I CALL TO ORDER BY BOARD PRESIDENT

The Agenda Session meeting of the Old Bridge Township Board of Education was held on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 and was called to order at 7:14 pm.

II STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE BY BOARD PRESIDENT

Pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-10, adequate notice of this meeting has been posted to the district website under "legal notices", in the Board office, the schools, and on Cablevision Channel 118 and Verizon Fios Channel 24, and by filing such notice with the Township Clerk. Notice has also been provided that as of March 1, 2026, future meeting notices will only be published on the district website.

This meeting was scheduled for **Tuesday, May 12, 2026**. The Board will take formal action on payment of bills and other agenda items.

III STATEMENT REGARDING RECORDING OF MEETINGS BY BOARD SECRETARY

The Old Bridge Township Board of Education acknowledges that the law of this state establishes that members of the public, including members of the Board, have the right to record public Board meetings, using audio or video recording devices, provided that the act of recording does not interfere with the business of this public Board meeting. Therefore, the Board makes it known that any such recording is to be considered the private recording of the individual and in no manner represents the official record of this Board. The Board, therefore, takes no responsibility for such private recording and completely disavows any future use.

IV ROLL CALL BY BOARD SECRETARY

	Present	Absent
D'Antuono, Jennifer	√	
Dunn, Richard	√	
Jodrey, Marjorie	√	
Mazzone, Kristina	√	
Richards-Patterson, Brooke	√	
Slade, Jay D.	√	
Sulikowski, Matthew	√	
Venkatesan, Kiran		√
Francisco, Elena	√	

Also Present:		
Vincent Sasso, Ed.D.	Superintendent of Schools	√
Kathleen Hoeker, Ed.D.	Asst. Superintendent	√
David Weidele	SBA / Board Secretary	√
James Tuohy, Ed.D.	Asst. Sup of Educational Services	√
Anahita Keiller	Director of Arts & Cultures	√
Christopher Parton	Board Counsel	√
Jordan Rosenthal	Student Representative	--

V PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VI MOMENT OF SILENCE

CODE OF ETHICS CORNER – HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

**** The Board Member will vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.***

**In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1*

DISTRICT GOALS FOR 2025-2026

Excellence in Education – Ensure benchmarks are in place for all students to raise the bar to improve education/academic growth for all students.

Fiscal Resilience – Continue to investigate ways to optimize educational efficiencies.

The Whole Child – Investigate making facilities more inclusive for all students and develop measurements of progress in performance for all students.

BOARD GOALS FOR 2025-2026

- Non-conflicted members of the Board will complete the CSA evaluation within the statutory time frame (annually by July 1).
- Review and revise bylaws and policies through the development of a schedule for review.
- Improve Board synergy, i.e., team building, professional development, possibly a Board retreat.
- Engage in professional development to achieve Board Certification through NJSBA's Board Member Academy.
- Work to understand the district budget through PD from the Business Administrator and possibly through NJSBA.

VII APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VIII REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD

IX RECOGNITION

1. Move the Board to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Old Bridge Indoor Percussion ensemble for earning first place at the Mid-Atlantic Percussion Society Finals on April 11 in Spring-Ford, Pennsylvania.
2. This accomplishment reflects the dedication and talent of the 16 student performers, whose show *"ScatterBrained"* combined musical excellence and visual storytelling, as well as the leadership of director Katherine Knoebel and the continued support of staff, parents, and the community. The Indoor Percussion is celebrating its 18th year as an award-winning music program.

OB INDOOR PERCUSSION STUDENT PERFORMERS			
Heather Boelhower	Charlotte Hage	Manvir Singh	Jessica Szwedo
Tyler Florio	Andres Huerta	Hailey Spiro	Giancarlo Vallo
Charlie Gill	Ashleigh Leon	Cole Spiro	Angus Walker
Conor Grimes	Crowley Sellas	Madison Susi	William Wang

RECOGNITION **Resolutions 1 & 2**				
Motion: MAZZONE		**Second:**		**D'ANTUONO**
	Roll Call Vote:	**Yes**	**No**	**Abstain / Pass**
	Jodrey, Marjorie	√		
1	Mazzone, Kristina	√		
	Richards-Patterson, Brooke	√		
	Slade, Jay D.	√		
	Sulikowski, Matthew	√		
	Venkatesan, Kiran			ABSENT
2	D'Antuono, Jennifer	√		
	Dunn, Richard	√		
	Francisco, Elena	√		
	RESOLUTIONS PASSED:	8	0	

X SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

XI REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR / BOARD SECRETARY

School Business Administrator, Mr. Weidele, provides his own Report of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to provide two presentations tonight: one being a final update to the 2026-2027 final budget and another will be the final figures on the Refunding of School Bonds (Series 2026).

The first presentation is for the public which formalizes the modifications and revisions made to the 2026-2027 proposed budget as a result of the public hearing which was discussed last week at our Public Hearing on May 7, 2026. Mr. Weidele reviewed what a school budget is defined as – a planning took which works to manages risks. An effective budget must be fiscally responsible while considering contingencies. It is the financial expression of the district. Mr. Weidele reviewed that last week during the Public Hearing we announced that from our Tentative Budget submission, there was approximately $1.4 million of reductions that would need to be made to our appropriations that would be found only through essential programs or services offered being reduced. The main driver of the increased expenditures in the 2026-2027 proposed budget was the increase to health benefits. While the increase to health benefits represented our largest increase across all expenditures, the increase does come with an opportunity to bring in additional revenue, by way of an allowable adjustment. For the 2026-2027 budget, the budgeted 34% increase to medical benefits as well as an increase to other health benefits carried out an allowable adjustment of $9.48 million for this increase in costs. At the conclusion of the public hearing, there is a formal process in which a request is made to the County Office of Education to reopen the budget software based on the results of the district's public hearing. Mr. Weidele reviewed the impact of what reducing projected health benefit costs would have on the revenue through the allowable adjustment. Mr. Weidele explained that a reclassification of current appropriations within the account lines of our general fund discussed at the Public Hearing would need to be revised. Mr. Weidele reviewed the revisions made to our 8 budget categories. Prior to the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Weidele addressed the question from the OBEA President last week at the Public Hearing, in which further clarification was asked on the meaning of a "decrease in health benefits". Mr. Weidele clarified that a decrease would be the projected level of increase, meaning the projected 34%, and not the actual level of benefits being received. Rather – it was just the value of the expenditure. As a result, Mr. Weidele provides a brief preview of the drafted resolution on the agenda tonight pertaining to the unsurmountable increased costs relative to health benefits.

The second presentation this evening will be the final report to the public on the Refunding of School Bonds in 2026. Mr. Weidele detailed that back in October 2025, when Parette Somjen Architects shared a report of approximately $320 million dollars in priority capital projects for our district, the Board immediately engaged discussions on how to tackle this number. We discussions multiple funding options including bond referendums, capital reserve funds, capital lease purchase programs, ESIPs, Direct Installs, County Improvement Programs and ROD Grants. As these discussions took place with our professional service providers, our Financial Advisor and Bond Counsel gathered additional information on the potential for another ESIP project. During these discussions, our professionals also began to look into the possibility of refinancing our current 2002 school bonds which were refinanced in 2016 and whose current debt service schedule will be paid in full on July 15, 2032. Right before Winter Break, the potential opportunity to refinance becomes more and more concrete. In January of 2026, as our professionals continued to monitor the market, we held an estimated savings of $567,630 with a Present value at 3.665% -- which would have provided an approximate $81,000 savings per year over the seven remaining years of the schedule. And with that, a project timeline was put forward with bond resolutions approved by the Board in February and March, respectively. A ratings call was held with S&P on March 19th, 2026. The district was ultimately slightly downgraded from a "AA- with Stable Outlook" to a "AA- with Negative Outlook". Due to changes in the market based on global impacts in mid to late March, we had to pause the bond sale as we watched conservative rates dip to 2.6% Present Value savings. In April 2026, rates improved and stabilized providing the opportunity to go through with the refinancing. Mr. Weidele explained that the bonds were prices on May 6th and close on May 20th – with the final figure to be refinanced being $14,355,000. Mr. Weidele shared that ultimately, on the winning bid from Loop Capital Markets, we were able to achieve a net 3.736% net present value savings which equate to more than $80,000 a year on average. This savings will be realized from 2026-2027 through June 30, 2033, in which the debt service portion of the tax levy will be lower than it was pre-sale for years to come. Mr. Weidele concluded his second presentation promising that the Administration Team and the Board will continue to work together to find future savings opportunities for this community across all categories.

XII PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS

XIII CORRESPONDENCE

Pursuant to Board Bylaw 0164, correspondence regarding district matters, directed to the Board of Education with a request for public reading, and received by the Board Secretary no later than 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting, shall be read into the record, and shall be subject to the same time limitations as other public comments. Correspondence received after 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting will be read at the next meeting.

Anonymous correspondence will not be read.

No correspondence received to share out this evening.

XIV SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

XV HEARING OF THE RESIDENTS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board will set aside time during two sections of every public meeting for comments from the public. The first section will take place prior to the presentation of Agenda items for the Board's consideration and vote and will be limited to comments on items listed for Board action tonight. The second section will take place immediately prior to the Old / New Business and adjournment, and may include comments on any school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district.

The Board encourages feedback and viewpoints. School Boards are strengthened by diversity of viewpoints to foster dialogue in a spirit of school-community partnership that builds effective policy and problem-solving.

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board reserves the legal right to determine the length of the public portions of its meetings, and to establish regulations for such public portions.

The provisions of Board Bylaw 0167 shall be strictly enforced with regard to public comments:

- All public comments shall be directed to the Board President, who may refer issues to Administrators, Committee Chairs, or the Board's attorney. Participants may not address questions to individual Board members, nor to any other member of the public;
- Every speaker must preface comments by an announcement of his or her first and last name and recording of his or her name and address in the provided sign-in book.
- The total time for each participant shall be three (3) minutes, during which time a member of the public may speak on as many items as he or she chooses;
- No member of the public may "give their time" to another participant;
- Respectful disagreement is expected and respected. However, the Board President reserves the right to interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statements when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant to an item on the meeting's action agenda;
- The public comment sections of the agenda are not question-and-answer periods, but an opportunity for public statements. While the Board or Administration may provide feedback or comment on public statements, there is no obligation to do so.
- The Board President also reserves the right to request an individual to leave the meeting, to enlist the assistance of law enforcement, and/or to call for a recess or adjournment of the meeting when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.

The meeting was open to the hearing of residents for agenda items only.

Mirielle Cameau-Wicks, a resident of Old Bridge has two questions on the agenda… One being in regards to the budget resolution – there was a significant increase in the budget for Security (of $1.4 million), why was it increased? And second, Ms. Cameau-Wicks saw that the planetarium will be getting software and hardware upgrades… will that enable the planetarium to be open to the public to generate revenue? Thank you.

At this time, the microphone is closed for further hearing of the residents for agenda items only.

Mr. Weidele responds to Ms. Cameau-Wicks. For the question on security, as we mentioned there was $1.4 still to find from our tentative budget to our final budget adoption. We knew that for our final budget, we needed to increase the expenditures for security (Purchased Professionals) in order to ensure that there is security coverage at all of our schools. Dr. Sasso confirms for the record, there is no change to any of the security coverage at our schools for our 2026-2027 school year. For the planetarium item, within the 2025-2026 school year (current school year) one of the items on the Tax Levy Incentive Aid Program was to upgrade the planetarium at the Salk Middle School. We put out a RFP for competitive contracting and are in the process of awarding that contract to the sole responder which we anticipate awarding next week. Once the contract is awarded, we will begin the process with the vendor to plan out the work to be done. From there, yes, there is the potential for outside organizations to rent the space and as a result the district would receive some revenue. However, a discussion will need to be had at a future Governance meeting to discuss our Facilities Usage policy and try to come up with a plan and price for what renting out that space would look like. Yes, there is a potential

for that space to be rented out, but we have a couple of steps to get there first and obviously we need to make the repairs to the space first.

That portion of the meeting was closed.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

- Formal Board action requires a Motion, a Second, an opportunity for discussion, and a Board vote consistent with Board Bylaw 0165.
- Action items within Agenda categories will be Moved and Seconded as a group, and will generally be voted on as a group. However, after the Motion and Second, any Board member may request that an item be voted on separately, in which case the Board President and Board Secretary shall note such request, and a separate roll call vote will be held on the item or items.
- Board members are encouraged to express their opinions and to engage in respectful debate on all issues coming before the Board for action.
- The Board President reserves the right to close discussion. All Board members also reserve the right to call for the termination of debate when they believe that the discussion has become unproductive. A Motion to Call the Question (or "Previous Question") interrupts further debate, requires a Motion, a Second and a roll call vote of two-thirds of the full membership of the Board. If successful, the Motion terminates all further discussion of the item or items, and the matters shall proceed to a vote. If the Motion to Call the Question is unsuccessful, debate on the original matters resumes.
- Once all discussion of an item or group of items has been closed, Board members shall vote in favor of or against the item or items. Board members also reserve the right to abstain from a vote or to register "no vote." Abstentions and "no votes" shall be recorded but shall not be counted as votes in favor of or against the action item or items.
- Consistent with Robert's Rules of Order, all discussion must take place prior to the vote, and Board members may not vote "with comment."

XVI POLICY

XVII CURRICULUM / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

XVIII FINANCE

1. Move the Board approve the following bill lists dated **May 8, 2026**:

Batch #	Amount	Batch #	Amount	Batch #	Amount
1	$ 2,106,136.54	2	$ 1,058,751.99	5	2,283.95
PRE-PAYMENT	$ 2,861,313.66				

2. Move the Board acknowledge and accept the donation of $500 from Kelly Education Services on behalf of **Keshaun Henry** who was nationally recognized as a Runner-Up for the Kelly Education MPP Paraeducator of the Year at Schirra Elementary School.

FINAL ADOPTION OF 2026-2027 BUDGET RESOLUTIONS 3-6:

3. Move the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Capital Reserve Account Withdrawal - 2026-2027

RESOLVED that the Old Bridge Township Board of Education requests the approval of a capital reserve account withdrawal in the amount of **$1,636,870.00** for:

Project #	Description	Amount
2627-01	Partial Roof Replacement at Carl Sandburg Middle School	$1,636,870.00

4. Move the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement - 2026-2027

WHEREAS, the Old Bridge Township 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

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. 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

WHEREAS, 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

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., 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; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. 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 approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of **$250,000** for all staff and Board members.

5. Move the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Adjustment for Health Care Costs - 2026-2027

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of **$9,480,282.00.** The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

6. Move the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

Adoption of the 2026-2027 School Budget with Modifications to the Tentative Budget Approved by the Interim Executive County Superintendent

WHEREAS, the Old Bridge Township Board of Education adopted a TENTATIVE budget on March 23, 2026, and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on April 7, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was advertised in the legal section of the Home News Tribune on May 1, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Old Bridge Township Board of Education held its public hearing for the 2026-2027 budget on May 5, 2026, and publicly announced during the course of its presentation to the public that changes were to be made to the 2026-2027 advertised budget as a result of the public hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has now determined to make modifications to the Tentative Budget as follows:

Changes to Appropriations:

Budget Appropriation Line	Description	Tentative Budget	Final Budget	Change	Explanation
2100 11-120-100-101	Grades 1-5 – Salaries of Teachers	$15,046,886	$14,596,886	($450,000)	Redistricting efforts
3080 11-190-100-610	General Supplies	$762,071	$753,635	($8,436)	Redistricting efforts
3200 11-1XX-100-XXX	Total Regular Programs – Instruction	$46,060,939	$45,602,503	($458,436)	*Subtotal from above*
7000 11-213-100-101	Salaries of Teachers	$9,631,765	$9,471,765	($160,000)	Redistricting efforts
7160	Total Resource Room/ Resource Center	$11,060,016	$10,900,016	($160,000)	*Subtotal from above*
10300 11-2XX-100-XXX	Total Special Education – Instruction	$18,975,761	$18,815,761	($160,000)	*Subtotal from above*
11000 11-230-100-101	Salaries of Teachers	$4,635,717	$4,475,717	($160,000)	Redistricting efforts
11160 11-230-100-XXX	Total Basic Skills/Remedial - Instruction	$4,679,283	$4,519,283	($160,000)	*Subtotal from above*
46000 11-000-240-103	Salaries of Principals / Asst. Principals / Prog Dir	$4,109,919	$3,907,919	($200,000)	Redistricting efforts
46040 11-000-240-105	Salaries of Secretarial and Clerical Assistants	$1,204,728	$1,144,728	($60,000)	Redistricting efforts
46160 11-000-240-XXX	Total Undist. Expend. – Support Serv. – School Admin	$5,587,349	$5,327,349	($260,000)	Redistricting efforts
49220 11-000-262-622	Energy (Electricity)	$2,428,850	$2,298,440	($130,410)	Reduced Allocation Redistricting efforts
49340 11-000-262-XXX	Total Undist. Expend. – Custodial Services	$16,020,646	$15,890,236	($130,410)	*Subtotal from above*
50040 11-000-263-420	Cleaning, Repair and Maintenance Services	$619,622	$614,122	($5,500)	Reduced Allocation Redistricting efforts
50100 11-000-263-XXX	Total Undist. Expend. – Care and Upkeep of Grounds	$855,466	$849,966	($5,500)	*Subtotal from above*

BUDGET APPROPRIATION LINE	DESCRIPTION	TENTATIVE BUDGET	FINAL BUDGET	CHANGE	EXPLANATION
51020 11-000-266-300	PURCHASED PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES	$360,525	$1,734,871	$1,374,346	INCREASE EXPENDITURE FOR PURCHASED COVERAGE
51100 11-000-266-XXX	TOTAL SECURITY	$1,112,371	$2,486,717	$1,374,346	*SUBTOTAL FROM ABOVE*
51120 11-000-26X-XXX	TOTAL UNDIST. EXPEND. – OPER. AND MAINT. OF PLANT SERV.	$19,684,391	$20,922,827	$1,238,436	*SUBTOTAL FROM ABOVE*
52060 11-000-270-162	SAL. FOR PUPIL TRANS (OTHER THAN BET. HOME & SCHOOL)	$1,498,237	$1,298,237	($200,000)	REDUCED ALLOCATION REDISTRICTING EFFORTS
52480 11-000-270-XXX	TOTAL UNDIST. EXPEND. – STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERV.	$17,785,738	$17,585,738	($200,000)	*SUBTOTAL FROM ABOVE*
72140	TOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED EXPENDITURES	$122,711,812	$123,490,248	$778,436	*BASED ON CHANGES ABOVE*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in consideration of the above, the Board of Education hereby adopts the following final version of the School Budget for SY 2026-2027:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
2026-27 Total Expenditures	**198,983,105.00**	**3,226,185.00**	**2,681,325.00**	**204,890,615.00**
Less: Anticipated Revenues	**32,240,178.00**	**3,226,185.00**	**1.00**	**35,466,364.00**
Taxes to be Raised	**166,742,927.00**	**-**	**2,681,324.00**	**169,424,251.00**
			TAX LEVY	
OPERATING BUDGET			**166,742,927.00**	
10 Charter School Funding	**701,606.00**			
Fund 10 Subtotal (General Fund)	**701,606.00**			
11 General Current Expense (Less Interest)	**196,158,347.00**			
Maintenance Reserve Interest	**4,000.00**			
Fund 11 Subtotal (General Fund)	**196,162,347.00**			
12 Capital Outlay (Less Interest)	**1,636,870.00**			
Capital Reserve Interest	**240,000.00**			
12 Capital SDA Grant Assessment	**159,432.00**			
Fund 12 Subtotal (General Fund)	**2,036,302.00**			
13 Special Schools	**82,850.00**			
Fund 13 Subtotal (General Fund)	**82,850.00**			
General Fund Grant Total / Total Operating Budget	**198,983,105.00**			
20 Grants and Entitlements	**3,226,185.00**			
40 Debt Service Fund - Budgeted Fund Balance	**1.00**			
40 Debt Service - Amount Levied to Pay Principal & Interest	**2,681,324.00**		**2,681,324.00**	
40 Repayment of Debt	**2,681,325.00**			
Total Final 2026-27 Budget	**204,890,615.00**		**169,424,251.00**	
Tax Levy Cap Calculation				
2025-2026 Final Tax Levy	**154,179,064.00**			
2026-2027 Cap Adj for Enrollment + Inflation	**0.00**			
Increase of 2025-2026 Final Tax Levy by 2%	**3,083,581.00**			
2026-2027 Tax Levy (25-26 Tax Levy Plus 2%)	**157,262,645.00**			
2026-2027 Cap Adj for Health Insurance	**9,480,282.00**			
Utilization of Banked Cap	**0.00**			
2026-2027 Max Tax Levy	**166,742,927.00**			
2026-2027 Final Tax Levy	**166,742,927.00**			
Amount (Under) Over 2% Cap	**9,480,282.00**			

ROLL CALL ON #1, 2, 3, 4, & 6					Separated by: SLADE Resolution #: 6 Purpose: ☑ Discussion			Separated by: SULIKOWSKI Resolution #: 5 Purpose: ☑ Voting		
Motion: D'ANTUONO		Second: MAZZONE								
Roll Call Vote:		Yes	No	Abstain / Pass	Yes	No	Abstain / Pass	Yes	No	Abstain / Pass
	Slade, Jay D.	√						√		
	Sulikowski, Matthew	√	√	** Changed vote from YES to NO on #6					√	
	Venkatesan, Kiran			ABSENT						ABSENT
1	D'Antuono, Jennifer	√						√		
	Dunn, Richard	√						√		
	Jodrey, Marjorie	√						√		
2	Mazzone, Kristina	√						√		
	Richards-Patterson, Brooke	√	√	NO on #6				√		*Changed vote from NO to YES
	Francisco, Elena	√						√		
RESOLUTIONS PASSED #1, #2, ,#3 & #4:		8	0					7	1	
RESOLUTIONS PASSED #6:		6	2							

*Brooke Richards-Patterson changed initial vote on Resolution #5 from NO to YES
**Matthew Sulikowski changed initial vote on Resolution #6 from YES to NO

SLADE and DUNN provide discussion in support of the adoption of this 2026-2027 proposed final budget.

At 8:08 PM, RICHARDS-PATTERSON requested to revisit XVIII FINANCE in order to change her vote regarding Resolution # 5. SULIKOWSKI then also changes his vote on Resolution # 6.

XIX ATHLETICS

XX NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL – OFFICE

1. Move the Board rescind the retirement of Deliris Ramos, Salk Secretary D approved on the March 23, 2026 agenda (IX, Recognition, Item 1 (G)).

NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL - OFFICE Resolutions 1				
Motion: MAZZONE		Second: JODREY		
Roll Call Vote:		Yes	No	Abstain / Pass
	Venkatesan, Kiran			ABSENT
	D'Antuono, Jennifer	√		
	Dunn, Richard	√		
2	Jodrey, Marjorie	√		
1	Mazzone, Kristina	√		
	Richards-Patterson, Brooke	√		
	Slade, Jay D.	√		
	Sulikowski, Matthew	√		
	Francisco, Elena	√		
RESOLUTIONS PASSED:		8	0	

XXI NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL – OPERATIONAL

XXII NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL – OTHER

XXIII CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

1. Move the Board approve/amend/extend the following **Leaves of Absences: (Attachment D-1)**

2. Move the Board approve the employment of **Sally Fazio, Old Bridge High School Principal,** MA+30, Step 10, $180,232 + $8316 (degree stipend) + $5428 (longevity) for a total salary of $193,976 of the OBAA Guide, 12 month, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. (Budget Account 11-000-240-103-01-000)

3. Move the Board approve the employment of **James Oliveri, EMGNC Principal,** MA+30, Step 10, $174,046 + $8,316 (degree stipend) + $5,428 (longevity) for a total salary of $187,790 of the OBAA Guide, 12 month, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. (Budget Account 11-000-240-103-01-000)

4. Move the Board approve the **employment** of the following **Long Term Substitute personnel** for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school year and approve submission of an application to the Middlesex County Superintendent of Schools for Authorization of Emergent Hiring, where necessary, including authorization for employment in Title 1, NCLB, and IDEA Federal Program(s): (KH)

	Name	Position	Degree/Step	Salary	Effective
a.	Fargione, Lisa Job ID: 5578 Repl L.Sesa (Marchese)	Salk, Sped ICR/RE 11-213-100-101-00-000 Certificate(s): Standard	MA_45/Step 6	$68,713	12/1/25 – 6/19/26 (Extended)

5. Move the Board approve the **employment** of the following **certificated personnel** for the 2026-2027 school year and approve submission of an application to the Middlesex County Superintendent of Schools for Authorization of Emergent Hiring, where necessary, including authorization for employment in Title 1, NCLB, and IDEA Federal Program(s): (KH)

	Name*	School	Degree/Step	Salary	Tenure
a.	Carroll, Hailey Repl: Transfer (KA) Job ID: 5978 Eff: 9/1/2026	Glenn, Psychologist 11-000-219-104-00-072 Certificate(s): Standard (pending)	MA+30/Step 1 + stipend	$63,421 + $2,950	9/2/2030
b.	Cirrincione-Tucker, Kayla Repl: New Job ID: 5978 Eff 9/1/26	Glenn, Psychologist 11-000-219-104-00-072 Certificate(s): Standard (pending)	MA+30/Step 1 + stipend	$63,421 + $2,950	9/2/2030
c.	Jurgelevicius, Casey Repl: P.F. Job ID: 5978 Eff 9/1/26	Glenn, Psychologist 11-000-219-104-00-072 Certificate(s): Standard (pending)	MA+30/Step 1 + stipend	$63,421 + $2,950	9/2/2030

CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL **Resolutions 1 through 5**				
Motion: MAZZONE		Second: D'ANTUONO		
Roll Call Vote:		Yes	No	Abstain / Pass
	Jodrey, Marjorie	√		
1	Mazzone, Kristina	√		
	Richards-Patterson, Brooke	√		
	Slade, Jay D.	√		
	Sulikowski, Matthew	√		
	Venkatesan, Kiran			ABSENT
2	D'Antuono, Jennifer	√		
	Dunn, Richard	√		
	Francisco, Elena	√		
RESOLUTIONS PASSED:		8	0	

XXIV NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL TRANSPORTATION

XXV TRANSPORTATION

XXVI SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

XXVII MISCELLANEOUS

XXVIII BOARD SECRETARY AND BOARD BUSINESS

HEARING OF RESIDENTS (Any school district issue)

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board will set aside time during two sections of every public meeting for comments from the public. This section may include comments on any school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district.

The Board encourages feedback and viewpoints. School Boards are strengthened by diversity of viewpoints to foster dialogue in a spirit of school-community partnership that builds effective policy and problem-solving.

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, the Board reserves the legal right to determine the length of the public portions of its meetings, and to establish regulations for such public portions.

The provisions of Board Bylaw 0167 shall be strictly enforced with regard to public comments:

- All public comments shall be directed to the Board President, who may refer issues to Administrators, Committee Chairs, or the Board's attorney. Participants may not address questions to individual Board members, nor to any other member of the public;
- Every speaker must preface comments by an announcement of his or her first and last name and recording of his or her name and address in the provided sign-in book.
- The total time for each participant shall be three (3) minutes, during which time a member of the public may speak on as many items as he or she chooses;
- No member of the public may "give their time" to another participant;
- Respectful disagreement is expected and respected. However, the Board President reserves the right to interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statements when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant to an item on the meeting's action agenda;
- The public comment sections of the agenda are not question-and-answer periods, but an opportunity for public statements. While the Board or Administration may provide feedback or comment on public statements, there is no obligation to do so.
- The Board President also reserves the right to request an individual to leave the meeting, to enlist the assistance of law enforcement, and/or to call for a recess or adjournment of the meeting when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.

The meeting was open to the hearing of residents for any school district issue.

A member of the public, specifically a parent (Ms. Rosa) of a student at the Old Bridge High School, comes forward to speak on her concerns for her son being enrolled in Cosmetology 2 without taking the Cosmetology 1 course. Upon review by OBHS Administration, they removed the student from Cosmetology 2 and placed him into Introduction to Cosmetology and Cosmetology 1. Since then, her son has been excelling with cosmetology as a real career goal. Recently, when her son was planning his schedule with his guidance counselor, they were informed that while there is enough space in his schedule for Cosmetology 2 and 3, however, Guidance was instructed by the Supervisor of the program not to enroll the student in Cosmetology 3. He could have taken two cosmetology courses this year, but that same opportunity is not being provided next year. The parent shares that she was also informed that if he is unable to complete the program, the hours already earned may not transfer to a private or vocational school which would require him to restart the program. The mother of the child believes this is unfair and if there were concerns for successfully completing, they should have been communicated clearly from the start. Some of the explanations received included that he cannot take both courses simultaneously, concerns of safety, or the issue is related to the Board of Cosmetology rather than the district. As a result, looking for guidance, the parent reached out to the State Division of Consumer Affairs, the Board of Cosmetology and Hairstyling and the State of New Jersey Department of Education. The parent was advised that the scheduling exceptions fall under the district's authority and she should work directly with the school on this matter. As a result, the parent is formally requesting an exception to be granted

so that her son can enroll in both Cosmetology 2 and 3, concurrently, in order to complete the program successfully. She has requested the response in writing. In regard to safety, the program documentation shows that safety instruction is embedded throughout the program and reinforced at all levels. She shares that her son started this program to finish and is dedicated, responsible and motivated. As educators and leaders, we should not only help our students, but support them, help them succeed and reach their educational goals.

At this time, the microphone is closed on further hearing of the residents for any school district issue.

Dr. Sasso responds directly to Ms. Rosa and that he will continue to speak with her directly on this situation.

That portion of the meeting was closed.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

MAZZONE shares that on behalf of the SEPTA Board, SEPTA U-Knighted vs. the Harlem Wizards event raised over $21,000… bringing nearly 1,000 people together for an unforgettable day… Over 30 volunteers, and over 35 staff members including Admin and Board of Education members played. SEPTA will work with the district to use the funds raised to continue to create inclusive and accessible classrooms throughout the district with a strong focus on the ABA programs and classrooms. The final SEPTA Newsletter of the Year has been released and highlights the many incredible accomplishments from SEPTA this year. You can view it on the SEPTA hub and/or on their social media pages. The May 14th SEPTA meeting has also been cancelled. MAZZONE shares that this work is just another testament to how much these ladies do for this district. The members of the SEPTA Board are truly, truly incredible. They work their butts off day in, and day out and never ask for even a pat on the back. They just do it from the love they have for their kids and every kid in the district. MAZZONE, again, shares a thank you to the SEPTA Board and everyone who helped make that event so successful.

MAZZONE also shares some “not so great news” attempting to clear something up regarding a social media post that has been brought to her attention and MAZZONE addresses such but stating / suggesting to the persons behind the post that if you are going to “spread” a story, at least know your facts are correct. MAZZONE shares that if anyone has any questions or concerns, they should reach out to MAZZONE directly. Please stop spreading false information.

DUNN quickly responds in support of MAZZONE’s public message, knowing how difficult it can be to sit up on the stage while being targeted on social media and through petitions all the while, quite frankly, no one knows what happens behind closed doors. DUNN backs MAZZONE calling that she has been a staple of professionalism … doing everything she has needed to do as a Board member to make rational and proper decisions and DUNN supports her. DUNN has been badgered himself, personally, and had petitions made on his decisions in the past, but DUNN can say unequivocally that his decisions are based upon what is best for the children of this district and nothing else… and he has always done that. DUNN states to try not discredit the Board for making the difficult decisions. Our decision making has to be of quality and correctness – all the while, we are working for all the students and not just one segment. DUNN confirms that he stands with MAZZONE and understands what she is going through because he has gone through it as well.

DUNN also shares that because he will not be here next week, he would also like to thank all the Teacher of the Year Recipients. Our teachers are the finest… the best professionals in the State of New Jersey. They have their hearts and their souls in everything they do. And that is what makes Old Bridge Public Schools the best in the State – based upon our staff, from paraprofessionals to teachers, to bus drivers and aides to transportation, to our administrators, and

our nurses… they are all great and terrific! DUNN loves this district with all his heart, and he appreciates when he sees our wonderful professionals coming out to support the Board and supporting each other. DUNN also congratulates Ryan Sobin. DUNN reiterates, congratulations again to all the recipients… he admires you, he loves you all and let's keep up doing the work for our children because that is who matters and those are the people for whom this Board fights for.

D'ANTUONO first thanks Dr. Sasso and Mr. Weidele for permission as she has been working with Mr. Tricomi from Plant Services and Parette Somjen Architects… The NJ State PTA is working on an advocacy project in which there is a possible proposed bill coming up for $10.5 Billion to go towards fixing building in our school district that wouldn't affect taxpayers. D'ANTUONO has asked PSA for some help in getting some pictures and facts about the conditions of our schools … so thank you to all who have been involved in helping D'ANTUONO.

D'ANTUONO shouts out and thanks the PTAs of Shepard, Madison Park, McDivitt and Memorial through the re-districting process of both Cooper and Memorials students. They have jumped right in to help these families feel accepted, show them around their new buildings and the PTAs are in contact to ensure that we provide the same experience to the students across those four schools so that the students are all treated the same, so D'ANTUONO just wants to give them a thank you!

JODREY *jokingly* shares that pre-emptively, if in the future there are any petitions written about her, they are not true!

RICHARDS-PATTERSON shares that she is super excited about the planetarium at Salk moving forward. If this is to be considered a depressing day for taxpayers, it is also wonderful because we can move forward with a lot of the wonderful things happening in the district to potentially bring in revenue. That is super exciting! RICHARDS-PATTERSON touches upon the comments made earlier by MAZZONE and emphasizes that there was never any insinuation that any board member had any influence on the redistricting plan. There are tangible reasons as to why redistricting is starting where it is within the district. If you have any direct questions, please do not hesitate to reach out directly.

FRANCISCO shares that first and foremost, we apologize for postponing our Governance meeting that was scheduled for last week, but we did so once we realized that FRANCISCO, Dr. Sasso and another committee member could not make the meeting. As a result, the new meeting date will be Tuesday, May 26th at 6:00 pm. FRANCISCO makes aware that there is some controversy brewing about one of the policies that we will be discussing at this upcoming meeting. Do not believe everything on social media… come to the meeting and come to the Board.

FRANCISCO shares that while we were a little late to tonight's meeting because we were attending an NJSBA workshop directly before this meeting… but even before that, the Board all went to GNC because the art teacher was hosting an art show for her students and she wanted to show everybody their work. When she found out that the Board had a prior committed meeting at already scheduled for 6 pm, she opened the doors a little bit earlier, specifically for the Board to come take a look. The Board members were blown away by all the incredible artwork they saw and is really glad, grateful and appreciative for having got the chance to see all of it. Look for the "good stuff" on social media if you are not able to make it.

FRANCISCO goes back to last week by congratulating Mrs. Thatcher and all the staff that works with the high school band… they had their performance up on-stage last week… combining the high school students with the middle school students and even some of the elementary school instrumental music students… it was quite the show! There was no room on this stage! his was an area within the budget the Board wanted to make sure they kept intact. FRANCISCO shares that Mrs. Nee at Sandburg had her band concert last night with her orchestra, concert band and jazz band. FRANCISCO was really, really impressed! They did an amazing job – congrats to all of them!

FRANCISCO is also excited about the planetarium… we have been working on this for quite some years now, trying to push this forward financially and we are finally there.

FRANCISCO shares that yesterday, she got to witness something pretty incredible… for the first time in Old Bridge we had eleven of our high school seniors, graduate from Middlesex College with an Associate's degree, prior to them even getting to graduate from high school. That is absolutely amazing and FRANCISCO is grateful to Dr. Sasso for extending the invitation and allowing FRANCISCO to come. This marks our first cohort to reach this milestone and with eleven graduates, we had the highest number of any public school in attendance. Dr. Sasso has strongly supported this program over the past four years – so thank you to Dr. Sasso and Mrs. Fazio for pushing and making sure that our children have every opportunity to thrive and knowingly how you are actively working on way to continue to improve this program as FRANCISCO understands that there are a prospective 19 students in the cohort that will graduate next year. It is just continuing to grow and is another prime example of what our budget really includes and it is really important we as Board members and the community hear all the wonderful things that are going on! FRANCISCO issues a huge thank you to both Dr. Sasso and Mrs. Fazio and all the staff who are involved in making it happen!

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm upon motion made by MAZZONE and seconded by JODREY and carried on unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

David P. Weidele, Q.P.A., R.P.P.S.
School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary

Certified as to legality only
Chris Parton, Esq.