

PREPARING ALL LEARNERS TO EXCEL IN A CHANGING WORLD

Morris Plains Board of Education

November 11, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Borough School STEAM Lab, 500 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ

2025-2026 District Goals

1. **Parent Academies/Forums** - The Morris Plains School District will enhance family engagement by implementing ongoing parent academic workshops and school community forums designed to inform, support, and engage with Morris Plains families.
2. **Revenue Sources/Investing in Future** - The Morris Plains School District will actively pursue diverse revenue sources and make strategic investments to build financial stability, ensuring the sustainability of quality education amid future fiscal challenges.
3. **Academic Rigor** - The Morris Plains School District will ensure that all students receive high-quality instruction and support to meet foundational academic standards and reach their full potential.
4. **Mental Health/Regulation** - The Morris Plains School District will promote the overall mental well-being of all students by integrating social-emotional learning, expanding access to mental health resources, and fostering self-regulation skills—while encouraging positive choices and personal accountability.

I. Call to Order and Reference to the Sunshine Law

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231, P.L. 1975), I wish to announce that: 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 Morris Plains School District Board of Education, in the County of Morris, New Jersey has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Board Administrative Offices, sent to the Clerk of the Borough of Morris Plains, the Morris Plains Library, Daily Record, Star Ledger, and the Morris News Bee.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

☐ Diane Del Russo	☐ Lucia Galdi	☐ Adam Higgins	☐ Shawna Longo	☐ Amy Lyons
☐ Maria Manley	☐ Christina Perry	☐ Denise Rawding	☐ Jessica Williams	Quorum? ☐ yes ☐ no

☐ Catherine Jenisch ☐ Mark Maire ☐ Number of Public

IV. Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations - Agenda Items Only

Public comment is welcome for agenda items only. The time limit for topics is three minutes. Letters or memos are helpful. Please state your name and address for the record.

V. Presentations:

VI. Superintendent's Report - Mark Maire

- October 28, 2025 - Bus Evacuation Drills
 - Mountain Way School

November 11, 2025

- Borough School
 - 1st block: 7th and 8th
 - 2nd block: 3rd and 4th
 - 3rd block: 5th and 6th

VII. Business Administrator's Report - Catherine Jenisch

VIII. Correspondence

IX. Board of Education Minutes

1. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following:

Public Session - September 30, 2025

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

2. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following:

Public Session - October 14, 2025

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

X. Business Items Prepared for Official Action:

A. Personnel (upon the recommendation of the Superintendent) - The following motions are of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

Note: Employment of personnel contained in these resolutions in this section are provisional, contingent upon a criminal record check in compliance with P.L.1986, C.116 and approval of the submission of the "Application for Emergent Hire."

1. Approve to Award Tenure

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board awards tenure to Alesandra Messina effective November 18, 2025 as per the agreement between the Morris Plains Board of Education and the Morris Plains Education Association.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

2. Approval of Student Practicum/Field Experience

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves Gianna Giradelli to perform 15 hours of Student Practicum/Field Experience with Danielle Mastrogiovanni between November 17, 2025 and January 18, 2026 to complete her required experience.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

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3. Approval to Extend Family Leave for Mountain Way School Staff Member

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, the Board approves to extend family leave for Mountain Way School Staff Member #4733 through February 1, 2026.

Roll Call: DD _____ LG _____ AH _____ SL _____ AL _____ MM _____ CP _____ DR _____ JW _____

4. Approval to Amend Mountain Way Leave Replacement Contract

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____, the Board approves to amend the leave replacement contract of Katherine O'Brien with an end date of February 1, 2026.

Roll Call: DD _____ LG _____ AH _____ SL _____ AL _____ MM _____ CP _____ DR _____ JW _____

5. Approve Additional 2025-2026 Soccer Officials

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following additional 2025-2026 soccer officials at a rate of \$70/game:

- Vito D'Alconzo
- Ricardo Cerdeira
- Matthew Hoddy Mahon

Roll Call: DD _____ LG _____ AH _____ SL _____ AL _____ MM _____ CP _____ DR _____ JW _____

6. Approve of Days Without Pay

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves days without pay for the following staff members:

Staff Member	Position	Dates	Days
4907	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	November 12, 2025	.5 days
4882	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	November 4 (half) and November 5, 2025	1.5 days

Roll Call: DD _____ LG _____ AH _____ SL _____ AL _____ MM _____ CP _____ DR _____ JW _____

7. Approve the Termination of Mountain Way CST Staff Member

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the termination of staff member #4905 effective December 5, 2025.

Roll Call: DD _____ LG _____ AH _____ SL _____ AL _____ MM _____ CP _____ DR _____ JW _____

8. Approve the Revised Contract for Special Education Paraprofessional

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves to revise the Special Education Paraprofessional contract of Manasi Phatak effective November 10, 2025, as follows:

Name	Position	School	Hours	Step	Total Paid Hours/Day	Unpaid Time (Lunch)	Hourly Rate	Yearly Salary
Manasi Phatak	Special Education Paraprofessional	Mountain Way	8:05am - 3:00pm	2	5.9	61 min.	\$22.50	\$24,293.25 (prorated)

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH _____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW _____

B. Finance/Buildings & Grounds/Purchasing/Contracts - The following motions are of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approve Bills and Claims Reports

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the attached bills and claims reports dated October 20, 2025 in the amount of \$626,047.37, dated October 31, 2025 in the amount of \$149,625.00, and dated November 11, 2025 in the amount of \$402,020.94.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH _____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW _____

2. Approve Payroll Distributions

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the payroll distributions summarized below and directs that the payroll distributions be attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Payroll Date	Fund	Amount
10/15/2025	General	\$454,243.43
10/30/2025	General	\$453,998.55

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH _____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW _____

3. Approval of the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports For The Period Ending September 30, 2025

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____ Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the Certification from the Board Secretary that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJSA 18A:17-9, further that District Board of Education, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports upon consultation with the appropriate district personnel, certifies that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of NJSA 18A:17-36, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District Board of Education's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and that therefore it is recommended that the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending September 30, 2025 to be approved.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

4. Approve Line Item Transfers and Capital Reserve Transfers

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves line item transfers, including Capital Reserve transfers (as needed), for the period of September 1, 2025 - September 31, 2025.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

5. Approval of the 2026-2027 Budget Planning Calendar

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the 2026-2027 Budget Planning Calendar.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

C. Superintendent's Anti-Bullying Report - The following motion is of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Accept and Affirm the Superintendent's Anti-Bullying Report

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board accepts and affirms the Superintendent's monthly report of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying, and approves the Superintendent's determination for HIB Case #1 in Mountain Way School.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

D. Health - The following motion is of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approve Morris Plains School District 2025-2026 Nursing Services Plan

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the Morris Plains School District's 2025-2026 Nursing Services Plan.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

E. Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials - 2025-2026 - The following motion is of a routine nature, non controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approval of the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials - 2025-2026

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for the 2025-2026 school year.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

F. Donations - The following motion is of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Accept a Donation of Office Supplies

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board accepts a donation from Mrs. Nicole Rafanello, 10 Beaver Ridge Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 of hole punches, staplers and tape dispensers.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

2. Accept a Donation of Office Supplies

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board accepts an anonymous donation of \$100 to be used for students in need.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

3. Accept a Donation of a Memorial Bench

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board accepts a garden bench for Borough School in memory of Clara and Al Galdi purchased by the Galdi Family.

Roll Call: DD_____ LG_____ AH_____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____ JW_____

G. Workshops/Seminars/Conferences - The following motion is of a routine nature, non-controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.

1. Approval of Professional Development

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following request for professional development and corresponding costs:

Professional Development – Request for Approval as per Accountability Regulations – November 11, 2025

Staff Member	Date	Workshop	Mileage	Workshop Fees	Substitute	Total Cost
Pamela Dise-Moran	May 21, 2026	NJTESOL/NJBE 2026 Spring Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ	n/a	\$325.00*	n/a	\$325.00
Traci Lynne Cepero	May 21, 2025	NJTESOL/NJBE 2026 Spring Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ	72.34 miles x \$.47 = \$34.00	\$325.00* Parking - \$25.00	n/a	\$384.00

*Workshop Fee to be covered by Title III Funds.

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ AH ____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____ JW ____

XI. Discussion Items:

- **New Business**
 - 2025-2026 Board of Education Goals
- **Old Business**

XII. Hearing of Citizens and/or Delegations

Public comment is welcome. The time limit for topics is three minutes. Letters or memos are helpful. Please state your name and address for the record.

XIII. Adjournment

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, BE IT RESOLVED that the Morris Plains Board of Education moves to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ AH ____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____ JW ____