HIGHLAND PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HIGHLAND PARK, NEW JERSEY

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Highland Park School District is to provide the community with the finest educational services through respect for diversity and commitment to collaboration, continuous improvement, and achievement of excellence.

The Highland Park Board of Education will hold a HYBRID REORGANIZATION/WORKSHOP MEETING on Monday, January 5, 2026, at 7:00 PM, at the **Middle School**, 330 Wayne Street, Highland Park, New Jersey.
To view this meeting online, go to hpschools.net or youtube.com.
The public is invited to participate in public comment either in person or virtually by clicking the following link: https://zoom.us/j/94217817160.

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order

2. Announcement of Notice

   The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the Highland Park Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting setting forth the time, date, and location to be submitted for publication to the Home News Tribune and Courier News and posted on the Board's website at least 48 hours in advance of this meeting. Members of the public who wish to address the Board will be given the opportunity to do so before the Board adjourns for the evening.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Final Election Results for School Board Members:

Candidate Name	**Official Total**
Daniel Battey	3,161
Francisco Maldonado	3,314
Ann Vardeman	3,170

5. Swearing In of Elected Board Members

6. Roll Call

7. Discussion and Signing of the Code of Ethics, Conflict of Interest

8. Nomination and Election of President

9. Board Secretary Turns Meeting over to New President

10. Nomination and Election of Vice-President

11. Approval of Annual Board Meeting Calendar

    I move that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the superintendent to approve the Annual Board Meeting Calendar for the 2026 Board year, as per the attached.

12. Delegate and Alternate to N.J. School Boards Association

    I move that the Board of Education elect _____ as Delegate, and _____ as Alternate Delegate, to the New Jersey School Boards Association for the 2026 Board year.

13. Delegate and Alternate to Middlesex County School Boards Association

    I move that the Board of Education elect _____ as Delegate and _____ as Alternate Delegate, to the Middlesex County School Boards Association for the 2026 Board year.

14. Resolutions

    I move that the Board of Education approve the following resolutions:

    A. Be it Resolved that the rules, regulations and policies of the Highland Park Board of Education, adopted for the previous year, shall be adopted for the current year.

    B. Be it Resolved that Robert's Rules of Order be adopted as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings.

    C. Be it Resolved that the official newspapers of the Board of Education be the **Home News Tribune** of Neptune, NJ, and/or **The Courier News** of Somerville, NJ, for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads and all other necessary public notifications. All official notices shall also be placed on the district's website: www.hpschools.net.

    D. Be it Resolved that the following be designated as depository of school monies:

        TD Bank
        NJ Asset & Rebate Management Program

    E. Be it Resolved that the General Operating Account and the Payroll Agency Account shall bear the signatures of the Treasurer of School Monies and Board Secretary, together with that of the President of the Board of Education, and that the Net Payroll Account shall contain only the signature of the Treasurer of School Monies.

    F. Be it Resolved that the following checking accounts shall bear the signatures as listed below:

School	Account Name	Signatories	# of Signers Per Account
Irving	Student Fund	Principal and Business Administrator and Assistant Administrative Secretary for Student Funds	2 of 3

Bartle	Student Fund	Principal and Business Administrator and Assistant Administrative Secretary for Student Funds	2 of 3
Middle School	Student Fund	Principal and Assistant Principal and Business Administrator and Assistant Administrative Secretary for Student Funds	2 of 4
High School	Student Fund	Principal and Assistant Principal and Business Administrator and Assistant Administrative Secretary for Student Funds	2 of 4
Business Office	Food Service Fund	Board President and Treasurer and Business Administrator	2 of 3
Business Office	SUI Trust Account	Board President and Treasurer and Business Administrator	3 of 3
High School	Athletic Activities Account	Athletic Programs & Sports Medicine Administrator and Business Administrator and Superintendent	2 of 3

G. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education authorizes Denise DeRosa, the district purchasing agent, to make purchases of goods and services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property utilizing various vendors that have State Contracts pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10(a).

H. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education acknowledges that Denise DeRosa, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, is a Qualified Purchasing Agent. Therefore, the current bid threshold is set at $53,000 and the current quote threshold is set at $7,950, subject to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a) and Subsection b of Section 9 of P.L. 1971, c. 198 (C.40A:11-9). Be it further resolved that the Board Secretary is authorized to sign Board contracts throughout the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school year for goods and services required for the operation of the school system.

I. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay obligations throughout the year with review by the Board of Education at the next Regular Public Meeting in the event that the payment of such bills is required for the district to meet its essential financial obligations.

J. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to hire new staff in the absence of the Board with formal approval being taken by the Board of Education at the next Regular Public Meeting.

K. Be it Resolved that the Board of Education authorizes the use of the Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts.

15. Board Appointments:

I move that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to revise the following appointments for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year:

a. Be it Resolved that **Kevin Robinson, Interim** Supervisor of Educational Services, be appointed as the District's Homeless Liaison.

b. Be it Resolved that **Amy Coppola,** Acting Executive Director of Student Services, be appointed as the District's ADA Officer.

c. Be it Resolved that **Amy Coppola**, Acting Executive Director of Student Services, be appointed as the English as a Second Language Program Officer.

16. President's Report

A. Appointments for 2026 Board Year:

1. Committee on Curriculum and Instruction: _____ Chair
_____
_____

2. Committee on Finance and Facilities: _____ Chair
_____
_____
_____

3. Committee on Personnel and Communications: _____ Chair
_____
_____
_____

4. Committee on Policy & Regulations: _____ Chair
_____
_____

5. Committee on Negotiations: _____ Chair
_____
_____
_____

6. Committee on Equity & Excellence: _____ Chair
_____
_____

7. Liaison to Municipal Drug & Alcohol Alliance: Elizabeth Asamoah

8. Liaison to Borough Public Information Committee: _____

9. Liaison to the Highland Park Educational Foundation: _____

10. Liaison to the Commission for Universal Access: _____

11. Representative to the Public Library: Michele Rodrigues

12. Liaison to Special Education Parent Advisory Committee: _____
_____

13. Liaison to Human Relations: _____

14. Liaison to the Board of Health: _____

15. Liaison to HP Athletic Boosters: _____

17. Old Business

18. New Business

19. Public Comment

The Highland Park Board of Education welcomes public participation and has reserved this time for your comments. (Board Policies #0164 and #0167 establish and regulate the right of the public to participate in public meetings.)

20. Adjournment