suspension - (1) 1-Day OSS
 - Updates:
 - Thank you PTA- SOS Bags and SWAG Bags for Kindergarten Round Up
 - Reminder- NJSLA testing beginning April 27-May 14
 - Dates: Graduations -
 - June 10 8th Grade
 - June 11 PK
 - June 12 K
 - Last Day June 16, 2025
1. Motion to accept the HIB and suspension report
- 2026-2027 Budget Presentation

**ADOPTION OF THE 2026-2027 BUDGET
CALIFON BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement
2026-2027

WHEREAS, the Califon Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

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WHEREAS, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of \$15,000 for all staff and board members for the 2026-2027 school year.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education budget be approved for the 2026-2027 School Year as follows:

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUES	DEBT SERVICE	TOTAL
2026-2027 Total Expenditures	\$3,217,595	\$ 41,544	\$0	\$3,259,139
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ 432,093	\$ 41,544	\$0	\$ 473,637
Taxes to be raised	\$2,785,502	\$ 0	\$0	\$2,785,502

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education includes in the 2026-2027 tentative budget \$27,876 of health benefit adjustments of \$27,876 total health benefit adjustment;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education the 2026-2027 tentative budget has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority in the budget year and has the need for the use of \$19,109 of unused spending authority to be included in the base budget and that said need must be completed by the end of the 2026-2027 budget year and cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education will withdraw \$3,000 from Capital Reserve in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2 for the purpose of required of funding the Main Office and Nurse's Suite Carpet Replacement capital projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Califon Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$10,000 for the 2026-2027 school year for all staff and BOE members in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 and the maximum regular business travel amount shall not exceed \$1,500 per employee. The tentative budget has been approved by the Hunterdon County Executive Superintendent and advertised in the District Website on April 22, 2026.

VIII. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum & Instruction Committee:

Policy & Legislation Committee:

Finance, Facilities, & Transportation Committee:

Personnel Committee:

Negotiations Committee:

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IX. CONSENT AGENDA

Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study and will be enacted with one motion. The Personnel items on the consent agenda are recommended by the Superintendent. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the consent agenda by Board action.

Finance/Facilities/Transportation/Personnel/Curriculum and Instruction/Policy

Finance:

1. Motion to approve the bill list dated April 29, 2026 in the amount of \$276,537.50
2. Motion to accept REAP Grand Funds in the amount of \$30,357.
3. Motion to accept NJ DCA Grant Funds in the amount of \$50,000 for the preschool playground
4. Motion to approve the revised Fund 10 Board Secretary reports for December 2025, January 2026 and February 2026.
5. Motion to approve the Indemnity and Trust Agreement to renew membership in the SHIF (Schools Health Insurance Fund) for the 2026-2027 year:

WHEREAS, a number of school boards in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the **SCHOOLS HEALTH INSURANCE FUND** hereafter referred to as "SHIF", as permitted N.J.S.A. 18A:18B-1 et seq., and;

WHEREAS, the SHIF has received approval by the Commissioner of the Department of Banking and Insurance on August 10, 2015;

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund, contain certain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a school board joint insurance fund;

WHEREAS, the governing body of **Califon Board of Education** hereinafter referred to as "SCHOOL BOARD" has determined that membership in the SHIF is in the best interest of said SCHOOL BOARD.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the SCHOOL BOARD hereby agrees as follows:

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- i. SCHOOL BOARD shall become a member of the SHIF for the period outlined in the SCHOOL BOARD's Indemnity and Trust Agreement.
- ii. SCHOOL BOARD will participate in the following type (s) of coverage (s):
 - a.) Health Insurance as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the SHIF's Bylaws, and the SHIF's Plan of Risk Management.
- iii. SCHOOL BOARD accepts and approves the SHIF's Bylaws and agrees to be bound by the terms thereof.
- iv. SCHOOL BOARD shall execute an application for membership and any accompanying certifications.
- v. SCHOOL BOARD agrees to commit to the four principles of the SHIF which are:
 - a.) A long term philosophy on rates.
 - b.) A willingness to work with bargaining units to achieve plan design changes.
 - c.) Professional management with stability and commitment.
 - d.) Rating structure based on actuarial numbers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the SCHOOL BOARD is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the SHIF as required by the SHIF's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the SHIF's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon:

- i. Approval of the SCHOOL BOARD by the SHIF.
- ii. Receipt by the SHIF of a Resolution from the SCHOOL BOARD accepting SCHOOL BOARD's SHIF assessment.
- iii. Approval by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance of SCHOOL BOARD as a member of the SHIF.

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Facilities:

1. Motion to approve documentation of mandated Security/Fire/Emergency and Evacuation Drills

Date of Drill	Type of Drill
4/13/26	Fire
4/22/26	Security

2. Motion to approve the use of Califon School Facilities:

Sponsor of Event	Dates	Event
PTA	May 8, 2026 6:45-8:00 PM	Zumba Fundraising Event
8th Grade Parents	June 2026	8th Grade Dinner & 5-8 Dance

**Based on Custodial Availability.

3. Motion to approve the project by the Hoop Daddies to refurbish the playground basketball hoops as a donation in the amount of \$639.75.

Transportation:

Personnel:

1. Motion to approve Gregory Mantore as a substitute teacher for the 2026-2027 school year pending criminal history background check.

Curriculum and Instruction:

1. Motion to accept the Health Report for March 2026
2. Motion to approve the revised 25-26 Califon School Calendar to account for unused emergency closing days.

Policy:

1. Motion to approve Califon Public School District first reading for the following policies and regulations:

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2. Motion to approve Califon Public School District second reading for the following policies and regulations:

X. OLD BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT (all school-related topics; time limits: 3 min. /person)

AT THIS TIME, COMMENT IS INVITED ON ALL SCHOOL-RELATED TOPICS. PLEASE STATE ALL OF YOUR COMMENTS IN SUCCESSION TO THE BOARD DURING YOUR SPEAKING TURN. BE AWARE THAT YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO YOUR COMMENT. ALL COMMENTS WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE BOARD AND IF APPLICABLE, WILL BE ANSWERED DURING THE BOARD COMMENT SECTION OF THE MEETING. PLEASE RESPECT THE 3 MINUTE SPEAKING RULE AS PER BOARD OF EDUCATION BYLAW #0167 AND BOARD MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES POSTED ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE SO THAT BUSINESS OF THE BOARD MAY PROCEED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

XIII. BOARD COMMENT

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, Section 6 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 (R. S.10:4-13), permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting or portion of a meeting of this public body in certain circumstances, and
WHEREAS, the Board must consider (see check below), which is/are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Act;

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- 1. Matter which by express provision of law is rendered confidential
- 2. Release of information which would impair receipt of federal funds
- 3. Individual Privacy/Student Matters
- 4. Collective Bargaining/Negotiations
- 5. Real estate matters
- 6. Disclosure could impair public safety
- 7. Pending/Anticipated litigation/Contract negotiation
- 8. Terms and conditions of employment
- 9. Deliberations involving imposition of specific civil penalty

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns to executive session at _____ p.m. to discuss the above-mentioned matters to the exclusion of all others. Matters discussed may or may not be made public this evening. Resulting action may or may not be taken following re-entry into regular session.

XV. RECONVENE

XVI. ADJOURNMENT