

**MINUTES OF HAMBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**February 19, 2026**  
6:30 PM in the Cafeteria

**PRESENT:** Robert Jones, President; David Dreifus, Lois Ferguson, Michael Frangipane, Sheila Frayko, Timothy Gillen, Tricia Schels, Robert Walsh

**ABSENT:** Kelly Tranes

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** 27

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.

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**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 January 22, 2026 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 January 22, 2026 Board meeting (DOCUMENT B).**

**PRESENTATIONS**

- Student Spotlight
  - PreK - Grade 1 (Christian Cender)
  - Grades 2-4 (Nadya Urena Fahmy)
  - Grades 5-8 (Jacob Ruit)
  
- Student Representatives - Boys & Girls Basketball
  
- Hamburg Historian - Mr. Dan Barr addressed the Board regarding efforts to have the 1900 Old High School building submitted to the State for designation as a historic landmark.

**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.*

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Frangipane, and carried unanimously by a voice vote, the Board opened the meeting to the public at 7:01 P.M.

No comments heard.

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Gillen, and carried unanimously by a voice vote, the Board closed the meeting to the public at 7:01 P.M.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**State & County School Boards** - Mr. Walsh - commented about funding legislation for Jefferson.

**Sussex County Educational Services Commission** - No meeting / update provided.

**Liaison with the Hamburg Borough Council** – Mrs. Frayko commented that an Acting Clerk has been appointed and is currently serving in that role. Holiday decorating contest results have been distributed. Upcoming events include Game Night.

**Building & Grounds** - The Science Room is currently awaiting installation of a coil. A pipe freeze occurred but has since been repaired in the 1900 Building. Additionally, a courtyard window has developed a crack and will need to be replaced.

**Education & Policy**

On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved a-c (**DOCUMENT C**):

a) the second 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
P/R 2530	Resource Materials	Revised
P/R 2535	Library Materials	NEW
P/R 9130	Public Complaints	Revised

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**Negotiations & Personnel**

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

a. Meagan Carr as Head Girls Basketball Coach for SY2025-2026. Stipend in accord with the CBA at Step 1 (\$1845).

b. Ashley Zuidema-Brancaccio as a part-time paraprofessional effective 1 March 2026 at \$20.00 per hour not to exceed 29 hours a week. This position does not qualify for benefits.

**Finance Committee**

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

- a) To approve the bills as presented (**DOCUMENT D**).
- b) To approve bills for the Cafeteria Account in the amount of **\$26,521.38 (DOCUMENT E)**;
- c) To accept the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for January 31, 2026 (**DOCUMENT F**)
- d) To approve Transfers made by the Superintendent for January 31, 2026, with fund 10 debits totaling **\$88,639.97** and fund 20 debits totaling **\$6,778.33** depicted in **DOCUMENT G** 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 January 31, 2026 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 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:** The Board held a discussion regarding a Regionalization Resolution. The Board discussed the possibility of shared services and agreed to further explore available options.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

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Danielle Pra, Business Office Administrative Assistant, was introduced to the Board and will serve as Acting Board Secretary when Amanda Weaver, Board Secretary, is absent.

Reported that all board members should have received an email with their PIN to file the 2026 School Ethics Commission personal/relative and financial disclosure.

A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 16 at 7:00 p.m. and will be conducted via Zoom.

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

- a) To authorize an agreement between the Hamburg Board of Education and Brisman Law Firm P.C., to conduct an investigation regarding a grievance matter.
- b) To rescind the shared-space agreement with Hardyston Middle School effective March 1, 2026, as the Hamburg Business Office no longer requires the use of the facilities as provided for in the agreement.
- c) The attached Resolution for Participation in Joint Transportation Agreement Services with the Sussex County Regional Transportation Cooperative for all the Board's student transportation needs for the 2026-2027 school year with the following fee schedule **(DOCUMENT H)**
  - Schedule of Fees Administrative Fees**
  - Special Education Routes: 4.5%
  - Public Routes: 2.0%
  - Non-Public Routes: 2.0%
  - Field Trips/Athletic Trips: 5.0%
- d) To authorize Amanda Weaver, Business Administrator and Board Secretary, to process outgoing wire transfers with her individual signature. The outgoing wire transfer processed on 2/10/2026, from account x1434, in the amount of \$36,100.00 is approved under this resolution **(DOCUMENT I)**.

On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mr. Dreifus, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approved the following 2026-2027 SEMI Waiver Resolution **(DOCUMENT J)**:

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides for school district participation requirements related to the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) and permits districts to request a waiver of the requirement to optimize SEMI participation under specified circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has provided the

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District with its SEMI projection for the subsequent school year; and

WHEREAS, based upon the NJDOE projection, the District is projected to have forty (40) or fewer Medicaid-eligible classified students for the subsequent school year; and

WHEREAS, the District has reviewed the anticipated SEMI reimbursement relative to administrative and operational requirements and has determined that submission of a waiver request is appropriate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Hamburg School District authorizes the Chief School Administrator and School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to prepare and submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools a written request for waiver of the requirement to optimize SEMI participation for School Year 2026-2027, consistent with NJDOE guidance and applicable regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes the administration to submit all supporting documentation required for ECS review, including this resolution, the NJDOE projection information, and any cost-benefit analysis or other reliable evidence used to support the request.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Dr. Sigman was absent. Mr. Baumgartner, Vice Principal, attended and provided the Superintendent’s report.

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

a) Security Drills

Type of Drill	Date	Time	Evacuation Time
Lock Down Drill	1.29.2026	12:33 PM	N/A
Hostile Threat Drill	2.12.2026	10:34 AM	N/A

b) Professional Development

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Staff Member	Date	Activity	Cost
Carr Cahill	3/16/2026	NJCEC CONFERENCE, RAMAPO, NJ	\$0 no mileage requested
Conklyn	2/5/26 & 2/6/26	*CST Intake Meeting[s] *Regular District Business	\$0 - plus related travel & mileage
Hasbrouck	2/25/2026	Executive Admin Assistant	\$0 (Virtual)

c) Field Trips

Date	Grade	Location	Cost
5/29/26	6	American Museum of Natural History	\$546.00 + cost of bus
6/9/2026	8	Hershey Park	\$1,247.59 + cost of bus
5/21/2026	PreK	Kiddie Dome (PEA funded)	\$840 + cost of bussing

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

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November 2025	4	3	Y	Y
December 2025	3	2	Y	Y
January 2026	2	0	Y	N

February 2026                      0                      0                      NA                      NA

Preliminary Determination = 1 (Feb)

e) Substitutes

Name	Position[s]
Stacey Goddard	Teacher & Paraprofessional
Sheila DaSalla* Paraprofessional	
*Pending completion of paperwork	

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

- a) Student #7462428009 to attend the Shepard School for 78 days @ \$332.41/day for a total of \$25,927.98 plus transportation beginning 18 February 2026. (**DOCUMENT K**)
- b) Addendum to the Memorandum of Agreement for Speech Therapy between Warren County Special Services School District and Hamburg School. (**DOCUMENT L**)
- c) Learn Well to provide educational services to Hamburg student #4223007223 for a maximum of 5 hours plus 3.3 hours of prep per week at a rate of \$64.90/hour as of 26 January 2026 through 29 January 2026. (**DOCUMENT Q**).

On a motion by Mrs. Frayko, seconded by Mr. Gillen, and carried unanimously by roll call vote, the Board approve to appoint Mr. Baumgartner as the District’s Wellness Policy Coordinator as per Policy 8505 (Wellness Policy / Nutrient Standards for Meals and Other Foods).

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**To Report/Discuss:**

- Therapy Dog Annual License Renewal (**DOCUMENT M**)
- NWEA Benchmark Data - Winter 2026 (**DOCUMENT N**)
- NJSLA Regional Comparison Data (**DOCUMENT O**)
- Regionalization Feedback Meetings (**DOCUMENT P**)

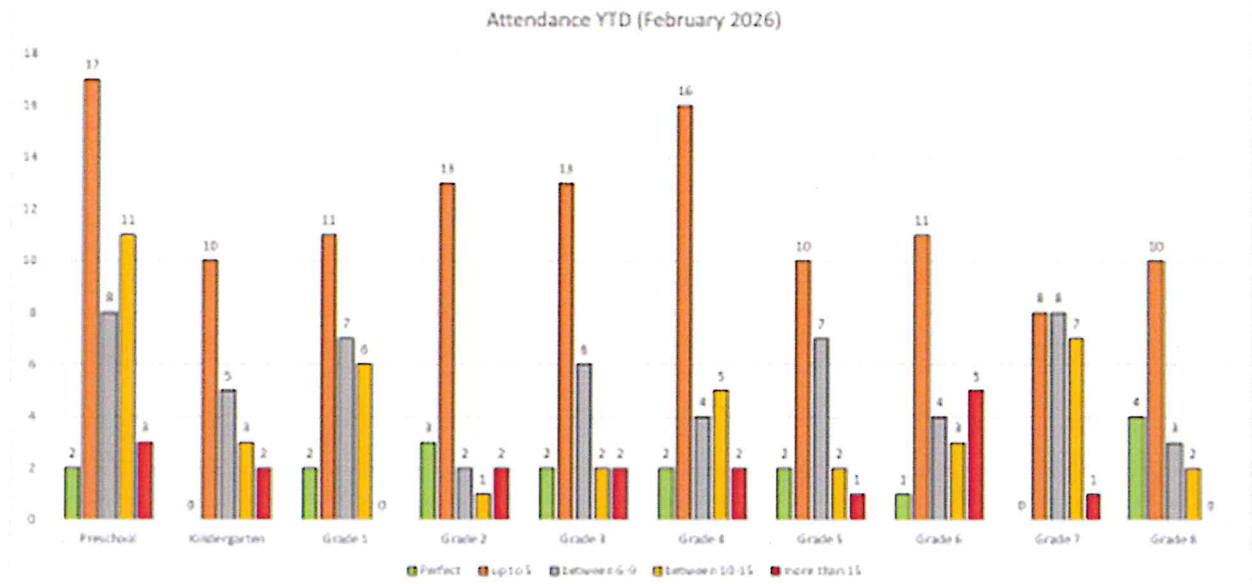
**Enrollment:**

	<b>In District</b>	<b>Out of District</b>	<b>Choice Non-Public</b>	<b>Charter</b>
Preschool	41			
Kindergarten	20		3	
Grade 1	26		1	
Grade 2	21		2	
Grade 3	25		2	
Grade 4	29			
Grade 5	22		1	
Grade 6	24		3	2
Grade 7	24		2	2

Grade 8 19 2 2 2 Total: **251 2 16 6**

**Chronic Absenteeism**

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● **Absenteeism Graph (September 3, 2025 - February 13, 2026)**

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No public present.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion by Mr. Frangipane, seconded by Mr. Gillen and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the following Executive Session Resolution at 7:37 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

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- Personnel (**BA Temporary Leave**)
- Appointment of a public official
- Matters covered by the attorney-client privilege
- Pending or anticipated litigation (**1900 Building**)
- 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.

On a motion by Mr. Gillen seconded by Mrs. Frayko, and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board approved the motion to close the Executive Session at 7:54 P.M.

On a motion by Mr. Gillen, seconded by Mr. Dreifus and carried unanimously by voice vote, the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Weaver  
Board Secretary