Board of Education - Hunterdon County, NJ

MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 4, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
District Administration Office, 1445 Route 31, Annandale, NJ 08801

Click August 4, 2026 BOE Meeting to access the live stream/recording

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Vision Statement:
Every student, empowered for tomorrow.

Mission Statement:
The North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District empowers all students through innovative and personalized learning to achieve their full potential, embrace lifelong learning, and contribute responsibly to a changing world.

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1. President Brendan McIsaac called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and read the Public Meeting notice and Mission Statement.

2. **Roll Call**

Name	Municipalities Represented	Weighted Vote
Nicole Ayers - Absent	Town of Clinton / Franklin Township / Glen Gardner Borough	0.9
Bryan Chapman - Present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Andrew Hanley - Present	High Bridge Borough / Lebanon Township	1.2
Tara Marie Hintz - Present	High Bridge Borough / Lebanon Township	1.2
Richard Lordi - Present	Union Township	1.4
Stephen Mathews - Present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Brendan McIsaac - Present	Town of Clinton / Franklin Township / Glen Gardner Borough	0.9
Merrill Mezzacappa - Present	Califon Borough / Tewksbury Township	0.8
Richard Morgan - Absent	Bethlehem Township / Hampton Borough	1.2
Cynthia Reyes - Present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Daniel Spanton - Present	Clinton Township / Lebanon Borough	0.9
Andrea Stein - Present	Califon Borough / Tewksbury Township	0.8

Also present: R. Bergacs-Superintendent, K. Blew-School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, G. Cottrell-Principal of North Hunterdon High School, G. Vargas-Dellacasa-District Technology Coordinator, Joseph Roselle-School Board Attorney, Schenck Price Smith & King LLP

3. **Flag Salute**

4. **Minutes**
Motion by B. Chapman and second by A. Stein to approve agenda item 4.1.
Motion carried by voice vote: B. Chapman-yes; A. Hanley-yes; T. Hintz-yes; R. Lordi-yes; S. Mathews-yes; M. Mezzacappa-yes; C. Reyes-abstain; D.Spanton-yes; A. Stein-yes; B. McIsaac-yes
4.1. Minutes - June 23, 2026 Board Meeting

5. **Chief School Administrator's Report**
R. Bergacs provided the Chief School Administrator's Report:
- Extended School Year program ran 7/6-7/31, where students attended at VHS and students in the career program worked in our community
- The Summer Transition program has been ongoing over summer, offering school tours and meetings with counselors for new students
- August dates: New staff orientation - 8/17, Staff in-service - 8/24-25, First day for 9th grade students - 8/26, First day for students (grades 10-12) - 8/27

5.1. Report on Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) - (1) incident reported, unfounded
5.2. **Motion by T. Hintz and second by D. Spanton** to affirm the determinations on the HIB Incidents reported at the June 23, 2026 Board meeting. **Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.**
5.3. Monthly School Reports
5.4. Strategic Planning progress report
5.5. Legal Notice Publications are available on our website

Board members discussed the attendance report update and student enrollment.

6. **School Board President's Report**
B. McIsaac reviewed the School Board President's Report agenda items:
6.1. Upcoming Board Meetings at the District Administration Office starting at 7pm:
6.1.1. August 18, 2026 - Working Session
6.1.2. August 25, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting
6.2. NJSBA's Workshop 2026 - October 19-22, 2026, Atlantic City, NJ

B. McIsaac noted that the upcoming election will include a ballot question to accept Bloomsbury as a new member of NHV's District.

7. **Opportunity for Public Comment** - No Public Comments

8. **Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology**
Motion by D. Spanton and second by B. Chapman to approve agenda items 8.1-8.7.

Board members discussed Bloomsbury students included in agenda item 8.3.

Motion to approve agenda items 8.1-8.7 carried by voice vote: B. Chapman-yes; A. Hanley-yes; T. Hintz-yes; R. Lordi-yes; Mathews-yes; M. Mezzacappa-yes; C. Reyes-yes; D.Spanton-yes; A. Stein-yes; B. McIsaac-yes, with abstention from 'Student # RS13' included in agenda item 8.3.
8.1. Home Instruction
8.2. Professional Consultants-Student Services
8.3. Out of District Placements/Incoming Tuition Agreements
8.4. Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired Service Contracts
8.5. Curriculum Textbook(s)
8.6. Participation in the ESEA Title III Consortium
8.7. Use of commissioner-approved highly effective educator activities for tenured teachers for the 2026-27 school year

9. **Policy and School Security**
Motion by T. Hintz and second by A. Hanley to approve agenda item 9.1.

Board members discussed implementation for policy 3515.1.

Motion to approve agenda item 9.1 carried by voice vote: B. Chapman-yes; A. Hanley-yes; T. Hintz-yes; R. Lordi-abstain; Mathews-yes; M. Mezzacappa-yes; C. Reyes-yes; D.Spanton-yes; A. Stein-yes; B. McIsaac-yes

9.1. Policy for First Reading: 3515.1 Student Use of Internet Enabled Devices

10. **Finance, Facilities and Transportation**
Motion by B. Chapman and second by D. Spanton to approve agenda items 10.1-10.11.

Board members discussed next steps for the SREP Grant, and RFP protocol for SREP consultant services.

Motion to approve agenda item 10.1-10.11 carried by voice vote: B. Chapman-yes; A. Hanley-yes; T. Hintz-yes; R. Lordi-yes for 10.1-10.7, no for 10.8-10.9, abstain from 10.10-10.11; Mathews-yes; M. Mezzacappa-yes; C. Reyes-yes for 10.1-10.8, abstain from 10.9-10.11; D.Spanton-yes; A. Stein-yes; B. McIsaac-yes

10.1. Accept the School Regionalization Efficiency Program (SREP) Grant of $174,250
10.2. Submission of the ESEA Grant for 2026-27 school year: Title I: $48,413; Title II: $23,619; Title III: $1,784 and Title IV: $10,000 and associated Budget Summary
10.3. Submission of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B for 2026-27 school year in the amount of $465,340 and associated Budget Summary.
10.4. Resolution 072826-3 approval for Parette Somjen Architects professional services related to an HVAC assessment at NHHS
10.5. Approve the insurance defense counsel assignment of Hill Wallack LLP, per request of the Board's insurance carrier, at the hourly rates of $165/hour for partners, $125/hour for associates, and $85/hour for paralegals, to provide certain legal services regarding a covered matter, per the terms of the relevant insurance agreement
10.6. Resolution 072826-4 to renew membership with the New Jersey Schools Insurance Group (NJSIG)
10.7. Banners for NHHS Booster Club's Corporate Sponsorship Program to hang on Singley Field fence throughout the 2026-27 school year
10.8. Training and Travel Requests
10.9. Bills List for July 2026
10.10. Resolution 072826-1 Monthly Financial Reports Certification for June 2026
10.11. Monthly Financial Reports including Treasurer Report, Board Secretary Report and Transfer of Funds Report for June 2026

11. **Community Relations and Student Affairs** - No report

12. **Delegates' Reports**
S. Mathews reviewed the process for Districts providing resolutions for review at the NJSBA Delegates Assembly. The Board's recently approved resolutions concerning transparency of State funding and healthcare benefit cost are prepared to be submitted.

T. Hintz reminded the Board of the next HCSBA meeting on 9/28 at the NHHS Polytech campus, where R. Bergacs will be included among the panelists in the discussion: Advancing Student Achievement and Curriculum Alignment.

The Somerset County SBA meeting on 10/8, Strengthening Board Governance & Civility, will include T. Hintz and B. McIsaac as panelists.

13. **Motion by D. Spanton and second by M. Mezzacappa** to adopt Resolution 072826-2 for an executive session to discuss matters reflected in the attached resolution. **Motion carried unanimously by voice vote** and the Board adjourned to executive session at 7:38 p.m.

14. **Motion by A. Stein and second by B. Chapman** to reconvene public session. **Motion carried unanimously by voice vote** and the Board reconvened at 8:11 p.m.

15. **Motion by T. Hintz and second by B. Chapman** to approve agenda items 15.1-15.2.

    Board members discussed the Assistant Superintendent position.

    Motion to approve agenda items 15.1-15.2 carried by roll call vote:
    B. Chapman-yes; A. Hanley-yes, with abstention from item 2.1.3 of the Personnel Agenda; T. Hintz-yes; R. Lordi-yes, with a "no" vote for item 3.3 of the Personnel Agenda; S. Mathews-yes; M. Mezzacappa-yes; C. Reyes-yes, with a "no" vote for item 3.3 of the Personnel Agenda; D.Spanton-yes; A. Stein-yes; B. McIsaac-yes

    15.1. Item P080426 - Personnel Agenda August 4, 2026
    15.2. Executive Session Minutes - June 23, 2026

16. **Old and New Business**
    - B. McIsaac discussed communication efforts regarding the Bloomsbury ballot question.
    - D. Spanton requests feedback once the cellphone policy is in effect.
    - R. Lordi discussed the communication regarding senior parking and the transportation waiver procedure.
    - R. Lordi inquired about senior portraits.
    - R. Lordi inquired about transportation waivers and the impact on athletic transportation.
    - T. Hintz spoke about policy 7520 regarding recognition/renaming school property and is sharing information and research for a recognition outlet. This is in addition to discussion on recognition of Dave Robbins.
    - A. Hanley shared that former Board member Bill Simpson recently passed away.

17. **Motion by M. Mezzacappa and second by D. Spanton** to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously by voice vote** and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

Kathryn Blew

Kathryn Blew, CPA
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary