Galloway Township Board of Education Agenda
Office of the Board Secretary
101 South Reeds Road
Galloway, NJ 08205

MINUTES

October 12, 2026

REGULAR MEETING

1. MEETING OPENING

Procedural: 1.1 Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 6:02 PM

Procedural: 1.2 Open Public Meeting Statement

In accordance with Public Law 231, both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided to: The Press, the Galloway Township Municipal Building and the District Website on July 9, 2026.

Procedural: 1.3 Roll Call

Members present, Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

Also Present: Mr. Stephen P. Santilli/Superintendent, Mrs. Joy N. Nixon/School Board Administrator/Board Secretary, and Mrs. Amy Houck-Elco /Board Solicitor

Procedural: 1.4 Flag Salute
The flag salute will be led by Mr. Richard Dase

2. MINUTES

Action, Minutes: 2.1 September 14, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes
Action: 2.2 September 14, 2026 - Executive Meeting Minutes

Approve Minutes Items #2.1 through #2.2

Motion by Mr. Richard Dase, second by Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

3. PRESENTATIONS

Presentations: 3.1 Introduction of GTMS Student Council Representative
Mr. Liam Vivero, GTMS Student Council President, provided an update on recent events and initiatives.
Presentations: 3.2 Absecon-Galloway Rotary Coat Donation

Presentations: 3.3 2025-2026 Student Safety Data Systems (SSDS) Report Period 2 & School Self-Assessment for Determining HIB Grades & Behavior Threat Assessment

Mrs. Avery – What other distinguishing characteristics that make up that category?
Mrs. Tahsin – answered with examples.
Mrs. Hermenau – The HIB chart said 31 alleged, 17 confirmed can you explain what happens to the 14 others. What age can a student make a complaint
Mrs. Tahsin – responded that there is no set age. Confirmed HIB stays on record, alleged does not.
Mrs. Hermenau – stated she disagrees with the policy
Mr. Santilli – responded that the policy follows the law.
Mrs. Hermenau – stated she doesn't think this policy is fair
Ms. Chester – there was a significant increase in certain areas and grades, can you share what is being done to address those?
Mrs. Tahsin - responded with what has been implemented.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Information: 4.1 Guidelines for Public Comment at the Board of Education Meeting
None

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Reports: 5.1 Student Enrollment Report
Reports: 5.2 Out-of-District Suspension Report
Reports: 5.3 Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Report

Action: 5.4 Approve the submission of the Galloway Township Public Schools Self-Assessment for Determining HIB Grades

Approve Superintendent's Report Item #5.4

Motion by Mr. Richard Dase, second by Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Abstain: Mrs. Ethel Hermenau
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

6. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Action: 6.1 Field Trips
Action: 6.2 Fieldwork

Approve Curriculum & Instruction Items #6.1 through #6.2

Motion by Mr. Richard Dase, second by Mrs. Kathleen Huenke
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

7. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Information, Reports: 10.1 Finance and Facilities Committee Update
Chairperson Mr. Dase provided an update

Action, Information, Reports: 7.2 Food Service Reports - August 2026
Action: 7.3 Investment Report(s) for August 31, 2026
Action: 7.4 Board Secretary's Monthly Certification
Action: 7.5 Financial Report of the Board Secretary
Action: 7.6 Board Report of Receipts & Expenditures
Action: 7.7 Transfers for Ratification - August 2026
Action: 7.8 Bills for Payment - October 2026
Action: 7.9 Professional Services Contract(s)
Action: 7.10 Atlantic and Cape May Counties Association of School Business Officials (ACCASBO) Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) Membership Renewal
Action: 7.11 Atlantic and Cape May Counties Association of School Business Officials (ACCASBO) Joint Insurance Fund (JIF) Indemnity and Trust Agreement
Action: 7.12 Accept Gifts, Grants & Donations
Action: 7.13 Out of District Professional Development
Action: 7.14 Support for the Township of Galloway Safe Routes to School Grant Submission
Action: 7.15 Submission of Final Expenditure Reports
Action: 7.16 Home Instruction
Action: 7.17 Transportation Agreement(s)
Action: 7.18 Tuition Payable for McKinney Vento Students
Action: 7.19 Tuition Receivable for McKinney Vento Students
Action: 7.20 Tuition Receivable for DCP&P Students
Action: 7.21 Tuition Payable for Special Education Students
Action: 7.22 Withdrawal from Maintenance Reserve Account
Action: 7.23 Smithville Elementary School Make Up Air Unit Purchase and Installation
Action: 7.24 Authorizing Disposal of Surplus Property
Action: 7.25 Community Use of School Facilities

Approve Finance & Facilities Items #7.2 through #7.25

Motion by Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, seconded by Mrs. Madeline Avery
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Abstain: Mr. Richard Dase from 7.8 Bills for Payment. Yes, to the rest.
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

8. PERSONNEL

Action: 8.1 Retirement(s)

Approve Agenda Item #8.1

Motion by Mr. Richard Dase, second by Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

Action: 8.3 Resignation(s)
Action: 8.4 Deactivation/Creation of Position(s)
Action: 8.5 Transfer(s)

Action: 8.6 Appointment(s)
Action: 8.7 Mentor(s)
Action: 8.8 Leave(s) of Absence
Action: 8.9 Adjustment(s)
Action: 8.10 Job Description(s)

Approve Personnel Items #8.3 through #8.10

Motion by Mr. Richard Dase, second by Mrs. Kathleen Huenke
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

Information: 8.12 Introduce and Welcome New Hires

9. NEW BUSINESS

Action: 9.1 2026-2027 Nursing Services Plan
Action: 9.2 2026-2027 School Safety and Security Plan

Approve New Business Items #9.1 through #9.2

Motion by Mr. Richard Dase, second by Dr. Sherri Parmenter
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

10. BOARD INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Information: 10.1 Board Calendar
Information: 10.2 Special Events

Information: 10.3 NO VOTE NEEDED - Information Items Only

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Information: 11.1 Guidelines for Public Comment at the Board of Education Meeting

1. Diamond Dennis, Galloway resident and Parent – A parent of two Roland Rogers Elementary students, my third-grade daughter was physically restrained and inappropriately touched with an object by classmates during recess, expressing severe concerns over the district's failure to provide immediate nurse care, counseling, or prompt parental notification while leaving the child in the same classroom as an involved peer. The parent further criticized the district's handling of the aftermath, noting that mandating an automatic crisis evaluation sent their eight year old to an adult hospital facility and compounded the trauma, rather than utilizing alternative support resources. After spending two weeks unsuccessfully trying to address these communication breakdowns and policy flaws, I will be emailing a complete account of the incident and subsequent communications directly to the full school board.
2. Anthony Bower, Somers Point resident and Father of the child at Roland Rogers – As the father of the affected student, there is a deep emotional distress and frustration over the district’s handling of the recess incident, emphasizing the ongoing trauma inflicted on his daughter and family. For three weeks, we’ve met with principals and counselors trying to

resolve this, but the administration has offered my family nothing in return, no concrete solutions, no formal response, and zero accountability. Following your official protocols didn't help my daughter; it brought police and state agency involvement into our home, adding immense trauma while she remains trapped at home, watching her sister go to school like normal. We are heartbroken and frustrated by the lack of support. We came to this board meeting publicly because every internal channel failed us, and my child needs a prompt resolution now.

3. Kelly Grace, Galloway resident – First, thank you for your time, having served on a board myself, I know it's a thankless job. But as this is our last meeting before voting, I want to urge everyone to vote locally, state-wide, and federally for candidates who stand up for parental rights, transparency, and academic excellence. We need to return to the basics, reading, writing, arithmetic, respect, and core family values. Candidates like Ms. Larrea and Mrs. Hermenau have fought for these principles and supported our veterans. Please vote for leaders who protect our families and respect our shared values. Thank you.
4. Theresa Capito, Galloway resident – As a Galloway taxpayer whose money supports this district, I am deeply concerned by your current sex education and gender policies. Our schools should be focusing strictly on core academic subjects, not gender identity issues that ignore basic social norms and scientific data on transition risks. I strongly urge this board to revise its notification rules: parents have a right to know what is happening with their children. School staff should never step between a child and their family; parents must be immediately informed and entrusted to guide their children through these personal struggles.
5. Tony Leek, Galloway resident – 98% of children grow out of transgenderism. Modern education has strayed from traditional foundational principles, criticizing gender-affirming approaches for children, which they view as unnecessary interference with biological sex, and calling instead for guidance rooted in biblical morality. Read Proverbs 1:7 and a quote by John Adams, he stated that America's founding fathers intentionally built the nation's educational, political, and legal frameworks on religious absolutes, and they question why current educators have replaced these proven concepts with contemporary social ideologies.
6. Paul Morhoff, Galloway resident – America's foundational values stem from Deism, which they define as a Christian sect focused purely on morality rather than supernatural or mystical elements. The people who are against trans people, let he who is without sin cast the first stone. The information shared tonight on transgenders being sterile after hormone replacement is not true. Thank you and have a great day.
7. Theresa Angier, Galloway resident – As a bus driver, schools are failing to teach essential life skills, such as basic math, writing in cursive, telling time, navigation, and practical tasks like cooking or taxes, while fostering disrespect and emotional fragility among students. These deficits are also due to a lack of consequences from parents and a shifting educational focus. Schools should not be prioritizing discussions around gender identity and sexuality over core academic and foundational abilities.
8. Paige Kuenzner, Absecon resident & running the Absecon school board - My son went to Smithville school, and we had a horrible experience and now goes to Charter Tech. My son is autistic, was suspended and had the police called on him after inappropriately grabbing a girl who is transitioning to a boy's chest. I blame what schools are teaching about gender for confusing him about appropriate boundaries and causing this incident.
9. Jeff Beauvais, Galloway resident and local Pastor - As a local pastor and father of six who home-schools my children, I was alarmed by school board candidates claiming that schools take on the role of parents and should prioritize student preferences over parental rights. They excuse their compliance with state mandates by citing the threat of financial bankruptcy, but true bankruptcy occurs when parents lose trust and withdraw their children entirely. Modern education must stop viewing faith-based, conservative families as a threat; instead, we need a revival of traditional education grounded in moral integrity, scientific truth, and genuine love that honors the sacred trust parents place in our schools. Thank you very much.
10. Katherine Willis, Galloway resident – As a single mother who pays for private schooling, I refuse to send my six-year-old daughter to public school after seeing my younger sisters come back terrified by the modern public school environment. I believe schools have wrongly abandoned faith, American tradition, and proper communication, while handling anti-bullying

(HIB) reports in an intrusive way similar to child protective services. I pray for leadership changes on the school board that will restore traditional values and transparency.

12. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Information, Procedural: 12.1 For the Good of the Order

Dr. Parmenter – I attended the Roland Rogers and the Arthur Ran back to school night and I was really very pleased with the amount of parental support I saw coming into the building. They just came and came and came and came and came. They were very excited to see what was going on in the schools with their children. It was really enjoyable to see that. Thank you.

Ms. Larrea – I'd like to say how sorry I am for the parents that the young girl that had some sexual things happen to her that the school system did not take that responsibility quickly to get back to them. I think I saw the mother leave already. And so, if you know them, I pray that you'll speak to them and we are going to see what we can do as a board to see that that's taken care of. I mean, that's what we're here for. We're here for the children and for the parents. And I want to say thank you to all the parents that did come out and support some of us who really want to protect the parents' rights and the children. That's why we're here. We love the children and the parents and God loves them and you should too. And if you really care about your children, you need to come out to the school board meetings and you need to vote for people that want to take care of your children and the parents. And there's a mother that came in and I want you to know that I'm going to pray and do everything I can to make sure that you're taken care of because those things should not be happening in our school. And if they happen, we as a board should take that liberty to make sure that things are taken care of properly. And that's why you need to pray and vote for people that care about your children. Thank you.

Mrs. Avery – As a former public school teacher, I'd just like to remind people that this is a public school and a public school district. Additionally, I've been on this board since January of 2013, and I'll tell you, these meetings are mentally exhausting week after week. I hope everybody has a great week.

Mr. Dase – I just want to welcome our student council rep. Thank you for coming out. I also like to welcome our new assistant principal and welcome to the staff who were all recent new hires. You're contributing to a great school district and let's keep it that way. And all you guys here, God bless. Go Eagles!

Mrs. Huenke – I'd just like to remind everybody that there is voting before our next meeting and that I would encourage you all to look at the candidates night video which could be found online and I would encourage you all to concentrate on the beginning of our meetings where we go over all the wonderful things that happen in this district, all the learning opportunities, all the training we give our teachers, all the family involvement activities that we have and not to concentrate on one tiny policy and make that the focus of the entire election. We do great things here. Our kids are thriving. I have four grandchildren in the system who love to go to school every day. I'm very proud of this district. Use your votes wisely. Thank you.

Mrs. Hermenau – I wanted to say to the woman over there that was talking about her child, my heart was breaking for you and I was upset that you were cut off short. That should not happen. That's the first I'm hearing about it. But I will tell you this, there's people that have been on this board for a very long time. They're teachers, they're doctors or whatever. And that's part of the problem. I think you need regular people like me and Ginny who are conservatives. We're Christians. We want to make a difference in this school. We want change and they can say whatever they want. Yes, we have great things in the school. Don't get me wrong. Great things. And all these people are wonderful. They all have a different way of looking at things. The problem is though, when the foundation is broken, when you're allowing things to be taught to your children that were without the parents' consent, when things happen and they're sexualized, I'm sorry, it's a problem. The public school has no right to

overstep those boundaries. And they are. So, I'm sitting here saying, Vote for me. Vote for Ginny. Vote for Remy. Get change in the school and tell all your friends because we will change it. Thank you.

Dr. Beshara-Blauth – As someone who is a parent and has children in this district, they are getting a wonderful education here. My son and daughter, one of which has an IEP and has thrived in this district, come home talking about what they are learning. They're not coming home talking about everything that was just discussed tonight. That's not happening. They're coming home, they are reading books. They are reading to me and they are reading to their father. They are coming home loving math. My son asks for more math worksheets in his class. His teachers love it. They're like, "He's coming home asking for this." That's what this district is about. That is what my children are learning. It's the same education that I got that put me through my master's degree and my doctoral degree and as assistant vice president at a college. This is a good, strong district. Don't doubt that for a second. I also would like to say I went to the steam night at Smithville Elementary School last night and it was packed with parents that are involved in their children's lives and they all had a blast. My kids had a blast. The parents had a blast. So, thank you Galloway Township School District for what you are and how you are raising the children and educating them. I am so thankful as a resident, as a parent, and as a board member. And welcome to all of our new hires. Really, this is a fabulous district. We look forward to having you here. Thank you.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action, Procedural: 13.1 Possible Recess to Executive Session
None

Action: 13.2 Reconvene Open Public Meeting
None

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION (IF NEEDED)

Action: 14.1 Possible Action from Executive Session
None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting 7:20 PM

Motion by Dr. Sherri Parmenter, second by Mr. Richard Dase
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Yes: Ms. Belinda Chester, Ed.M., Dr. Sherri Parmenter, Ms. Virginia A. Larrea, Mrs. Madeline Avery, Mrs. Ethel Hermenau, Mrs. Kathleen Huenke, Mr. Richard Dase and Dr. Alexa Beshara-Blauth
Absent: Mr. James Gentile

Respectfully Submitted,

Joy N. Nixon, CPA, MBA
School Board Administrator/Board Secretary