Tuesday, February 10, 2026
AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting

6:00pm - Regular Meeting and Board Retreat
7:00pm - Executive Session
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Mrs. Heather Garcia - President
Mr. Michael Sprague - Vice President
Mrs. Rita Bodine - Trustee
Mrs. Juliana Lee - Trustee
Ms. Stephanie Machin - Trustee
Mr. Omar Pedraza - Trustee
Mrs. Kelly Wilson - Trustee

Dr. Timothy Gouraige, Superintendent
Mr. Michael Jordan, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

A. OPEN Public Meeting

Subject	**1. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	A. OPEN Public Meeting
Type	Procedural

B. Adjournment to Executive Session

C. Adjournment from Executive Session

Subject	**1. Adjournment from Executive Session**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	C. Adjournment from Executive Session
Type	Action (Consent)

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Time:

D. Public Session Meeting

Subject	**1. CALL TO ORDER**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	D. Public Session Meeting

Type Procedural

Subject **2. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT:**

Meeting Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting

Category D. Public Session Meeting

Type Procedural

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of New Jersey 1975, notice of this meeting, its date, time and place have been posted on the Board's official bulletin board, and it has been delivered to The Record & Suburbanite newspapers circulated in the District at least 48 hours prior to the time for this meeting.

Subject **3. PUBLIC MEETING ROLL CALL; TIME: _____**

Meeting Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting

Category D. Public Session Meeting

Type Procedural

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE TIME
Mrs. Rita Bodine, Trustee			
Mrs. Juliana Lee, Trustee			
Ms. Stephanie Machin, Trustee			
Mr. Omar Pedraza, Trustee			
Mrs. Kelly Wilson, Trustee			
Mr. Michael Sprague, Vice President			
Mrs. Heather Garcia, President			

Faculty & Community Members: In-person ____

Others Present: _____

Subject	**4. FLAG SALUTE:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	D. Public Session Meeting
Type	Procedural

Subject	**5. DISCUSSION OF CORRESPONDENCE:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	D. Public Session Meeting
Type	Discussion

Subject	**6. INFORMATIONAL ATTACHMENTS**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	D. Public Session Meeting
Type	Information

Subject	**7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Gouraige**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	D. Public Session Meeting
Type	Information

Subject	**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	D. Public Session Meeting
Type	Action (Consent)

1) Curriculum: Kelly Wilson (chair), Heather Garcia, Omar Pedraza

2) Personnel and Negotiations: Michael Sprague (chair), Rita Bodine, Kelly Wilson

3) Buildings and Grounds: Michael Sprague (chair), Heather Garcia, Stephanie Machin

4) Finance: Heather Garcia (chair), Michael Sprague, Omar Pedraza

5) Policy: Rita Bodine (chair), Juliana Lee, Stephanie Machin

6) Special Education: Omar Pedraza (chair), Juliana Lee, Rita Bodine

E. Open Public Participation - On Agenda Items

Subject	**1. Open Public Participation - On Agenda Items**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	E. Open Public Participation - On Agenda Items
Type	Action, Procedural

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Time:

Public Participation Statement

- Each member of the public wishing to comment must state their Name and Address for the record
- Each public comment is limited to five (5) minutes
- Only members of the public physically present at the meeting will be heard.

F. Close Public Participation - On Agenda Items

Subject	**1. Close Public Participation - On Agenda Items**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	F. Close Public Participation - On Agenda Items
Type	Action, Procedural

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Time:

Subject	**2. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	F. Close Public Participation - On Agenda Items
Type	Discussion

G. Approval of Minutes

Subject	**1. Approval of Minutes**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting

Category	G. Approval of Minutes
Type	Action
Recommended Action	BE IT RESOLVED, that the Norwood Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Norwood Board of Education approves the minutes of the following meetings:

- **January 20, 2026 - Reorganization Meeting Minutes**
- **January 20, 2026 - Executive Meeting Minutes**

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote: Roll Call

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Mrs. Rita Bodine, Trustee				
Mrs. Juliana Lee, Trustee				
Ms. Stephanie Machin, Trustee				
Mr. Omar Pedraza, Trustee				
Mrs. Kelly Wilson, Trustee				
Mr. Michael Sprague, Vice President				
Mrs. Heather Garcia, President				

File Attachments
January 20 Regular Meeting Minutes.pdf (874 KB)

H. Administrative

Subject	**1. Security Drill**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	H. Administrative
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the security drill for January:

- Security Drill: January 20, 2026

Subject	**2. Harassment Intimidation and Bullying**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	H. Administrative

Type Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, affirm the Superintendent's decision regarding the following Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) incidents, reported to the Board in Executive Session at the January 20, 2026 meeting:

- HIB Incident 252616: Not HIB
- HIB Incident 252617: Not HIB
- HIB Incident 252618: Not HIB
- HIB Incident 252619: HIB

Subject **3. 2026 - 2027 District Calendar**

Meeting Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting

Category H. Administrative

Type Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the district calendar for the 2026 - 2027 school year.

File Attachments
2026 - 2027 Norwood Public School Calendar - '25-26 (1).pdf (996 KB)

Subject **4. ADMINISTRATIVE VOTE:**

Meeting Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting

Category H. Administrative

Type Action

Motion to approve ADMINISTRATIVE Item: #1-3

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote: Roll Call

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Mrs. Rita Bodine, Trustee				
Mrs. Juliana Lee, Trustee				
Ms. Stephanie Machin, Trustee				
Mr. Omar Pedraza, Trustee				
Mrs. Kelly Wilson, Trustee				
Mr. Michael Sprague, Vice President				
Mrs. Heather Garcia, President				

I. Personnel

Subject	**1. Appointment - Substitute**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	I. Personnel
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Angelina DeStefano as a substitute for the 2025 -2026 school year, pending background check and appropriate substitute certification.

Subject	**2. Appointment - Substitute**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	I. Personnel
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Kaitlyn Wilson as a substitute for the 2025 -2026 school year.

Subject	**3. Appointment - Leave Replacement**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	I. Personnel
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Amanda Leichter as a leave replacement for employee #0385 at a pro-rated salary of $57,086.00, BA Step 1, for the period of on or before April 27, 2026 through June 30, 2026.

Subject	**4. Resignation - Paraprofessional**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	I. Personnel
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the resignation of Samuel Francis, paraprofessional, with a final date of employment of February 5, 2026.

Subject	**5. PERSONNEL VOTE:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	I. Personnel
Type	Action
Recommended Action	BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Personnel Committee recommends the approval of the following resolution(s):

Motion to approve Personnel Items: #1-4

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote: Roll Call

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Mrs. Rita Bodine, Trustee				
Mrs. Juliana Lee, Trustee				
Ms. Stephanie Machin, Trustee				
Mr. Omar Pedraza, Trustee				
Mrs. Kelly Wilson, Trustee				
Mr. Michael Sprague, Vice President				
Mrs. Heather Garcia, President				

J. Curriculum

Subject	**1. Workshop/Conference**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	J. Curriculum
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following workshop/conferences:

Name: Nicole Kuhrt
Workshop: Legal One Anti Bullying Specialist Online Certification Program
Location: Virtual
Date/Time: On Demand
Cost: $500.00

Name: Kathleen DeRosa
Workshop: Learning and the Brain: Teaching Executive Functioning Skills
Location: Virtual
Date/Time: April 16 - 18, 2026
Cost: $679.00

Subject	**2. Amended Course Approval**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	J. Curriculum
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the amended course(s):

Name: Lyndsey Stodnick
Course: Building Better Lessons with Warm Ups and Exit Tickets
Credits: 3
Dates: February 2026 - April 2026
Institution: Augustana University

Name: Lyndsey Stodnick
Course: Refresh Your Grammar Instruction
Credits: 3
Dates: March 2026 - August 2026
Institution: Augustana University

Subject	**3. Course Approval**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	J. Curriculum
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following course(s):

Name: Samantha Griffin
Course: Teacher Research Seminar
Credits: 3
Dates: Spring 2026

Institution: New Jersey City University

Name: Samantha Griffin
Course: Introduction to Educational Technology
Credits: 3
Dates: Spring 2026
Institution: New Jersey City University

Name: Samantha Griffin
Course: Emotional and Behavior Disorders in Children and Youth
Credits: 3
Dates: Spring 2026
Institution: New Jersey City University

Subject	**4. Field Trip Chaperone**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	J. Curriculum
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, post - approve Michael Santa Cruz as chaperone for the choral trip to Northern Valley Old Tappan in January.

Subject	**5. Field Trips**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	J. Curriculum
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following field trips for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

Staff in Charge	Location	Grade	Month	Cost to District	Chaperones
Steven Pellegrino	Fairview Lake	6	April	$0.00	Steven Pellegrino Grace Kim Nicole Davila Mary Kate Portera Laurie Princing Samantha Griffin Parent Chaperones

Yena Lee	Harrington Park School	Grade 5 TAG	May	$0.00	Yena Lee
Yena Lee	Ramapo College	Grades 7 - 8 TAG	June	$0.00	Yena Lee
Jennifer Boccuzzi	Holocaust Museum and Center for Tolerance and Education	6	March	$900.00	Jennifer Boccuzzi Mary Kate Portera Mary Leocata Laurie Princing Grace Kim Eileen Smith Rebecca Angioletti

Subject	**6. CURRICULUM VOTE:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	J. Curriculum
Type	Action

Motion to approve Curriculum Items #1 - 5

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote: Roll Call

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Mrs. Rita Bodine, Trustee				
Mrs. Juliana Lee, Trustee				
Ms. Stephanie Machin, Trustee				
Mr. Omar Pedroza, Trustee				
Mrs. Kelly Wilson, Trustee				
Mr. Michael Sprague, Vice President				
Mrs. Heather Garcia, President				

K. Finance

Subject	**1. Monthly Disbursements**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action

Monthly Disbursements:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator and Superintendent, the Norwood Board of Education approves/post-approves the following 2025-2026 disbursements:

1) Post-approve **January 2026 Hand Checks**, in the amount of **$ 259,812.56.**

2) Post-approve **January 2026 Payroll related Wire Transfers**, in the amount of **$ 669,057.53** from the General Bank Account to the Payroll Bank Accounts.

3) Approve **February 10, 2026 Monthly Disbursements**, in the amount of **$ 388,351.31.**

File Attachments
FEBRUARY CHECK RUN.pdf (215 KB)

Subject	**2. *RESERVED* Financial Reports**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action

RESERVED

Subject	**3. Budget Transfers**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action

Monthly Budget Transfers:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator and Superintendent, the Norwood Board of Education approves the attached **January** budget appropriation transfer of funds for the 2025-2026 school year.

File Attachments
Transfer_Report_January_2026.pdf (200 KB)

Subject	**4. FY2027 SEMI Waiver Application**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action (Consent)

Be IT RESOLVED, approve the following resolution authorizing the Chief School Administrator to submit a SEMI program waiver:

> **WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the District's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for FY2027.
>
> **WHEREAS,** the Norwood Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid Eligible classified students.
>
> **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Norwood Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for FY2027.

Subject	**5. 1:1 Aide 2025-26 - TIP Program**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action

WHEREAS, a Tuition Agreement for special education student, SID#5132845201, was previously Board approved on August 26, 2025.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the Norwood Board of Education **post-approves** a 1:1 Out-of-District Aide Contract Agreement with the Northern Valley High School - TIP Program, for special education student SID#5132845201, through June 30, 2026, at a total amount of $60,805.00.

Subject	**6. Special Board Attorney**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, Pursuant to the Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of New Jersey 1975, Notice is hereby given that at the Regular Meeting of the Norwood Board of Education on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 6:00pm, the firm Fogarty, Hara, LaPira & Cherry LLC be appointed special counsel for the district for a special education/504 matter, effective through the Reorganization meeting of 2027 and authorizes the Board President, Business Administrator, Board Attorney, and/or Superintendent to take all actions and execute all documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Subject	**7. Use of Facility Requests**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator and Superintendent, the Norwood Board of Education Approves/Post Approves applications for the USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES made by the following groups/organizations listed below, subject to the health and safety guidelines and terms set forth by the School Board Policy P7510 and Regulation R7510:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board reserves the right to schedule school activities at any time.

	GROUP/ORGANIZATION	USE/PURPOSE/ROOM	DATES/TIMES	FEE
1	KPSC	Faculty Room; Lunar New Year Lunch	February	$0.00
2				
3				

Subject	**8. FINANCE VOTE:**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	K. Finance
Type	Action
Recommended Action	BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Finance Committee recommends the approval of the following resolution(s)

Motion to approve Finance Items: 1 - 7

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Vote: Roll Call

BOARD MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAINED	ABSENT
Mrs. Rita Bodine, Trustee				
Mrs. Juliana Lee, Trustee				
Ms. Stephanie Machin, Trustee				
Mr. Omar Pedraza, Trustee				
Mrs. Kelly Wilson, Trustee				
Mr. Michael Sprague, Vice President				
Mrs. Heather Garcia, President				

L. Open Public Participation - Off Agenda Items

Subject	**1. Open Public Participation - Off Agenda Items**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	L. Open Public Participation - Off Agenda Items
Type	

Moved by:

Seconded by:
Time:

Public Participation Statement

- Each member of the public wishing to comment must state their Name and Address for the record
- Each public comment is limited to five (5) minutes
- Only members of the public physically present at the meeting will be heard.

M. Close to the Public - Off Agenda Items

Subject	**1. Close Public Participation - Off Agenda Items**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	M. Close to the Public - Off Agenda Items
Type	Action, Procedural

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Time:

N. New Business / Old Business

Subject	**1. New Business / Old Business**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	N. New Business / Old Business
Type	Discussion

Subject	**2. BOARD RETREAT WORKSHOP**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	N. New Business / Old Business
Type	Discussion, Information

BOARD RETREAT - Presentation by Kerri Wright, Board Counsel

- School Ethics Presentation and Training
- Review of Board Roles and Responsibilities

O. Adjournment to Executive Session - (If Needed)

P. Adjournment from Executive Session - (If Needed)

Subject	**1. Adjournment from Executive Session - (If Needed)**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	P. Adjournment from Executive Session - (If Needed)
Type	Action (Consent)

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Time:

Q. Meeting Adjournment

Subject	**1. Meeting Adjournment**
Meeting	Feb 10, 2026 - AGENDA - Board Retreat and Regular Meeting
Category	Q. Meeting Adjournment
Type	Action (Consent), Procedural

Moved by:
Seconded by:
Time:

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Michael Jordan
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary