

MINUTES OF HAMBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
January 22, 2026
6:30 PM in the Cafeteria

PRESENT: Robert Jones, President; David Dreifus, Lois Ferguson, Michael Frangipane (arrival of 6:32 PM), Timothy Gillen, Tricia Schels, Kelly Tranes, Sheila Frayko, Robert Walsh

ABSENT: None

The President opened the meeting at 6:30 P.M. with the Flag Salute and Pledge of Allegiance, and a roll call, which was followed by the following statement:

“This meeting is being conducted in compliance with the “Open Public Meeting Act Chapter 231—Public Laws of 1975.” Advance written notice of at least 48 hours was given specifying the time, date and to the extent known, the agenda, and stating whether formal action may or may not be taken and has been properly posted at the school, mailed to the Clerk/Administrator, mailed to the New Jersey Herald, the Star Ledger, and the Sunday Herald.”

Mr. Jones read the Hamburg School’s Mission Statement:

The mission of the Hamburg Public School District is to provide an education, which will enable students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to become contributing members of society.

The educational program will enable each student to develop emotionally, socially, psychologically, and cognitively within his or her abilities and interests.

The mission of the Hamburg Public School District, therefore, is to develop an educational program that is under constant evaluation, allows all students to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all grade levels, and is dedicated to providing experiences relative to the demands of modern society in an effort to best prepare our students to meet with success and grand achievements in the 21st century.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, carried unanimously by a roll call vote, **approved the Regular meeting minutes of the December 18, 2025 Board meeting (DOCUMENT A).**

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Dreifus and carried unanimously by a roll call vote, **approved the Executive session minutes of the December 18, 2025 Board meeting (DOCUMENT B).**

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On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mr. Dreifus carried unanimously by a roll call vote, **approved the reorganization meeting session minutes of the January 6, 2026 Board meeting (DOCUMENT C).**

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Frangipane, carried unanimously by a roll call vote, **approved the executive reorganization meeting session minutes of the January 6, 2026 Board meeting (DOCUMENT D).**

PRESENTATIONS

- Student Spotlight
 - PreK - Grade 1 (Wyatt Delatorre)
 - Grades 2-4 (Ryan Brucato)
 - Grades 5-8 (Emily Henderson)

- Student Representatives - PreK & Kindergarten (Board of Education Members Recognition)
 - Wyatt Delatorre (Mrs. Breitenbach)
 - Quinn Gregory (Mrs. Triolo)
 - Cora Bond (Mrs. Triolo)
 - James Allan (Mrs. Miller)
 - Theodore Ruiz (Mrs. Miller)
 - Eli Williams (Mrs. Menendez)
 - Ela Erdinic (Mrs. Menendez)
 - Calliope Cartagena (Ms. Scrittore)
 - Jayden Worrell (Ms. Scrittore)
 - Maximus Smoroda (Miss Carr)
 - Joakim Ruan (Miss Carr)
 - Week of the Young Child 2026 preview (**DOCUMENT E**)

On a motion by Mrs. Schels, seconded by Mr. Frangipane, carried unanimously by a roll call vote, approved the following Local Board of Education resolution:

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2026 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Hamburg Board of Education is one of 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

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WHEREAS, The Hamburg Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Hamburg Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2026 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Hamburg Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staff toward the advancement of our children's education.

CORRESPONDENCE

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Jones read the following: At this time, members of the public are invited to address the Board. Please note that public comments on the agenda items will be made in accordance with Policy 0167 – Public Presentation at Board Meetings. Each statement made by all participants may be limited to three minutes in duration. If you would like to address the Board, state your name and address before making your statement to the Board.

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On a motion by Mrs. Frayko seconded by Mrs. Schels, and carried unanimously by a voice vote, the Board opened the meeting to the public at 6:48 P.M.

A concern was raised regarding police presence at the board meeting.

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by a voice vote, the Board closed the meeting to the public at 6:49 P.M.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

State & County School Boards - Mr. Walsh updated the board on the cell phone ban legislation

Sussex County Educational Services Commission - Mr. Jones updated the board on the intern program

Liaison with the Hamburg Borough Council - Mrs. Frayko updated the board on the Hometown Heroes incentive the town has.

Building & Grounds

Education & Policy

On a motion by Mrs. Schels, seconded by Mrs. Frayko, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved a & b as amended:

a) the second reading of policy and regulations as follows:

R9150	School Visitors	Revised
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b) the first reading of policy and regulations as follows:

P0142.1	Nepotism	Revised
P1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator	Revised
P/R 1552	Sexual Harassment - Staff	NEW

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P/R 2530	Resource Materials	Revised
P/R 2535	Library Materials	NEW
P/R 9130	Public Complaints	Revised

Negotiations & Personnel

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Gillen, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved Carey Roth (Reading) as official mentor for Lauren Charuka (Grade 1) for a period of one year. The Hamburg School will pay the \$550 mentorship fee.

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved Olivia Krieger (Grand Canyon University) to complete practicum field experience for 15 hours. Placement will be determined and overseen by Mr. Baumgartner.

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Gillen, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board accepted with regret the resignation of Amanda Boehner (Paraprofessional) effective January 14, 2026.

Finance Committee

On a motion by Mr. Dreifus, seconded by Mrs. Frayko, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved items a-f:

- a) To approve the bills as presented (**DOCUMENT G**).
- b) To approve bills for the Cafeteria Account in the amount of **\$0**;
- c) To accept the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for December 31, 2025 (**DOCUMENT H**)
- d) To approve Transfers made by the Superintendent for December 31, 2025, with fund 10 debits totaling **\$10,524.59** and fund 20 debits totaling **\$0** depicted in **DOCUMENT I** and the Board acknowledges that these transfers may increase/decrease the maximum dollar limit established as part of the 2025-26 budget process for various professional services.
- e) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certifies that as of December 31, 2025 no budgetary line-item account has been over-expended violating N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(a).
- f) Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, the Board of Education certifies that no major account

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has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Reviewed with the Board the timeline/deadline for the filing of the School Ethics Financial Disclosure Statements.

Reviewed NJSBA training requirements with Board members.

On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mrs. Frayko, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved the following as amended: The increasing of the hourly rate for substitute aides, substitute custodians [minors] and any other substitute employees, effective January 1, 2026 to \$15.92 per hour, as required by the State of New Jersey's minimum wage increase.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

On a motion by Mrs. Gillen, seconded by Mr. Frangipane, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved (a-c):

- a. Kaleidoscope Education Solutions, Inc for OT, PT & Speech Services (**DOCUMENT N**)
- b. Gohar Speech Therapy Services for Speech Services (**DOCUMENT O**)
- c. Best of You Therapy for OT, PT, LDTC, BCBA, AAC, home-bound instruction & Speech Services (**DOCUMENT P**)

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved as amended items a-f:

a) Security Drills

Type of Drill	Date	Time	Evacuation Time
Fire Drill w/Evacuation	12.18.2025	2:19 pm	3 min 51 sec

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Shelter in Place w/transition to Severe Weather Stance Fire Drill w/Evacuation	12.22.2025	2:07 pm	13 minutes
	1.9.2026	2:07 pm	8 minutes

b) Professional Development

Staff Member	Date	Activity	Cost
Sigman & Mankiw	4.23.2026	Preschool Inclusion Leadership Conference (West Windsor, NJ)	\$45.00 each + Transportation
Windish, Roth, Decker, Garris & Sigman	1.13.2026 2.11.2026 3.26.2026 4.22.2026 5.28.2026	Guiding the Implementation of the New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS)	\$0 (Virtual)
Scrittore	3.12.2026	Honored Educator's Forum: Leading Forward Vision, Voice, Impact	\$0 (Virtual)
Danko & Outer	3.10.2026	IXL LIVE: Classic Edition (East Brunswick, NJ)	\$129 each + transportation
Decker & Roth	2.26.2026	Wilson Dyslexia Conference	\$99.00 each(Virtual)
Garris	2.19.2026	SCSCA Meeting, Byram, NJ	\$0 plus transportation
Scrittore	April - August 206	Orton Gillingham Academy	\$225.00 Online

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c) Field Trips

Date	Grade	Location	Cost
2/12/2026	3	YMCA, Hardyston, NJ	\$0- cost of bus covered by donation
5/28/26 Raindate 5/29/26	4	LegoLand, NY	\$943.87 plus cost of bus
5/12/2026	1	Crayola Factory (Easton, PA)	\$395.76 plus cost of bus
6/1/2026	7	TreEscape, Vernon, NJ	\$1,248.00 plus cost of bus

d) Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying:

Month	# Incidents Investigated	# Incidents HIB Confirmed	Remediation (Y/N)	Discipline (Y/N)
September 2025	0	0	NA	NA
October 2025	0	0	NA	NA
November 2025	4	3	Y	Y
December 2025	3	2	Y	Y
January 2026	1 under investigation			

e) Use of Facilities

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Date	Organization	Event
2.6.2026	Hamburg PTA	Family Trivia Night 6:00 - 8:00 PM

f) Substitutes

Name	Position[s]
Ashley Zuidema-Brancaccio*	Paraprofessional
Sonya Olsen- Minogue*	Paraprofessional
*Pending completion of paperwork	

To Report/ Discuss:

- Regionalization Feasibility Study Survey Results (**DOCUMENT J**)
- Regionalization Community Input Meetings
 - Wednesday, February 11, 2026 @ 6:00 PM (Zoom)
 - Thursday, February 12, 2026 @ 6:30 PM (In Person)
- Hamburg School Grading Committee (**DOCUMENT K**)
- Knightly Newspaper (November - December 2025) (**DOCUMENT L**)
- Strauss Esmay Email - Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices (**DOCUMENT M**)

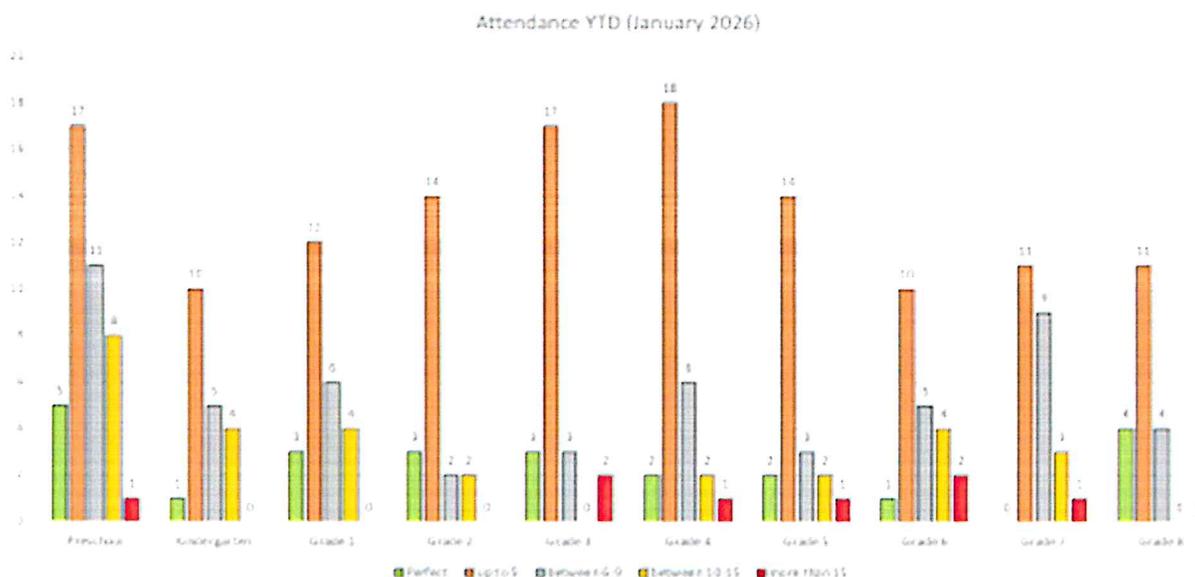
Enrollment

	In District	Out of District	Choice Non-Public	Charter
Preschool	42			
Kindergarten	20		3	
Grade 1	25		1	

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Grade 2	21		2	
Grade 3	25		2	
Grade 4	29			
Grade 5	22		1	
Grade 6	22		3	2
Grade 7	24		2	2
Grade 8	19	2	2	2
Total	249	2	16	6

Chronic Absenteeism



Absenteeism Graph (September 3, 2025 - January 15, 2026)

Mr. Jones read the following statement, "At this time, members of the public are invited to address the Board. Please note that public comments on the agenda items will be made in accordance with Policy 0167 – Public Presentation at Board Meetings. Each statement made by all participants may be limited to three minutes in duration. If you would like to address the Board, state your name and address before making your statement to the Board."

On a motion by Mr. Frangipane, seconded by Mrs. Frayko, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board opened the meeting for public comment at 7:09 P.M

No comments were heard.

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On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board closed the meeting for public comment at 7:09 P.M

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mrs. Frayko and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following Executive Session Resolution at 7:10 P.M.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education may exclude the public from that portion of a public meeting at which the Board discusses any of the matters described at N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(1)-(9);

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Board of Education may exclude the public from that portion of a public meeting at which the Board discusses any of the matters described at N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(1)-(9);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education shall forthwith enter into closed session to discuss the following matter(s) concerning:

Matters rendered confidential by state or federal law (HIB #001 and HIB # 005)

Personnel Parent Grievance (Staff Member # ****4077)

Appointment of a public official

Matters covered by the attorney-client privilege

Pending or anticipated litigation

Pending or anticipated contract negotiations

Protection of the safety or property of the public

Matters which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy

Matters in which the release of information would impair a right to receive Funds from the United States Government

Matters concerning collective negotiations and/or the negotiation of terms and Conditions of employment of employees of the Board of Education

Possible imposition of a civil penalty or suspension

Be it further resolved that said discussion may be disclosed to the public when the reasons for discussing and acting upon it in closed session no longer exist.

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On a motion by Mrs. Schels seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the motion to close the Executive Session at 8:56P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Gillen seconded by Mr. Frangipane, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying determination in Case Number – HIB #001, following review of the investigation and administrative recommendation.

The following item has been deemed to be a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion:

On a motion by Mr. Gillen seconded by Mr. Frangipane, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the motion to approve the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying / Suspension Reports: Case Number – HIB #001

- Confirmed
- Rejected
- Amended

On a motion by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mrs. Frayko, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying determination in Case Number – HIB #005, following review of the investigation and administrative recommendation.

The following item has been deemed to be a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion:

1. Motion to approve the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying / Suspension Reports: Case Number – HIB #005

- Confirmed
- Rejected
- Amended

A discussion was held regarding the determination.

On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mr. Frangipane and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board adjourned the meeting at 9:01 P.M.

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Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Weaver
Board Secretary