

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

June 22, 2026

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21
Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room
2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

CALL TO ORDER

Time: ____pm

1. **FLAG SALUTE**

2. **OPENING STATEMENT**

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, this public body, the Hopatcong Board of Education hereby announces that The New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record have been notified by email that this Board of Education Regular Meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m following the Executive Session (in room 21) which starts at 6:00 p.m. on June 22, 2026 at the Hopatcong Board of Education, Board meeting room in the Administration Building.

3. **ROLL CALL**

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

4. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion will be made that the Hopatcong Board of Education will enter Executive Session in room 21 to discuss personnel and attorney/client privilege, which are exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Open Public Meetings Act. Any discussions held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the Executive Session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at 7:00 p.m. following the executive session.

Motion to enter executive session:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

5. **RECONVENE**

Motion to Reconvene

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(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

6. DONALDSON HEARING - A.V.

Motion to Open Hearing

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

- a. Board Attorney - Brian Giardina
- b. Anna Voloshin
- c. Public Comment

Motion to Close Hearing

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

7. SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT HEARING

Motion to open contract hearing:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

- a. Public Contract Presentation
- b. Public Comment

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Motion to close public contract hearing:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the following meetings, as reported by the Board Secretary reviewed by the Board President and members of the Board:

- a. May 18, 2026 - Regular Meeting
- b. May 18, 2026 - Executive Meeting

Motion to approve 8a-8b:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . Seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

9. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT AND HIB REPORT

- a. Student Representatives, Natalia Gerena-Roman, Reagan Gravatt, Lilyanne Zinsli
- b. Superintendent’s Report – **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck, Superintendent of Schools**
 - 1. Just Driven & Jamie Douglas - Donated 800 bottles of water for Graduation.
 - 2. HHSPTO - Field Day
- c. Approval of the Superintendent's HIB report for May and June 2026 for first reading and review as presented to the Board at the June meeting on June 22, 2026. A review and approval of all HIB reports from July 2025 through June 2026 as presented to the Board at the June 22, 2026 meeting.

Motion to approve 9a –9c:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . Seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
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10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Congratulations to **Hopatcong High School Senior Award/Scholarship Recipients** for the 2025 – 2026 school year.
- b. Congratulations to **Hopatcong Middle School Students** who made **High Honor Roll and Honor Roll** for the fourth marking period of the 2025 – 2026 school year.
- c. Congratulations to **Hopatcong High School Students** who made **High Honor Roll and Honor Roll** for the fourth marking period of the 2025 – 2026 school year.
- d. Congratulations to the following students who have successfully passed both the New Jersey State Board Written and Practical Cosmetology Examinations and are now officially Licensed Cosmetologists:
 - Jonathan Cortes
 - Guilianna Gonzalez
 - Ashlyn Loven
 - Sabrina Naranjo Hurtado
 - Gianna Terantino
 - Paige Thomson
 - Keira Wasilewski

11. PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES

12. PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION

13. FINANCE

Approval of the following Finance items, 13a.–13i , as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that bills for the General Fund and Special Revenues (Grants) account, May 18, 2026, through June 22, 2026 be approved in the following amounts:

General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account -	\$2,192,090.33
Cafeteria account	- \$ 80,535.91
Fund 30	- \$ 15,009.29
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of May 2026.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month of May 2026.
- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Transfer Report for the month of April May.
- e. Motion to approve the certification by the Board Secretary that the Account Balance Report, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9, as of June 22, 2026, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

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- f. Motion to certify, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), as of June 22, 2026, after review of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Monthly Financial Reports and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

g. **QUASI-ENTITY RESOLUTION**

Whereas, the School Alliance Insurance Fund membership allows additional insured status for Booster Clubs, Foundations and other affiliated entities, and

Whereas, upon completion of the Quasi Entity General Application, and a formal Hopatcong Board of Education resolution recognizing the Entity as an additional insured receiving quasi entity status,

Therefore, be it resolved, the Hopatcong Board of Education formally recognizes the following, as Quasi-Entities of the Hopatcong Board of Education:

- HEPTO – Hopatcong Elementary Parent Teacher Organization
- HHSPTSO – Hopatcong High School Parent Student Teacher Organization
- Hopatcong Chiefs Booster Club
- Hopatcong Drama Club
- Hopatcong Music Boosters
- Project Graduation

- h. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board approve the acceptance of the following donations:

AMOUNT	DONOR	CHECK NUMBER	DONATED TO:
\$500	Johnson Rodriguez Election Fund	102	HS Gym Renovation

The Board would also like to thank the following and approve the acceptance of:

ITEM	DONOR	DONATED TO:
800 water bottles	Jamie Douglas and Just Driven	Students/families/staff at HS graduation
T-shirts for every student and Pretzel Factory Pretzels	HHSPTO	For a memorable HS Field Day!

- i. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve writing-off the following checks from the General Fund and Cafeteria Fund accounts:

General Fund

Check #	Date	Amount
86336	2/26/2024	\$227.00
86419	3/14/2024	\$110.12
86442	3/18/2024	\$150.00
86447	3/18/2024	\$16.54
86623	4/29/2024	\$699.00

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86872	6/24/2024	\$16.98
86984	6/24/2024	\$582.50
87021	6/24/2024	\$1,340.00
87334	9/9/2024	\$60.00
87336	9/9/2024	\$400.00
97770	11/26/2024	\$100.00
88078	2/10/2025	\$246.30
88413	4/28/2025	\$588.50

General Fund Total \$4,536.94

Cafeteria Fund

Check

#	Date	Amount
311	4/29/2024	\$8.00
318	8/26/2024	\$0.65
321	8/26/2024	\$1.25
325	10/28/2024	\$13.95

Cafeteria Fund Total \$23.85

Motion to approve 13a – 13i:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item ▾ . Seconded by Choose Item ▾

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-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

14. PERSONNEL

Approval of the following personnel items, **14a – 14u**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval of the resignation of **Daniel Callaghan** from his position as Part-Time Custodian effective June 16, 2026.
- b. Approval of the resignation of **Antonio Fancera** from his position as Full-Time Custodian effective June 30 2026.
- c. Approval of the leave of absence of **Employee #81460** using 12 weeks of unpaid FMLA/NJFLA beginning Tuesday, September 8, 2026 and ending Wednesday, November 25, 2026.

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- d. Approval of the employment of **Peter Oesen** as High School Supervisor of Athletics and Student Affairs at a salary of \$125,000 effective June 30, 2026 per the terms and conditions of the HAPS agreement.
- e. Approval of the employment of **Analisse Seise** as Durban Ave School Psychologist at a salary of \$87,490 which represents MA+30, step 6 of the 2026-2027 HEA salary guide, effective August 26, 2026.
- f. Approval of the employment of **Emily Kondos** as Middle School Nurse at a salary of \$89,490 which represents BA+30, step 10 of the 2026-2027 HEA salary guide, effective August 26, 2026.
- g. Approval of **Enrico Fattorusso** as Substitute Bus Driver for the 2026 Extended School Year at the hourly rate of \$30.59.
- h. Approval of **Enrico Fattorusso** as a Substitute Bus Driver for Field and Athletic Trips for the 2026-2027 school year at an hourly rate of \$31.50.
- i. Approval of the following **Paraprofessional Non-Renewals** for the 2026-2027 school year: **Employee #81833, Employee #81856.**
- j. Approval of the Evaluation of Jeff Hallenbeck, Superintendent/School Business Administrator, for the 2025-2026 school year.
- k. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board approve the merit pay for the 2025-2026 school year for the following Confidential Staff members, based upon successful evaluations:

Employee	Amount
Kyle Bisignani	\$2,000
Brittany Huling	\$2,000
John Mulholland	\$2,000
Katie Schwab	\$2,000
Tracey Talmadge	\$2,000
Kathy Ward	\$2,000

- l. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board approve the merit pay for the 2025-2026 school year for the following HOPA Staff members, based upon successful evaluations:

Employee	Amount
Deborah Gates	1,215.68
Krista Juskus	650.81
Endora Molisso	1,157.55

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Maureen O'Hare	1,215.68
Karli Razak	1,080.05
Nicole Roman-Gerena	1,138.18
Tara Santa	1,138.18
Stacy Yanko	1,196.30
Michelle Zammito	1,138.18
Christine Amella	416.52

- m. Approval of the following staff for the **Extra Duty/Extra Pay** Positions for the 2026 – 2027 school year:

Name	Nature of Action	Duty/Position	Salary
Alexa McLean	Appoint	High School Coordinator of Student Support	\$10,000

- n. Approval of the following **Coach/Advisor** Positions for the 2026-2027 school year:

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Class	Level	Salary
Ryan Tatarka	Appoint	Asst. Football Coach	B	1	\$3,187
Ryan Tatarka	Appoint	Asst. Baseball Coach	B	1	\$3,187
Matthew Andrews	Appoint	Volunteer Baseball Coach	-	-	-
Amanda Ross	Appoint	Asst. Competition Cheer Coach	B	1	\$2,093
Joe Schubert	Appoint	Volunteer Football Coach	-	-	-

- o. Approval for **District School Nurses** to work up to a maximum of 100 hours during the summer, as assigned and with prior approval from the Superintendent, at a rate of \$40.00 per hour.
- p. Approval of the following rate of pay per position for **Athletic Event Staff** for the 2026-2027 school year:

Position	Pay Rate
Basketball Clock (per game)	\$40
Basketball Crowd Control	\$65
Basketball Door Security	\$65
Basketball Public Announcer	\$50
Site Manager (Basketball and Wrestling)	\$115
Start Line	\$65
Long Jump	\$65

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Field Event - girls	\$65
Field Event - boys	\$65
High Jump	\$65
Pole Vault	\$65
Site Manager	\$115
Chain Crew	\$35
Announcer	\$65
Football Camera	\$95
Football Head Ticket Seller	\$70
Football Ticket Seller	\$70
Football Ticket Taker	\$65
Football Parking (main lot)	\$115
Football Crowd Control	\$65
Cross Country Back Course Crowd Control	\$65
Site Manager	\$115

- q. Approval of all 2026-2027 school year staff members and substitutes to be utilized on an as needed basis to work as Athletic Event Staff Members for 2026-2027 athletic events, to be paid at the Board Approved rate of pay per position.

- r. Approval of the following staff members to write curriculum over the summer at a rate of \$35/hour for the number of listed hours below which represents the negotiated rate from the HEA Contract:

Course/Subject	Name	Number of Hours
Language Arts 8, Language Arts 8 ADV	Irene Paxos	20
English I, English I CP, English I H	Barbara Parichuk	25
English II, English II CP	Jason Mulvihill	20
English III, English III CP	Laura Tykowski	20
English IV, English IV CP	Christine Kalemba	20
Math 8	Kelly Rafferty	15
Personal Finance	Jim McKowen	7.5
AP - Seminar	Jason Mulvihill	15

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AP - Business	Craig Vallaro	15
AP - Comp Science Principles	Jim McKowen	15

- s. Approval of the following staff to take and receive **tuition reimbursements***, as per contract, upon successful completion of the course and submission of paperwork

Course Approval /Reimbursement Approval

Name	Course Title	Course Number	Credits	Cost
Suzanne Annette	Characteristics of Diverse Learners	GED-605	3	\$1,536.12
Brian Collins	Secondary Physical Education	EDUC 4548	4	\$1,340

***The maximum rate of reimbursement per credit for the 25-26 school year is \$512.04.**

- t. Approval of the following 2026 Extended School Year (ESY) Programs:

NOTE: Programs and staffing recommendations are made in order to remain in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 14 (Special Education Code).

1. **The following paraprofessionals are recommended for employment as a classroom paraprofessional or bus aide:**

- Donna George
- Michelle Bastedo
- Gretchen Hardman

*Rate of pay for each paraprofessional will be \$17 per hour. Paraprofessionals will work a maximum of 72 hours over 12 days.

2. Rescind Employment of Ann Merkle, paraprofessional.

3. Approval of the following ESY substitutes:
 Jamie Becker, Substitute Paraprofessional
 Jenn Neu, Substitute Teacher

- u. Approval of **Melissa Canaan** to work with the High School Cheer Team as a Choreographer on August 6 & August 7, 2026.

- v. Approval of the following substitutes:
 1. Anthony Petrock, Substitute Teacher

Motion to approve 14a-14v:

(ACTION) Motion by seconded by

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-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	-----... ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

15. TRAVEL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Resolved, that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve travel costs as related in this resolution which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee’s current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursement listed in this resolution are in compliance with the state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1. seq

Approval of the following staff to attend Professional Development/Conference*

Name	Title	Cost	Date
Melissa Kennedy Lisa Osbun	Sussex County School Counselors Association Meeting	\$0	June 4, 2026
Emily Ionni	-Orton Gillingham Levels 1 and 2 Review	\$45/class x 3 = \$135 total	June 25, 2026
	-Autism and Co-Occurring Dyslexia, Hyperlexia and Dysgraphia: Implications for Literacy Instruction and Intervention		July 13, 2026
	-Phoneme & Morpheme Graphic Organizers and their Role in the Classroom		July 23, 2026

****Cost will be reimbursed upon completion of attendance and all documentation has been provided.***

Motion to approve 15:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	-----... ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	-----... ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
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16. POLICY & REGULATIONS

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Approval of item 16a as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement and Operations Committees of the Board:

a. Approval of modifications and additions to the policies and regulations of the Hopatcong Board of Education in accordance with statutory and regulatory changes for approval, as revised, for **FIRST READING**:

Policy/Regulation #	Title
P 1230	Superintendent's Duties (M) (Revised)
P 2200	Curriculum (M) (Revised)
P 2411	Career Education and Academic Counseling (M) (Revised)
P 5460	High School Graduation (M) (Revised)
P 5461	High School Diplomas (M) (New)
P 0162	Notice of Board Meetings (Revised)
P 0162.01	Legal Notices (M) (New)
P 1643	Family Leave (M) (Revised)
P 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices (M) (Revised)
P 5561	Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion Techniques for Students with Disabilities (M) (Revised)
P 6112	Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M) (Revised)
R 6115.01	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M) (Revised)
P 6115.02	Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M) (Revised)
P 6311	Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)
P 8561	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)

Motion to approve 16a:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

17. STUDENT AND SERVICES

Approval of the following items, 17a as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

a. Approval for any certificated school staff from the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school year can be employed as home instructors for the 2026-2027 school year if needed.

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Motion to approve 17a:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

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-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

18. RESOLUTIONS

Approval of the following resolutions as per the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the Statement of Assurance for 2025-2026 Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the Annual School Security Drill Statement of Assurance and 2025-2026 School Bus Evacuation Drill Reports as required by NJAC 6A:27-11.2
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the submission of Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs for the 2026-2027 school year.
- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent Evaluation for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.
- e. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the corrected salary amount for Employee #80587 previously approved as \$25,397.62 to \$25,520.91 for the 2026-2027 school year.
- f. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the rejection of the 2027 Perkins allocation grant.
- g. WHEREAS, the Hopatcong Schools Board of Education and Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck are parties to a Contract of Employment dated July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2029; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined to amend the Contract of Employment with Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck; for the purposes of extending his dual role as Superintendent of School and Business Administrator for the remaining three years of his original contract and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education submitted the Amendment to the Contract of Employment to the Sussex County Executive County Superintendent for review and approval; and,

WHEREAS, the Sussex County Executive County Superintendent approved the Amendment to the Contract of Employment by letter dated June 10, 2026; and,

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WHEREAS, the Board of Education provided adequate notice to the public of the June 22, 2026 Public Hearing on the Amendment to the Contract of Employment as required by the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18:11-11; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hopatcong Borough School District Board of Education as follows:

1. The Contract of Employment with Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck dated July 1, 2024 shall be amended effective July 1, 2026.

2. A copy of this Resolution shall be submitted to the Sussex County Executive County Superintendent.

- h. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2, N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-31, and N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to establish and /or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

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

WHEREAS, the Hopatcong Board of Education wishes to transfer an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 in unanticipated excess current year revenue or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into the Capital Reserve account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hopatcong Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make these transfers consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

- i. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2, N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-31, and N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-41 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

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

WHEREAS, the Hopatcong Board of Education wishes to transfer an amount not to exceed \$350,000.00 unanticipated excess current year revenue or unexpended appropriations from the general fund into the Maintenance Reserve account.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Hopatcong Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make these transfers consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

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6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21
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2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

j. **HOPATCONG SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW JERSEY ASSEMBLY BILL A4860
"Fairness for School Districts in Development Restricted Areas Act"

WHEREAS, the Hopatcong School District serves the educational needs of the students and families of Hopatcong Borough while operating within the fiscal constraints faced by communities located in environmentally protected areas; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Assembly Bill A4860, known as the *"Fairness for School Districts in Development Restricted Areas Act,"* would provide additional State school aid to eligible school districts located in municipalities within the Highlands Preservation Area or Pinelands Preservation Area; and

WHEREAS, municipalities subject to development restrictions under the Highlands Act often face limitations on economic growth and expansion of the local tax base, creating increased reliance on local property taxpayers to support public education; and

WHEREAS, the Hopatcong Borough School District has experienced challenges associated with State aid reductions and limited local revenue growth; and

WHEREAS, A4860 seeks to recognize these unique circumstances and provide a more equitable approach to school funding for affected districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hopatcong Borough Board of Education hereby supports the enactment of New Jersey Assembly Bill A4860 and urges the New Jersey Legislature and Governor to approve this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor of New Jersey, the members of the New Jersey Legislature representing Hopatcong Borough, the Commissioner of Education, and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

k. Authorization for Professional Services Lighting Upgrade Contract

WHEREAS, the Hopatcong Borough Board of Education (the "Board") seeks to improve energy efficiency, enhance safety, and modernize operational infrastructure through upgrades to the Hopatcong High School Athletic Fields and Gymnasium lighting systems; and

WHEREAS, NGU Sports Lighting offers a Performance Lighting Delivered Service Program (PLD) via Sourcewell Contract #041123-CPL that guarantees venue light levels, customized control options and guaranteed energy consumption levels; and

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WHEREAS, the proposed PLD program would install RGB LED lighting on the existing poles at the Falconi Family Field at John F. Auwerda Stadium and RGB light fixtures in the Hopatcong High School Gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of this project provides significant long-term utility cost savings and operational advantages to the school district without incurring traditional upfront capital or financing expenditures; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to New Jersey Public School Contracts Law (*N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.6* or *18A:18A-5* exceptions for utility programs), the Board may authorize its administrative officers to execute contracts and agreements associated with proprietary utility energy conservation programs and professional service agreements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Approval of Project & Financing: The Board hereby approves the Performance Lighting Delivered Service Program (PLD) Professional Service Agreement with NGU Sports Lighting for a term of 5 years at a fixed cost of \$4,050 per month with the ability to extend the contract for an additional 5 years at the same fixed cost.

Delegation of Signature Authority: The Board authorizes and directs the Superintendent/Business Administrator and Board President to jointly execute all applications, participation agreements, construction contracts, and paperwork required to formalize and execute this Professional Service Agreement and contract with NGU Sports Lighting and its approved contractors.

Budgetary Integration: The Board directs that the monthly payments be integrated into the district's annual operating utility budget for the duration of the term.

Compliance: All executed documents must comply with standard New Jersey Department of Education facility regulations and state procurement thresholds.

Effective Date: This resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Motion to approve 18a-18k:

(ACTION) Motion by seconded by

<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Natalia Cappello	<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Kevin Daviau	<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Veronica Schram
<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	James Chaffee, Jr.	<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	James Warin	<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Jennifer Polowchena
<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Jayson Cittrich	<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Jayna Gulan	<input type="text" value="-----..."/>	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

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19. SUSSEX COUNTY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE

- a. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of bills** for the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Operating account for May 19, 2026 through June 22, 2026 in the amount \$222,569.06 for Regular bills and \$4,754,609.01 for Contractor bills.
- b. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval to write off the following checks from the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Account:

Date	Check Number	Amount
01/27/2025	50737	\$775.00
06/12/2025	51252	\$178.00

- c. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the sale of vehicles to Washington Township Board of Education, Long Valley, NJ as follows:

Vehicle	VIN #	Amount
# 115, 2025 Chevy Thomas	1HA6GUB70RN002396	\$75,000.00
# 117, 2024 Chevy Thomas	1HA6GUB72RN002447	\$75,000.00

- d. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the sale of the following vehicle to Roxbury Board of Education, Roxbury NJ:

Vehicle	VIN #	Amount
#124, 2021 Chevy	1HA6GUBG0KN010844	\$25,000.00

- e. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Laurie Giordano** as a 180 day, 10-month Office Assistant for the 2026-2027 school year at a salary of \$36,865.00 effective September 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2027.

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- f. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Laurie Giordano** as 2026 Summer Office Assistant at an hourly rate of \$30.59.
- g. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Brianna Norlander** as a 180 day, 10-month Office Assistant for the 2026-2027 school year at a salary of \$36,865.00 effective September 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2027.
- h. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Brianna Norlander** as 2026 Summer Office Assistant at an hourly rate of \$30.59.
- i. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Richard Sadowski** as Compliance Officer / Trip Driver for the 2026-27 school year at an hourly rate of \$45.00 effective July 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2027, as needed.
- j. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the approval of **Christopher Lotito** as Compliance Officer / Trip Driver for the 2026-27 school year at an hourly rate of \$45.00 effective July 1, 2026 thru June 30, 2027, as needed.
- k. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of the equivalent of two (2) days' pay** for School Bus Drivers and Aides for maintaining perfect attendance in the 2025-2026 school year to be paid June 30, 2026 as per contract as follows:

Employee	Amount
Robert Bliesath	\$397.67
Kimberly Negron	\$397.67
Christopher Lotito	\$397.67

- l. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of the Cooperative Attendance Incentive** for School Bus Drivers and Aides for maintaining attendance from May 19 – June 22, 2026 to be paid June 30, 2026 as follows:

Employee	Amount
Robert Bliesath	\$500
Maria Camacho	\$500

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Michael Chobot	\$500
Mary Ann Danza	\$500
Rosemary Delgado	\$500
Jennifer Fox	\$500
Laurie Giordano	\$500
Theresa Gould	\$500
Sarah Holey	\$500
Jaime Jones	\$500
Christopher Lotito	\$500
Kimberly Negron	\$500
Brianna Norlander	\$500
Andrea Nunez Delgado	\$500
Monika Ramsey	\$500
Richard Sadowski	\$500
Julia Santiago	\$500
Bobbie Jo Van Horn	\$500
Danielle Whritenour	\$500

- m. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the ***approval of the following Stipends*** to be paid July 15, 2026.

Employee	Stipend	Amount
Kyle Bisignani	Transportation Software	\$15,000
Katie Schwab	Payroll/Benefits	\$10,000
Evelyn Lavin	Transportation Contracts	\$ 7,500
Kathleen Schwab	Additional Duties/Time	\$10,000
Janine Byrnes	Additional Duties/Time	\$10,000
Christopher Verdi	Additional Duties/Time	\$10,000
Margaret Byrnes	Additional Duties/Time	\$ 5,000

- n.
1. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the ***acceptance*** of student transportation ***quotations for Special Education School Year Routes*** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

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2. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
3. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of route contract addendums** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
4. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Athletic/Class/Field Trips** for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
5. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **quotations for Athletics/Class/Field Trips** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
6. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **renewal of the 2025 -2026 School Related Activities Routes for the 2026-2027 School Year** at or below the State issued CPI increase of 3.58% or less as listed on Exhibit A.
7. Superintendent and the Director of **Transportation recommend the acceptance of bids submitted from the May 27, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-05** for the 2026-2027 Extended School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
8. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award of bids submitted from the May 27, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-05** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor company for the 2026-2027 Extended School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
9. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **rejection of bids submitted from the May 27, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-05** due to cost exceeding allowable amount, non-compliance or termination of the routes as listed on Exhibit A.
10. Superintendent and the Director of **Transportation recommend the acceptance of bids submitted from the June 2, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-06** for the 2026-2027 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

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11. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award of bids submitted from the June 2, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-06** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor company for the 2026-2027 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
12. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **rejection of bids submitted from the June 2, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-06** due to cost exceeding allowable amount, non-compliance or termination of the routes as listed on Exhibit A.
13. Superintendent and the Director of **Transportation recommend the acceptance of bids submitted from the June 9, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-07** for the 2026-2027 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
14. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award of bids submitted from the June 9, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-07** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor company for the 2026-2027 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
15. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **rejection of bids submitted from the June 9, 2026 Bid #2026-2027-07** due to cost exceeding allowable amount, non-compliance or termination of the routes as listed on Exhibit A.
16. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance of student transportation quotations for Special Education Extended School Year Routes** for the 2026-2027 Extended School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
17. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award of student transportation quotations for Special Education Extended School Year Routes** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2026-2027 Extended School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
18. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of the following Member District** for the 2025-2026 School Year:
Hanover Township
19. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of the following Member Districts** for the 2026-2027 School Year:
Hanover Township
Piscataway Township

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

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(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	James Warin	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

20. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER COMMENTS**

21. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . seconded by Choose Item ▾

All in favor: Choose an item. Time: