

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 4906A

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL REPORTS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education receives and accepts the following financial reports:

1. December 2025 Board Secretary's Report
2. December 2025 Treasurer Report
3. December 2025 Transfer Report
4. December 2025 Expense Account Adjustment Analyses
5. Check Register in the amount of \$
6. Check Register in the amount of \$
7. December 2025 Payroll Register in the amount of \$

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906B

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: BOARD OF EDUCATION'S MONTHLY CERTIFICATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.12(e), we certify that as of December 31, 2025 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29 2026

RESOLUTION 4906C

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE ATTENDANCE AND WORK RELATED TRAVEL
AND/OR WORKSHOP EXPENSES

WHEREAS, the following employees have requested approval for the indicated work-related travel and/or online workshop; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at stated function was previously approved by the employees' supervisor and superintendent as work-related and within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendee; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the function was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves the attendance and related travel and/or workshop expenses for the following work-related events:

EMPLOYEE	WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE	DATE(S)	LOCATION	ESTIMATED COSTS
Suzanne Ackley Columbia HS	Empowering Instruction: Strategies for NJTSS Success	2/5/26	Monroe Township, NJ	\$0.00
Erin Bolstad Marshall	Success Using I-Ready and Literacy Integration for NJ Educators	2/25/26	Monroe Township, NJ	\$41.83
Henry Bottiglierie Central Office	NJSBGA Expo/Conference 2026	3/22/26- 3/25/26	Atlantic City, NJ	\$740.80
Eshaya Draper Central Office	NJSPRA Winter 2026 Workshop	1/13/26	Monroe Township, NJ	\$90.63
Christine Houseworth Columbia HS	Engaging Secondary Newcomers	3/10/26	Trenton, NJ	\$67.39
Dennis James Central Office	NJSBGA Expo/Conference 2026	3/22/26- 3/25/26	Atlantic City, NJ	\$740.80
Keysha Knight Columbia HS	Managing Multiple Projects, Objectives and Deadlines	2/27/26	Virtual	\$149.00
Michael Loupis Columbia HS	ASAP NJ 39 th Annual Conference	3/5/26- 3/6/26	Princeton, NJ	\$350.00
Chelsea Pasquale South Orange MS	NJ Music Educators State Conference	2/19/26- 2/21/26	Atlantic City, NJ	\$0.00

Lavonne Wallace Clinton School	Emerging Leaders Conference	2/24/26	Monroe Township, NJ	\$452.54
Total				\$2,632.99

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

New Jersey travel regulations (NJAC 6A:23B), Board Policy 8880 – Reimbursement of Travel Related Expenses, and newly enacted legislation [18A:11-12] require prior approval by the Superintendent and by a majority of the full membership of the Board of Education for reimbursement of travel and related expenses of an employee.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906D

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AND
RELATED TRAVEL AND/OR WORKSHOP EXPENSES

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves the following attendance and/or workshop related expenses:

BOARD MEMBER	EVENT	DATE	Location	Estimated Cost (\$'s)
Elizabeth Callahan	Women's Leadership Conference 2026	3/20/26	Ewing, NJ	\$177.50
Meredith Higgins	Women's Leadership Conference 2026	3/20/26	Ewing, NJ	\$177.50
Meredith Higgins	New Board Member Orientation Weekend	2/20/26-2/22/26	Plainsboro Township, NJ	\$0.00
Shayna Sackett- Gable	Women's Leadership Conference 2026	3/20/26	Ewing, NJ	\$177.50
Paul Stephan	New Board Member Orientation Weekend	2/20/26-2/22/26	Plainsboro Township, NJ	\$0.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves the above event to be work related and within the scope of the work responsibilities of the of the attendee and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthering of efficient operation of the school district and is fiscally prudent, and in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 and 24.1 of the School Ethics Act.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

New Jersey travel regulations (NJAC 6A:23B), Board Policy 8880 – Reimbursement of Travel Related Expenses, and newly enacted legislation [18A:11-12] require prior approval by the Superintendent and by a majority of the full membership of the Board of Education for reimbursement of travel and related expenses of a Board member.

Given the district's financial constraints, Board Members Higgins and Sacket-Gable generously volunteered to reimburse the district for their attendance at the Women's Leadership Conference.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906E

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPOINT PAUL STEPHAN AS A MEMBER OF THE REPRESENTATIVE
ASSEMBLY OF THE ESSEX REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
COMMISSION FOR 2026

WHEREAS, pursuant to NJSA 18:A:6-61 et seq., the South Orange and Maplewood Board of Education must elect one of its members to represent it on the Representative Assembly of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission; and

WHEREAS, the South Orange and Maplewood Board of Education has held such an election among its members;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Superintendent of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission be notified that Paul Stephan has been duly elected as a member of the Representative Assembly of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of the minutes indicating such election be forwarded to the Superintendent/Board Secretary of the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906F

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE SERVICE PROVIDER(S)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves the following provider(s) for the 2025-2026 school year for the service indicated:

Provider Name	Service	Rate
Jag Athletic Training Bridgewater, NJ	Athletic Trainer	\$85.00/hour \$90.00/hour Holidays

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The provider(s) will perform services and/or evaluations for students as needed. Pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law N.J.S.A. 18A:4-1, et seq., the Board is permitted to enter into professional service contracts without the necessity of public bidding.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906G

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVES USE OF VENDORS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education 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
Map International Import & Export Corp.	Food Service Supplies & Equipment	CO-OP
Kiker Learning	Professional Development	Other
Meritain Health	Health Insurance	Other
Standard Insurance	Disability Insurance	Other

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Board is required to approve spending authority above \$53,000 for items not awarded by public bidding. Copyrighted materials and vendors on co-op and state contract are exempt from public bidding.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906H

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: ACCEPT COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT,
AUDITOR’S MANAGEMENT REPORT, AUDIT FINDINGS,
RECOMMENDATIONS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR
THE 2024-2025 AUDIT

WHEREAS, the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education has received the audit; reviewed the recommendations contained in the Management Report on Administrative Findings, Financial, Compliance and Performance Reporting Audit Report for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 as prepared by PKF O’Connor Davies, LLP; and

WHEREAS, the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, does hereby,

1. Authorize the Board Secretary to enter said discussion in the minutes of this meeting;
2. Accept the audit and approve and authorize the implementation of a Corrective Action Plan that addresses the Audit Findings and Recommendations in the Management Report on Administrative Findings, Financial, Compliance and Performance for the Fiscal Year ending June 2025, presented by PKF O’Connor Davies, LLP.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Administrator to produce two (2) certified copies of said Corrective Action Plan to be filed with the County Superintendent of Schools and the State Department of Education.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906I

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: ACCEPT DONATION TO PARENTING CENTER

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation to the Parenting Center in the amount of \$1,000.00.

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

20-019-200-890	Parenting Center	\$1,000.00
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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.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This generous donation was made by United Methodist Women Morrow to support the Parenting Center.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906J

FOR ACTION

**SUBJECT: APPLY FOR GRANT TO REPAIR/REPLACE PLAYGROUND &
GYM EQUIPMENT**

Whereas, the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education desires to apply for and obtain a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000 to carry out a project to meet state compliance and safety needs throughout the district including remediation of gymnasium partitions, basketball backstops, batting cage, gymnasium seating and playgrounds.

Be it therefore RESOLVED,

1. That the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and,
2. Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

Be it further RESOLVED, that the persons whose names, titles, and signatures appear below are authorized to sign the application, and that they or their successors in said titles are authorized to sign the agreement, and any other documents necessary in connection therewith:

- Jason Bing, Superintendent
- William Meyer, Board President

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906K

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE CLINICAL AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH LONG
ISLAND UNIVERSITY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a Clinical Affiliation Agreement with Long Island University for the purposes of providing field/clinical experience for university students enrolled in the Speech Language Pathology program. The agreement is effective for one year beginning on January 15, 2026.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of this clinical affiliation agreement is to identify the mutual responsibilities and expectations of the University and the District.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906L

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH MONTCLAIR
STATE UNIVERSITY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a Memorandum of Agreement with Montclair State University for the purposes of providing a practicum environment for university students enrolled in the Masters Level Speech Language Pathology Program. The agreement is effective for one year beginning on January 29, 2026.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of this clinical affiliation agreement is to identify the mutual responsibilities and expectations of the University and the District.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 4906M

FOR ACTION

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO JOIN METROPOLITAN HEALTH INSURANCE
 FUND**

WHEREAS, a number of public entities in the State of New Jersey have joined together to form the METROPOLITAN HEALTH INSURANCE FUND, hereafter referred to as "FUND", as permitted by N.J.S.A. 11:15-3, 17:1-8.1, and 40A:10-36 et seq., and;

WHEREAS, the FUND was approved to become operational by the Departments of Insurance and Community Affairs and has been operational since that date, and;

WHEREAS, the statutes and regulations governing the creation and operation of a joint insurance fund, contain certain elaborate restrictions and safeguards concerning the safe and efficient administration of the public interest entrusted to such a FUND;

WHEREAS, the governing body of South Orange Maplewood Board of Education, hereinafter referred to as "LOCAL UNIT" has determined that membership in the FUND is in the best interest of the LOCAL UNIT.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the LOCAL UNIT hereby agrees as follows:

- i. Become a member of the FUND for the period outlined in the LOCAL UNIT's Indemnity and Trust Agreements.
- ii. Will participate in the following type (s) of coverage (s):
 - a. Medicare Advantage / Health Insurance and/or Prescription Insurance and/or Dental Insurance as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 17B:17-4, the FUND's Bylaws, and Plan of Risk Management.
- iii. Adopts and approves the FUND's Bylaws.
- iv. Execute an application for membership and any accompanying certifications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the governing body of the LOCAL UNIT is authorized and directed to execute the Indemnity and Trust Agreement and such other documents signifying membership in the FUND as required by the FUND's Bylaws, and to deliver these documents to the FUND's Executive Director with the express reservation that these documents shall become effective only upon:

- i. Approval of the LOCAL UNIT by the FUND.
- ii. Receipt from the LOCAL UNIT of a Resolution accepting assessment.
- iii. Approval by the New Jersey Department of Insurance and Department of Community Affairs.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

DRAFT

RESOLUTION 4906N

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A FUND COMMISSIONER

BE IT RESOLVED by the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education that Imani Moody be and is hereby appointed as FUND Commissioner to the Metropolitan Health Insurance Fund to represent South Orange Maplewood Board of Education (and/or district).

AND;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Tiffani Reneau be and is hereby appointed as Alternate Fund Commissioner to the Metropolitan Health Insurance Fund effective January 1, 2026.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 49060

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR
IMPROVEMENTS AT RITZER FIELD

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves a professional services agreement with Spiezle Architectural Group for Improvements at Ritzer Field for additional soil sampling and materials management plan at a cost of \$19,600.00.

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.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Spiezle Architectural Group will provide the services as described above and as outlined in the proposal.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906P

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: **APPROVE COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT WITH
BUYBOARD PURCHASING COOPERATIVE**

WHEREAS N.J.S.A.40A: 11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative (BuyBoard) hereinafter referred to as the Lead Agency has offered voluntary participation in the Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services; and

WHEREAS the governing body of BuyBoard is a nine (9) member Board of Directors composed of officials and employees of Cooperative members and employees and appointees of sponsoring and administering School Boards Associations around the country duly considered the establishment of a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and the performance of goods and services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education, by the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Administrator hereby authorizes the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education to participate in the Cooperative Pricing System with BuyBoard Purchasing Cooperative; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A.40A11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SOUTH ORANGE AND MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
PUBLIC BOARD MEETING
January 29, 2026

RESOLUTION 4906Q

FOR ACTION

SUBJECT: ACCEPT DONATION TO COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL STRINGS
PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education accepts a donation of a 1998 Tartini Viola 16 to benefit the Columbia High School Strings Program. The approximate value of the donation is \$1,000.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The viola was generously donated by community member Liz Nolan. It was examined by Finlay & Gage Musical Instruments, who assessed its market value. Mr. Manno, the Supervisor of Fine and Performing Arts, has determined that the viola would be a valuable addition to the program.