NORTHERN HIGHLANDS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting **November 23, 2026**

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER: The Board President will call the meeting to order.

2. FLAG SALUTE and **PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:**
The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies, at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary has transmitted notice of this meeting by having the date, time, and place published in The Record and The Ridgewood News on January 16, 2026, sent to the Boroughs of Allendale and Upper Saddle River, and posted in the Board of Education Office at Northern Highlands Regional High School. Our agenda allows two opportunities for public comments: at the beginning of the meeting for agenda items only, and at the conclusion of our meeting for general comments. We ask members of the public to state their name and limit their comments to a five-minute time period.

3. ROLL CALL

NAME	PRESENT		ABSENT
Mrs. Christine Ferrarie			
Mrs. Lisa Halperin			
Mrs. Jennifer Lenkowsky			
Mrs. Maggie Liljegren			
Ms. Jennifer Mario			
Mrs. Lynn McCarthy			
Mrs. Rachel Milston			
Mr. James Mulvey			
Dr. Andrew Prince			
Mrs. Suzanne Warzala			
Dr. Doug Holden (Saddle River Liaison)			
Dr. Scot Beckerman, Superintendent			
Ms. Sue Anne Mather, Business Admin/Board Secretary			
Nicholas Mesuk, Student Representative			
Brooke Reissman, Student Representative			

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Mr. Michael Novak: 2026 NJSLA-A and DLM assessment results

5. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

6. COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

8. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

9. ACTION ITEMS FOR the *Business Agenda* for *November 23, 2026*, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING:

_____ moved, and _____seconded:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approves/accepts the following business item(s) **B-1** through **B-13** in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6, et. sec., including N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 reporting no over-expenditure of funds and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Business Administrator:

B-1. Approve the current bills list (check register) for the period November 9, 2026, through November 20, 2026, per attachment.

B-2. Approve the Minutes of the Regular and Executive Sessions for the November 9, 2026, Board of Education meeting, per attachments.

B-3. Approve the Board Secretary, Treasurer, and Transfer Reports for the period ending October 31, 2026.

B-4. Approve the following staff travel (accommodations note room rate only; occupancy taxes & fees associated therein and other costs on trips presently unknown, meals for overnight trips, and mileage, tolls, and parking will be reimbursed in accordance with policy and law).

Name	Workshop/Conference	Date(s)	Detail	Cost
Sara Belgiovine Capone	NJCECA Meeting, sponsored by NJCECA, Woodland Park, NJ	12/12/26	Mileage	$10.25
Erkan Gumustekin	Office Automations and Efficiencies for the BA, sponsored by NJASBO, Whippany, NJ	12/15/26	Registration	$199
Sue Anne Mather	Office Automations and Efficiencies for the BA, sponsored by NJASBO, Whippany, NJ	12/15/26	Registration Mileage	$199 $16.36
Courtney Rojas*	National Art Education Association National Convention, sponsored by NAEA, New York, NY	3/4/27-3/6/27	Registration Mileage Tolls Parking Sub Cost	$650 $34.12 $25.79/day $95/day $300
Meredith Sklar-Melle*	National Art Education Association National Convention, sponsored by NAEA, New York, NY	3/4/27-3/6/27	Registration Mileage Tolls Parking Sub Cost	$650 $56.40 $27.44/day $95/day $300

**Previously approved on 10/12/26, registration amount changed.*

B-5. Approve the following facilities use request as indicated below:

Organization Name/Activity	Location(s)	Date(s)	Time(s)
University of Illinois Marching Band/Rehearsal	Stadium Turf	11/25/26	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
NH Junior Wrestling Club/Wrestling Practices	Wrestling Gym	11/30/26-2/12/27 Monday – Friday	5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

B-6. Approve the following **2026-2027** school year placement and/or services, per attachment(s), where applicable.

	Student	Provider	Type	Duration	Cost
a.	27678	Educere – Three Courses: US History II, Honors Calculus, Honors British Literature	Home Instruction	11/13/26-1/22/27	Not to exceed $1,200
b.	28163	Bergen County Special Services	Assistive Technology Consultation	11/24/26-6/30/27	Not to exceed $500
c.	29423	Passaic Art & Science Charter School, Clifton, NJ	Educational placement	11/24/26-6/30/27	Not to exceed $30,000 plus aid-in-lieu for transportation

B-7. Approve the *REVISED* reimbursement amount to the parents of Student 29387 for one-to-one Orton-Gillingham instruction, not to exceed $5,500, for services provided between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027. (Originally approved on 6/8/26, for $4,680).

B-8. *RESCIND* the appointment of HAIRO PENA HIERRO as a 12-month Bus Driver at a rate of $38 per hour for 35 hours per week, not to exceed 40 hours per week, effective December 31, 2026.

B-9. Approve the appointment of HAIRO PENA HIERRO as full-time, 12-month Custodian/Bus Driver, at a salary of $66,361 (Custodian Guide, Step 6), plus a $465 bus license stipend, for a total salary of $66,826, prorated, effective January 1, 2027.

B-10. Approve the appointment of NESTOR ARANDA as a 12-Month Bus Driver, at a rate of $38 per hour for 35 hours per week, not to exceed 40 hours per week, effective January 1, 2027, pending completion of required documentation.

B-11. Approve the appointment of JOT SANCHEZ as full-time, 12-month Custodian/Bus Driver, at a salary of $66,361 (Custodian Guide, Step 6), plus a $465 bus license stipend and a $901 boiler license stipend, for a total salary of $67,727, prorated, effective January 1, 2027, pending completion of required documentation.

B-12. Approve ALLAN ZAKHARIA and LUISA DE LA CRUZ as on-call bus drivers for the 2026-2027 school year at a rate of $38/hour, effective immediately following the completion of required documentation.

B-13. Approve the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal for 2027, per attachment.

Roll Call:

10. ACTION ITEMS FOR the *Education Agenda* for *November 23, 2026*, BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING:

_____moved and _____seconded:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Education approve/accept the following Education items, **E-1** through **E-10,** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, effective immediately following the completion of required certification and documentation:

E-1. Accept and affirm the Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Investigation report, per attachment.

E-2. Accept and affirm the Monthly Student Suspension report, per attachment.

E-3. Approve to abolish the following Board of Education Policies, Regulations and Bylaws.

P2363	Student Use of Privately-Owned Technology
P4127	Nepotism

E-4. Approve the first reading of the following Board of Education Policies, Regulations and Bylaw updates, per attachment.

P 0143	Board Member Election and Appointment
P 2361.6	Unauthorized Audio and/or Video Recording (New)
P & R 2412	Home Instruction Due to Health Condition
P 2422	Statutory Curricular Requirements
P & R 2422.02	Parental Opt-Out From Certain Instruction (New)
P & R 5320	Immunization
P 5514	Student Use of Vehicles on School Grounds
P 5517	School District Issued Student Identification Cards
P & R 6471	School District Travel
P 7523	School District Provided Technology Devices to Students
P 8660	Transportation by Private Vehicles-To and From School-Related Activities
P 9181	Volunteer Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants
P 9182	Athletic Coaches (New)

E-5. Approve and adopt the new student activity clubs, "Morgan's Message" and "Civil Engineering Club", operated on a volunteer / non-financial support basis, effective for the 2026-2027 school year

E-6. Rescind the following Athletic assignments for the 2026-2027 school year.

- WILLIAM (BUCKY) REHAIN as Assistant Wrestling Coach (Group 2a, $7,724)
- JEFF REHAIN as Assistant Wrestling Coach (Group 2a, $7,724)

E-7. Approve the following Athletic/Co-Curricular assignments for the 2026-2027 school year.

- REBECCA KAYE as Volunteer Advisor for Morgan's Message Club
- RICHARD HEISSLER as Volunteer Advisor for Civil Engineering Club
- WILLIAM (BUCKY) REHAIN as Assistant Wrestling Coach (1/3 of two Group 2a wrestling stipends combined, $5,149.33 each) PLEASE NOTE: Two wrestling stipends

(Group 2a, $7,724) will be combined for a total of $15,448 and divided equally into 1/3 stipends each among three coaches. (1/3 of two Group 2a, $5,149.33 each)

- JEFF REHAIN as Assistant Wrestling Coach (1/3 of two Group 2a wrestling stipends combined, $5,149.33 each) PLEASE NOTE: Two wrestling stipends (Group 2a, $7,724 each) will be combined for a total of $15,448 and divided equally into 1/3 stipends each among three coaches. (1/3 of two Group 2a, $5,149.33 each)
- KYLE WENGERTER as Assistant Wrestling Coach (1/3 of two Group 2a wrestling stipends combined, $5,149.33 each) PLEASE NOTE: Two wrestling stipends (Group 2a, $7,724 each) will be combined for a total of $15,448 and divided equally into 1/3 stipends each among three coaches. (1/3 of two Group 2a, $5,149.33 each)
- LOGAN HURWITT as Paraprofessional Aide/ Coach for Wrestling team

E-8. Approve the following field trips for the 2026-2027 school year.

1. TEEEM: Youth reading fundraiser: 12/3/26
   - Hillside School, Allendale, NJ
   - Ho-Ho-Kus School, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ
   - Wandell School, Saddle River, NJ
   - Reynolds/Bogert Schools, Upper Saddle River, NJ
2. Highlands Heroes: Outreach Program: 12/8/26 and 12/10/26
   - Brookside School, Allendale, NJ (12/8/26)
   - Ho-Ho-Kus School, Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ (12/8/26)
   - Cavallini School, Upper Saddle River, NJ (12/10/26)
3. Honors Future Educators and Leaders classes: Instructional strategies and learning environments: 1/6/27
   - Roosevelt Elementary School, Hawthorne, NJ
4. American Literature classes: Live theatrical production: 4/15/27
   - Broadway Theatre, NYC
5. Quiz Bowl: Competition: Revised from 1/23/27 to 1/16/27 (originally approved 11/9/26)
   - Ridgewood High School, Ridgewood, NJ

E-9. Approve the following list of advisors/chaperones/school nurse, for the 2026-2027 school year, as listed below.

NAME	EVENT	DATE(S)	AMOUNT TO BE PAID
SIDONIE KING	TEEEM	12/3/26	Substitute cost
JOSEPH OCCHINO	TEEEM	12/3/26	No substitute cost
JENNIFER FERENTZ	Highlands Heroes	12/8/26 and 12/10/26	No substitute cost
SARA BELGIOVINE CAPONE	Honors Future Educators and Leaders	1/6/27	No substitute cost
SOFIA ASALI	American Literature classes	4/15/27	Substitute cost
JILL PECORA	American Literature classes	4/15/27	Substitute cost
JESSICA MENZELLA	American Literature classes	4/15/27	Substitute cost
MICHAEL DEKENS	American Literature classes	4/15/27	Substitute cost
KRISTEN SCHUMACHER	American Literature classes	4/15/27	No substitute cost
MIKE NOVAK, if needed	American Literature classes	4/15/27	No substitute cost

JOHN GORNELL	Quiz Bowl - date revised from 1/23/27 (originally approved 11/9/26)	1/16/27	No substitute cost

E-10. Approve ALEX DIMAULO and JULIA DELLISANTI as participating Montclair State University Student Athletic Trainers for the 2026-2027 school year, effective for the Spring, 2027 semester, pending completion of required documentation, per attachment.

Roll Call:

11. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

12. OLD BUSINESS

13. NEW BUSINESS

14. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Northern Highlands Regional High School Board of Education shall go into executive session to discuss the following matters:

- **Legal Matters**

The minutes of this executive session will be released when the need for confidentiality no longer exists. There are some topics (such as student matters) for which the need for confidentiality may never cease to exist.

_____moved, and _____seconded that the Board move into executive session.

TIME: All in Favor: _____ Opposed: _____

_____moved, and _____seconded that the Board moves into public session.

TIME: All in Favor: _____ Opposed: _____

16. ADJOURNMENT

_____moved, and _____seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

TIME: All in Favor: _____ Opposed: _____