**PREPARING ALL LEARNERS TO EXCEL IN A CHANGING WORLD**

**Morris Plains Board of Education**
**October 27, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.**
**The meeting will be held in the Borough School STEAM Lab, 500 Speedwell Avenue, Morris Plains, NJ**

**2026-2027 District Goals**

1. The Morris Plains School District will enhance family engagement by continuing to implement ongoing parent academic workshops and school community forums designed to inform, support, and engage with Morris Plains families.
2. The Morris Plains School District will proactively manage escalating fixed costs by pursuing diverse revenue sources and making strategic investments to ensure long-term fiscal sustainability.
3. The Morris Plains School District will provide every student with high-quality instruction and support needed to master academic fundamentals and achieve their full potential.
4. The Morris Plains School District will foster a positive, respectful, and supportive learning environment across both schools by fully integrating the Six Pillars of Character into daily instruction, school-wide initiatives, and student expectations.
5. The Morris Plains School District will enhance district operations and enrollment accuracy by evaluating its current residency verification process and transitioning to the Genesis residency portal, requiring all families to verify their residency annually.

**2026 Board Goals**

1. **Self-Growth & Development** - The Board of Education will actively participate in NJSBA trainings, workshops, and meetings to remain informed on best practices, regulatory updates, and emerging trends in public education. Board members will share key learnings with the full Board to support continuous improvement in district leadership.
2. **Implementation of the Strategic Plan** - The Board of Education will regularly track and review progress toward the district's strategic plan through the appropriate committee meetings. Committees will receive updates, assess key performance indicators, and provide reports to the full Board to ensure transparency.

## 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 and posted on the following websites:

- https://sites.google.com/mpsdk8.org/mpsdk8/quick-links
- https://www.nj.gov/state/statewide-legal-notices-list.shtml

## II. Pledge of Allegiance

## III. Roll Call

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| □ Diane Del Russo | □ Lucia Galdi | □ Steve Goscinski | □ Adam Higgins | □ Shawna Longo |
| □ Amy Lyons | □ Maria Manley | □ Christina Perry | □ Denise Rawding | Quorum?<br>□ 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. Presentation** -

**VI. Superintendent's Report** - Mark Maire

**VII. Business Administrator's Report** - Catherine Jenisch

**VIII. Correspondence**

**IX. Committee Reports**

- Finance
  - Buildings and Grounds
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Legislative
- Educational Services Commission of Morris County (ESC)
- Morris School District
- Personnel
- Policy
- Shared Services
- Liaison Committees (Reports if Available)
  - Morris Plains Home and School Association (MPHSA)
  - Morris Plains Municipal Alliance Committee (MPMAC)
  - Education Foundation of Morris Plains (EFMP)
  - Strategic Planning Committees
  - New Jersey School Boards
  - Morris County School Boards Association

**X. Board of Education Minutes**

**1. <u>Approval of the Board of Education Minutes</u>**

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

Public Session - October 13, 2026

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

**XI. 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. <u>Approval of Substitute Teachers</u>**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following substitute teachers for the 2026-2027 school year:

- Callie Bevacqua - County Certified
- Benjamin Guccione - Certificated

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

**2. Approve Leave of Absence for Staff Member**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves a medical leave of absence and NJ Family Leave for staff member #4847 from February 1, 2027 through June 30, 2027.

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

**3. Approve Additional Hours for Parent Academy Math Session Facilitators**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves additional hours for the following full-time teachers as follows:

| Staff Member | Date | Total Hours | Hourly Rate | Total (not to exceed) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amanda Castello | November 17, 2026 | 4 hours | $40.00 | $160.00 |
| Mary Ellen Sullivan | November 17, 2026 | 4 hours | $40.00 | $160.00 |
| Beth Viegas | November 17, 2026 | 4 hours | $40.00 | $160.00 |

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

**4. Approval of Students Observation Hours**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following Drew University students to perform 15 hours of observation each with various Borough School teachers from November 1, 2026 through December 23, 2026:

- Nyla Charles
- Nyiera Eliscar
- Kyasia Tucker
- Breena Stephen

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

**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 27, 2026 in the amount of $457,573.34 and dated October 23, 2026 in the amount of $145,125.00.

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

**2. Approve Payroll Distribution**

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

| Payroll Date | Fund | Amount |
|---|---|---|
| 10/15/2026 | General | $465,787.72 |

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

**3. Approval of the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Reports for the Period Ending September 30, 2026**

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, 2026 to be approved.

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

**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, 2026 - September 30, 2026.

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

**5. Approve Submission of the 2026-2027 M1 and CMP to Department of Education**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the submission of the 2026-2027 M1 (Annual Maintenance Expenditures Report) and Comprehensive Maintenance Plan to the New Jersey Department of Education.

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

**6. Approve 2026-2027 Augmentative/Alternative Communication Training Services Contract**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the 2026-2027 Augmentative/Alternative Communication Training Services Contract with Bergen County Special Services for a student at a cost of $800 (maximum of 4 hours at $200/hour).

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

**7. Approve Submission of the Application and Reimbursement Request for the School Lead Filters Program Grant to the New Jersey Department of Education**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the submission of the Application and Reimbursement Request for the School Lead Filters Program Grant to the New Jersey Department of Education. The District allocation for reimbursement is $1,000.

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

**8. Authorize the Submission of the 2025-2026 IDEA Final Report**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board authorizes the submission of the IDEA Final Report for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

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

**9. Authorize the Submission of the 2025-2026 ESEA Final Report**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board authorizes the submission of the ESEA Final Report for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

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

**10. Approval of Concert Accompaniment**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves Barbara Piercy as Concert Accompaniment for the 2026-2027 school year not to exceed $1,500.

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.

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

**D. New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) - The following motion is of a routine nature, non- controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.**

**1. Approve the Submission of the 2026-2027 New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) District Performance Review Sheets**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the submission of the 2026-2027 New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) District Performance Review sheets.

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

**E. Nursing Services Plan - The following motion is of a routine nature, non- controversial, and will be voted on in one motion.**

**1. Approve the 2026-2027 Nursing Services Plan**

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the 2026-2027 Nursing Services Plan.

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

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

**1. <u>Approve Revised Policies</u>**

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

| Policy Number | Policy Title |
|---|---|
| 2224 | Nondiscrimination, Affirmative Action |
| 3542.1 | Free or Reduced Price Lunches, Milk |
| 5131 | Conduct and Discipline |
| 6140 | Curriculum Adoption |
| 6141.2 | Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs |
| 6142.1 | Family Life Education<br>(includes 6142.1(E) - Family Life Education Request for Opt-Out Form) |
| 6143 | Curriculum Guides |

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

**XII. Discussion Items:**

- **New Business**
- **Old Business**

**XIII. 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.

**XIV. 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_____ SG_____ AH _____ SL_____ AL_____ MM_____ CP_____ DR_____