

Regular Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
July 24, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey as well as utilizing the online video conference platform on July 24, 2025.

Board President Nubia DuVall Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Board Member Brown, Board Member Callahan,
Board President DuVall Wilson, Board Member Eckert,
Board Member Meyer, Board Member Sackett-Gable

Absent: Board Member Bennett, Board Member Gifford, Board Member Kapadia

SIX VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Pledge of Allegiance

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the following manner:

- A. That written notice was sent from the Office of the Secretary of the Board at 2:30 pm on January 3, 2025.
- B. That said notice was sent via email to Maplewood and South Orange Township Clerks and the Editors of the News Record, Star Ledger, TapintoSOMA and the Village Green.

SOUTH ORANGE-MAPLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, while the "Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act" (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) requires all meetings of the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine (9) types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in "Executive Session," without the public being permitted to attend, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that one (1) issue is permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4 - 12 (b) to be discussed without the public in attendance and shall be discussed during an Executive Session to be held on Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 6:30 PM, and

WHEREAS, the nine (9) exceptions to open the public meetings set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:2-4(b) are listed below, and next to each exception is a box which will be marked when the issues to be privately discussed fall within that exception, and after each exception is a space where additional information that will disclose as much information about the discussion as possible without undermining the purpose of the exception shall be written:

X "(1) Any matter which, by express provision of Federal law, State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from public discussion." The nature of the matter, described as specifically as possible without undermining the need for confidentiality, is attorney/client privilege, HIB reporting, and Litigation Status Report.

WHEREAS, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be seventy-five (75) minutes after which the public meeting of the Board shall reconvene and proceed with business where formal action will be taken.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education will go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons only; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

Motion made by Board President DuVall Wilson, second by Board Member Eckert to adjourn to Executive Session. Motion unanimously approved.

Board Members adjourned to Executive Session at 6:31 p.m.

Board Members reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

Board Members Bennett and Kapadia Present

8 Voting Members Present

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS - STUDENTS ONLY

Columbia High School students Charlie Drechsler, Evie Campbell, Naomi Swanson, Sydney Davis, Sahana Lynch addressed the Board regarding the Ritzer Field Renovation.

Board President DuVall Wilson expressed gratitude for their willingness to share their thoughts and experiences on this topic.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Board President DuVall Wilson seconded by Board Member Eckert to approve the minutes of the following meetings: June 4, 2025 - Executive and Special Board Meeting Minutes; June 5, 2025 - Executive and Special Board Meeting Minutes; June 26, 2025 - Executive and Regular Board Meeting. Motion unanimously approved.

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

SOMSD MARKET RESEARCH RESULTS

The SOMSD/Seton Hall University Market Research Presentation will be shared at a future meeting.

FRESHMAN ACADEMY RE-LAUNCH

We are thrilled to reintroduce the Columbia High School Freshman Academy curated to offer a more personalized and supportive learning experience for all 9th-grade students.

ENHANCED SECURITY MEASURES

To bolster school safety, all secondary students and teachers will now be required to wear school ID badges at all times on school grounds. Students will receive their badges during the first week of school. Additionally, Columbia High School is implementing a new digital visitor management system to streamline check-ins and enhance security for all visitors.

HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM RENOVATION

The Columbia High School auditorium rigging and lighting renovation project is making significant progress. Despite minor disruptions, the project remains on schedule and we anticipate the auditorium will be open by mid-September. This upgraded space will be a valuable asset to our entire school community.

LUNCH POLICY FOR FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORES

To ensure student safety, all 9th and 10th-grade students will be required to remain on campus during lunch periods. We understand this may be a change for some sophomore families and appreciate your understanding and cooperation with this new policy.

UNDERHILL ATHLETIC COMPLEX: NEW HOURS AND SENIOR PROGRAM

The Underhill Athletic Complex will have new operating hours starting in the Fall to better accommodate school athletic programs and community use, while ensuring proper supervision and maintenance. The new hours are:

- Monday - Friday: 6:00 AM - 8:00 AM (OPEN), 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM (CLOSED), 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM (OPEN)
- Saturday - Sunday: 6:00 AM - 5:00 PM (OPEN)

We are also excited to launch the Senior Stride Program, providing South Orange and Maplewood residents aged 65 and older with an access card to the track during the weekday hours of 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM when the complex is otherwise closed to the public. This program aims to promote physical activity and social interaction for our senior community.

Farewell and Gratitude to Mr. Stanley Valles

Thank you, Mr. Stanley Valles, Director of School and Community Safety, who recently departed from the District after three years of dedicated service. Mr. Valles, a proud alumnus of the South Orange & Maplewood School District and Columbia High School, brought both personal commitment and professional expertise to his role. Throughout his tenure, he provided invaluable guidance to our staff, worked tirelessly to strengthen safety protocols

across our schools, and supported the well-being of our students and community. We thank Mr. Valles for his service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Achieve Student Tutors: Celebrating Service and Impact

We would like to applaud our Achieve student tutor volunteers for their dedicated work with our SOMSD families. At the Achieve end-of-year celebration, a special recognition was given to 60 student tutors from this program. These outstanding individuals are part of a larger community of over 400 tutors who contribute their time and effort to support student learning.

Kohl Angelo Award recipients (exceptional middle school-aged tutors):

Kingston Anderson

Hazel Fisher

Adam Sysel

Dubrow Award recipients (exceptional tutors):

Patrick Anicette Jr., Tabby Barnes, Deirdre Browne, Aidan Caravetta, Katelyn Chan, Alice Cohen, Emma Eisenberg, Adian Heindl, Emerie Katz, Christopher Kondak, Ethan Lewars, Teddy O'Brien, Marykay Pavol (an adult volunteer), Lawson Wahlers, and Shana Zhu.

Stellar Seniors (graduating tutors who tutored for 3+ years):

Theodore Abbate, Niharika Bajaj, Sophia Barenholtz, Noah Barkin, Sophie Beemer, Yael Ben-Adi, Gwyneth Brown, Cecily Burns, Whitney Cabbagestalk, Anaya Center, Max Coey, Jasper Cunningham, Max Drechsler, Lydia Friedman, Grayson Friedman, Lia Giger, Alexa Gunzberg, Audrey Haber, Isabel Hahr, Sophia Halm, Dylan Headley, Ruby Hoffman-Werle, Julia Feinleib, Naomi Lederman, Isabelle Livingstone, Henry Martin, Kaelyn Matsushita, Matthew Molica, Clara Paynter, Tamia Persaud, Eden Philippe, Paige Provenzano, Alexcia Robinson, Clover Rosenberg, Jacob Schaefer, Lilah Secher, Kenji Shimizu, Henry Souprios, Anya Terry, Riley Walsman, Bryant Yang, and Rachel Yonteff.

RITZER FIELD RENOVATION

Superintendent Bing thanked the community for the advocacy regarding the Ritzer Field Renovation project. The Board and District have diligently explored various options considering not only the immediate benefits but also the long-term sustainability and impact on our community. The primary goal was to provide a top tier athletic surface that is safe, accessible and consistently available for practices, games and community events regardless of the unpredictable nature of our local weather over the last few years. The focus was on two major factors: playability and students. Many months weeks, days and hours have gone into the decision-making process to arrive at the resolution that is currently on the tonight's Board agenda. It has been a process of discussion and deliberation where different viewpoints were considered until a shared understanding was reached, and then a decision was made. Superintendent Bing offered additional rationale in support of the Board's decision, delineated the long-term advantages and shared a rendering of the proposed field.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Business Administrator Imani Moody read the monthly construction update.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S UPDATE - Board President Duvall Wilson

RITZER FIELD

Special thanks to our Finance Facilities and Technology (FFT) and Rutgers Committee members for stepping up and doing double duty this summer.

FFT met twice in July to review our Ritzer field plans with our Athletic Department, Columbia High School Principal, and architects so that the Board could be well informed on the data and financial details of our options. Additionally, Board Members participated in the District's Virtual Town Hall on auditorium improvements and Ritzer Field. This forum offered valuable information for the community. A recap video and our Q&A document are available on the District Website.

Tonight, the Board continues to demonstrate its dedication to prioritizing the needs of our students. We will vote on the upgrades for the middle school auditoriums and improvements for Ritzer Field, which will include turf, and we will present these to the Board of School Estimate in August, for approval as required by law. I'm proud of the ongoing discussions and collaborations that have taken place among the nine board members and with district leadership behind the scenes to review the plans for Ritzer. As a team, we reached a consensus by focusing on several key issues. I won't reiterate everything, but I especially want to mention the lack of suitable fields for our student athletes and the limited access for our girls' softball teams. Students were promised a new athletic field back in 2019, and that promise has yet to be fulfilled. Seven years later, we hope to start work on Ritzer next summer, pending funding approval in August.

INTENTIONAL INTEGRATION INITIATIVE AND POLICY CHANGES

Although it is a bi-monthly committee, the Rutgers Committee met again in July to discuss the District's ongoing work on the Intentional Integration Initiative (III) evaluation for potential modifications for K through 5 and middle schools. These changes currently would not be expected to take effect until the 27-28 school year, as much still needs to be analyzed, and community feedback will be an essential part of this process.

Tonight, we are also bringing forward for first reading policies 5124, Student Internal Transfers, and 5120, Assignment Of Students. I want to remind everyone that policies 5124 and 5120 were updated in December 2023 to allow the district to accept hardship transfers and establish a like-for-like transfer system, which has been in use for over a year now. Consequently, the Board seeks more transparency in this process. While it was implicit before, these policies now explicitly state that the district may consider real-life issues faced by families in our community, such as work schedule conflicts, lack of transportation, and childcare financial burdens, among other criteria. These factors will be considered when the

district makes decisions regarding like-for-like SCS transfers on a case-by-case basis. According to policy 5124, the III variance percentage will be maintained for these like-for-like transfers. Finally, it ensures that the district's website is updated with information on the transfer policy and that the district will regularly provide data to the board on transfers for transparency.

BOARD RETREAT

The Board held its retreat to review the Board's self-evaluation, which is being used to inform our board goals. We also discussed ideas for our district goals and we will continue to work on both throughout the summer to finalize them at the August 19th retreat.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The school board meeting is a business meeting in public and not a meeting with the public. Oftentimes it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the Administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools/Chief School Administrator (CSA). If the Superintendent of Schools/Chief School Administrator is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board Committee. The Members of the Board Committee work with Administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. After the committee discusses the matter, it is then shared with the other Board members for consideration. Only then is it placed on the agenda for Board discussion and action at a public meeting.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS (2 min)

Community Members Rebecca Scheer, Julie Coulter, Lily Givoni, Elodi Reeves, Sabine Hack, Ron Charles, Bella Serrano, Ali Curtis, Sarah Connelly, Aubree Curtis, Mateo Green, Kathleen Grant, Paul Surovell, Jessica Miller, Jane Conrad, Khadijah White, Jonathan Poor, Rich Wener, Dave Amerikener, Devyani Guha, Julia Flath, David Huemer addressed the Board.

ITEM FOR ACTION MOVED FORWARD

Board President DuVall Wilson made a motion seconded by Board Member Bennett to move forward resolution 4832Z for discussion. Motion unanimously approved.

Board Members Eckert, Meyer, and Bennett conveyed their perspectives to the community.

4832Z. WHEREAS, the Board of Education of South Orange and Maplewood, New Jersey (the "Board of Education") has determined that certain capital projects authorized by law should be undertaken by the Board of Education and that it is necessary to raise money for such capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to record its determination in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:22-27; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Board of Education wishes to accept the determination of "Eligible Costs" as provided by the New Jersey Department of Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of South Orange and Maplewood, New Jersey (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmative concurring) as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Education hereby determines that it is necessary to undertake certain capital projects, described below, and to incur the costs associated therewith as set forth therein.

- Auditorium repairs
- Ritzer Field Renovation: Synthetic Turf Multipurpose Field (Soccer, Lacrosse, Softball) and 1x Synthetic Turf Softball Field

Section 2. The Board of Education hereby determines that the costs of the Projects described in Section 1 hereof are estimated to be \$9,877,701.00 by the Board of Education to be readily understandable and is incorporated by this reference as if set forth in this resolution. It is reasonably believed that all of the costs to be borne by the Board of Education for the Projects will be funded through the issuance of school bonds and/or notes and may be funded through the issuance of temporary notes, or may be funded on a permanent basis through the issuance of one or more series of bonds.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that a public hearing is tentatively scheduled to be held by the Board of School Estimate with respect to the amounts of money to be raised for the Projects described herein on August 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Administration Building in the District Meeting Room or at such other date and time as approved by the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator.

Section 4. The Board Secretary/School Business Administrator of the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this resolution to each member of the Board of School Estimate not more than thirty (30) days nor less than fifteen (15) days prior to the date set for the public hearing and shall cause a notice of the public hearing and this resolution to be published at least once and not less than seven (7) days prior to the public hearing in the News Record and shall cause the resolution to be on file and open to examination of the public and to be produced at the public hearing for the information of those attending. The notice of the public hearing and the resolution shall include a statement that the resolution will be on file and open to examination to the public between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the office

of the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator from the date of such notice until the date of the public hearing.

Section 5. This resolution shall also constitute a declaration of intent by the Board of Education to issue tax-exempt obligations for the purpose of paying expenditures for the Projects pursuant to Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Section 6. The Board of Education hereby (i) accepts the determination of Preliminary Eligible Costs as set forth in the letters of the New Jersey Department of Education (the "NJDOE Eligibility Letter"); (ii) elects to receive the "State Share" in the form of debt service aid; (iii) determines to construct the Projects; (iv) agrees to locally fund any excess costs and (v) delegates the supervision of the Projects to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Section 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

			\$6,446,037.00
Ritzer Field	Phase 1	Ritzer Field Renovation	
		Soft Costs Allowance (15%)	\$966,905.00
South Orange Middle School	Phase 1	Stage Rigging Main Auditorium	\$583,607.00
		Aux Auditorium	\$93,019.00
	Phase 2	Lighting in Aux Auditorium	\$70,000.00
Maplewood Middle School	Phase 1	Stage Rigging	\$218,133.00
		Ceiling Replacement/Asbestos Abatement	\$1,500,000.00
		Total	\$9,877,701.00

Motion made by Board President DuVall Wilson, seconded by Board Member Eckert move 4832Z for voting.

ROLL CALL: Motion 4832Z PASSED YES: Bennett, Brown, Callahan, DuVall Wilson, Eckert, Kapadia, Meyer, Sackett-Gable NO: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports from the Rutgers Implementation, Policy, Personnel, Finance Facilities and Technology, Municipal Partners, Curriculum and Instruction and Special Services Committee meetings were presented by the committee chairs. Minutes for these meetings are available on the district website.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Motion made by Board Secretary Moody to move resolutions 4829-4836 for discussion and voting.

The Superintendent recommends that the Board of Education approve the following personnel fiscal resolutions.

4829A. RETIREMENT

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	YEARS IN DISTRICT
Hess, Marianne	Elementary Teacher SM - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	28.3

4829B. RESIGNATIONS

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	YEARS IN DISTRICT
Cosgrave, Jeffrey	Library Media Specialist CHS - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	7.3
Degnan, Eryn	Library Media Specialist MM - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	8.6
DeLeon, Christina	T Math CHS - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	3.1
Frisch, Julia	T Health/Phys. Ed. SOM - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	2
Martinez, Angela	T Multiage 1 st /2 nd SB - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	1
Morrison, Tracie	Assistant Principal CHS - 1.0 FTE	9/8/25	3.8
Rowe, Amy	T Language Arts SOM - 1.0 FTE	9/11/25	8.5

4829C. CHANGE IN START DATE

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	OLD START DATE	NEW START DATE
Blanc, Lys	S4/12, Secretary CHS - 1.0 FTE	7/1/25	7/14/25

4829D. RESCIND APPOINTMENT OF LEAVE REPLACEMENT STAFF

(This employment is conditional and subject to the disclosure requirement; pending compliance with NJ Public Law 2018, Chapter 5)

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ACTUAL SALARY
Sarker, Neelanjana	T Math MM - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/18/26	\$66,100

4829E. APPOINTMENTS

(This employment is conditional and subject to the disclosure requirement; pending compliance with NJ Public Law 2018, Chapter 5)

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ACTUAL SALARY
Amadeo, Emily	T KDG CLIN - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$73,400
Bottiglierie, Henry	Director of Facilities DIST - 1.0 FTE	8/4/25 6/30/26	\$150,000
Brozyna, Christina	T Multiage 1 st /2 nd SB - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$66,100
Burton, Amy	T SPED MM - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$83,582
Dawes, Sonya	T 3 SB - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$73,400
Erdman, Lauren	T 5 SM - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$66,100
Jean-Baptiste, + Amiyah	T Math SOM - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$67,532
Kwao, Dennis	T Math CHS - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$66,100
Linthicum, Emma	T 1 MAR - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$66,100
Lipof, Daniella	T SPED/INC TUS - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$73,400
Llera, Kathryn	Library Media Specialist SB - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$92,832
Mroz, Michael	School Psychologist MONT - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$106,068
Paquette, Destiny	T SPED/INC MAR - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$66,100
Pereria, Dominika	School Psychologist DIST - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$102,847
Russell, Quiana	T 1 DB - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$66,100
Santos, Dr. Kimberly	Asst. Director of Early Childhood Education MONT - 1.0 FTE	8/4/25 6/30/26	\$133,727*
Sinisi, Maegan	LDT-C MONT - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$81,232
Tordoff, Susan	LDT-C DIST - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$108,388
Tucker, Kenisha	T Multiage 1 st /2 nd SB - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26	\$74,982

+ Pending receipt of NJ teacher certification

* Salary based on ASCA 2024-25 salary guide

4829F. APPOINTMENT OF LEAVE REPLACEMENT STAFF FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR
(This employment is conditional and subject to the disclosure requirement;
pending compliance with NJ Public Law 2018, Chapter 5)

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ACTUAL SALARY
Amato, Brielle	T KDG TUS - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/18/26	\$73,400
Prashad,	T 3	8/27/25	

Breana	TUS - 1.0 FTE	6/18/26	\$66,100
Zimmerman, Gina	T 4 TUS - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/18/26	\$73,400

4829G. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Bowe, Kara	T Drama SOM 1.0 FTE	6/1625-6/19/25 (Paid Maternity Leave) 8/27/25-11/18/25 (Unpaid NJFLA) 11/19/25-1/2/26 (Unpaid Childcare Leave)
Dominguez, Leana	School Counselor MM 1.0 FTE	6/2/25-6/16/25 (Paid Maternity Leave) 6/17/25-6/19/25 (Unpaid Medical Leave) 10/1/25-12/23/25 (Unpaid NJFLA)
Jurist, Susan	T SPED MM 1.0 FTE	8/27/25-10/7/25 (Paid Personal/Family Illness/Sick Days) 10/8/25 (.75 day) (Paid Sick day) 10/8/25 (.25 day)- 1/12/26 (.75 day) (Unpaid NJ FLA)
Maser, Julia	T Math SOM 1.0 FTE	5/19/25-6/17/25 (Paid Maternity Leave) 8/27/25-11/18/25 (Unpaid NJFLA) 11/19/25-1/2/26 (Unpaid Childcare Leave)
Rivera, Stephanie	T SS CHS 1.0 FTE	5/21/25-6/19/25 (Paid Maternity Leave) 8/27/25-11/18/25 (Unpaid NJFLA) 11/19/25-12/12/25 (Unpaid Childcare Leave)
Vezza, Rebecca	T KDG TUS - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25-6/30/26 (Unpaid Personal Leave)

4829H. SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	ADJUSTMENT	ACTUAL SALARY
Cahill, Allison	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$116.82 (per day)	\$1,635.48
Hurley, Pat	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 day)	\$116.82 (per day)	\$1,635.48

Shannon, Robert	T PE/H CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$116.82 (per day)	\$1,635.48
Bennett, Telia	T English CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$101.76 (per day)	\$1,424.64
Comerchero, Jill	T English CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$98.87 (per day)	\$1,384.18
Johnson, Beth	T English CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$106.04 (per day)	\$1,484.56
Martling, Lori	T English CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$125.37 (per day)	\$1,755.18
Whitaker, Thomas	T English CHS - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$123.15 (per day)	\$1,724.10
Benning, Avery	T SPED MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$81.76 (per day)	\$1,144.64
Klein, Betsy	T SPED MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$81.76 (per day)	\$1,144.64
Reiss, Deborah	T SPED MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$87.54 (per day)	\$1,225.56
Soto, Nikki-James	T SPED MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$74.43 (per day)	\$1,042.02
Strauss, Brittany	T SPED MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$78.87 (per day)	\$1,104.18
Battle, April	School Counselor MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$132.39 (per day)	\$1,853.46
White, Nicholas	School Counselor MM - .2 FTE	6/2-6/19/25 (14 days)	\$77.98 (per day)	\$1,091.77
Chirlo, Nicole	T Science SOM - 1.0 FTE	9/1/25 6/30/26	+\$8,350	\$88,082

4829I. TRANSFERS/REASSIGNMENTS

NAME	OLD ASSIGNMENT	NEW ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Jacobs, Shawn	T SPED/SC CLIN - 1.0 FTE	T SPED/SC MAR - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26
Pierce, Kyndell	T Lang. Arts MM - 1.0 FTE	T Lang. Arts SOM - 1.0 FTE	8/27/25 6/30/26

4829J. STIPENDS (see attached list)

4829K. SOMEA PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARD 2024-2025 (see attached list)

4829L. SUMMER EMPLOYMENT (see attached list)

4829M. CURRICULUM WRITERS (see attached list)

4830. REAPPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SECRETARIES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR PAID AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$15.63

NAME		
Nicole Burns	Sabrina Bethea	Michaia Brown
Catherine Cadorette	Fay Clark	Jeanette Copeland

Lisa Fallone	Elyssa Pierre-LeBris	Stacey Maebert
Anna Provenzano	Maria Toledo	Christine Williams

4830B. REAPPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SECRETARIES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR PAID AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$15.13

NAME	
Karen Beno	Cory DuValier
Erica Blythe	Patricia Lewis-Johnson
Deborah Daniel	Melissa Manson

4830C. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SCHOOL NURSES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR PAID AT A DAILY RATE OF \$215

NAME	
Lilyan Cohen	Nkiruka Mgbemena
Hilary Conway	Victoria Pinilis
Elmer Daniels	Lynn Schwartz
Scott Greenstone	Myrna Scott
Jenace Hyman	Nella Weaver
Judith Konicov	Nancy Weinstein

4830D. APPOINTMENT OF SUMMER MAINTENANCE WORKERS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR PAID AT A DAILY RATE OF \$16.88/HR

Steiner, Michael

4830E. APPOINTMENT OF SUMMER COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WORKERS FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR PAID AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$15.49/HR

LIBRARY

Kierah-Zani Andrews-Pascall
Rex Freedman
Mylah Hutton
Makayla Kroduah
Logan Daron Sackett
Ellie Tamir-Hoehn

BOOKROOM

Gabriel Tarrow
Benjamin Wood

4831A. Approves the attached list of students who are scheduled to attend Out-of-District tuition supported programs for the 2025-2026 school year [List on File in Board Secretary's Office].

4831B. Approves the attached list of students who are scheduled to attend Out-of-District tuition supported programs for the 2025-2026 school year [List on File in Board Secretary's Office].

4832A. Receives and accepts the following financial reports:

1. May 2025 Board Secretary's Report
2. May 2025 Treasurer Report
3. June 2025 Transfer Reports
4. June 2025 Expense Account Adjustment Analyses
5. Check Register #426461-426617 in the amount of \$2,880,681.43
6. Check Register#426618-426627 in the amount of \$165,678.62
7. Check Register #426628-426679 in the amount of \$2,299,164.66
8. Check Register #200908 in the amount of \$7,466,728.33 for June 2025 payroll
9. Check Register #200909 in the amount of \$1,723,768.75

4832B. Certify the Board Secretary's Monthly Financial Report.

4832C. Approves the attendance and related travel and/or workshop expenses for the following work-related events:

EMPLOYEE	WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE	DATE(S)	LOCATION	ESTIMATED COSTS
Jennifer Antoni Columbia HS	Ripple Effects Mapping	7/8/25	Princeton, NJ	\$0.00
Ann Bodnar Central Office	AI in EDU Summit	8/12/25- 8/13/25	Woodbury, NJ	\$471.40
Zoila Correa Central	AI in EDU Summit	8/12/25- 8/13/25	Woodbury, NJ	\$486.72
Total				\$958.12

4832D. Approves the following provider(s) for the 2025-2026 school year for the service indicated:

Provider Name	Service	Rate
Maureen Harper, MA, CCP-SLP Montclair, NJ	Social Skills Training Speech/Language Services Speech Therapy	\$125.00/ 30 min.
Lewis m. Milrod, MD, PC Edison, NJ	Pediatric Neurology Evaluations	\$800/eval
Summit Home Health Care Brick, NJ	Nursing Services: LPN/RN	\$80.00/hour
Starlight Home Care LLC dba Star Pediatric Home Care Agency Saddlebrook, NJ	1:1 Registered Nurse (RN) Student Specific	\$64.00/hour \$75.00/hour
	1:1 Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) Student Specific	\$55.00/hour \$75.00/hour

	Substitute School Nurse: Registered	\$64.00/hour
	Transportation Services: (RN/LPN) 3hour min per ride	\$64.00/RN \$55.00/LPN
Delta-T Group North Jersey, Inc. Woodbridge, NJ	Special Education Teacher	\$60.00/hour
	ABA Therapist	\$45.00/hour
	Certified ABA Aid	\$40.00/hour
	BCABA/BCBA	\$115.00/hour
	RN	\$60.00/hour
	LPN	\$50.00/hour
	Home Instructor	\$55.00/hour
	One to One Aides/Teacher's Aide	\$30.00/hour
	Paraprofessionals	\$30.00/hour
	Sub Teachers	\$33.00/hour
	Dual Certified Special Education Teachers	\$70.00/hour
	Teachers (Long Term)	\$38.00/hour
	Certified Teachers	\$42.00/hour
	Home Instructor (dual certification)	\$60.00/hour
	Teacher of the Handicapped	\$60.00/hour
	ESL Teacher	\$55.00/hour
	Reading Specialist	\$60.00/hour
	Registered Behavior Technician	\$50.00/hour
	School Psychologist	\$80.00/hour
	School Social Workers/Counselors	\$65.00/hour
	LDTC	\$80.00/hour
	Job Coach	\$45.00/hour
	Guidance Counselor	\$60.00/hour
	Psychological Evaluation or Re-Evaluation	\$500.00/eval
	Psychological Evaluation or Re-Evaluation (Bi-Lingual)	\$575.00/eval
	Functional Behavioral Assessment	\$620.00/eval

	Functional Behavioral Assessment (Bi-lingual)	\$670.00/eval
	LDTC Evaluations	\$500.00/eval
	LDTC Evaluations (Bi-Lingual)	\$575.00/eval
	IEP Meeting (Flat Rate Per Meeting)	\$170.00/meeting
	Social Evaluations	\$500.00/eval
	Social Evaluations (bi-lingual)	\$575.00/eval
	Speech Evaluation	\$500.00/eval
	Speech Evaluation (bi-lingual)	\$575.00/eval
	OT Evaluation	\$500.00/eval
	OT Evaluation (Bi-Lingual)	\$550.00/eval
Learning Tree Multicultural / Multilingual Evaluation and Consulting, Inc. Greenbrook, NJ	CST Evaluation - Initial and Re-eval: Bilingual Spanish	\$830.00/eval
	Other Bilingual Evaluations	\$880.00/eval

4832E. Approves the use of the following vendors in excess of the \$53,000 for the 2025-2026 school year:

VENDOR NAME	PRODUCT	TYPE OF VENDOR
Frontline	School admin software for recruiting, hiring, time tracking, absence management, Professional Development, Special Education	Other
School Specialty	Classroom & Library Supplies	State Contract
Triple S	Custodial Supplies	Co-op

4832F. Accepts school year 2025-2026 New Jersey Nonpublic Textbook Aid Entitlement Funds in the amount of \$11,402.00 to be allocated as follows:

SCHOOL	PUPILS	STATE AID
Our Lady of Sorrows	185	\$10,290.00
Weekday	20	\$ 1,112.00

4832G. Accepts school year 2025-2026 New Jersey Nonpublic Nursing Aid

Entitlement Funds in the amount of \$31,595.00 to be allocated as follows:

SCHOOL	PUPILS	STATE AID
Our Lady of Sorrows	185	\$26,936.00
So Orange Country Day School	12	\$ 1,747.00
Weekday	20	\$ 2,912.00

4832H. Accepts school year 2025-2026 New Jersey Nonpublic Technology Aid Entitlement Funds in the amount of \$8,137.00 to be allocated as follows:

SCHOOL	PUPILS	STATE AID
Our Lady of Sorrows	185	\$ 7,343.00
Weekday	20	\$ 794.00

4832I. Accepts school year 2025-2026 New Jersey Nonpublic Security Aid Entitlement Funds in the amount of \$42,025.00 to be allocated as follows:

SCHOOL	PUPILS	STATE AID
Our Lady of Sorrows	185	\$37,925.00
Weekday	20	\$ 4,100.00

4832J. Enters into an agreement with Essex Regional Educational Services Commission to provide Security Services to nonpublic school students for the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

4832K. Enters into an agreement with Essex Regional Educational Services Commission to provide Technology Services to nonpublic school students for the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

4832L. Approves the agreement with NJ Commission for the Blind & Visually Impaired of Newark, New Jersey, to provide services for district students who are visually impaired for the 2025-2026 school year at the following rates:

Level 1	\$ 2,541.00/year
Level 2	\$ 6,064.00/year
Level 3	\$16,863.00/year
Level 4	\$19,161.00/year

4832M. Approves an agreement with Union County Educational Services Commission for the following services:

SERVICE	FEE
Child Study Team Evaluation (Standard) with written report & protocols	\$420.00
Educational Evaluation	\$420.00

WJ IV Ach subtests 1-13 (or equivalent)	
Psychological Evaluation - Standard Wechsler Battery subtests 1-0 (or equivalent)	\$420.00
Social History - Full Social History Narrative Report	\$420.00
Speech/Language Evaluation Includes 2 appropriate speech/ language evaluations; one of which will be comprehensive	\$420.00
Articulation OR Fluency Only Evaluation	\$125.00
Addition of Oral Language to the WJIV	\$75.00
Other additional Subtests to WJ or Wechsler	\$75.00
Additional Supplemental Educational, Speech or Psychological Evaluation	\$300.00
Spanish Bilingual Educational or Psychological Standard Evaluation	\$525.00
CST Review of Records and or review and accept outside evaluation plus written	\$75.00
CST Classroom Observation plus written report	\$75.00
Evaluation Rush Fee (within 2 weeks) Dependent on availability of evaluators	\$50.00
Hourly CST/SLP - Meeting attendance, Consultation, Other CST needs (min of 2 hours)	\$100.00
Speech Services - Individual or group articulation, fluency and/or language sessions (min 2 hours)	\$110.00
Case Management (for CST initial and/or re-evaluations) Basic	\$375.00/case
IEP Development Fee	\$125.00/case
Annual Review	\$275.00/case
Goals and Objectives Creation	\$100.00/subject area
Full Functional Behavior Assessment	\$850.00/Full FBA & BIP
Team Meeting to Review FBA/BIP	\$150.00/hour Additional
Behavior Intervention Plan Staff Training	\$150.00/hour
On Site BCBA hourly	\$150.00/hour
On Site BCBA per diem	Call for rates
Administrative Support	Call for rates
Paraprofessional/TA/RBT Behavioral or SPED Training	\$100.00/participants (1-14) \$80.00/participants (15+)
BCBA Professional Development/CEUs	Call for rates
OT/PT/Bilingual Services and Evaluations	Agency Fee/Rate plus 6% admin fee
Administrative Support	Call for Rates

UCESC Student Discount	10% discount to the above rates
Requests for less than 2 hours	Call for rates
Negotiable/Discounted rates for larger/bulk request	Call for rates/contract

4832N. Approves a parking space lease agreement with Southwoods 10 LLC, to lease 5 designated parking spaces at South Orange Middle School at an annual cost of \$2,100 per parking space for a total of \$10,500. The agreement shall commence on September 1, 2025 and terminate on August 31, 2026.

4832O. Approves the submission of an application for FY 2026 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act entitlement funds as follows:

- Part B Allocation \$1,634,129.00
- Preschool Allocation \$ 48,042.00

4832P. Accepts a donation in the amount of \$4,405.00 from the Columbia High School Music Parents Association (CHSMPA) towards the purchase of a truck to transport marching and instruments and equipment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4832Q. Accepts the donation of a used 20' Dry Van Container from the Columbia High School Cougar Booster Organization valued at \$1,425.00 to be stored at Underhill Field.

4832R. Approves a Memorandum of Agreement with Drew University and the South Orange Maplewood School District to provide clinical training experiences for students in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program, effective June 1, 2025 through May 31, 2025.

4832S. Approves an agreement with Seton Hall University Clinical Nursing Program to provide the University's students an opportunity to obtain clinical nursing. This agreement shall be in effect August 25, 2025 through August 25, 2028.

4832T. Approves an agreement with Western Governors University, a Utah nonprofit corporation (WGU), for the purposes of providing students enrolled at WGU (teacher candidates) field experience. This agreement shall be in effect July 21, 2025 - July 21, 2028.

4832U. Renews the contract with Instructure, Inc. of Salt Lake City, UT for the Canvas Learning Management System for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$81,214.92.

4832V. WHEREAS, Imani Moody, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, possesses a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) certificate;

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Governor and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-7 and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (b), has increased the bid threshold amount for school districts with a Qualified Purchasing Agent, from \$44,000 to **\$53,000**, effective July 1, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), establishes and sets the bid threshold amount of **\$53,000** for the school district, and further authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, the Qualified Purchasing Agent, to award contracts, in full accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), for those purchases that do not exceed in the aggregate of the newly established bid threshold amount.

Furthermore, for contracts in the aggregate that are less than the bid threshold but fifteen (15%) or more of the amount, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall award contracts after soliciting at least two competitive quotations.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-37 (c), is authorized to award contracts that are in the aggregate less than fifteen (15%) percent of the bid threshold without soliciting competitive quotations.

4832W. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3(i), we approve the submission of the 10% transfer report for transfers between 7/1/2024 and 6/30/2025 to the Executive County Superintendent.

4832X. Approves the following change order to the contract with Paul Otto Building Company for Renovations to South Orange Middle School.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Change Order #</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Paul Otto Building Co. (General Allowance)	3	\$98,896.90

4832Y. Accepts a donation to Columbia High School in the amount of \$13,247.45.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the following budget is increased and the Superintendent or his designee is authorized to administer it:

20-068-200-890-CH-5900	Columbia High School	\$ 13,247.45
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

4833. Affirms the HIB investigations reported to the South Orange/Maplewood School District for the month of June 2025.

- 4834A. Adopt Policy 2314 Academic Placement.
- 4834B. Adopt Policy 2365 Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- 4834C. Adopt Policy 5533 Student Smoking.
- 4834D. Adopt Policy 5701 Academic Integrity.
- 4834E. Adopt Regulation 1570 Internal Controls.
- 4835-1. Approves the first reading of Policy 5120 Assignment of Students.
- 4835-2. Approves the first reading of Policy 5124 Internal Student Transfers.
- 4835-3. Approves the first reading of Policy 9120 Public Relations Program.
4836. Adopts the following books:

SUBJECT	GRADE	TITLE/AUTHOR	PUBLISHER/DATE
Mathematics	6,7 & 8	Eureka Math	Great Minds 2021

ROLL CALL: Motion 4830 YES: Bennett, Brown, Callahan, DuVall Wilson, Eckert, Kapadia, Meyer NO: None ABSTAIN: Sackett-Gable (conflict)

Motion 4835-2 YES: Bennett, Brown, DuVall Wilson, Eckert, Kapadia, Meyer, Sackett-Gable: NO: Callahan

Motion 4829A-M, 4831A-B, 4832A-Y, 4833, 4834, 4835-1, 4835-3, 4836 PASSED YES: Bennett, Brown, Callahan, DuVall Wilson, Eckert, Kapadia, Meyer, Sackett-Gable NO: None

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

NONE.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Future Meetings

The Board of Education will meet in Public Session on Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 6:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Immediately following the opening of Public Session, the board will move to go into a Closed Session in the Superintendent's Office, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ, as well as using an online video conference platform to discuss personnel, matters within the attorney-client privilege, legal, negotiations, and other matters that may arise and

require discussion, to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session (estimated to be 7:30 pm) in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ in person, utilizing an online video conference platform which will include Hearing of Individuals. The community can view the meeting by following the steps which will be listed on the agenda. If there are members of the community who would like to attend the meeting in person, please note that masks and social distancing are optional in accordance with the guidance received from the local DOH and the CDC. Action will be taken.

Motion made by Board Member President Duvall Wilson, seconded by Board Member Brown to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 10:21 p.m.

Imani Moody, Board Secretary