

# HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2026

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

**Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room**

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

### CALL TO ORDER

Time: 7:02 pm

1. **FLAG SALUTE**

2. **OPENING STATEMENT**

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, this public body, the Hopatcong Board of Education hereby announces that The New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record have been notified by email that this Board of Education Regular Meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m following the Executive Session (in room 21) which starts at 6:00 p.m. on April 27, 2026 at the Hopatcong Board of Education, Board meeting room in the Administration Building.

3. **ROLL CALL**

Present	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Present	Veronica Schram
Present	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Present	Jennifer Polowchena
Present	Jayson Cittrich	Present	Jayna Gulan	Present	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion will be made that the Hopatcong Board of Education will enter Executive Session in room 21 to discuss personnel and attorney/client privilege, which are exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Open Public Meetings Act. Any discussions held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the Executive Session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at 7:00 p.m. following the executive session.

**Motion to enter executive session:**

(ACTION) Motion by Polowchena. seconded by Cappello

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Absent	Jayson Cittrich * arrived 6:36pm	Absent	Jayna Gulan * arrived 6:32pm	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

\* arrived late

5. **RECONVENE**

**Motion to Reconvene**

(ACTION) Motion by Polowchena seconded by Schram

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Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

### 6. PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

**Motion to open public budget hearing:**

(ACTION) Motion by Schram seconded by Polowchena

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

- a. Public Budget Presentation – by Superintendent Mr. Hallenbeck – The newest funding formula used by the states limits loss of aid by districts to 3%. We have lost \$8 million out of \$11 million in 5 years. If we had the 3% loss limit 5 years ago it would have taken us 24 years to lose \$8 million dollars. Our major expenditures are the 1) soaring healthcare costs: 24/25 we paid \$4.3 million; 25/26 with an increase of 31.9%, \$5.5 million and for 26/27 with an increase of 30.6%, \$7.2 million; 2) salaries 3) utilities. The state still owes us \$540,000 and there is a healthcare cap exception of \$1,289,448 and with the tax levy increase, \$602,546.
- b. Public Budget Comments – Jen Johnson – Will we join with Jefferson for the Highlands impact aid? – Mr. Hallenbeck responded that the original bill did not name Hopatcong as eligible and as it exists the bill does not specify localities. Mr. Hallenbeck has contacted legislators.

**Motion to close public budget hearing:**

(ACTION) Motion by Polowchena seconded by Schram

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

### 7. APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 BUDGET

- a. Approval of the following resolution for submission of 2026/2027 school budget to the Sussex County Superintendent:

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**“WHEREAS**, the Superintendent has presented to the Finance Committee and other members of the Hopatcong Board of Education, a recommended 2026/2027 School District Budget in the total amount of \$44,765,859 as follows; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board approves a Local Tax Levy of \$32,020,737 ;

**WHEREAS**, the local tax levy will increase by a total of 6.28% composed of a 2% tax increase of \$602,546, and a 4.28% health care cap exception tax increase of \$1,290,889 for a total local tax levy increase of \$1,893,435.

**WHEREAS**, the Board intends to withdraw \$11,918 from the maintenance reserve account to support the budget and further intends to withdraw \$1,410,195 from the capital reserve account to pay bond costs associated with the 2024 referendum project.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Hopatcong School District 2026/2027 budget for submission to the Sussex County Superintendent’s Office is approved as follows on the Meeting Agenda of April 27, 2026.”

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<b><u>General Fund</u></b>		
Fund 10	Charter School Tuition	\$ 635,992
Fund 10-606	Interest Maintenance Reserve	\$ 200
Fund 11	General Operating Fund	\$ 37,626,868
Fund 12	Debt Services Assessment	\$ 1,614
	Capital Reserve	\$ 1,410,195
	Maintenance Reserve	\$ 11,918

### **Special Revenue Fund**

Fund 20	Federal/State Grants	\$ 655,306
	Debt Service	\$ 2,136,660
	PEA Funding	\$ 2,320,140
<b><u>Total Budget</u></b>		<b>\$ 44,798,893</b>

**Motion to approve item 7a:**

(ACTION) Motion by Polowchena seconded by Cappello

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes of the following meetings, as reported by the Board Secretary reviewed by the Board President and members of the Board:

- a. March 23, 2026 - Regular Meeting
- b. March 23, 2026 - Executive Meeting

**Motion to approve 8a-8b:**

(ACTION) Motion by Polowchena. Seconded by Cappello

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena

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Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert
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9. **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND HIB REPORT**

- a. Student Representatives, Lilyanne Zinsli reported that students took their SATs this month and are waiting on results; the guys track team were 5-1 this season and the girls won in a dual meet for the first time in 7 or 8 years; Mama Mia brought in the most revenue the Drama Club has made in a while as there was a great turnout and it was enjoyed by all; AP exams are this week and next and the Prom will be held at *The Chandelier in Flanders* on May 28 and everyone is very excited. Natalia Gerena Roman (sent report read by Superintendent) – Amanda Gonzalez received the Superintendent’s Roundtable award as was recognized at their luncheon. Tri-M recital 6/5. Sussex County Youth Orchestra will perform in our auditorium on 6/7 and our students Dominick Amella and Natalia Leybov will be in performing solos. Honor Society is finished accepting applications. On 4/30, 5/1, 5/2, Natalia Gerena Roman and Natalia Leybov were musicians in the orchestra for the play Pippin at Kittatinny High School.
- b. Superintendent’s Report – **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck, Superintendent of Schools** There were 3 reports generated: 2 were determined HIB and one was neither HIB nor code of conduct.
- c. A second reading and approval of the Superintendent's HIB report for February 2026 as presented to the Board at the March meeting on March 23, 2026 due to the February 2026 meeting being virtual. Approval of the Superintendent's HIB report for March and April 2026 for first reading and review as presented to the Board at the April meeting on April 27, 2026.

**Motion to approve 9a –9c:**

(ACTION) Motion by Polowchena. Seconded by Gulan

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

10. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Congratulations to **Hopatcong Middle School Students** who made High Honor Roll and Honor Roll for the third marking period of the 2025 – 2026 school year.
- b. Congratulations to **Hopatcong High School Students** who made High Honor Roll and Honor Roll for the third marking period of the 2025 – 2026 school year.

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- c. Congratulations to the following students who were chosen as **Hopatcong Middle School's Students-of-the-Month** for their outstanding performance in **February 2026:**  
Grade 4: Sofia Delgado  
Grade 5: Roselyn Reyes  
Grade 6: Austin Beeh  
Grade 7: Alyssa Stickle  
and **March 2026:**  
Grade 4: Ryder Smith  
Grade 5: Justin Rueda-Pineros  
Grade 6: Nicholas Roio  
Grade 7: Victoria Kolosova
- d. Congratulations to **Amanda Maliszewski** on being selected as our school's honoree for the **Lake Hopatcong Elks "2026 Leap in The Lake for Our Special Kids"** event.
- e. Congratulations to the following staff who have been nominated for **Governor's Educator of the Year** and **Educational Services Professional of the Year**. This honor reflects their commitment, hard work, and the meaningful difference they make each day:

**Durban Ave Educator of the Year - Kelly Rodick**

**Durban Ave Educational Services Professional of the Year -Melanie Piereth**

**Tulsa Trail Educator of the Year – Amanda Maliszewski**

**Tulsa Trail Educational Services Professional of the Year- Dawn Hersh**

**Middle School Educator of the Year - Hilary Wolf**

**Middle School Educational Services Professional of the Year - Jaclyn DiBrienza-Cikovic**

**High School Educator of the Year – James McKowen**

**High School Educational Services Professional of the Year- Melissa Stein**

**HOPA ESP of the Year- Endora (Liz) Molisso**

### 11. **PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES**

*Mrs. Schram reported that the Municipal Alliance partnered with Project Graduation for the Candy Bar Bingo in the HS cafeteria this Friday and the movie in the auditorium; the Girls on the Run 5k is 5/16/26 and they are asking for student volunteers to be photographers.*

*Mrs. Polowchena – HSPTSO Tricky Tray brought in \$31,605. Each class got \$1,600. Booster Club has a fundraiser for subway series tickets for \$25 dollars.*

### 12. **PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION**

*Jen Johnson – Town budget at 9.74%. Why do we not offer on-line classes or allow parents to pay for children to take classes at other schools.*

### 13. **FINANCE**

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Approval of the following Finance items, 13a.–13j , as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that bills for the General Fund and Special Revenues (Grants) account, March 23, 2026, through April 27, 2026 be approved in the following amounts:  

General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account -	\$1,235,829.74
Cafeteria account -	\$68,744.60
Fund 30 -	\$756,980.00
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2026.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month of March 2026.
- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Transfer Report for the month of March 2026.
- e. Motion to approve the certification by the Board Secretary that the Account Balance Report, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9, as of April 27, 2026, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).
- f. Motion to certify, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), as of April 27, 2026, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Monthly Financial Reports and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- g. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the fourth year of a continuing contract with Maschio's Food Services, Inc. for the 2026/2027 School Nutrition Program. The Hopatcong Board of Education shall pay Maschio's an annual management fee in the amount of \$37,450 with a guaranteed breakeven and a total contract cost of \$688,329.72.
- h. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the following school lunch prices for the 2026/2027 school year:

School	Breakfast Student  Paid	Lunch Student  Paid	Adult Breakfast	Adult Lunch	Milk
Durban Ave.	\$2.60	\$4.00	\$3.35	\$5.50	\$1.00
Tulsa Trail	\$2.60	\$4.00	\$3.35	\$5.50	\$1.00
Middle School	\$2.60	\$4.25	\$3.35	\$5.50	\$1.00
High School	\$2.85	\$4.40	\$3.35	\$5.50	\$1.00

- i. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the following assets below be disposed because they have exceeded their useful life:

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ASSET #	DESCRIPTION
005174	Spin Bike
005179	Spin Bike
005181	Spin Bike
005185	Spin Bike

- j. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board approve the acceptance of the following donations:

AMOUNT	DONOR	CHECK NUMBER	DONATED TO:
\$500	Linda M. Hill	5022	The Carol McCue Memorial Scholarship
\$500	Doug P. Palermo	103	Bruce A. Hill "Be Good, Work Hard, Help Others" Memorial Scholarship
\$1,000	Lee and Gregory Pellingier	1337	Gregory Pellingier Scholarship Fund
\$5,000	Hopatcong High School PTSO	1485	HS Gym Renovation

14. **ANNUAL APPROVALS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Approval of the following personnel items, 14a – 14v, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

Approval of the following appointments, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

a. **APPOINTMENT OF BOARD SECRETARY**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as Board Secretary for the 2026/2027 school year.

b. **APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER OF SCHOOL MONIES**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mrs. Susan Dykstra** be appointed as Treasurer of School Monies for the 2026/2027 school year.

c. **APPOINTMENT OF PURCHASING AGENT**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as Purchasing Agent for the Hopatcong School District for the 2026/2027 school year through June 30, 2026, and authorization for the Purchasing Agent to award contracts up to the bid threshold of \$32,000 or as per N.J.S.A.18A: 18A-3.

d. **APPOINTMENT OF HIPPA COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as HIPPA Compliance Officer for the Hopatcong School District for the 2026/2027 school year through June 30, 2027.

e. **APPOINTMENT OF CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as the Custodian of Public Records under the Open Public Meetings Act for the 2026/2027 school year through June 30, 2027.

f. **APPOINTMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER**

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It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as the Affirmative Action Officer for the 2026/2027 school year.

g. **APPOINTMENT OF LIABILITY, WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION BROKER OF RECORD**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services Inc.** be appointed as our Liability, Workman's Compensation, etc., Broker of Record for the 2026/2027 school year.

h. **APPOINTMENT OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Gregory Smyth** be appointed as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator for the Hopatcong School District for the 2026/2027 school year.

i. **APPOINTMENT OF ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT OFFICER, SAFETY AND HEALTH DESIGNEE, INDOOR AIR QUALITY DESIGNEE, RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER AND CHEMICAL HYGIENE OFFICER**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Gregory Smyth** be appointed as the Asbestos Management Officer, Safety & Health Designee, Indoor Air Quality Designee, Right to Know Officer and Chemical Hygiene Officer for the 2026/2027 school year.

j. **APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEYS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C.** and any **other counsel** as deemed appropriate by the Administration, be appointed as attorneys for the Board of Education for the 2026/2027 school year.

k. **APPOINTMENT OF ARCHITECT OF RECORD**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Parette Somjen Architects, LLC** be appointed as the Architect of Record for the 2026/2027 school year.

l. **APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL PHYSICIAN**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Dr. Salvatore DeFilippo** be appointed as school physician for the 2026/2027 school year at a yearly stipend of \$12,000.

m. **APPROVAL OF POLICIES**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **existing by-laws, policies and regulations** as listed in our current by-laws and policies book be approved for the 2026/2027 school year.

n. **APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that all existing **curricula and courses of study and textbooks** for the district schools be approved for the 2026/2027 school year.

o. **APPROVAL OF NEWSPAPERS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the ***New Jersey Herald***, the ***Daily Record*** and the ***Star Ledger*** be approved as the official newspapers used by the Board of Education at the Board Secretary's discretion for the 2026/2027 school year.

p. **APPOINTMENT OF PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM**

It is recommended by the Superintendent the board approve the continued use of the **Stronge Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Performance Evaluation System** for the observation and evaluation of certified staff members, in

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accordance with the requirements of AchieveNJ and all applicable New Jersey Department of Education regulations, and authorizes the Superintendent or designee to oversee its implementation, training, and compliance

q. **APPOINTMENT OF TAX SHELTER ANNUITY COMPANIES**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Lincoln Investment, Lincoln Financial, Metropolitan Life, Equitable, National Life Group** and **Security Benefits** be approved as Tax Shelter Annuity Companies for the Board of Education for the 2026/2027 school year.

r. **APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED ACCOUNT SIGNATURES – 2026/2027 SCHOOL YEAR**

**School Activity Accounts:**

High School	<b>Christian Jensen</b>	<b>Nicole Roman-Gerena</b>	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>
Athletic Fund	<b>Christian Jensen</b>	<b>Christine Amella</b>	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>
Middle School	<b>Lewis Benfatti</b>	<b>Deborah Gates, Tara Santa</b>	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>
Tulsa Trail	<b>Brian Byrne</b>	<b>Maureen O' Hare</b>	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>
Durban Avenue	<b>Katherine McFadden</b>	<b>Karli Razak</b>	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>

**District Accounts:**

Regular Account	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>	<b>Matthew Robinson</b>	<b>Nicole Falconi-Shubert</b>
Cafeteria Fund	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>	<b>Matthew Robinson</b>	<b>Nicole Falconi-Shubert</b>
Payroll Account	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>	<b>Matthew Robinson</b>	<b>Nicole Falconi-Shubert</b>
Payroll Agency Acct.	<b>Jeff Hallenbeck</b>	<b>Matthew Robinson</b>	<b>Nicole Falconi-Shubert</b>

s. **APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERIM TRANSFERS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that authorization for the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be approved to make interim **intra-account and intra-fund budgetary transfers** to offset credits and deficits between Board meetings when necessary.

t. **APPROVAL OF AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERIM PAYMENTS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that authorization for the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary be approved to make interim **payments to vendors between meetings** in cases where a cost savings would accrue to the Board or interference of the operations of the school program would occur in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-4.1. Approval of these payments would be presented to the Board for ratification at the next Regular Board Meeting.

u. **ADOPTION OF CODE OF ETHICS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board approve the adoption of the **Code of Ethics** for Board members as required by law, N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.1 and N.J.S.A. 41:1-1 and 1-3.

v. **TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSES MAXIMUM,**

Approval for the Chief School Administrator to approve and authorize all travel and related expenses for employees and Board Members in accordance with Board Policy No. 6423, up to a maximum of \$50,000 for the 2026/2027 school year.

15. **PERSONNEL**

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Approval of the following personnel items, **15a – 15q**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval of **Employee #81118** to take a paid leave of absence using earned sick time starting August 26, 2026 followed by 12 weeks of an unpaid FMLA/NJFLA leave followed by an unpaid leave of absence for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year.
- b. Approval of **Melissa Moyer** a CCM student to observe 8 hours of classroom observation at the High School.
- c. Approval of the following staff for the **Extra Duty/Extra Pay** Positions the 2025 – 2026 school year:

Name	Nature of Action	Duty/Position	Salary
Peter Oesen	Appoint	Graduation Assistance	\$700
Kelly Pappas Emily Pappas Linda Aviles Jenn Neu Alexa McLean	Appoint	Tulsa Chiefs Scholars - Spring Teachers	\$1,920/teacher
Autumn Reeves Amanda Maliszewski Ruth De Salvia	Appoint	Tulsa Chiefs Scholars - Spring-Substitute Teachers as needed	\$80.00/day
Mark Certo	Appoint	Tulsa Chiefs Scholars - Spring - Site Manager	\$1,600

- d. Approval of the following **Tenured HEA Teacher** Contract Renewals for the 2026 – 2027 school year:

Last Name	First Name	Guide	FTE	Step	Salary	Longevity
ALZATE	CARMEN	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
AMELIO	LINDSAY	Teacher MA+30	1.00	15	\$105,490.00	\$800.00
ANNETTE	SUZANNE	Teacher MA+30	1.00	17	\$109,490.00	\$1,500.00
BAELI	THOMAS	Teacher MA+30	1.00	17	\$109,490.00	\$1,500.00
BARROQUEIRO	MELLANY	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
BAUER	AUDRA	Teacher MA	1.00	7	\$85,990.00	\$500.00
BAUM	EILEEN	Teacher MA+15	1.00	14	\$101,090.00	\$500.00
BELFIORE	CHRISTINA	Teacher MA+30	1.00	7	\$89,490.00	\$0.00
BENNINGER	ALANA	Teacher BA	1.00	17	\$99,140.00	\$1,500.00
BISIGNANI	JENNIFER	Teacher MA+15	1.00	7	\$87,090.00	\$500.00
BOUCHER	KIMBERLY	Teacher MA	1.00	12	\$95,990.00	\$800.00
BRENNAN	KATHLEEN	Teacher BA+15	1.00	17	\$101,740.00	\$1,800.00
BURNS	MARY	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
CADAVID-OROZCO	KATLIN	Teacher BA+15	1.00	6	\$79,740.00	\$0.00
CAMPAGNA	DAVID	Teacher BA	1.00	17	\$99,140.00	\$500.00
CARDOSA-SCHNABEL	GABRIELLE	Teacher MA	1.00	5	\$82,990.00	\$0.00
CERRATO	DONNA	Teacher BA+15	1.00	17	\$101,740.00	\$1,800.00
CERTO	MARK	Teacher MA+45	1.00	17	\$110,790.00	\$1,800.00

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CHRISTIANO	STACEY	Teacher MA+45	1.00	17	\$110,790.00	\$500.00
COLLINS	BRIAN	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
CUBBERLY	KAREN	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
CULCASI	MICHELE	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$500.00
CUSANO	WILSON	Teacher BA+15	1.00	17	\$101,740.00	\$1,800.00
DE SALVIA	RUTH	Teacher MA+15	1.00	14	\$101,090.00	\$800.00
DEAN	MELISSA	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$1,500.00
DEBOS	EDRIC	Teacher BA+30	1.00	16	\$101,490.00	\$800.00
DELBAGNO	HEATHER	Teacher MA+45	1.00	17	\$110,790.00	\$1,500.00
DELORENZO	MARIA	Teacher MA+30	1.00	17	\$109,490.00	\$1,500.00
DEMETRO	DANA	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
DEROSA	CHRISTINE	Teacher BA	1.00	10	\$85,140.00	\$500.00
DIBRIENZA -CIKOVIC	JACLYN	Teacher MA+60	1.00	13	\$104,090.00	\$800.00
DOUGHERTY	CHRISTI	Teacher MA+15	1.00	6	\$85,090.00	\$0.00
DOUGLAS	JAMIE	Teacher MA	1.00	16	\$103,990.00	\$1,500.00
DRURY	NANCY	Teacher BA+15	1.00	17	\$101,740.00	\$1,800.00
DUFFY	TRACI	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
DUFFY	NANCY	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$800.00
DUTHALER	KATHRYN	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
EMERLING	DINA	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
FAILLA HARRIS	BLAIR	Teacher MA	1.00	16	\$103,990.00	\$500.00
FAJERMAN	ERIC	Teacher BA	1.00	17	\$99,140.00	\$1,800.00
FARRELL	MICHAEL	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$500.00
FIALCOWITZ	JAIME	Teacher BA	1.00	16	\$97,140.00	\$1,500.00
FORBES	DAWN	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$2,000.00
GAMBUZZA	JAMIE	Teacher MA+30	1.00	16	\$107,490.00	\$1,500.00
GIGANTINO	JENNIFER	Teacher BA+15	1.00	9	\$85,740.00	\$0.00
GUEVARA	YANET	Teacher MA	1.00	14	\$99,990.00	\$500.00
HAGGERTY	SHARON	Teacher MA+60	1.00	7	\$92,090.00	\$500.00
HERSH	DAWN	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
IONNI	EMILY	Teacher MA+45	1.00	6	\$88,790.00	\$500.00
JULIANO	LEEANNE	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
KALEMBA	CHRISTINE	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
KEEGAN	HEATHER	Teacher BA	1.00	10	\$85,140.00	\$0.00
KENNEDY	MELISSA	Teacher MA+60	1.00	13	\$104,090.00	\$800.00
KESTER	KRISTINE	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,500.00
KOVACH	DANIELLE	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
KULIK	JACOB	Teacher BA	1.00	16	\$97,140.00	\$800.00
LONGO	JOSEPH	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,500.00
MALISZEWSKI	AMANDA	Teacher BA+30	1.00	17	\$103,490.00	\$0.00
MANCUSO	ANDREA	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$1,500.00
MANISA	DANIELLE	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$800.00
MARTIN	HILARY	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$800.00
MASTROVITI	SUSAN	Teacher BA	1.00	7	\$79,140.00	\$500.00
MCCARTHY	AMANDA	Teacher BA+30	1.00	13	\$95,490.00	\$0.00
MCCONNELL	ALLYSON	Teacher BA	1.00	17	\$99,140.00	\$1,500.00
MCDONALD	JAMES	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
MCKOWEN	JAMES	Teacher BA	1.00	12	\$89,140.00	\$500.00
MCLEAN	ALEXA	Teacher MA+45	1.00	17	\$110,790.00	\$1,500.00
MENDEZ	LUIS	Teacher BA	1.00	17	\$99,140.00	\$1,500.00
MILLER	PAUL	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
MONRO	DAYNA	Teacher BA+30	1.00	17	\$103,490.00	\$1,800.00
MONTEFUSCO	STACEY	Teacher MA+30	1.00	11	\$97,490.00	\$500.00

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MORTENSON	JILL	Teacher BA	1.00	16	\$97,140.00	\$800.00
MULVIHILL	JASON	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
MUNOZ	CHRISTINA	Teacher MA+30	1.00	16	\$107,490.00	\$1,500.00
MURRAY	MICHELLE	Teacher MA+45	1.00	17	\$110,790.00	\$1,500.00
NARDONE	MEGAN	Teacher MA	1.00	13	\$97,990.00	\$800.00
NEE	MARY	Teacher BA	1.00	12	\$89,140.00	\$800.00
NEU	JENNIFER	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
NOONAN	MARY	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
NORRIS	MCKENZIE	Teacher MA	1.00	12	\$95,990.00	\$800.00
OESEN	PETER	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
OLSEN	KENNETH	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
OSBUN	LISA	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$800.00
O'SHEA	KRISTEN	Teacher BA	1.00	14	\$93,140.00	\$800.00
PAGANO	TANYA	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,500.00
PALLOTTA	SUSAN	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
PAPPAS	KELLY	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,800.00
PARICHUK	BARBARA	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$2,000.00
PAXOS	IRENE	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
PIERETH	MELANIE	Teacher MA+60	1.00	17	\$112,090.00	\$1,500.00
PINTO	DIANA	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$1,500.00
RISCHAWY	JONATHAN	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$800.00
RODICK	KELLY	Teacher BA+15	1.00	11	\$89,740.00	\$500.00
RUSSO	KELCEY	Teacher MA	1.00	10	\$91,990.00	\$0.00
RYDER	MELANIE	Teacher MA+15	1.00	8	\$89,090.00	\$500.00
SCHIAVONE	DOMINIC	Teacher MA+45	1.00	17	\$110,790.00	\$1,800.00
SCOVIL	SONIA	Teacher MA	1.00	10	\$91,990.00	\$800.00
SEGALE	GEORGE	Teacher MA+15	1.00	15	\$103,090.00	\$800.00
SERRANO-AVILES	LINDA	Teacher BA	1.00	17	\$99,140.00	\$1,500.00
SHRAMKO	ERIC	Teacher BA+30	1.00	17	\$103,490.00	\$1,500.00
SPANO	CONCETTA	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
STEIN	MELISSA	Teacher MA+15	1.00	5	\$84,090.00	\$0.00
STEPHENS	NANCY	Teacher MA+30	1.00	9	\$93,490.00	\$0.00
STRZEPEK	ERICA	Teacher MA+30	1.00	17	\$109,490.00	\$1,500.00
SUTTON	NORMAN	Teacher MA	1.00	9	\$89,990.00	\$500.00
TAKACS	CHRISTINA	Teacher MA	1.00	17	\$105,990.00	\$1,800.00
TAYLOR	EMILY	Teacher MA	1.00	7	\$85,990.00	\$0.00
TURNER	LOREN	Teacher BA+15	1.00	17	\$101,740.00	\$1,800.00
VALENTI	JENNIFER	Teacher MA+60	1.00	15	\$108,090.00	\$0.00
VALLARO	CRAIG	Teacher MA	1.00	9	\$89,990.00	\$500.00
VILLANI	MARTINA	Teacher MA+15	1.00	12	\$97,090.00	\$500.00
WILSON	JULIE	Teacher BA+15	1.00	17	\$101,740.00	\$2,000.00
WINKLER	SIOBHAN	Teacher MA+30	1.00	8	\$91,490.00	\$0.00
WOLF	HILARY	Teacher MA+15	1.00	17	\$107,090.00	\$1,800.00

- e. Approval of the following **Non-Tenured HEA Teacher Contract Renewals** for the 2026 – 2027 school year:

Last Name	First Name	Guide	FTE	Step	Salary	Longevity
BOVE	CHRISTOPHER	Teacher MA+15	1.00	6	\$85,090.00	\$0.00
BRAUN	CHRISTINE	Teacher BA+15	1.00	3	\$76,740.00	\$0.00
BROWN	AUSTIN	Teacher MA	1.00	5	\$82,990.00	\$0.00
COLEMAN	PATRICIA	Teacher BA+15	1.00	9	\$85,740.00	\$0.00

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CORDERO	DOROTHY	Teacher BA	1.00	12	\$89,140.00	\$0.00
COVIELLO	LAUREN	Teacher MA	1.00	5	\$82,990.00	\$0.00
D'AMATO	NOELLE	Teacher BA	1.00	3	\$74,140.00	\$0.00
IRELAND	KARYLIN	Teacher BA	1.00	6	\$77,140.00	\$0.00
KARROS	LINDSAY	Teacher MA	.40	4	\$32,796.00	\$0.00
LIPUMA	ANGELO	Teacher BA	1.00	2	\$73,140.00	\$0.00
MARINONI	VINCENT	Teacher BA	1.00	4	\$75,140.00	\$0.00
MARSICOVETE	JEAN	Teacher MA	1.00	8	\$87,990.00	\$0.00
MAY-ORTIZ	MCKENZIE	Teacher MA+15	1.00	11	\$95,090.00	\$0.00
PAPPAS	EMILY	Teacher BA	1.00	3	\$74,140.00	\$0.00
PASCUAL	CHRISTINE	Teacher MA	1.00	4	\$81,990.00	\$0.00
PATEL	MAMTA	Teacher MA+60	1.00	12	\$102,090.00	\$0.00
RAFFERTY	KELLY	Teacher BA	1.00	2	\$73,140.00	\$0.00
TYKOWSKI	LAURA	Teacher MA	1.00	3	\$80,990.00	\$0.00
VALENTINE	JAMES	Teacher MA+15	1.00	9	\$91,090.00	\$0.00
VITALE	STEPHANIE	Teacher MA+45	1.00	7	\$90,790.00	\$0.00

- f. Approval of the following **HEA Custodial/Maintenance Staff Members Contract Renewals** for the 2026-2027 school year:

Last Name	First Name	FTE	STEP	SALARY	LONGEVITY
BENITEZ FIGUEROA DE M	FANNY	62.5	3	\$30,009.38	\$0.00
BOWKER	CHARLES	1.00	16	\$61,815.00	\$1,300.00
BRADY	THOMAS	1.00	4-5	\$48,515.00	\$0.00
CALLAGHAN	DANIEL	62.5	4-5	\$30,321.88	\$0.00
DOWLING	SHANE	1.00	6-7	\$49,845.00	\$0.00
DOWLING	THOMAS	.20	2	\$9,503.00	\$0.00
DUNN	BRUCE	1.00	17	\$63,145.00	\$1,300.00
FANCERA	ANTONIO	1.00	3	\$48,015.00	\$0.00
FORST	DONALD	1.00	8	\$51,175.00	\$1,150.00
HARDMAN	THOMAS	1.00	2	\$47,515.00	\$0.00
HOUTERMAN	PATRICIA	1.00	10	\$53,835.00	\$1,300.00
LANDSHOF	EDWARD	1.00	8	\$51,175.00	\$650.00
LARSEN	RAY	62.5	6-7	\$31,153.13	\$0.00
MARCAZO	ERIC	1.00	4-5	\$48,515.00	\$0.00
PARRENO	ANGELICA	62.5	4-5	\$30,321.88	\$0.00
POLO	STEFANINA	1.00	10	\$53,835.00	\$1,300.00
SCARTOZZI	LAWRENCE	1.00	10	\$53,835.00	\$1,300.00
SMITH	RYAN	1.00	4-5	\$48,515.00	\$0.00
STRACK	MICHAEL	62.5	2	\$29,696.88	\$0.00
THIBAUT	RICHARD	62.5	2	\$29,696.88	\$0.00
VASQUEZ HERNANDEZ	GLORIA	1.00	3	\$48,015.00	\$0.00

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WARD	THOMAS	1.00	6-7	\$49,845.00	\$450.00
MOBILIO	PATRICK	1.00	4-5	\$48,515.00	\$0.00
SORBARA	CHRISTIAN	1.00	4-5	\$48,515.00	\$0.00
TERANTINO	NICHOLAS	1.00	13	\$57,825.00	\$1,300.00

- g. Approval of the following **Hopatcong Office Personnel Association Members** Contract Renewal Recommendations for the 2026-2027 school year:

Last Name	First Name	FTE	STEP	Salary	Longevity	Equitable Pay
AMELLA	CHRISTINE	1.00	3	\$43,626	\$0	\$ 2,400
GATES	DEBORAH	1.00	11	\$49,826	\$2,300	\$ 2,400
JUSKUS	KRISTA	62.5	3	\$27,266.25	\$0	\$1,500
MOLISSO	ENDORA	1.00	9	\$48,276	\$1,100	\$ 2,400
O'HARE	MAUREEN	1.00	11	\$49,826	\$2,300	\$ 2,400
RAZAK	KARLI	1.00	5	\$45,176	\$0	\$ 2,400
ROMAN-GERENA	NICOLE	1.00	8	\$47,501	\$0	\$ 2,400
SANTA	TARA	1.00	8	\$47,501	\$0	\$ 2,400
YANKO	STACY	1.00	11	\$49,826	\$2,300	\$ 2,400
ZAMMITO	MICHELLE	1.00	8	\$47,501	\$1,100	\$ 2,400

- h. Approval of the following **Confidential/Independent Staff Members** for the 2026-2027 school year:

Last Name	First Name	FTE	Salary	Longevity
BISIGNANI	KYLE	1.00	\$84,666.29	\$2,200
HULING	BRITTANY	1.00	\$66,935.63	\$1,000
MULHOLLAND	JOHN	1.00	\$78,124.03	\$2,200
SCHWAB	KATIE	1.00	\$81,936.58	\$1,000
TALMADGE	TRACEY	1.00	\$77,609.62	\$1,000
WARD	KATHLEEN	1.00	\$74,758.17	\$1,800
CARLE	WALTER	1.00	\$25,397.62	\$0

- i. Approval of the following **Hopatcong Association of Principals and Supervisors Members** contract Renewal Recommendations for the 2026-2027

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school year:

Last Name	First Name	Job Title	Salary	Longevity
BENFATTI	LEWIS	Middle School Principal	\$192,623.85	\$9,000.00
BYRNE	BRIAN	Tulsa Trail Principal	\$165,725.65	\$7,500.00
JENSEN	CHRISTIAN	High School Principal	\$142,968.10	\$0
MCFADDEN	KATHERINE	Durban Ave Principal	\$161,649.89	\$6,000.00

j. Approval of the employment of **Greg Smyth** as Facilities Supervisor, with a salary of \$89,519.77 beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

k. Approval of the **non-renewal** of the following employees for the 2026-2027 school year:

**Employee #81743**

**Employee #81475**

l. Approval of the following **HEA Custodial/Maintenance Staff Member Pensionable Stipends** for the 2026-2027 school year per the collective bargaining agreement:

Last Name	First Name	Stipend	Amount
Forst	Donald	Day Lead	\$1,200
Landshof	Edward	Day Lead	\$1,200
Houterman	Patricia	Day Lead	\$1,200
Ward	Thomas	Day Lead	\$1,200
Terrantino	Nicholas	Day Lead Fill In	\$1,200* *prorated

m. Approval of the following staff for the **Extra Duty/Extra Pay Positions** the 2026 – 2027 school year:

Name	Nature of Action	Duty/Position	Salary
Mamta Patel	Appoint	Head Nurse	\$2,500
Ken Olsen	Appoint	SLE Facilitator	\$6,367
Jennifer Valenti	Appoint	Preschool Intervention & Referral Team (PIRT) Facilitator	\$6,367
Jennifer Valenti	Appoint	Community Parent Involvement Specialist (CPIS) Facilitator	\$6,367
Melissa Kennedy	Appoint	Middle School Coordinator of Student Support	\$10,000

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- n. Approval of the following **Extra Duty/Extra Pay** Positions for the 2026-2027 school year on an as needed basis:

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Salary
Ruth DeSalvia Kristine Kester Allison McConnell	Appoint	Middle School After School Detention	\$28/hour
Ruth DeSalvia Kristine Kester Leeanne Juliano	Appoint	Middle School Homework Club	\$28/hour
Dorothy Cordero Susan Pallotta Kelly Rafferty Nancy Stephens Craig Vallaro	Appoint	High School Detention	\$28/hour

- o. Approval of the following staff to take and receive **tuition reimbursements\***, as per contract, upon successful completion of the course and submission of paperwork

### ***Course Approval /Reimbursement Approval***

Name	Course Title	Course Number	Credits	Cost
Brian Collins	Elementary Physical Education	EDUC 547	4	\$1393.09
	Health Basics	EDUC 514	4	\$1340
Tracey Talmadge	Public School Admin I	EDL5502	3	\$3058.62
	Public School Admin II	EDL5503	3	\$3058.62
	Computer Applications in Educational Administration	EDL5541	3	\$3058.62
	Public Budgeting	PA5040	3	\$3058.62

***\*The maximum rate of reimbursement per credit for the 25-26 school year is \$512.04.***

- p. Approval of all existing staff members to serve as substitute custodians as needed for the 2026-2027 school year.
- q. Approval of the following substitutes:
1. Aidan Buckley, Substitute Teacher

16. **STUDENT AND SERVICES**

Approval of the following items, 16a-16e as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval for a maximum of 10 hours per week of educational instruction
- b. services for student no. 13161 From 3/20/26 - 3/23/26. Instruction will be provided by Learnwell at a rate of \$56.70 per hour.

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- c. Approval for the extension of home instruction services for student no. 16514. Five hours per week of instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the Board approved rate of \$40.00 per hour beginning 3/27/26 until the end of the school year.
- d. Approval for a maximum of 10 hours per week of educational instruction services for student no. 14997 beginning 4/15/26. The anticipated duration of services is approximately 30-60 days. Instruction will be provided by Learnwell at a rate of \$56.70 per hour.
- e. Approval of the following field trips:

Trip	School
Dare to Dream WPU	High School
Space Farms	Durban
CCM	High School
Sussex Miners	Middle School
Walter Kerr Theater	High School
Pequest Trout Hatchery	High School
NJ State Teen Arts Festival	High School
Dorney Park	Middle School

### 17. RESOLUTIONS

Approval of the following resolutions as per the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver/Corrective Action Plan for the 2026/2027 school year.

### 18. SUSSEX COUNTY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE

- a. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of bills** for the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Operating account for March 24, 2026 through April 27, 2026 in the amount \$59,842.94 for Regular bills and \$4,488,863.23 for Contractor bills.

b.

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4 allows the Hopatcong Board of Education ("Board") to disqualify a bidder who would otherwise be determined to be the lowest responsible bidder, if the Board finds that it has had prior negative experience with the bidder within the past 10 years; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4 defines prior negative experience as, among other things, the bidder defaulting on a contract that required the Board to utilize the services of another contractor to perform the services or to complete the contract; and

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**WHEREAS**, the Board, through the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative ("SCRTC"), contracted with Faith13 to provide transportation services during the 2025-2026 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, Faith13 defaulted on the contract with the Board, leading to the Board terminating the contract and contracting with other contractors to complete the services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board provided Faith13 with written notice that: (1) the Board is considering disqualifying Faith13; (2) the reasons for disqualification; and (3) that Faith13 has the right to a hearing before the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, upon review of the reasons for the disqualification outlined in the written notice provided to Faith13, the Board finds that it is in the best interest of the Hopatcong School District and SCRTC to disqualify Faith13 from being awarded contracts with the Board or SCRTC for a period of five years; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that, after due consideration and for the reasons set forth above, the Board finds that Faith13 is hereby disqualified from being awarded contracts with the Board or SCRTC for a period of five years pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4*.

- c. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of a *Joint Transportation Agreement with Educational Services Commission of Morris County*** to transport public, nonpublic and/or special education pupils on established routes for the 2026-2027 school year. The Sussex County Regional Cooperative agrees to pay the Commission the total sum of estimated costs plus a 2% surcharge.
- d. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of a *Shared Services Agreement with the Roxbury Township Board of Education*** whose address is 42 North Hillside Avenue, Succasunna, NJ whereby Roxbury Township Board of Education will provide fleet maintenance to Hopatcong on site at the Roxbury Transportation garage. This agreement is effective for one (1) school year period from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.
- e. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of a ***Subscription Busing Agreement*** with the North Caldwell Board of Education for the 2026-2027 school year.
- f.
  1. The Superintendent and the Director of ***Transportation recommend the acceptance of bids submitted from the March 10, 2026 Bid #2025-26-10*** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

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2. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award of bids submitted from the March 10, 2026 Bid #2025-26-10** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor company for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
3. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **rejection of bids submitted from the March 10, 2026 Bid #2025-26-10** due to cost exceeding allowable amount, non-compliance or termination of the routes as listed on Exhibit A.
4. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of route contract addendums** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
5. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **renewal of the 2024-2025 School Year Routes for the 2025-2026 School Year** at or below the State issued CPI increase of 3.57% or less as listed on Exhibit A.
6. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
7. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
8. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Athletic/Class/Field Trips** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
9. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **contracts for quoted Athletic/Class/Field Trips** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
10. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of a Transportation Jointure Agreement with Vernon Township Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year** as listed on Exhibit A.
11. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Bridgewater-Raritan School District** as a **Member District for the 2026-2027** School Year.

**Motion to approve items 13 – 18:**

(ACTION) Motion by Chaffee. seconded by Cappello

# HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2026

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

**Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room**

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Yes	Natalia Cappello	Absent	Kevin Daviau	Yes	Veronica Schram
Yes	James Chaffee, Jr.	Absent	James Warin	Yes	Jennifer Polowchena
Yes	Jayson Cittrich	Yes	Jayna Gulan	Yes	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

19. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER COMMENTS**

Natalia Cappello – *Extra congratulations to Educators of the Year and Educational Services Professionals of the Year. HEPTO had a dance recently and it was amazing and they are an extraordinary crew.*

Jayna Gulan – *Congrats to all the Governor's Award recipients.*

Nicole Falconi-Shubert – *Thank you to all for coming.*

20. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn:**

(ACTION) Motion by Cappello. seconded by Polowchena

All in favor: Yes Time: 7:43pm

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey Hallenbeck, Board Secretary