ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 6, 2026 – BUDGET HEARING / REGULAR MEETING

6:00 pm – Public Session — **Copeland Middle School – Cafeteria**
Immediately into Closed Session — **Copeland Middle School – Library**
7:00 pm – Public Session — **Copeland Middle School – Cafeteria**

Details for how to access the Public Meeting through remote means will be posted on the district website at www.rocktwp.net. The Public is strongly encouraged to participate. Community members can watch the meeting live online. Members of the public are encouraged to attend in person to provide public comment.

VISION
Rockaway Township Schools…Opening minds, openings worlds, so every child's potential becomes a reality and challenges become opportunities for personal success!

MISSION
To nurture a supportive culture embracing individual diversity that will ensure academic, social and emotional success for all.

2025-2026 BOARD GOALS			
GOAL I	GOAL II	GOAL III	GOAL IV
Ensure continued academic excellence by: a. Evaluating consistent practical application of the district-aligned curriculum. b. Analyzing internal and external data points to ensure curriculum consistency and effectiveness.	Maintain a safe and supportive school district culture by: a. Promoting inclusivity, equity, and a culture of mutual respect for all students and staff. b. Providing the resources to support a school environment conducive to social and emotional health and increased cohesive service-learning initiatives.	Promote community outreach and enhanced communications by: a. Bridging the gaps in communication with the Rockaway Township community members. b. Providing guided, expectation-based discourse to facilitate conversations with the individuals who live, work, and learn in Rockaway Township.	Support operational excellence that is sensitive to the growing and changing educational landscape by: a. Evaluating the needs of the district and creating fiscally responsible priorities through the use of the provided financial and operational reports. b. Determining and executing the next steps for investing in operational priorities.

2025-2026 DISTRICT GOALS				
GOAL I	GOAL II	GOAL III	GOAL IV	GOAL V
By June 2026, the district will increase the percentage of students meeting or exceeding expectations on the NJSLA in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics by an additional 5% across all grade levels (4–8) compared to the 2024–2025 performance results.	By the end of each instructional unit during the 2025–2026 school year, 100% of district math teachers will administer the "End of Unit" i-Ready assessment. In ELA, 100% of teachers in grades K–2 will administer the SuperKids Benchmark Assessments, Grade 3 teachers will administer the Magnetic Reading End of Unit Assessment, and teachers in grades 4–8 will administer the Common Assessments outlined in the District Curricula.	Improve the climate and culture in each school by completing the following items: ● Revising the district Culture and Climate Surveys to be more relevant to current needs. ● Decreasing the number of confirmed HIBs. ● Sending nine counselors to Strauss-Esmay HIB training with uniform messaging. ● Sending five district principals to the Strauss-Esmay HIB training with uniform messaging. ● Continuing to review and dissect exemplars of HIBs.	Building principals will collaborate with Instructional Council representatives, PTA leadership, SEPAC, and teachers to coordinate a minimum of five parent presentations a year that reflect the academic programming in their schools and district. ● Teachers will create Engaging presentations that reflect instructional practices and programing in the district. ● Coordinate topics and events that are aligned with the district curricula. ● Provide parents with a schedule of topics and dates for presentations. ● Survey parents on the effectiveness of presentations.	Continue addressing the district's facility needs through the systematic execution of the district's Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP), while incorporating any emergent needs that necessitate amendments to that plan. Create a sustainable cyclical schedule of repair and replacement across the district to ensure buildings remain in their best possible operating condition at all times.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
CLOSED SESSION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
PUBLIC DISCUSSION

I. **COMMUNICATIONS**
II. **APPROVE MINUTES**
III. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/HIB UPDATE**
IV. **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/BUDGET PRESENTATION 2026-2027**
V. **STUDENT SERVICES PRESENTATION**
VI. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
VII. **RECOMMENDED ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION**
- A. Personnel
- B. HIB
- C. Education
- D. Special Education
- E. Administration
- F. Finance
- G. Policy

VIII. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
- A. Old Business
- B. New Business

IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Call to Order
_____ called the meeting to order at _____pm.

Attendance Roll Call						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

Others in Attendance				
Dr. Corbett	Mrs. Slamb	Board Attorney	Visitors	Press

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The New Jersey "Open Public Meetings Act" was passed to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed and acted upon. In accordance with the provision of the "Act", the Rockaway Township Board of Education has caused notice of the date, time, and place of said meetings to be published in "The Daily Record," "The Star Ledger," and be posted in all schools in the district, in the Municipal Building of the Township and the Township Library. *Does any Board Member wish to object to the conduct of this meeting for the purpose as stated in the public notice*

PUBLIC NOTICE

All documentation and materials considered by the Board of Education as part of this agenda are available for public review and comment. Members of the public are invited to come to the Board of Education building, off Green Pond Road, during the regular business hours of 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, if they wish to inspect any of the referenced items.

Pledge of Allegiance	
Motion to waive Pledge until Open session by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to waive Pledge	

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act," the Rockaway Township Board of Education will meet in closed session to discuss matters involving personnel, litigation, acquisition of real property, security, negotiations, receipt of governmental funds, the content of said discussions will be disclosed to the public at such time and extent as is required by law.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion to go into closed session by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to enter closed session	
Closed Session starts at _____ pm.	

Motion to come out of closed session by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to end closed session	
Closed Session ends at _____ pm.	

Reconvene at _____ pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

During the course of the board meeting, the Rockaway Township Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operations of the Rockaway Township Public Schools. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operations of the School District. Issues raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered and a response will be forthcoming if and when appropriate. The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking, Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by the members of the public. Members of the public should consider their comments in light of the legal rights of those affected or identified in the comments and be aware that they are legally responsible and liable for their comments.

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open First Public Comment	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close First Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

I. COMMUNICATIONS:

Kristen Lawhorn	5159.2 and Dated Register
Asha Abaza	Principal Bayer
Lauren Reszka	In Support of Mr. Bayer
Gregg Nelson	Keep Dustin Bayer at Copeland
Erin Fontana	Mr. Bayer at Copeland
Monica Estrada	Keep Mr. Bayer at Copeland
Inga Donskaya	Our principal Mr. Bayer
Deanna Plumb	Copeland Middle School
Christina Markowitch	Regarding Principal Bayer
Viviana Gutierrez Jimenez	Disagree with the removal of Mr. Bayer
Christina Siegfried-Farro	Principal Bayer
Shannon Scherr	Staff Support of Dustin Bayer
Jennifer Korman	Mr. Bayer
Heather Batten	Concern Regarding Leadership Decision at Copeland Middle School
Chetna Patel	Support for Principal Bayer
Thomas Nicolicchia	Copeland Middle School
Jennifer Skolsky	The Rockaway Township Board of Education, The Rockaway Township Community Calls on the BOE to Review the Non-Renewal of Principal Bayer's Contract
Sarah Collard	Mr. Bayer
Jeril Nadar	Copeland Principal
Joe and Joann Rebecky	Principal Bayer
Christopher Jackson	Wednesday May 6 Board Meeting Letter in Support of D. B.
Coreen Manicone	Mr. Bayer and Copeland Middle School

II. APPROVE MINUTES

Approve Minutes	
Motion to approve the minutes by:	**Seconded by:**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the minutes of April 15, 2026 and April 22, 2026.

Approve Minutes Roll Call						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT/HIB UPDATE

IV. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/BUDGET PRESENTATION 2026-2027

V. STUDENT SERVICES PRESENTATION

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VII. RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD ACTION

A. Personnel	
Motion to approve Personnel Items by:	**Seconded by:**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following personnel resolutions

A.	Appointment						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	Special Education Teacher	Thalia Johnson	$200.00 per day	CMS	**5/4/26	6/30/26	Long-term substitute
2.	PT Staff Assistant	6649	$23.40/hr. (Step 4)	DBO	**4/27/26	6/30/26	Reassignment to PT Staff Assistant
3.	PSD Teacher	Caryl Sambrato	No change.	BWD	**4/27/26	6/30/26	Reassignment to PSD classroom
4.	PT Staff Assistant/Bus Monitor	Deborah Tanner	$23.40/hr. (Step 4)	TRANS.	**5/1/26	6/30/26	Reassignment of hours from 18 hrs. 20 mins./wk. to 22.5 hrs./wk. due to route change
5.	PT Staff Assistant/Bus Monitor	Melanie Valencia Vanegas	$22.18/hr. (Step 1)	TRANS.	**5/1/26	6/30/26	Reassignment from Sub Bus Assistant to PT Staff Assistant/Bus Monitor 17.5 hrs./wk. (Replacing Employee 5941)
6.	Contracted Bus Driver	Juan Vargas	$23,894.00 prorated	TRANS.	**5/1/26	6/30/26	Reassignment from Sub Bus Driver to Contracted Bus Driver

B.	Appointment Per Attached Lists						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	2025-2026 CMS Stipends	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay (prorated)	CMS	**4/29/26	5/15/26	6th Section Coverage As assigned
2.	2025-2026 ABA Stipends - KDM	Per the attached list	Per contracted rate of pay	KDM	25-26 SY		Autism classroom with ABA training

C.	Leave of Absence						
	Position	**Employee Number**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	Purchasing Secretary	4542		CMS	5/13/26 6/8/26	6/5/26 6/26/26	With Pay under FMLA With Pay Return: 6/29/26

2.	Special Education Teacher	4372		CMS	**5/4/26	6/18/26	Extended with Pay under FMLA Return: 1st day of 26-27 SY
3.	Physical Education/ Health Teacher	4761		CMS	**4/20/26	**5/3/26	With Pay under FMLA Return: 5/4/26
4.	MLL Teacher	7117		CAD	5/29/26 6/4/26	6/3/26 6/18/26	With Pay under FMLA Without Pay under FMLA Return: 1st day of 26-27 SY

D.	Resignation/Retirement						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	Spanish Teacher	Rosana Badishkanian		CMS		7/1/26	Retirement
2.	Social Studies Teacher	Joyce Harquail		CMS		7/1/26	Retirement
3.	PT Staff Assistant	Shirley Nadar		KDM		**4/30/26	Resignation
4.	Network Technician	Steven Rome		DIST.		5/11/26	Resignation
5.	School Secretary	Judite Wallin		KDM		6/30/26	Retirement

E.	Reemployment - Approve the reemployment and salaries for the following staff for the 2026-2027 school year					
	Nature of Action	**Position**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Date Effective**	**Discussion**
1.	Reemployment	Administrators	Per the contracted salary	DIST.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
2.	Reemployment	Custodial/Maintenance	Per the contracted salary	MAINT.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
3.	Reemployment	Miscellaneous Staff	Per the contracted salary	DIST.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
4.	Reemployment	Secretarial/Clerical	Per the contracted salary	DIST.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
5.	Reemployment	Staff Assistants	Per the contracted salary	DIST.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
6.	Reemployment	Teachers	Per the contracted salary	DIST.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
7.	Reemployment	Technology Department	Per the contracted salary	DIST.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list
8.	Reemployment	Transportation Department	Per the contracted salary	TRANS.	26/27 SY	Per the attached list

F.	Substitute Teachers						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Level**	**Discussion**
1.	Substitute Teacher – New Hire	Talia Criso	$175.00 per day	DIST.	25-26 SY	County	Pending physical/Mantoux
2.	Substitute Teacher – New Hire	Alexander Price	$175.00 per day	DIST.	25-26 SY	County	Pending Mantoux

G.	Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the revision of the following previously approved motion under Personnel (Motion A-12 and Motion C-7, 4-15-26 agenda).						
	Position	**Name**	**Salary**	**Location**	**Start Date Eff.**	**Date Term.**	**Discussion**
1.	Substitute Bus Driver	Juan Vargas	$30.00/hr.	TRANS.	**4/20/26	**4/30/26	Corrected rate of pay and revised effective dates
2.	Special Education Teacher	6759		CMS	**4/24/26	5/15/26	Revised dates of LOA With Pay under FMLA Return: 5/18/26

Personnel Items Key		
**on/before effective date*	***concurrent*	****on/after effective date*

Roll Call Vote on Personnel Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

B. HIB Determination	
Motion to approve HIB Determination by:	**Seconded by:**

HIB Resolution

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB Incidents: #305326 unconfirmed, #305961 unconfirmed, #306146 unconfirmed, #306201 unconfirmed, #306202 unconfirmed, #306204 unconfirmed which were conducted following these complaints; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education was advised of any consequences and/or remedial measures related to these matters as well as the Superintendent's recommendation regarding the results of these investigations; and

THEREFORE, BE IT resolved that the Board of Education votes to affirm the Superintendent's recommendation on HIB cases: #305326 unconfirmed, #305961 unconfirmed, #306146 unconfirmed, #306201 unconfirmed, #306202 unconfirmed, #306204 unconfirmed.

Roll Call Vote on HIB Determination						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr.Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

HIB Current Investigations

305592	306203	306633	306666	306757
306864	307444	307713	307714	

HIB Incident Summary: (as per attached)

C. Education	
Motion to approve Education recommendations by:	**Seconded by:**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board agrees to the following unavoidable registration and/or travel costs as presented, which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursements are in compliance with the State travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A-23B-1.1 et seq.

Employee	Workshop Title	Organization	Workshop Location	Workshop Dates	Registration Fee	Travel/Hotel/Incidentals Cost	Total Cost
Jennifer Saxton	NJIP Summer All-In Conference	All In For Inclusive Ed	Union, NJ	5-28-26	No Cost	$28.24	$28.24

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following student(s) to complete their Clinical I and Clinical II requirements during the 2026-2027 school year

Student Teacher/Intern	College/University	Cooperating Teacher/Location
Jessica Franqueira*	Montclair State University	Tara Hempel/KDM
Wing Yan Hui*	Montclair State University	Sandra Bornemann/DBO
Antonetta Albano *	Montclair State University	Thea Arico/SB
Margaret Drislane*	Montclair State University	Danielle Maute/DBO
Andrew Joskowitz*	Montclair State University	Catherine Briggs/KDM

*Pending satisfactory completion of District requirements

3. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the stipends/salaries funded with Federal Grants as follows:

Teacher	Grade/Position	Location	Stipend/Salary	% Funded
Christine Ciampi	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hours/week)	CMS	$48.00/hour	100% Title I
Sarah Gallopo-Hill	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hours/week)	CMS	$48.00/hour	100% Title I
Jenna Gonzalez	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hours/week)	CMS	$48.00/hour	100% Title I
Kelly McEvoy	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hours/week)	CMS	$48.00/hour	100% Title I
Lynn Mondello	Title I After School Teacher (up to 2 hours/week)	CMS	$48.00/hour	100% Title I

4. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Field Trip requests (as per attached).

BOARD DISCUSSION

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate

Open Public Comment on Education Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

Roll Call Vote on Education Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

D. Special Education	
Motion to approve Special Education recommendations by:	**Seconded by:**

1. **Extended School Year 2025-2026 Transportation**
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the extended school year transportation provided by the Educational Services Commission of Morris County for the following students as per their IEP needs.

Student Number	Attending School
#00423	Midland School
#00354	Glenview Academy

2. **Advancing Opportunities – Assistive Technology Services Contract**
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Advancing Opportunities for services for the 2026-2027 school year (as per attached)

3. **J and B Therapy, LLC**
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract between Rockaway Township Board of Education and J and B Therapy, LLC for services for the 2026-2027 school year (as per attached)

4. **Rescind Itinerant Services Tuition – for SY 2025-2026**
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board rescinds the itinerant services tuition contract for the following student for the 2025-2026 school year (10/15/2025, D-1).

Student #	School	Location	Tuition Rate
#01381	Mountain Lakes	Rockaway, Birchwood	**Tuition Rate** $1,900.00 (1) 50 minute session per month $190 (per session)

5. **Out of District Placement Tuition**
Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the tuition contracts for the following out of district placement students for the 2026-2027 school year:

Student #	School	Location	Tuition Rate
#00354	Glenview Academy	Oak Ridge, NJ	**Tuition Rate** $102,552.88 **Extraordinary Services** $64,660.00
#00704	The Craig School	Mountain Lakes, NJ	**Tuition Rate** $68,250.00

BOARD DISCUSSION

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Special Education Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

Roll Call Vote on Special Education Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

E. Administration	
Motion to approve Administration recommendations by:	**Seconded by:**

1. **Emergency Evacuation Use Agreement SY 2026-2027**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the board authorizes the Emergency Evacuation Use Agreement between Rockaway Township Board of Education and County College of Morris for the 2026-2027 school year. The term of this Agreement shall be from May 6, 2026, through June 30, 2027 (as per attached).

2. **YMCA Use of District Premises/Facilities Agreement SY 2026-2027**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the contract between Rockaway Township Board of Education and West Morris Area YMCA for the use of district school premises for the 2026-2027 school year (as per attached).

3. **Education Services Commission of Morris County – Joint Transportation Agreement**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the contract between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Educational Services Commission of Morris County to provide transportation for students to athletic events, routes and trips for the 2026-2027 school year (as per attached)

4. **Educational Services Commission of Morris County - Shared Services Agreement and Addendum**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board authorizes the shared services agreement, addendum, and invoice for the bidding and purchasing program between Rockaway Township Board of Education and Educational Services Commission of Morris County for the 2026-2027 school year. The term of the agreement shall be from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. The Commission shall provide the following professional support services in the amount of $6,972.00 (as per attached).

5. **School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Report**
   Motion to approve the Spring submission of the School Bus Emergency Evacuation Drill Report for the 2025-2026 school year (as per attached)

6. **Shared Services Agreement – Special Law Enforcement Officer III**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the Shared Service Agreement between Rockaway Township and the Rockaway Township Board of Education for five (5) Special Law Enforcement Officer III for a maximum of 180 days at a per diem rate of $40.70/hr. year 1 (2026-2027 school year) and $41.95/hr. year 2 (2027-2028 school year) (as per attached)

BOARD DISCUSSION

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Administration Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

Roll Call Vote on Administration Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

F. Finance	
Motion to approve Finance recommendations by:	**Seconded by:**

1. **Adopt The Final Budget**
   Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board adopts the Final Budget for School Year 2026-2027.

Rockaway Township Public Schools
Adoption of the Final Budget for School Year 2026-2027

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget be approved for the 2026-2027 school year using the 2026-2027 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Total Expenditures	$68,514,727	$629,153	$0	$69,143,880
Less Anticipated Revenues	$11,324,093	$629,153	$0	$11,953,246
Local Tax Levy to be Raised	$57,190,634	$0	$0	$57,190,634

ADJUSTMENT FOR ENROLLMENT: **$262,236**
BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget the adjustment for enrollment in the amount of $262,236. The district intends to utilize this adjustment for supplies and materials necessary for the additional students.

ADJUSTMENT FOR HEALTHCARE COSTS: $2,680,363
BET IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of $2,680,363. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

MAXIMUM TRAVEL
Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of **$93,600** for the 2026-2027 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2025-2026 school year is $93,600, of which, $5,575 has been spent and an additional $4843 is encumbered to date.

TRAVEL AND RELATED EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
The Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district;

AND, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board;

AND, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of $150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30);

AND, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 but deemed by the board of education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of $93,600 for all staff and board members for the 2026-2027 school year.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

CAPITAL RESERVE

Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal: $2,323,800

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget a Capital Reserve withdrawal in the amount of $2,323,800 for the purpose of roof replacements at Copeland Middle School and Stony Brook Elementary School and a Secure Vestibule Project at Birchwood Elementary School, Catherine Dwyer Elementary School, and Stony Brook Elementary School.

MAINTENANCE RESERVE

Maintenance Reserve Account Withdrawal: $50,000

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget a maintenance reserve withdrawal in the amount of $50,000 for the purpose of district-wide repairs and improvements for both aesthetic and functional needs.

2. Roof Upgrades for CMS and SB

WHEREAS, a recommendation was made by the Superintendent of Schools to the Rockaway Township Board of Education ("Board") to seek a contract for construction services for a Project entitled Roof Upgrades at Various Schools (hereinafter "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project was properly advertised to prospective bidders in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4; and

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2026, the Board received the following bids from potential bidders at 11:00 a.m. in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:18A-1, et seq.;

Bidder	Base Bid
Laumar Roofing	$1,740,500.00
Galia Construction, Inc.	$1,780,000.00
TNT Construction Group, LLC	$1,794,000.00
Safeway Contracting	$2,149,000.00
Northeast Roof Maintenance Inc.	$2,241,500.00
USA General Contractors Corp.	$2,497,771.00

WHEREAS, the apparent low bidder, Laumar Roofing, has submitted a letter indicating that they made an error in the calculations of their bid and they now seek to withdraw same; and

WHEREAS, the apparent second low bidder, Galia Construction, Inc., has submitted a letter indicating that they made an error in the calculations of their bid and they now seek to withdraw same; and

WHEREAS, upon review of the bid submitted by third low bidder, TNT Construction Group LLC, together with the bid specifications and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and in consultation with the Design Professionals for the Project, the Board has determined TNT Construction Group LLC, is the lowest responsible bidder for the Project; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby grants Laumar Roofing's request to withdraw its bid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board hereby grants Galia Construction, Inc.'s request to withdraw its bid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board awards the Project to TNT Construction Group, LLC, at a total contract amount, of $1,794,000**.**

BOARD DISCUSSION

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Public Comment on Finance Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

Roll Call Vote on Finance Items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

G. Policy	
Motion to approve Policy recommendations by:	**Seconded by:**

1. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the board approves the following policies for first read (as per attached).

Policy 5339.01 Student Sun Protection

2. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following regulations for adoption (as per attached):

Regulation 6111 Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program
Regulation 6220 Budget Preparation
Regulation 1570 Internal Controls

BOARD DISCUSSION

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate

Open Public Comment on Policy Items only *(Ask if Necessary)*	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

Roll Call Vote on Policy items						
Mrs. Anderson	**Mrs. Brookes**	**Dr. Gorman**	**Mrs. Mezik**	**Ms. Richardson**	**Ms. Tourne**	**Ms. McGeary**

In accordance with Board Policy 0167, public discussion is limited to fifteen (15) minutes with a three (3) minute limit per member of the public. The Board President shall have the right to modify the length of public discussion, as he/she deems appropriate.

Open Second Public Comment	
Motion to open public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to open public comment	

Close Second Public Comment	
Motion to close public comment by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to close public comment	

VIII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Old Business

B. New Business

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Return to Executive Session *(if needed)*
For the discussion of _____ for approximately _____ minutes

Motion to go into closed session by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to enter closed session.	
Closed session starts at _____ pm.	

Motion to adjourn closed session by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to end closed session.	
Closed sessions ends at _____ pm.	

Meeting Adjournment	
Motion to adjourn meeting by:	**Seconded by:**
Show of hands to adjourn meeting.	

Meeting adjournment at _____ pm.