

**HACKENSACK BOARD OF EDUCATION
191 SECOND STREET, HACKENSACK, NJ 07601
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 12, 2025**

I. Flag Salute / Moment of Silence / Sunshine Statement / Call to Order / Roll Call

In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Record and posting notice in the Board of Education Administration Building (Padovano Education Center) and filing notice with the City Clerk. I hereby call to order the Regular Public Meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, in the Padovano Building, 191 Second Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601, at 6:16 pm.

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Ms. Alston - Balaputra (Melanie)	X	
Ms. Amirhamzeh (Leila)	X	
Mr. Carroll (Demetrius)	X	
Ms. Cordero-Outen (Lissette)		X
Ms. Gilmore (Eugina "Gina")	X	
Mr. Martin (Kenneth)	X	
Ms. Pringle (Shivonnie)	X	
Ms. Harris (Jennifer)- President	X	
Mr. Stein (Mark)- Vice President	X	

II Executive Session

Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on Tuesday, March 12, 2025.

Be It Further Resolved, that these matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Trustee Pringle motioned to go into executive session at 6:17pm, seconded by Trustee Amirhamzeh.

I11 Resolution

D1a Resolution to Approve the preliminary 2025-2026 School Year Budget

Whereas, the Hackensack Board of Education, County of Bergen, approves the preliminary **2025-2026 School Year Budget** in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:7F-6 as follows:

Charter Schools Tuition (Fund 10)	\$7,742,428.00
Current General Expense (Fund 11)	\$143,361,060.00
Capital Outlay (Fund 12)	\$2,073,312.00
SUBTOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$153,176,800.00
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$10,149,802.00
Debt Service (Fund 40)	\$0.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$163,326,602.00

And, Whereas, upon County approval the budget will be advertised in the Bergen Record in accordance to the format promulgated by the New Jersey Department of Education and according to law; and

Whereas, a Public Hearing on the budget for the 2025-2026 school year will be conducted during the April 24, 2025 Board of Education Meeting;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the **GENERAL FUND** tax levy of **\$97,236,974.00** and **DEBT SERVICE** tax levy of \$0.00 is approved to support the 2025-2026 school year budget.

D1b Whereas, the district has a taxing authority which is comprised of:

Banked Cap Available in 2025-2026	\$2,082,085.00
2.00% Allowable Tax Levy Adjustment and for increase in enrollment	\$3,401,072.00
Base 2024-2025	\$93,389,606.00
Total Available Tax Levy Authority	\$98,872,763.00

Whereas, The Board has approved that there should be raised, for the General Fund, a tax levy of \$97,236,974.00, which includes the State allowed Tax levy increase in the amount of \$3,401,072.00 and Banked CAP of \$446,296.00, as seen below:

Base for 2024-25 School Year	\$93,389,606.00
2.00% Allowable Tax Levy Adjustment	\$1,867,792.00
Tax Base adjustment for increase in enrollment	\$1,533,280.00
Banked CAP from Prior Years – Use or Lose this year	\$446,296.00
Total Tax Levy for 2025-26 School Year	\$97,236,974.00

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey approves that the unused, unexpired taxing authority of \$1,635,789.00 (**Banked Cap**) be held for potential use in the subsequent allowable fiscal years.

D1c Be It Resolved, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(a), which provides that the Hackensack Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for the 2025-2026 school year, and

Whereas, school district policy and N.J.A.C.6A:23A-7.3(a) provides that the Hackensack Board of Education established in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for travel and expense reimbursement for the 2025-2026 school year; and

Whereas, the maximum expenditure amount allotted for travel and expense reimbursements for the 2025-2026 school year is \$250,000.00; and

Whereas, travel and expense will be reimbursed as per individual contract and in accordance with Board Policy,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2025-2026 school year at the sum of \$250,000.00, and,

Be It Further Resolved, that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum is not exceeded.

D1d Whereas, this budget includes a **withdrawal** from **Capital Reserve**, in the amount of \$1,675,000.00, with a net balance in Capital Reserve in the amount of \$4,363,006.00, and

Whereas, the transfer of these reserves supports the following capital projects that are in addition to the Facilities Efficiency Standards determined by the Commissioner of Education necessary to achieve the Student Learning Standards adopted by the State Board of Education:

<i>Project Number</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Budgeted Cost</i>
03-1860-110-25-1000	Fanny Meyer Hillers Boiler Replacement	\$1,675,000.00

	Total	\$1,675,000.00
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Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the amount authorized to be **withdrawn from the Capital Reserve** account is \$1,675,000.00.

D1e Whereas, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A:5.2(a) mandates boards to establish annually prior to budget preparation, for public relations and each type of professional service, a maximum level of spending for the ensuing school year; and

Whereas, the budget includes the following appropriations:

Account Code	Professional/Technical Service	Amount
11-000-213-300	Health - School Physician	\$85,300.00
11-000-216-320	Purchased Student Related Support Services	\$1,829,000.00
11-000-217-320	Purchased Professional Extraordinary Services	\$1,490,000.00
11-000-218-320/390	Student Guidance Services - Medical Screenings	\$35,775.00
11-000-219-320/390	Purchased Prof-Ed Services -Educational/Medical Services Provided to Students	\$243,000.00
11-000-221-320/500	Improvement Instruction Purch Ed Serv	\$320,000.00
11-000-222-320/390	Educational Media Purch Services	\$28,750.00
11-000-223-320/390	Purchased Professional Development Services - Speakers	\$202,000.00
11-000-230-331	Legal Services	\$375,000.00
11-000-230-332	Auditor Fees	\$75,000.00
11-000-230-334/390	Architect/Engineer Services	\$10,000.00
11-150-100-320	Hospital Based Homebound Instruction	\$70,000.00
11-190-100-320/340	Substitute Instructional Staff/Tech Services	\$3,199,550.00
11-190-100-500	Regular Program Inst Other Purchased Services	\$1,758,411.00
12-000-400-334/390	Capital Projects - Architect/Engineer Services	\$150,000.00
	Total	\$9,871,786.00

and,

Whereas, the Administration needs to notify the Board if there arises a need to exceed said maximums, upon which the Board may adopt a dollar increase in the maximum amount through formal Board action; and

Whereas, the Board and Administration wishes to minimize the amount of paperwork involved in this area;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Hackensack Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey establishes maximums for professional services in the areas listed above at a level of 120% of the amounts listed for the 2025-2026 school year.

D1f Whereas, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A:5.2(a) mandates boards to establish annually, prior to budget preparation, anticipated revenue from Medicaid SEMI, and

Whereas, the Hackensack Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey did not require a waiver based on alternate projected revenue for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (**SEMI**) program, based on Medicaid eligible students who receive a related service,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the district approves the anticipated SEMI revenue amount of \$43,659.00.

D1g Resolution to Approve the Health and Prescription appropriations for the 2025-2026 school year

Whereas, the Hackensack Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey approves Resolution to adopt the Health and Prescription appropriations for the 2025-2026 school year.

Approval of Finance and Budget Resolutions D1a – D1g				
Motion: Trustee Stein	Second: Trustee Amirhamzeh			
	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Alston - Balaputra (Melanie)	X			
Ms. Amirhamzeh (Leila)	X			
Mr. Carroll (Demetrius)	X			
Ms. Cordero-Outen (Lissette)				X
Ms. Gilmore (Eugina “Gina”)	X			
Mr. Martin (Kenneth)	X			
Ms. Pringle (Shivonnne)	X			
Ms. Harris (Jennifer)- President	X			
Mr. Stein (Mark)- Vice President	X			

IV Public Comments

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

- 1) If in person, a participant must sign the **“sign-in”** sheet and be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, municipality of residence, and group affiliation, if applicable;
- 2) Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes’ duration during the public session;
- 3) All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the presiding officer and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member shall be redirected to the presiding officer who shall determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed by the presiding officer on behalf of the Board or by the individual Board member; and

4) All Board and/or Superintendent responses to questions or inquiries shall be held until the end of public participation.

V Board Comments

- Have a goodnight.
- A huge thank you to Ms. Singh and her team at Central Office for all the hard work on the preliminary budget. The fact that we able to not utilize all the full amount of the tax levy that is less than last year and still able to support all educational programs is a big accomplishment. A huge thank you.
- Thank you to Ms. Singh for answering all my questions as a newcomer. I appreciate your patience.
- I would look like to thank Ms. Singh and her staff. I have gone through the numbers and the fact that we were below the tax levy has a lot to do with how they oversee the budget.
- Thank you, Ms. Singh and Central Office staff, and answering all the questions at the committee meeting and look forward to the April Meeting for the big presentation.

VI Adjournment

Trustee Vice President Stein motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm, seconded by Trustee Carroll.

Respectfully submitted,



Lydia Singh, SBA/Board Secretary

APPROVED