# PITMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Meeting

June 17, 2026

## MINUTES

Open Public Meeting

**Motion to Open the Public Meeting at 6:00 PM**
**Motion: Pappalardo**
**Second: Farrell**
**In Favor: ALL**

Executive Session

**Motion to Enter into Executive Session at 6:00 PM**
**Motion: Pappalardo**
**Second: Pote**
**In Favor: All**

**Motion to Close Executive Session at 7:00 PM**
**Motion: Grossman**
**Second: Farrell**
**In Favor: All**

**Motion to Reopen the Public Meeting at 7:00 PM**
**Motion: Grossman**
**Second: Pote**
**In Favor: All**

Notice of Meeting per Sunshine Law Requirements

Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

**Attendance**
**Mrs. Boulton: yes**
**Mrs. Farrell: yes**
**Mr. Grossman: yes**
**Mrs. Higbee-Ionno: yes**
**Mrs. Miller: yes**
**Mrs. Pappalardo: yes**
**Mrs. Pote: yes**
**Quorum: 7-0**

Public Comment

Correspondence
C Leaken: Thank You note
K Oldhouser: Traffic Study Materials

Approval of Minutes
May 20, 2026
May 20, 2026 Executive Session

**Approval of Minutes**
**Motion: Miller**
**Second: Grossman**
**In Favor: ALL**

Presentation
**None**

President's Report

Graduation & Moving Up Ceremonies

Celebration Attendance: Board members were honored to attend and participate in the 6th-grade moving up, 8th-grade moving up, and High School graduation ceremonies.

Student Recognition: Highlighted the wonderful speeches delivered by students across all grade levels.

Rowan University Research Study

Study Announcement: Former Board President Mrs. Walker passed along details regarding an ongoing Rowan University research study focused on the voices and perspectives of school board members.

District Connection: The study is being conducted by Shelley Zinn, who has previously partnered with the district.

Participation: Information and access links will be distributed to interested board members.

NJSBA Updates

Timing: General routine NJSBA updates are being deferred to the August meeting since there are no time-sensitive matters for the coming month.

Superintendent's Report

Special Student Recognition

All-State Choir Selection: Formally recognized student Fiona James for her selection to the All-State Choir for three consecutive years.

Recognition Night Follow-Up: Addressed her accidental omission from the June 3rd Board Recognition Night; the Board called a brief recess to take official photos with her to celebrate her achievements in the performing arts.

Meeting Recessed at 7:07pm
Meeting Resumed at 7:10pm

HIB & Safety Compliance

Monthly Status: Reported 1 confirmed HIB incident for the previous month.

Security Drills: All state-mandated security drills were successfully completed across district facilities.

Semi-Annual HIB Report: Presented the semi-annual report for official board acceptance. Commended district administrators, counselors, and staff for their work on the assessment, which is published on the district website.

Referendum & Facilities Updates (Summer Construction)

Pitman Elementary School (PES) Renovations:

Staff and administration have completely vacated the building so heavy referendum work can take place. Ongoing projects include a full-building HVAC installation, structural steel work, and the complete renovation of 7 restrooms. Construction progress is currently running on schedule.

Track & Field Stencil Update:

Clarified the delay with the track center logo (the inverted panther head). The vendor mistakenly delivered a stencil designed for grass rather than track surfacing. As a silver lining, the district was permitted to keep the 20' \ 25' grass stencil for use on the football field's 50-yard line. A new, track-specific stencil with rigid outlines will be delivered in the coming weeks to complete the track logo.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**Open the public hearing:**

**Motion: Higbee-Ionno**
**Second: Farrell**
**In Favor: ALL**

Mrs Higbee Ionoo introduced the matter of naming the Track after Bob Eck.
Mr Matt Newcomb spoke in support of Bob Eck, a legend of Pitman coaching.

**Close Public Hearing**

**Close the public hearing:**

**Motion: Grossman**
**Second: Pote**
**In Favor: ALL**

Student Representative Report

**None**

**FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE – Boulton, Pote, Miller**

The Finance and Facility Committee met on June 10th at 3:30pm. In attendance were Dr. Preston, Mr. DeStratis, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Pote and myself. Our discussion started with items #1-6 which are the regular paying of bills and closing out the books. #9 and 10 will move portions of excess surplus,if any, into

capital reserve and maintenance reserve, pending the annual audit report. #16 is the approval of our professionals, including our esteemed solicitor. #20 is our substitute nurse rate and #21 is the price of student lunches for next year, which is the same as this year. We also talked about our referendum projects which are moving at the scheduled pace and so far on budget. As most know, Walls school is being leased out to Washington township this year so they will be doing some painting and work on the building to fit their needs and we do want to make neighbors aware that it will bring some traffic and excitement back to the neighborhood. Over at memorial we will be doing some renovations ourselves by removing a piece of equipment to give our youngest students a safer playground environment. With that, I'll make a motion to approve items 1-21 as written.

1. Recommend motion to approve all line-item transfers for the month of May 2026. (Attachment F&F-1)

2. Recommend motion to approve the monthly transfer report for the month of May 2026. (Attachment F&F-2)

3. Recommend motion to approve the Board Secretary's Report which is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of May 2026. The Board Secretary certifies that no line-item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(c)3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year. The Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(c)2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources. (Attachment F&F-3)

4. Recommend motion to approve the Board of Education certification, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, that after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial report for the month of May 2026 and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10(b); and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

5. Recommend motion to approve the Treasurer's Report which is in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of May 2026. The Treasurer's Report and the Board Secretary's Report are in agreement for the month of May 2026. (Attachment F&F-4)

6. Recommend motion to approve all bills which are properly approved and certified to be paid. (Attachment F&F-5)

7. Recommend motion to approve $0.47/mile as the mileage rate for the 2026/2027 school year, unless otherwise changed by the State of New Jersey. (Note: This rate was established July 1, 2022 and has been in effect since that date.)

8. Recommend motion to approve the 2026/2027 purchasing manual. (Attachment F&F-6)

9. Recommend motion to approve the following Capital Reserve transfer resolution:

**Resolution Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Capital Reserve**

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 18A:21-2 and NJSA 18A:7G-13 permit a Board of Education to establish and deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permits a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the Pitman Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Capital Reserve account at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the Pitman Board of Education has determined that an amount not to exceed $750,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Pitman Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district's Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

10. Recommend motion to approve the following Maintenance Reserve transfer resolution:

**Resolution Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Maintenance Reserve**

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 18A:21-2 and NJSA 18A:7G-13 permit a Board of Education to establish and deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permits a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the Pitman Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Maintenance Reserve account at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the Pitman Board of Education has determined that an amount not to exceed $500,000 is available for such purpose of transfer;

11. Recommend motion to cancel the following outstanding checks from the prior fiscal year 2024/2025 and for the 2025/2026 school year. (Attachment F&F-7)

12. Recommend motion to approve the attached resolution directing the ACCASBO JIF to return the surplus of $12,722 to the Pitman Board of Education in the form of a check. (Attachment F&F-8)

13. Recommend motion to approve the following 2026/2027 tuition rates for the purpose of billing other Local Education Agencies (LEA's):

| Grade/Program | Tuition Rate |
|---|---|
| Preschool/K | $23,158 |
| Grades 1-5 | $18,222 |
| Grades 6-8 | $13,413 |
| Grades 9-12 | $22,253 |
| Multiple Disability | $29,702 |
| Preschool Disabled-FT | $17,166 |

14. Approve the collection and maintenance of Pupil Records (per FERPA) for the 2026/2027 school year.

15. Recommend motion to approve member participation in the following purchasing consortiums during the 2026/2027 school year:

Camden County Education Service Commission (CCESC)
Educational Data Services, Inc.

Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ)
Educational Technology Consortium of South Jersey
Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC)
Monmouth-Ocean Educational Services Commission (MOESC)
New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance
OMNIA Partners
State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program
TIPS USA

16. Approve the following Professional Services for the 2026/2027 school year:

| Company Name | Professional Service |
|---|---|
| Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. | Bond Counsel |
| Epic Environmental Services | Environmental Services |
| Brown & Brown | Broker of Record (Medical and Prescription ) |
| Ford-Scott & Associates, LLC. | Auditing |
| Fraytak Veisz Hopkins Duthie, P.C. | Architect |
| OMNI | Retirement Plan Administrative Services |
| Phoenix Advisors, LLC | Financial Disclosure Services |
| South Jersey School Doctors, LLC | School Physician |
| Wade, Long, Wood, Long | Legal |
| Integrity Consulting | Broker of Record (Vision and Dental) |

17. Recommend motion to approve the following: Pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47, the Pitman Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the following contracts previously awarded by the Board of Education. These contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18. et.seq, NJAC Chapter 23, and Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements 2CFR, Part200 for the 2026/2027 school year. (Attachment F&F-9)

18. Recommend motion to approve the 2026/2027 contract with Gloucester County Special Services School District for participation in the Non-Public Aid-in-Lieu program.

19. Recommend motion to approve the 2026/2027 contract with Gloucester County Special Services School District for participation in the Choice Student Program.

20. Recommend motion to approve the agreement with Newborn Nurses for the 2026/2027 school year in the amount of $75/hour for a Licensed Practical Nurse and $85/hour for a Registered Nurse. (Attachment F&F-10)

Note: Newborn Nurses will provide substitute nurses to the school district upon request.

21. Recommend motion to approve the following cafeteria prices for the 2026/2027 school year:

| Breakfast | 2025/2026 | 2026/2027 |
|---|---|---|
| All Grades | $2.00 | $2.00 |
| | | |
| Student Lunch | | |
| Preschool | $3.20 | $3.20 |
| Elementary | $3.20 | $3.20 |
| Junior/Senior High | $3.70 | $3.70 |
| Preschool Milk | $0.60 | $0.60 |
| Lunch Milk - All Schools (Extra) | $0.60 | $0.60 |
| Assorted Snacks/Drinks | $0.50 to $3.00 | $0.50 to $3.00 |
| | | |
| Adult Lunch | | |
| Preschool | $5.00 | $5.00 |
| Elementary | $5.00 | $5.00 |
| Junior/Senior High | $5.00 | $5.00 |

**Motion to Approve Items #1-21**
**Motion: Boulton**
**Second: Pote**
**Mrs. Boulton: yes**
**Mrs. Farrell: yes**
**Mr. Grossman: yes**
**Mrs. Higbee-Ionno: yes**
**Mrs. Pappalardo: yes**
**Mrs. Pote: yes**
**Mrs. Miller: yes**
**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE – Higbee-Ionno, Grossman, Miller**

The Curriculum and Instruction Committee met on June 10, 2026, at 4:30pm. In attendance were Mrs. Miller, Dr. Preston, Mr. Caltabiano, and me.
Every six (6) years each district goes through a Special Education review and this was our year. We were issued a few minor corrections. There is a motion on the agenda to approve the acceptance of the Office of Special Education Tier One Monitoring Closeout Letter, which will conclude the process. Otherwise, the committee largely discussed the continuing process of interviewing and hiring for the remaining open positions. We have several exciting new hires on the agenda for approval tonight: Lauren Richie will be filling the PES Art Teacher position, Keri McConnell will be the new Technology/STEM Teacher, Nicole Leahey will be joining Memorial School as a Preschool Teacher, and Riley Dawson will be a part-time gross motor teacher for our Preschool program. Finally, something we've been discussing at these meetings for several months, Danette Thomas will be our full-time Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), which will allow the district to better meet the needs of more students in district.
With that, I move to adopt items 1 through 60 as written.

1. Student Statistics May 2026:

| Date | Memorial | PES | Jr./Sr. HS | Out of District | Alternate | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5/31/26 | 279 | 391 | 461 | 28 | 0 | 1159 |
| 4/30/26 | 278 | 391 | 461 | 29 | 0 | 1159 |
| 5/31/25 | 275 | 431 | 465 | 25 | 0 | 1193 |

Suspensions/Reasons:
Weapon Possession: 1
Damage to Property: 1
Inappropriate Behavior: 1

(Attachment C&I-1)

2. Recommend motion to approve the travel and related expenses particular to attendance of staff and board members on the attached list of approved school business leaves (Conference/Workshop/Meeting/Staff Training) are justified and therefore reimbursable. (Attachment C&I-2)

3. Recommend motion to approve the Use of Facilities as attached. (Attachment C&I-3)

4. Recommend motion to approve all field trips as submitted. (Attachment C&I-4)

5. Recommend motion to approve the job description for an OnCourse Train the Trainer Teacher Leader. (Attachment C&I-5)

6. Recommend motion to approve the job description for Fiscal Specialist (funding source: Preschool Education Aide). (Attachment C&I-6)

7. Recommend motion to approve the acceptance of the New Jersey Department of Education Office of Special Education Tier One Monitoring Closeout Letter dated June 9, 2026, acknowledging the successful completion of the monitoring process and the closure of all related monitoring activities.

8. Recommend motion to approve authorization for the Superintendent to offer contracts to staff as needed in consultation with the Board President beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 before the regularly scheduled Board Meetings.

9. Recommend motion to approve the continued out of district ESY and RSY placements for the 2026/2027 school year:

| Student ID# | Placement | ESY Tuition Cost | ESY1:1 Service | RSY Tuition Cost | RSY 1:1 Service |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8254436990 | Bancroft | $15,234.60 | $8,850 | $91,407.60 | $53,100 |
| 7397416698 | Bancroft | $15,234.60 | $8,850 | $91,407.60 | $53,100 |
| 2779434836 | Bancroft | $12,149.10 | $8,850 | $72,894.60 | $53,100 |
| 9512982449 | Larc | $10,359.90 | N/A | $62,159.40 | N/A |
| 5520898145 | Larc | $10,359.90 | $7,500 | $62,159.40 | $45,000 |
| 1678133130 | Larc | $10,359.90 | N/A | $62,159.40 | N/A |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2876230660 | Archway | $10,209.60 | $7,800 | $61,257.50 | 46,800 |
| 3217742931 | Archway | $10,209.60 | $7,800 | $61,257.50 | 46,800 |

10. Recommend motion to approve the following out of district placement for the 2025/2026 school year:

| Student ID# | Placement | Tuition Cost | Transportation Cost |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8774655374 | Waterford Township School District | $7,042.85 | $18,173.25 |

11. Recommend motion to approve the schedule of the district for the summer months to be closed on Fridays beginning Friday, June 26, 2026 through Friday, August 28, 2026, with office hours of 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

12. Recommend motion to approve Laurie Boyle as the sixth grade event coordinator for the 2025/2026 school year, stipend in the amount of $879. Stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Board of Education.

13. Recommend motion to approve teacher Victoria Nastasi as a substitute for the Summer Support Program.

14. Recommend motion to approve additional hours for the following individuals to provide services during the summer of 2026:

| School | Name | Position | Rate | Hours (up to) | Funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Memorial | Joanne Chmielewski | School Secretary | Hourly Rate | 40 | General |
| Memorial | Cynthia Thompson (CPIS) | Counselor | $53/hr. | 20 | Preschool |
| Memorial | Ashlee Sheppard (PIRT) | OT | $53/hr. | 20 | Preschool |
| Memorial | Shae Davies (PIC) | Preschool Instructional Coach | $53/hr. | 20 | Preschool |
| Memorial | All Preschool Teachers (Preschool Summer Playground Night Events) | Teachers | $53/hr. | 4 each | Preschool |
| PES | Jennifer Carr | Office Aide | Hourly Rate | 10 | General |
| PES | Alicia Walsh/Erica Davidson | Counselors | $53/hr. | 20 each | General |
| PES | Gianna Morganti | Nurse | $53/hr. | 8 | General |
| Jr/Sr. HS | Sarah Weng | Nurse | $53/hr. | 8 | General |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jr./Sr. HS | Christina Skanes | Asst. Principal Academics | Hourly rate | 40 | General |

15. Recommend motion to approve teacher, Robert DiTizio, to run credit completion the week of June 15, 2026, for Jr./Sr. High School students in need of making up unexcused absences. The program will run from 7:30 AM -12:30 PM for staff and 8:00 AM -12:00 PM for students (Monday-Thursday).

16. Recommend motion to approve up to 133.5 hours (July 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026) to Jennifer Smith, Athletic Trainer/Coordinator, at her hourly per diem rate of pay, this includes time to provide extra coverage for evening football practices (timesheets).

17. Recommend motion to approve the following summer workers from on or about July 27, 2026 through September 4, 2026, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM, at an hourly rate of $17.50, up to a total of 150 hours per worker (timesheets):

    Jonathan Bruno  Mark Mecholsky  Becca Waterpeace

18. Recommend motion to approve the attached list of employees to receive the negotiated amount for mentoring. (Attachment C&I-7)

19. Recommend motion to approve the following 2026 ESY staff from July 6, 2026 through July 30, 2026, for the Special Services staff (stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Board of Education:

| | |
|---|---|
| Special Education Teacher:<br>($53 per hour - up to 16 hours per week- timesheets) | Nicole Beach, Roy Rambo, Jacqueline Bradley, Kristin Chapman, Christine Lenentine, Jessica Morrone |
| Related Service Providers<br>($53 per hour - up to 16 hours per week - timesheets) | Christina Lawrence, Nurse<br>Kimberly Hemmes, Speech Therapist<br>Ashlee Sheppard, Occupational Therapist<br>Cynthia Thompson, School Counselor<br>TBD, BCBA |
| Substitute Staff<br>($53 per hour - up to 16 hours per week - timesheets) | Heather Lester, Substitute Teacher<br>Gianna Morganti, Substitute Nurse |
| Instructional Aides (hourly rate)<br>(Up to 16 hours per week - timesheets) | Paige Blaker ($18.37)<br>Ashley Carey ($19.63)<br>Katelyn Danner ($16.93)<br>Megan Gallagher ($18.93)<br>Amanda Jagielski ($18.93)<br>Raschel Mannino ($20.03)<br>Stephanie McFarland ($19.13)<br>Leah Morris ($18.17)<br>Caley Morrone ($18.93)<br>Michelle Natali-Muldoon ($20.03)<br>Jennifer Nicastro ($17.94)<br>Alyssa Owens ($17.87)<br>Nicholas Wenzke ($20.03) |

20. Recommend motion to approve the following members of the Special Services Department to work a maximum of the following number of days from July 1, 2026 through August 31, 2026, at their per diem rate, to meet the mandated obligations of providing evaluation plan meetings for newly referred/transferred students and to accept, case manage, and plan for special requests, review and design programs for transfer students based on reports and scheduling new students (timesheets):

| | |
|---|---|
| Jenifer Gillin/Social Worker | Up to 5 days |
| Heather Lester/LDTC | Up to 5 days |
| Emily Seabrook/School Psychologist | Up to 5 days |

21. Recommend motion to approve the following members of the Special Services Department to perform summer evaluations from July 6, 2026 through July 30, 2026, at a rate of $325.00 per case (timesheets):

| | |
|---|---|
| Jenifer Gillin | Roseann Humphreys |
| Heather Lester | Kimberly Hemmes |
| Emory Seabrook | Ashlee Sheppard |
| Melissa Barton | Laura Spadafora |

22. Recommend motion to approve the following staff members to attend IEP meetings as needed from July 6, 2026 through August 30, 2026, at a rate of $53 per hour, stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Education Association (timesheets):

| Special Education | General Education Teachers | Related Service Providers |
|---|---|---|
| Jacqueline Bradley | Laurie Boyle | Kimberly Hemmes (Speech) |
| Paul Blass | Paul Blass | Laura Spadafora (Speech) |
| Christine Lenentine | Heather Lester | Melissa Barton (OT) |
| Kristin Chapman | Stacy Specht | Ashlee Barton (OT) |

23. Recommend motion to approve the following summer curriculum work, at an hourly rate of $53 per hour, stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Education Association paid from Title I funds (time sheets):

| School | Course | Level(s)/ Grade | Work to be Completed | Teacher | Hours (up to) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| District | Standards Revisions | K-5 | Scope, Sequence & Benchmark Alignment, Curriculum Writing | 1-K. Thompson<br>2-A. Casey<br>2-T. Catando<br>3-C. Parkin<br>3 -L. Malinowski<br>3-S. Specht<br>4- J. Young<br>4-C. Baldissero<br>5-J. Morrison | 10<br>10<br>2<br>10<br>2<br>2<br>10<br>2<br>10 |
| Jr./Sr. HS | Art Fibers | HS | Curriculum Writing | Stacey DeCaro | 10 |
| Jr./Sr. HS | Music Tech III<br>Music Tech IV | HS | Curriculum Writing | Philip Versepy | 10 |
| Jr./Sr. HS | Modern Band | HS | Curriculum Writing | Jonathan Botbyl | 10 |
| Jr./Sr. HS | Theater 1<br>Theater 2<br>(Actor's Studio) | HS | Curriculum Writing | Jennifer Grasso | 15 |

24. Recommend motion to accept the retirement resignation, with regret of Beth Franchi, library aide, at Memorial School effective June 30, 2026.

25. Recommend motion to accept the resignation of Mark Morris, Facilities Manager, effective August 14, 2026.

26. Recommend motion to approve the 2025/2026 evaluation of Dr. Robert Preston, Superintendent.

27. Recommend motion to approve the 2026/2027 employment contract for Christopher DeStratis, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, following the approval by the Executive County Superintendent, dated May 13, 2026.

28. Recommend motion to approve Christopher DeStratis, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, for the following appointments for the 2026/2027 fiscal school year.

    a. Board Secretary
    b. Public Agency Compliance Officer as required for public agencies awarding contracts under P.L. 1975, c.127, Affirmative Action regulations
    c. Qualified Purchasing Agent to award contracts up to bid threshold
    d. Public Records Officer
    e. Title IX Coordinator

29. Recommend motion to approve Anthony Capocci, as a Custodian at Pitman Jr./Sr. High School for the 2026/2027 school year, effective July 1, 2026, at an annual salary of $42,304, based on Step J of the custodian salary guide (pending receipt of proper paperwork).

30. Recommend motion to approve the change in assignment for Jennifer Morris Grasso from part-time (.60) Drama Teacher to full-time Drama Teacher, effective September 1, 2026.

31. Recommend motion to approve Lauren Richie as an Art Teacher at Pitman Elementary School for the 2026/2027 school year, effective September 1, 2026, at an annual salary of $59,382, based on Step 3 of the BA salary guide (pending receipt of proper paperwork). (Attachment C&I-8)

32. Recommend motion to approve Keri McConnell as a Technology/STEM Teacher at Pitman Elementary School for the 2026/2027 school year, effective September 1, 2026, at an annual salary of $59,882, based on Step 4 of the BA salary guide. (Attachment C&I-9)

33. Recommend motion to approve Nicole Leahey as a Preschool Teacher at Memorial School for the 2026/2027 school year, effective September 1, 2026, at an annual salary of $59,182 based on Step 2 of the BA salary guide. (Attachment C&I-10)

34. Recommend motion to approve Danette Thomas as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) for the 2026/2027 school year, effective, September 1, 2026, at an annual salary of $82,309 based on Step 15 of the MA salary guide. (Attachment C&I-11)

35. Recommend motion to approve Riley Dawson as a part-time Gross Motor Teacher at Memorial School for the 2026/2027 school year, effective September 1, 2026, at a prorated annual salary of $58,982 based on Step 4 of the BA salary guide. (Attachment C&I-12)

36. Recommend motion to approve Michael Finley as Technology Student Association Advisor for the 2026/2027 school year, stipend in the amount of $1,500 (Building Capacity to Career Pathways Grant).

37. Recommend motion to approve Spencer DeLaurentis as FBLA advisor for the 2026/2027 school year, stipend in the amount of $1,500 (Building Capacity to Careers Pathway Grant).

38. Recommend motion to approve the following transfer(s) for the 2026/2027 school year:

| Employee Name | 2025/2026 Assignment/Location | 2026/2027 Assignment/Location |
|---|---|---|
| Richard Hurst | Custodian Jr./Sr. High School | Custodian PES |
| Wilfredo Maldonado | Custodian PES | Memorial |

39. Recommend motion to approve John Hopely as site manager of all fall and winter athletic events for the 2026/2027 school year, to be paid a stipend of $3,000 for each season, total of $6,000. Stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Board of Education.

40. Recommend motion to approve the following Extra Service Contracts for 2026/2027 school year. Stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Education Association (*not a district employee):

| Name | Position | Stipend |
|---|---|---|
| Jeffrey Smith | Assistant Football Coach | $5,495 |
| Marcus Baker* | Assistant Football Coach | $5,495 |
| Wisdom Quarshie* | Assistant Football Coach | $5,495 |
| Shamore Collins* | Assistant Football Coach (0.5) | $2,747.50 |
| Anthony Dilks | Assistant Football Coach (0.5) | $2,747.50 |
| Michelle Tucci | Head Coach - Cheerleading | $3,926 |
| Matthew Newcomb | Head Coach - Boys' Soccer | $6,871 |
| Matthew Smick | Assistant Boys' Soccer Coach | $5,495 |
| Kristin Chapman | Head Coach - Girls' Soccer | $6,871 |
| Linda Leach* | Co-Assistant Coach - Girls' Soccer (0.5) | $2,747.50 |
| Carrie Schwank* | Co-Assistant Coach - Girls' Soccer (0.5) | $2,747.50 |
| Jennifer Sykes* | Assistant Coach - Field Hockey | $5,495 |
| Robert DiTizio | Head Coach - Cross Country | $6,242 |
| Eugene Reid* | Head Coach - Girls' Tennis | $6,234 |
| Robert Tender | Weight Training - Fall | $1,592 |
| John Hopely | Weight Training - Winter | $1,592 |
| Jeffrey Smith | Weight Training - Spring | $1,592 |

41. Recommend motion to approve the extra service position of Weight Training - Summer. Stipend to be in paid in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Board of Education.

42. Recommend motion to approve the following Extra Service Contracts for the 2026/2027 school year. Stipends in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Board of Education (*not a district employee):

| Name | Position | Stipend |
|---|---|---|
| Daniel Miller | Assistant Coach - Girls' Tennis | $5,495 |
| Anthony Dilks | Weight Training - Summer | $1,592 |

43. Recommend motion to approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2026/2027 school year (*not a district employee):

| Name | Position |
|---|---|
| Daniel Powell* | Football |
| Jada Byers* | Football |
| Andrew Baxter* | Football |
| Jamar Washington* | Football |
| TBD* | Soccer |
| TBD* | Soccer |
| TBD* | Cheerleading |

44. Recommend motion to approve the following Extra Service Contracts for the 2026/2027 school year. Stipend in accord with the agreement with the Pitman Board of Education.

| Name | Position | Stipend |
|---|---|---|
| Paul Blass | Mock Trial Advisor | $1,000 |
| Jaclyn Schanz | PEP Elementary | $3,483 |
| Jill Young | PEP Elementary | $3,483 |
| Danielle Fiscella | PEP Jr. High Grades 7-8 | $3,483 |
| Michelle Tucci | PEP Jr. High Grades 7-8 | $3,483 |

45. Recommend motion to approve the I&RS case coordinators for Pitman Elementary School for the 2026/2027 school year:

Kristen Chapman (special education)
Jenifer Gillin (social worker)
Laura Spadafora (speech/language)
Stacy Specht (general education)
Alicia Walsh (counselor)

46. Recommend motion to approve the following individuals be appointed as Section 504 Compliance Representatives for the 2026/2027 school year as follows:

| School(s) | Representative |
|---|---|
| Memorial School | Cynthia Thompson |
| Pitman Elementary School Grades 2-4 | Alicia Walsh |
| Pitman Elementary School Grades 5-6 | Erica Davidson |
| Junior High School | Jeffrey McAfee |
| Senior High School | Susann Driscoll |

47. Recommend motion to approve the following Personnel Services for the 2026/2027 school year:

| **Employee Name** | **Type of Service** |
|---|---|
| Ryan Caltabiano | Affirmative Action Compliance Officer for Personnel |
| Ryan Caltabiano | Data Coordinator |
| Ryan Caltabiano | Truancy and Attendance Officer |
| Ryan Caltabiano | HIB Coordinator |
| Jennifer Gillin | Homeless Liaison |
| Christopher Morris | 504 Officer |
| Christopher DeStratis | Title IX Coordinator |
| Christopher DeStratis | Board Secretary |
| Christopher DeStratis | Public Agency Compliance Officer |
| Christopher DeStratis | Custodian of Records |
| Christopher DeStratis | Authorization to Award Contracts Up to the Bid Threshold of $44,000 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Christopher DeStratis | Authorization to Solicit Bids on Behalf of the District |
| Kristen Stewart | Safety Specialist |
| Mark Morris | Integrated Pest Management |
| Mark Morris | Right to Know Officer |
| Mark Morris | Indoor Air Quality Designee |
| Nancy Christoff | Officer for Reconciling Monthly Bank Statements |

48. Recommend motion to approve the following leave of absence:

| Employee | Location | Type of Leave | Dates |
|---|---|---|---|
| 89334841 | Memorial | FMLA | 9/2/26-10/2/26 |

49. Recommend motion to approve the 2027 Senior Class Trip to Orlando, Florida on April 26, 2027 - April 30, 2027 to confirm reservation and secure dates.

50. Recommend motion to submit the Emergency Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan for the 2026/2027 school year to the New Jersey Department of Education. (Attachment C&I-13)

51. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, PATRICIA DEROIAN** has served thirty-three years as a Teacher in the Pitman School District at Pitman Middle School, Pitman High School and Pitman Jr./Sr. High School and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has constantly striven for professional growth, for the enrichment of students and staff, and the betterment of the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with hundreds of students during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with parents, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **PATRICIA DEROIAN,** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Patricia Deroian.

52. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, SUZANNE GRANATO-CASTRO** has served thirteen years as a Teacher in the Pitman School District at Pitman High School and Pitman Jr./Sr. High School and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has constantly striven for professional growth, for the enrichment of students and staff, and the betterment of the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with hundreds of students during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with parents, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **SUZANNE GRANATO-CASTRO,** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Suzanne Granato-Castro.

53. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, CHRISTE LEAKAN** has served twenty-three years as a Teacher in the Pitman School District at W.C.K. Walls School and Memorial School and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has constantly striven for professional growth, for the enrichment of students and staff, and the betterment of the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with hundreds of students during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with parents, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **CHRISTE LEAKAN,** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Christe Leakan.

54. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, EUGENE REID** has served twenty years as a Teacher in the Pitman School District at Pitman High School and Pitman Jr./Sr. High School and during that time has performed his duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** he has constantly striven for professional growth, for the enrichment of students and staff, and the betterment of the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** he has given of his time and talents, and has worked effectively with hundreds of students during his tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with parents, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of his retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **EUGENE REID,** thanks and appreciation for his many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes him many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Mr. Eugene Reid.

55. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, TRACEY SINER** has served twenty-seven years as a Teacher in the Pitman School District at Kindle School School, Memorial School, and Pitman Elementary School, and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has constantly striven for professional growth, for the enrichment of students and staff, and the betterment of the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with hundreds of students during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with parents, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **TRACEY SINER,** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Tracey Siner.

56. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, LORI STAMAN** has served twenty-nine years as a Teacher in the Pitman School District at Memorial School, W.C.K. Walls School, Pitman Middle School, and Pitman Elementary School and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has constantly striven for professional growth, for the enrichment of students and staff, and the betterment of the school system; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with hundreds of students during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with parents, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **LORI STAMAN,** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Lori Staman.

57. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, BETH FRANCHI** has served fourteen years as a Library Aide in the Pitman School District and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with students, administrators, and staff during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with students, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **BETH FRANCHI** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Beth Franchi.

58. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, THOMAS RUMAKER** has served forty-four years as a Maintenance/Custodian/Driver in the Pitman School District and during that time has performed his duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** he has given of his time and talents, and has worked effectively with students, administrators, and staff during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with students, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of his retirement, September 1, 2025, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **THOMAS RUMAKER** thanks and appreciation for his many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes him many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Mr. Thomas Rumaker.

59. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, DEBORAH VENCIUS** has served twenty-six years as an Instructional Aide in the Pitman School District and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with students, administrators, and staff during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with students, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **DEBORAH VENCIUS** thanks and

appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Deborah Vencius.

60. Recommend motion to adopt the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS, DIANE WALKER** has served eighteen years as an Instructional Aide in the Pitman School District and during that time has performed her duties in a manner which has been beneficial to the children of Pitman, the Pitman Board of Education, and to the community of Pitman; and

**WHEREAS,** she has given of her time and talents, and has worked effectively with students, administrators, and staff during her tenure, and has manifested a spirit of cooperation with students, administrators, and colleagues;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that on the occasion of her retirement, July 1, 2026, the Board of Education, of the Borough of Pitman, hereby expresses to **DIANE WALKER** thanks and appreciation for her many years of dedicated service to the youth of Pitman, and sincerely wishes her many happy and healthful years of retirement, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting and a copy thereof be delivered to Ms. Diane Walker.

**Motion to Approve Items #1-60**
**Motion: Higbee-Ionno**
**Second: Grossman**
**Mrs. Boulton: yes**
**Mrs. Farrell: yes**
**Mr. Grossman: yes**
**Mrs. Higbee-Ionno: yes**
**Mrs. Pappalardo: yes**
**Mrs. Pote: yes**
**Mrs. Miller: yes**
**Motion Carried: 7-0**

**COMMUNICATION & POLICY COMMITTEE - Farrell, Pappalardo, Higbee-Ionno**

The Communication and Policy Committee met on June 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. In attendance were Mrs. Pappalardo, Mrs. Higbee-Ionno, Dr. Preston, Mr. Caltabiano, and myself.

There is nothing on the agenda this month. There will most likely be recommendations and suggestions for the next meeting. A few other things discussed were refreshing the student handbook to align with current policies, the new BCBA position, and student achievement of solving math facts using Reflex Math in grades 2-5.

**No Action Items**

Public Comment

Kara Oldhouser spoke about a recent traffic study that she completed. She also shared recommendations for improving safety around the Jr/Sr High School.

Old Business

New Business

Any addenda:

An additional executive session was called for approximately 60 minutes, with no action anticipated upon the return to public session.

Executive Session

**Motion to Enter into Executive Session at 7:26 PM**
**Motion: Pappalardo**
**Second: Grossman**
**In Favor: All**

**Motion to Close Executive Session at 8:44 PM**
**Motion: Grossman**
**Second: Farrell**
**In Favor: All**

**Motion to Reopen the Public Meeting at 8:44 PM**
**Motion: Grossman**
**Second: Farrell**
**In Favor: All**

Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn the Public Meeting at 8:45 PM**
**Motion: Farrell**
**Second: Grossman**
**In Favor: All**

The next Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2026, in the Pitman Jr./Sr. High School Media Center.

*The Pitman Board of Education reserves the right to add and/or delete motions or make changes to motions in this agenda up to the time of the meeting and during the actual meeting.*

**Board Minutes Certified by** Christopher DeStratis**, Board Secretary;**

**In Attendance on Wednesday, 6/17/26**