HOPE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
320 JOHNSONBURG ROAD, P.O. BOX 293
HOPE, NEW JERSEY 07844
908-459-4242

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
November 18, 2025

For the Regular Meeting of the Hope Township Board of Education
Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hope Township School Media Center.

Hope Township School, in cooperation with our community, values the importance of a supportive, challenging education for all students delivered through an effective, contemporary curriculum that meets or exceeds the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. By fostering communication and respect in a positive educational environment, all children can realize their potential.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE 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 meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is either discussed or acted upon. In accordance with this provision of the act, the Hope Township Board of Education has sent notice of this meeting, stating the date, and place, to the Star Gazette and the New Jersey Herald, and posted the same in the Hope Township School, Municipal Building, and Post Office.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

Mrs. Andrea Beatty	_____	Mrs. Diane Kasharian	_____	Mrs. Tina Ritchie	_____
Mrs. Linda Chamberlain	_____	Mr. Mathew Leitner	_____		
Mr. Joseph Ciccarelli	_____	Mr. John Lucas	_____		

Also present,

V. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Presentation of Paw Awards - Positively Thankful
Presentation of Red Apple Award - Gratitude Giver
Presentation of G&T by Lianne Markus
Congratulations to Linda Chamberlain and Mathew Leitner on their reappointments to the Board.

VI. PUBLIC HEARING & PETITION

As per Board Policy 0167, public comments are welcome on educational issues. All comments should be directed to the board president. Those wishing to share comments are asked to state their name and address before speaking. Please respect the five minute speaking rule so that the business of the Board may proceed in a timely manner.

VII. MINUTES

MOTION by _____, seconded by _____ to approve the following minutes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the Board of Education meeting, held on the dates indicated as transcribed, be approved and filed.

October 21, 2025 - Regular Meeting Minutes

Voice Vote:

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent

VIII. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION - Mr. Lucas, Mr. Ciccarelli

Committee update

MOTION by_____, seconded by_____ to approve Buildings & Grounds/Transportation item A.

A. Approve the Use of Facilities

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, to approve the use of the Kitchen by the Hope Volunteer Fire Department during the Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, December 6, 2025 and Sunday, December 7, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Discussion:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Beatty				
Mrs. Chamberlain				
Mr. Ciccarelli				
Mr. Leitner				
Mr. Lucas				
Mrs. Kasharian				
Mrs. Ritchie				
Totals				

IX. COMMUNITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS - Mr. Leitner, Mrs. Kasharian, Mrs. Beatty

Committee update

X. CURRICULUM/INSTRUCTION/TECHNOLOGY - Mrs. Chamberlain, Mrs. Beatty, Mrs. Kasharian

Committee update

XI. FINANCE - Mr. Ciccarelli, Mrs. Beatty, Mrs. Chamberlain

Committee update
MOTION by_____, seconded by_____ to approve Finance items A through D.

A. Acceptance of the Financial Report October 2025

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 requires the Board Secretary and the Hope Township Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that the sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation, and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10 further requires the Hope Township Board of Education receive and accept the monthly financial statements, the Board Secretary's, and Treasurer's reports; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports, for the month ending October 31, 2025, are presented for the Board to accept and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Hope Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of and accepts the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the month ending October 31, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary and Hope Township Board of Education certify that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that there are sufficient funds available to meet the district's financial obligation.

B. Approval of Budget Transfers for October 2025

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10-(c)1 states that a report shall be presented to the Board showing all transfers between line-item accounts for each line-item account shown on the budget prepared in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:22-8; and

WHEREAS, transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for the time period of October 2025 were necessary to maintain the needs of the district and are on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, that Hope Township Board of Education ratifies and approves the transfers in the report "Budget Transfers" for October 31, 2025 in fiscal year 2025-2026, approved by the Chief School Administrator, so that no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds would be available to meet the district's financial obligations.

C. Approval of September 2025 and October 2025 Claims

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:19, Expenditure of Funds; Audit and Payment of Claims, provides Boards of Education to make payments on claims for goods received and services rendered payable to the order of the person entitled to receive the amount after approval by the board; or in accordance with payrolls duly certified; or debt service or when provided by resolution approval by a person designated by the board; and

WHEREAS, a list of bills for the months of September 2025 and October 2025 are being presented to the board with the recommendation that they be ratified, approved and paid; and

WHEREAS, each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hope Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, ratifies and approves the list of bills for payment in the grand sum of $144,05.23 for October 16, 2025 through October 31, 2025 and $337,303.19 for November 1, 2025 through November 15, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the list of bills is on file in the Office of the School Business Administrator, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hope Township Board of Education authorizes the School Business Administrator to pay bills if it is determined that a need arises prior to the next board meeting.

D. Professional Services Agreement with NJ Pediatric Neuroscience Institute

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve a Professional Services Agreement in Related Services between Hope Township Board of Education and NJ Pediatric Neuroscience Institute for December 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to provide Monolingual and Bilingual Neurological Evaluations at a cost of $795.00 per evaluation.

E. Professional Services Agreement with Advancing Opportunities

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve a Professional Services Agreement in Related Services between Hope Township Board of Education and Advancing Opportunities for July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. They will provide AAC Evaluations at $1,450 per service with an additional $200 an hour for supplemental and training. And they will provide AT Evaluations at $1,250 per service with an additional $180 an hour for supplemental and training.

Discussion:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Beatty				
Mrs. Chamberlain				
Mr. Ciccarelli				
Mr. Leitner				
Mr. Lucas				
Mrs. Kasharian				
Mrs. Ritchie				
Totals				

XII. PERSONNEL - Mrs. Ritchie, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Leitner

Committee update

MOTION by_____, seconded by_____ to approve Personnel item A through C..

A. Approve Substitute

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Jane Carr as a teaching substitute at a rate of $100.00 daily for the 2025-2026 school year, pending background check.

B. Approve Part Time Speech Therapist

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve Joy Jable, as Part Time Speech Therapist, MA Step M at a salary of $74,245, prorated for a .6o position, for the 2025-2026 school year, starting on January 20, 2025.

C. Approve Cocurricular Activity Positions

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board, upon recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, approve the following staff for CoCurricular activity positions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Staff Member	Position	Stipend
Lianne Markus	Panther Pride Squad	$900.00
Lindsay Williams	Yearbook	$1,700.00
Lianne Markus	Gifted and Talented	$1,500.00
Jennifer Encin	Substitute Caller	$2,200.00
Lindsay Williams	Safety Patrol	$1,700.00
Lianne Markus	Strategic Games Club	$900.00
Meghan Gecek	Homework Club K - 2	$1,100.00
Lindsay Willaims	Homework Club 3 - 5	$1,100.00
Sue Martino	Bool Club K - 5	$900.00

Discussion:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Beatty				
Mrs. Chamberlain				
Mr. Ciccarelli				
Mr. Leitner				
Mr.. Lucas				
Mrs. Kasharian				
Mrs. Ritchie				
Totals				

XIII. POLICY - Mr. Lucas, Mrs. Chamberlain
Committee update

MOTION by_____, seconded by_____ to adopt the first reading of Governance item A.

A. P 2468 Independent Educational Evaluations (Revised)

Discussion:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Mrs. Beatty				
Mrs. Chamberlain				
Mr. Ciccarelli				
Mr. Leitner				
Mr. Lucas				
Mrs. Kasharian				
Mrs. Ritchie				
Totals				

XIV. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Mrs. Kasharian

Committee update

XV. BHS BOARD MEMBER UPDATE - Mr. Ciccarelli

Committee update

XVI. WHITE BOARD MEMBER UPDATE - Mrs. Ritchie

Committee update

XVI1. GOOD OF THE ORDER

XVIII. PUBLIC HEARING AND PETITION

As per Board Policy 0167, public comments are welcome on educational issues. All comments should be directed to the board president. Those wishing to share comments are asked to state their name and address before speaking. Please respect the five minute speaking rule so that the business of the Board may proceed in a timely manner.

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION by_____, seconded by_____ for the Board to enter into Executive Session at _____p.m.

Voice Vote:

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board of Education discusses topics falling within certain specified exceptions to the requirement for public meetings;(N.J.S.A. 10:4-13) and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to discuss matters that fall within statutory exceptions to open public meetings

BE IT RESOLVED pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act(N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), that the Board adjourn from public session and enter into executive session at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to legal matters and personnel.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in executive session should be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but it is not known at this time when that may be. The Board expects to reconvene into public session in approximately ___ minutes. Action may be taken.

BE IT RESOLVED to return to Open Public Session at _____p.m.

MOTION by _____, seconded by_____for the Board to reconvene public session.

Voice Vote:

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent

XX. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF HIB INCIDENTS

MOTION by _____, seconded by _____ to acknowledge receipt of no HIB investigations.

Voice Vote:

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN by _____, seconded by_____.

On a voice vote, all present were in favor. The meeting adjourned at _____ p.m.

Voice Vote:

Yes	No	Abstain	Absent