

PREPARING ALL LEARNERS TO EXCEL IN A CHANGING WORLD

Morris Plains Board of Education

June 23, 2026 - 5:30 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.

2025-2026 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-notice-list.shtml>

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

<input type="checkbox"/> Diane Del Russo	<input type="checkbox"/> Lucia Galdi	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Goscinski	<input type="checkbox"/> Adam Higgins	<input type="checkbox"/> Shawna Longo
<input type="checkbox"/> Amy Lyons	<input type="checkbox"/> Maria Manley	<input type="checkbox"/> Christina Perry	<input type="checkbox"/> Denise Rawding	Quorum? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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. Approval of the Board of Education Minutes

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

Public Session and Executive Session - June 9, 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. Approve Payment for Unused Vacation Day(s)

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves payment to the following staff member for unused vacation day(s):

Staff Member	# of Day(s)	Total	Pay Date
Monica Crudele	6	\$3,081.12	7/15/2026

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ SG____ AH____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____

2. Approval to Rescind 2026 ESY Staff Member

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves to rescind the approval of RISE PreK/K Paraprofessional Callie Bevacqua for the 2026 Extended School Year (ESY) program.

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ SG____ AH____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____

3. Accept the Resignation of Staff Members

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board accepts the resignation of the following staff members:

Name	Position	School	Effective Date
Callie Bevacqua	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way	June 30, 2026
Sara Ficarra	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way	June 30, 2026

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ SG____ AH____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____

4. Approve Appointment of Self-Contained Paraprofessional

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the appointment of a Self-Contained Paraprofessional for the 2026-2027 school year of 183 days maximum as stated below:

Name	Position	School	Hours	Step	Total Paid Hrs/Day	Unpaid Time (Lunch)	Hourly Rate	Yearly Salary
Thomas Shemon	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Borough	7:57am-3:00pm	1	5.9	69	\$25	\$26,992.50

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ SG____ AH____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____

5. Approval of 2026-2027 Paraprofessionals and Assignments

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the following paraprofessionals with assignments and salaries (as per attached) for the 2026-2027 school year (183 days maximum) as follows:

Last Name	First Name	Position	School
Andreotti	Lisa	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Assada Sugiyama	Monica	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
DeCastro Leite Soares	Veronica	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Diaz	Leah	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Borough
Kohaut, Jr.	Charles	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Lindor	Sting	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
McNichol	Sheryl	Special Education Paraprofessional	Borough
Merchant	Deepali	Special Education Paraprofessional	Borough
Mogan	Christina	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Morency	Abigaelle	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Borough
Nunn	Andrea	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Borough
Nunn	Lindsay	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Phatak	Manasi	Special Education Paraprofessional	Borough
Purohit	Yagna	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Borough
Rolph	Brandi	Special Education Paraprofessional	Borough
Scowcroft	Rachel	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Selitto-Speck	Caitlin	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Silva	Katia	Special Education Paraprofessional	Mountain Way
Wilcox	Trazzona	Self-Contained Paraprofessional	Borough

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ SG____ AH____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____

6. Approval of 2026-2027 Stipend Positions

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

Co-Curricular	Advisor	Stipend
Art Club	Kristin Rigby	\$3,200
Beyond Differences	Maria Diaz	\$2,100
Chess Club	Deborah Drake	\$2,100
Drama Club Advisor	Julie Skaggs	\$3,700
Drama Club Assistant	Lorelei Eck	\$1,700
Eighth Grade Advisor	Mary Ellen Sullivan	\$3,999
Esports	Eileen Shemon	\$3,300
First in Math	Darlene Koeck	\$2,229
Homework Club	Dawn Bruhn	\$2,400
Instrumental Music	Kaitlin Michalowski	\$3,200
Jazz Band	Kaitlin Micholowski	\$2,400
Chamber Ensemble	Kaitlin Micholowski	\$2,400
Media Crew Advisor(s)	Laura Quinn/William Houston	\$2,100/\$700
Morning Arrival Advisor - Borough	Nicholas Scailla	\$2,229
Scenery Crew	Laura Lano	\$1,700
Select Chorus	Laura Quinn	\$2,800
Set Design Advisor	Kristin Rigby	\$2,100
Student Council	Maria Diaz/Erin McGovern	\$1,400/\$1,400
Broadcasting	Alissa Schonmann	\$3,839
Yearbook	Sheryl McNichol	\$2,884
Basketball - Boys	Nicholas Scialla	\$3,500
Basketball - Girls	Kyle Auer	\$5,000
Baseball - Boys	Nicholas Carola	\$4,000
Softball - Girls	Robert Wilson	\$3,500
Cheerleading	Danielle Mastrogiovanni	\$5,000
Cross Country - Boys	Kimberly Romano	\$4,752
Cross Country - Girls	Laura Morris	\$4,752
Soccer - Boys	Nicholas Scialla	\$2,900
Soccer - Girls	Kathleen Connolly	\$4,500
Track and Field - Boys	Eileen Shemon	\$5,000
Track and Field - Girls	Laura Morris	\$5,000
Intramurals - Grades 3 & 4	Kimberly Romano	\$3,721
Intramurals - Grades 5 & 6	Kimberly Romano	\$3,721
Student Mentor Advisor	Brett Sills	\$2,290
Life Club	Randall Porter/Laura Lano	\$1,280/\$1,280

STEAM Tank Advisor	Alissa Schonmann	\$2,400
Detention Duty	Pamela Dise-Moran/Deborah Drake	\$1,200/\$1,200
Chess Consortium	Deborah Drake	\$182
Math Relay Consortium	Deborah Drake	\$182
Chorale Ensemble Consortium	Laura Quinn	\$182
General Knowledge Consortium	Mary Ellen Sullivan	\$182
Problem-Solving Consortium	Mary Ellen Sullivan	\$182
Spelling Bee Consortium	Amanda White	\$182
Volleyball Consortium	Eileen Shemon	\$182
World Language Consortium	Maria Diaz/Erin McGovern	\$91/\$91
Team Leader Kindergarten	Alyssa Lenskold	\$822
Team Leader - Grade 1	Kara Everhart	\$822
Team Leader - Grade 2	Kara Pagan	\$822
Team Leader - Grade 3	Victoria Huizing	\$822
Team Leader - Grade 4	Dawn Bruhn	\$822
Team Leader - Grades 5/6	Jessica Fox	\$1,644
Team Leader - Grades 7/8	Mary Ellen Sullivan	\$1,644
Team Leader - Related Arts (Boro)	Kaitlin Michalowski	\$1,644
Team Leader- Related Arts (MW)	Susan Harrington	\$1,644
Team Leader- Special Ed (Boro)	Sara Fandel	\$1,644
Team Leader- Special Ed (MW)	Christina Owens	\$1,644
Consortium Coordinator	Larissa Wilczak	\$500

Roll Call: DD____ LG____ SG____ AH____ SL____ AL____ MM____ CP____ DR____

7. Approval of 2026-2027 Curriculum Writing Hours

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves staff, salary, and hours for 2026-2027 curriculum writers as follows:

Staff Member	Subject/Grade Level	Hourly Rate	Total Hours	Total
Kristen Calia	ELA/Kindergarten	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Kara Everhart	ELA/1st Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Danielle Mastrogiovanni	ELA/2nd Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Rachel Levy	ELA/3rd Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Dawn Bruhn	ELA/4th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Jessica Drew-Suttle	ELA/5th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Lauren Degnan	ELA/6th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Laura Morris	ELA/7th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Meghan Carey	ELA/8th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Arianna Christman	Social Studies/Kindergarten	\$40.00	17.5 hours	\$700 (Not to exceed)
Amanda Castello	Social Studies/1st Grade	\$40.00	17.5 hours	\$700 (Not to exceed)
Victoria Huizing	Social Studies/2nd Grade	\$40.00	17.5 hours	\$700 (Not to exceed)

Nicholas Carola	Social Studies/3rd Grade	\$40.00	17.5 hours	\$700 (Not to exceed)
Alessandra Messina	Social Studies/5th-6th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)
Amy Ordway	Social Studies/7th-8th Grade	\$40.00	35 hours	\$1,400 (Not to exceed)

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

8. Approve Evaluation Instrument for the 2026-2027 School Year

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the Thoughtful Classroom Teacher Effectiveness Framework as the Teacher and Principal Evaluation Instrument for the 2026-2027 school year.

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

9. Approval of Substitute Rates for the 2026-2027 School Year

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

Full-Day Substitute Teacher	\$125.00
Half-Day Substitute Teacher	\$62.50
Full-Day Aide	\$125.00
Half-Day Aide	\$62.50
Full-Day Secretary	\$100.00
Half-Day Secretary	\$50.00
Full-Day School Nurse	\$200.00
Half-Day School Nurse	\$100.00
Long-Term Substitute	\$200.00

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

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 Report

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the attached bills and claims report dated June 23, 2026 in the amount of \$113,817.07.

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

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
6/15/2026	General	\$446,822.19
6/22/2026	General	\$599,412.43

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 May 31, 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 May 31, 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 May 1, 2026 - May 31, 2026.

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

5. Approve 2026-2027 Audiology Services Contract

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the 2026-2027 Audiology Services Contract with Bergen County Special Services for two students at a cost of \$1,950 (maximum of 10 hours).

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

6. Approve Sidebar Agreement

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the Sidebar Agreement between the Morris Plains Board of Education and the Morris Plains Education Association.

Roll Call: DD ___ LG ___ SG ___ AH ___ SL ___ AL ___ MM ___ CP ___ DR ___

7. Approve Student Settlement Agreement

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the student settlement agreement for the 2026-2027 school year.

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

8. Approval of RFP for Architect of Record

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the Architectural Services Request for Proposal from EI Associates, 8 Ridgedale Avenue, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927. EI Associates is appointed as the Architect of Record for the 2026-2027 school year.

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

9. Approval of Professional Services Agreement with Drake University

On the motion of _____ seconded by _____, the Board approves the Professional Services Agreement with Drake University and Mountain Way School for the 2026-2027 school year. The agreement includes training and consulting for the Character Counts! Program. The total of the services contract is \$7,400.

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

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_____

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_____