

January 28, 2026

****The Board reserves the right to enter into closed session at any time during the meeting to discuss matters permitted by NJSA 10:4-12**

**NORTH WILDWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026 - 6:00 P.M.**

ROUTINE MATTERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER: **Ms. Rotondi called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.**

2. OPENING STATEMENT

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law 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 interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the North Wildwood Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted with the City Clerk, the Atlantic City Press and the Cape May County Herald.

3. **Present:**

James Burke
Robert Causey
James Farrell
Gerald Flanagan
Ronald Golden
Michele Devine-Hartnett
April Howard
Haroula Rotondi

Absent:

Scott McCracken
Laura Stefankiewicz

4. **Also, in attendance:**

Jonathan Price, Superintendent
Dawn Cottrell, Board Secretary/SBA
Patricia Donlan, Vice-Principal
Carolyn Morey, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel
Robert Belasco, Solicitor

5. FLAG SALUTE

6. BOARD PRESENTATION

Recognition of the Falcon of the Month for January 2026

January 28, 2026

7. OATH OF OFFICE: Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to the following Board Members:

Three Year Term

Michele Devine-Hartnett

8. On the recommendation of the Board of Education, appointed **Michele Devine-Hartnett** as the delegate of the Cape May County School Board Association and the NJSBA Legislative Delegate for the term of January 28, 2026 through the Reorganization Meeting of 2027.

Motion: Mr. Farrell

Second: Mr. Burke

Voting Yes:

James Burke

Robert Causey

James Farrell

Gerald Flanagan

Ronald Golden

April Howard

Haroula Rotondi

Absent:

Scott McCracken

Laura Stefankiewicz

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Authorization of Executive Session: to discuss a current and an ongoing matter as per N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b (1) Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law or State statute, or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of subsection a. of this section.

Entered into Executive Session at 6:04 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Farrell

Second: Mr. Burke

All voted in the affirmative.

Present:

James Burke

Robert Causey

James Farrell

Gerald Flanagan

Ronald Golden

Michele Devine-Hartnett

April Howard

Haroula Rotondi

January 28, 2026

Absent:

Scott McCracken
Laura Stefankiewicz

Also, in attendance:

Jonathan Price, Superintendent
Dawn Cottrell, SBA/Board Secretary
Carolyn Morey, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel
Robert Belasco, Solicitor

To discuss HIB matters.

RESUME PUBLIC SESSION, MOTION TO RESUME at 6:08 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Golden

Second: Ms. Devine-Hartnett

All voted in the affirmative.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT- AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None

The Board values and welcomes comments and opinions from residents. This meeting will now be open to public comments on [agenda items only]. Public Comment will be held for a total of 15 minutes. If your questions pertain to litigation, student or personnel items, please contact the Superintendent directly, after the meeting, as the Board does not discuss these matters in public. If there are items the Superintendent would like to address, he may wish to do so after all public comment has been heard.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 15, 2025

12. APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF FUNDS: December 2025

13. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS as of N/A, and certification of non-over expenditure of funds (roll call); acknowledgement receipt of investment report.

14. APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: January 2026

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES, TRANSFERS, FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & BILL LIST

Motion: Mr. Farrell

Second: Mr. Causey

Voting Yes:

James Burke
Robert Causey
James Farrell
Gerald Flanagan
Ronald Golden
Michele Devine-Hartnett
April Howard
Haroula Rotondi

Absent:

Scott McCracken

Laura Stefankiewicz

REPORTS**

15. BOE MEMBER REPORTS

- A. Committee Reports, WHS Reports

BUSINESS**

16. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are believed to be items of a routine nature requiring no discussion and which are to be voted upon by a single roll call vote of the board of education. Any single member of the board of education may have any of the items on the consent agenda removed and placed on the other part of the agenda for discussion merely by so indicating prior to the vote to be taken on the consent agenda

- A. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, acknowledged the thank you letter from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
- B. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the submission of the Biannual SOA Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff.
- C. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Valentine's Bag Bingo at MMS February 11, 2026.
- D. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the MMS Student Council to host a VIP dance for PreK through Grade 4 on February 5, 2026.
- E. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the Spring Concert on May 28, 2026.
- F. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the Student Safety Data Submission for the 2025-2026 school year.
- G. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the continued enrollment of students 281791, 291791 and 351791 until 01/30/2026. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the 2025-2026 student tuition contract effective January 31, 2026 with Ms. Howard in the amount of \$7,000 to be prorated through the remainder of the school year.
- H. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the following field trip

GRADE / GROUP	PLACE / SPEAKER	DATES
Kindergarten	Wildwood Boardwalk-Tram Car Pizza and Ice cream	June 2026
Grades 3-8	Yoga Club	After school some Thursdays Jan-May 2026
Grade 5	Bayshore Center at BiValve-AJ Meerwald Tall Ship	June 10, 2026

January 28, 2026

Grade 8	New York City	April 17, 2026
Grade 7	Washington DC	March 20, 2026
Grade 5	The Turtle Hospital Virtual Tour Guest Speaker	February 25, 2026
Grade 6	Baltimore, MD	April 24, 2026
Pre K	Guest Speaker South Jersey Family Medical Center- Dental Health	March 12, 2026
Mentor Buddy	Beach Clean Up and Pizza	May 7, 2026
PreK and K	Brayces Orthodontics Guest Speaker	February 24, 2026
Mentor Buddy	Hassle's Golf and Ice Cream	June 3, 3026
Mentor Buddy	MMS Yoga Class	February 19, 2026
Mentor Buddy	Island Bowl	April 15, 2026

I. Report of Drills - Fire 12/17/2025; Lockdown 12/22/2025

FINANCE

- A. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, approved submission and accept funds for the FY 2026 IDEA Consolidated Grant amendment to apply carryover funds:
 - Basic \$195,820
 - Preschool \$ 4,607
- B. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, accepted funds for the AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children for New Resiliency Room/Zen Den Grant in the amount of \$1,000 for the 2025-2026 school year.
- C. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, accepted an AED machine from AtlantiCare Healthy Schools, Healthy Children for Heart Heroes Grant for the 2025-2026 school year.
- D. On the recommendation of the Superintendent and School Business Administrator, approved a waiver per N.J.A.C.6A:23A-5.3 for participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program due to fewer than forty Medicaid eligible classified students in the North Wildwood School District for the 2026-27school year.

PERSONNEL

- A. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Lorna Connell as Substitute Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.
- B. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved a leave of absence under FMLA for Employee #93138 commencing March 2, 2026 through June 30, 2026 to run concurrently with days used.
- C. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Mario Nocito as Boys Basketball Volunteer for the 2025-2026 school year.
- D. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Hannah Stone as Substitute Teacher for the 2025-2026 school year.
- E. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, regretfully accepted the retirement of Renee Forrest effective September 1, 2026.

January 28, 2026

POLICIES

- A. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Policy and Regulation 2530 Resource Materials.
- B. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Policy and Regulation 2535 Library Material.
- C. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved Policy and Regulation 9130 Public Complaints.
- D. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading of Policy 0142.1 Nepotism.
- E. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading of Policy 1220 Employment of Chief School Administrator.
- F. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading of Policy —and Regulation 1552-Sexual Harassment - Staff. —
- G. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading to abolish Policy 3362 Sexual Harassment.
- H. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading to abolish Regulation 3362 Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint Procedure.
- I. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading to abolish Policy 4352 Sexual Harassment.
- J. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, approved the first reading to abolish Regulation 4352 Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED EXPENSES

NAME	PLACE	SUBJECT	DATES	COSTS

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Ms. Howard

Second: Mr. Farrell

Voting Yes:

James Burke

Robert Causey

James Farrell

Gerald Flanagan

Ronald Golden

Michele Devine-Hartnett

April Howard

Haroula Rotondi

Absent:

Scott McCracken

January 28, 2026

Laura Stefankiewicz

17. PUBLIC COMMENTS - **None**

The Board values and welcomes comments and opinions from residents. This meeting will now be open to public comments on [any item or matter]. Public Comment will be held for a total of 15 minutes. If your questions pertain to litigation, student or personnel items, please contact the Superintendent directly, after the meeting, as the Board does not discuss these matters in public. If there are items the Superintendent would like to address, he may wish to do so after all public comment has been heard.

18. BOARD COMMENTS

19. ADMIN COMMENTS

20. HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, BULLYING REPORTS - **None**

21. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

22. ADJOURNMENT at 6:23 p.m.

Motion: Ms. Devine-Hartnett

Second: Ms. Howard

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn Cottrell

School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

23. BOARD INFORMATION

- A. The following Board Members must complete the NJSBA Board Member Mandated Training for 2026 by December 31, 2026: James Burke, Robert Causey, Michele Devine-Hartnett, Gerald Flanagan and Haroula Rotondi
- B. Thank you letter from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- C. School Ethics Commission 2026 Personal/Relative and Financial Disclosure Statements for returning school officials are due April 30, 2026 and any new school officials the deadline is within thirty (30) days of appointment or taking office.

24. NEXT MEETING

February 23, 2026 Regular meeting at 6:00 pm