

THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

N.J. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act the Woodland Park Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on the door of the Woodland Park Board of Education Administration Building and was provided to the North Jersey Record & Herald News

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL

Members Present – Kim Galbraith, David Amanullah, Andrew Mingione, Shannon Marren, Julissa Rodriguez, Gina McQuin, Mark Salemi, Glen Grimes

Also Present – Michele Pillari, Vincent Occhino, Adam Weiss

PRESENTATION – David Bottge, of Wielkoltz & Co., presented the 2024 Financial Audit results.

PUBLIC HEARING-AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Please remember that this is a public meeting. Anything you say will be public record. As a result, pursuant to law, the Board Members cannot respond to you publicly concerning certain matters, such as those regarding an individual student. If there is a matter that you wish to remain private concerning personnel or students, please contact the Superintendent's office. In accordance with Bylaw 0167, statements will be limited to 3 minutes in duration.

Freda Leib- 4 Seasons resident

Ms. Leib asked if the district had a plan if ICE came to any of the schools and if so, can they share the plan.

Mr. Grimes stated that they would respond after the next public session.

225-227 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by MINGIONE Seconded by GALBRAITH

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2025 reorg, the January 13, 2025 regular and the January 27, 2025 special meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the Executive Session minutes of the January 13, 2025 regular and the January 27, 2025 special meetings.

Roll Call: 9 YES

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Pillari reported on the SSDS for the Reporting period 1 July-December 2024 these were the incidents:

- 8 confirmed HIBs and 13 alleged HIBs
- The nature of the HIBs included:
 - 4 for race
 - 13 for other distinguishing characteristics
 - 3 for sexual orientation
 - 1 for mental, physical or sensory disability
- 1 weapon (lighter)
- 1 fight
- 2 substance use confirmed
- 4 substance possession
- 2 threat, simple
- 2 other incident leading to removal
-

- Discipline for the HIBS-
 - (1) student given (4) days in-school suspension
 - Recommended remedial measures for all cases included restorative practices, student counseling and (2) students were referred to therapy
- Investigators on the cases:
 - Donna Farraye and Nicole Ruble at Memorial
 - Kathryn Williams at BG
 - Anay Castro at CO
 - The status of all investigations are closed.
- There were 6 HIB-related programs offered district-wide. Memorial had an additional 6 programs, BG had 3, CO had 1 and Preschool had 1.
- There was 1 training offered district-wide. Each school had an additional training also.

Preschool

Our Second ECAC meeting took place on 2/3/25. We had a hybrid meeting with people in attendance at CO and online VIA Google Meet. The various committees shared their accomplishments during this meeting:

Needs Assessment (yielded the following results):

ECAC and HSA meetings coincide in order to provide a virtual and in person option for attendance.
 Teachers are requesting empty boxes, containers and packages of cultural foods families eat at home to share in the classroom.
 Looking to borrow books from families to use in the classrooms to share.
 Presentation for resume writing and job interviewing skills
 Researching another tool to use for our needs assessment survey for the 25-26 school year

Family Engagement Committee:

Family Engagement Projects have been successful since the start of the school year. We are currently planning for February, March, April, and May so stay tuned!
 Cozy Story Time took place in December whereby families came into the school to read to our students. Students enjoy wearing pajamas and bringing their favorite stuffed animals.
 PAWS our mascot paid a visit to all three schools this school year.

Transition Committee: Survey responses were collected from K - 3 Grade teachers regarding 24-25 SY transition.

Glows - Positive feedback provided regarding transition and meetings with PIC and PIRS.

Improvement in K expectations (handwriting and classroom/school procedures)

Grows - Prepare students for drastic changes in schedules moving in K.

Create a time for an end of year activity which can introduce the students to future year teachers/school.

More training and support wanted to continue the Pyramid Model from PK into K.

Planning- Reading Opportunities for K teachers to Read to PK classrooms for Read Across America or Read Aloud Experience.

Activities for the End of the Year to support Transitions

Recorded Read Alouds to Welcome New Classes/Meet the Teacher Newsletter Penpal opportunities for 2nd and 3rd graders to support changing of schools

Have students from different grade levels write tips for incoming classes at the end of the year.

Survey K regarding K classroom needs to share Pyramid Model best practices to ease PK - K transition at the beginning of the year.

Preschool Curriculum:

Though most children in PK are approximately the same age, their writing levels usually have a wide range. By having daily writing experiences, young children will move through various writing stages, at various rates. The teacher helps children progress with their writing development by modeling writing everyday and providing children with varied

writing activities. Analyzing each child's writing level will also help the teacher in providing meaningful experiences that develop young writers. Making writing materials and fine motor materials available to the children daily aides in this process.

Kindness Week & 100th Day of School: We will celebrate Kindness Week on the week of Feb 10th and the 100th Day on Feb 11th. Children can dress up as they are "110 Years Old" or wear a neon shirt with 100 items attached.

World Read Aloud Day: On Feb 5th, special staff members read a story to the preschoolers for World Read Aloud Day.

February Family Engagement Project: Thank you for participating in the project! Students shared a photo of a special person which was used to make a collage for each classroom!

Preschool Program Joined the NJPIEP Workshop: Preschool staff gained knowledge and understanding in defining the concepts of "Stress" and "Self-Regulation". They examine what is going on in our brain and body when we are stressed; how stress impacts behaviors that present in young children and they recognize sources of stress for both adults and young children. The staff learned strategies to reduce stress for young children with a focus on the Pyramid Model.

Thank you to the Preschool HSA for the Valentines Day photos and craft!

Thank you to the WPEA for donating books to the preschool classrooms.

CO

- Mid Year assessments have been administered and data teams analyzed and created new student groups for intervention and WIN periods.
- CO HERO/CO TEAMS Day took place on Jan. 31. Students were recognized for exhibiting traits of the Six Pillars of Character. All students wore character shirts.
- We are celebrating Kindness Week this week, Feb 10-14. Thank you to our counseling department for planning our daily events!
- Our 100th Day celebration will take place on Feb. 12th.
- CO conferences are on Feb. 12th.
- HSA classroom craft is on Feb. 13th. Thank you HSA!

BG:

- Our school is proud to announce that we continue to be a National School of Caring. We have partnered with Souper Bowl of Caring to create a unique opportunity for our students to join in a national movement of giving and serving. Throughout the month of January, students were asked to donate goods to be donated to a local food pantry. This year, BG's SouperBowl can drive brought in 2,364 items. This has surpassed our previous school record by over 200 items. Thank you to all families who donated to this special cause.
- Read Around the World took place on Wednesday, February 5th. Teepees were decorated to represent six different countries. Parents and students in the 5th grade read a book in their native language to our 3rd graders. This special event was spearheaded by Mrs. Najim.
- The Passaic County Park Ranger will be visiting 3rd grade homerooms on February 26, 27, 28.

Memorial:

- Our annual Autism Awareness T-shirt contest concluded and Michayla Torres's design will be printed on t-shirts to be sold for our Autism Awareness fundraiser! Congratulations, Michayla.
- On January 17th, our Growing Minds and LLD classes went to LifeTown for a Field Trip. Life Town is a fantastic program that provides life skills for students to gain confidence and experience day to day scenarios such as going to the bank, nail salon, post office, etc
- We had a mini House Event on January 17th where students learned and participated in Martin Luther King trivia
- Memorial Staff participated in an underground spirit week. Everyone enjoyed the students guessing what we were going to do next. It was a fun filled week of dressing as Dr. Pillari and Mrs. Reilly, dressing up like a middle schooler, drink from anything but a cup, and College Day

Curriculum:

- Our teachers of our multilingual students are preparing to administer the WIDA assessment.
- Our Interventionists are working with the Data Teams to identify additional students in need of Tier 3 support. Students who have met Tier 3 goals are being exited and supported in Tiers 1 and 2.
- PD time has been allocated for all teachers to review and revise curriculum in the ATLAS online storage system.
- Budget planning and development has begun.
- NJSLA testing preparations have begun.

- Students have completed assessments in Math, ELA, 5th - 8th Science and 6th-8th Social Studies. This data will be analyzed and used to guide instruction and instructional practices.

Mathematics:

- Students at BG and CO were celebrated for passing 2 i-Ready weekly lessons.
- Ongoing coaching, collaborative planning and targeted feedback continue to support new teachers and are available upon request, ensuring continuous growth within our Math teaching staff.
- We continue to track data for implementation within grade-level cohorts to analyze trends and identify learning gaps, ensuring targeted instructional support.

ELA:

- The volunteer ELA committee, comprised of dedicated educators from all grade levels and special education, has been assembled and began collaboration on February 5th! Their collective expertise will guide discussions on curriculum materials, standard progressions, alignment, and assessment. With their commitment and insight, this initiative is going to give our ELA meaningful and lasting improvements to foster student support and success.
- February 5th was World Read Aloud day, teachers were encouraged to read a favorite picture book, poem or excerpt from their favorite book; asking thought provoking questions, encouraging predictions, and inviting them to share their thoughts.
- Ongoing coaching, collaborative planning and targeted feedback continue to support new teachers and are available upon request, ensuring continuous growth within our ELA teaching staff.
- ELA data tracking has begun implementation within grade-level cohorts to analyze trends and identify learning gaps, ensuring targeted instructional support.

Special Education Department:

MTSS:

- Data Teams from Charles Olbon, Beatrice Gilmore and Memorial collaborated to develop ELA and Math Tier 1 plans, using data driven insights to address gaps in previously taught standards and skills.
- Data teams utilized the new LinkIt! Dashboard to organize benchmarks by grade level and assessment timeframe.
- The SILAS SEL universal screener has been completed and we are in the process of uploading the data into LinkIt! for the first time. The Behavioral/SEL Data team will meet to discuss the SILAS data this month.
- K-8 teachers continue to facilitate small groups during WIN to address tier 2 student needs.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Dr. Occhino explained to the board that the audit report is a required document, which has to be reported in public.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The following items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion.

Motion by SALEMI, Seconded by GALBRAITH to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following consent agenda numbers 225-228 through 225-231.

Roll Call: 9 YES

225-228 - SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORTS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, receives and accepts the attached reports of the Secretary and Treasurer for the month of December 2024 "Pursuant to N.J.A.C.6: 20-2.12©, we certify that as of December 31, 2024 the Board Secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriations section) did not reflect any over expenditure in any of the major accounts or funds, and based on the appropriation balances reflected on this report and the advice of district officials, we have no reason to doubt that the district has sufficient funds available to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year"

225-229 - TRANSFERS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the attached list of transfers for the months of December 2024.

225-230 - APPROVAL OF BILL LIST

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the attached list of bills in the amount of \$558,385.40, approved by finance committee chairperson, Mark Salemi.

<u>Bill List No.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
#69	\$479,296.28
#L69	\$ 79,089.12

225-231- HIB DECISION

BE IT RESOLVED THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigations #2025-25, 2025-26, & 2025-27, for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's decision to the student's parents.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

The following items will be voted on by separate motion for each item.

PERSONNEL:

The following personnel items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item.

Motion by GALBRAITH Seconded by SALEMI to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following personnel agenda numbers 225-232 through 225-238.

Roll Call: 9 YES

225-232-APPROVAL OF PAID ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve paid administrative leave for employee ID #4414, effective 1/30/25 until further notice.

225-233-APPROVAL OF MEDICAL LEAVE – T. PEREZ

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve medical leave under the Federal Family Leave Act, for Tina Perez, PT aide, from 2/28/25 to approximately 3/16/25. Expected return to work 3/17/2025.

225-234-APPOINTMENT OF HIRE – MEMORIAL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL – R. CORREGGIO

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the appointment of Robert Correggio, as Principal of Memorial School, at a rate of \$129,137, prorated, in accordance with the current WPPSA agreement. Effective pending receipt of proper paperwork.

225-235-APOINTMENT OF HIRE – D. FRONDI

BE IT RESOLVED THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve the appointment of Danielle Frondi, as a district speech therapist, MA, Step 1, \$67,010, prorated, in accordance with current WPEA contract. Effective pending receipt of proper paperwork.

225-236-APPROVAL OF POSITION CHANGE – L. BACCARO

BE IT RESOLVED THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, under the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve change in position for Lucia Baccaro, from long term sub to part time aide, for the remainder of the 2024-2025 school year, at a rate of \$26.85, not to exceed 28.5 hours per week, as per current WPEA agreement, effective 2/11/2025.

225-237-RATIFY APPROVAL OF STAFF STIPENDS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, to approve stipend payments for the 2024-2025 school year in accordance with current WPEA contract, as listed:

Title	School	Name	Amount
Morning Duty (2/6-end of year)	CO	Daniela Arias	\$875

225-238-WORKSHOP/TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT APPROVAL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve/ratify approval the attendance of and costs of attendance including registration fees and statutorily authorized travel expenditures for the following listed district employees for the 2024-2025 school year.

Name	Activity	Date	Fee	Travel/Hotel	Total
Krystina Reilly	Techspo	1/29-1/31 2025	\$590	Approx. \$650	Approx \$1,240
Stacey Facciollio	Models in the NGSS Classroom & NJSLA Science for grades 5-8 teachers	3/14/2025	\$200	\$4.89	\$204.89
Samantha Krasnomowitz	LinkIt MTSS Summit	1/27/2025	\$250	NA	\$250
Mireya Gutierrez	Self-Evaluation of Supports for Emergent Bilingual Acquisition	2/6, 2/7 2025	\$500	NA	\$500
Sharon Tomback	LinkIt User Group	3/10/25	NA	\$14.10	\$14.10
Jennifer Smith	Role of School Climate Team	3/6/25	NA	NA	NA
Jennifer Smith	Social Emotional Character Development	3/12/25	NA	NA	NA
Jennifer Smith	Foundations of Teaching the Holocaust	3/25/25	NA	NA	NA
Elizabeth Reisman	NJCEC Spring Conference	3/17/25	\$190	NA	\$190

FINANCE:

The following finance items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item.

Motion by RODRIGUEZ Seconded by GALBRAITH to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following finance agenda numbers 225-239 through 225-246.

Roll Call: 9 YES

225-239-ACCEPTANCE OF THE 2024 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

BE IT RESOLVED, THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION has received and accepts the audit report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, prepared by Wielkott & Co., Certified Public Accountants and further resolved, that the Woodland Park Board of Education has reviewed and discussed the audit recommendations and has approved the Corrective Action Plan for the audit recommendations.

Roll Call:

Recommendation #	Corrective Action Required By the Board	Method of Implementation	Person Responsible for Implementation	Completion Date of Implementation
2024-001	Political Disclosure Forms were not received from all vendors required to submit them	That Political Disclosure Forms be received from all vendors required to submit them	Business Administrator And Accounts Payable Clerk	2/11/2025
2024-02	Some employees were not paid according to their contract	Make sure calculations are correct to ensure all employees are paid according to their contract	Business Administrator	2/11/2025
2024-03	Some employees no longer employed by the district were not removed from the dental plan in a timely manner	Employees no longer employed by the district be removed from dental plan in a timely manner	Business Administrator and Secretary to BA	2/11/2025
2024-04	Some employees eligible to be enrolled in DCRP were not enrolled	New employees eligible to be enrolled in DCRP are enrolled in a timely manner	Business Administrator And Payroll Clerk	2/11/2025
2024-05	Budget account for Transfer of Funds to Charter School's was overspent	No budget accounts be overspent	Business Administrator	2/11/2025

2024-06	The general fixed asset records were not updated for all additions of general fixed assets made during the year	That all the fixed asset records be updated for all additions made during the year	Business Administrator	2/11/2025
2024-07	The TPAF/FICA report was not filed in a timely manner	That TPAF/FICA report be filed in a timely manner	Business Administrator	2/11/2025

225-240-APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – BEST OF YOU THERAPY

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve contract with Best of You Therapy, to provide temporary speech therapy services, at a rate of \$100/hr., effective 2/11/25 – 6/30/25 or sooner if a replacement is found.

225-241-APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – SILVERGATE PREP

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve contract with Silvergate Prep, to provide homebound instruction for student ID #33153, 10 hrs. per week, at \$40/hr., effective 01/2/2025-approximately 3/27/2025.

Roll Call:

225-242-APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – LEARN WELL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve contract with LearnWell, to provide educational instruction for student ID #34319, 5 hrs. per week, at \$60/hr., effective 2/4/2025-approx. 4/29/25.

225-243-APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – LEARN WELL

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve contract with LearnWell, to provide educational instruction for student ID #34003, 5 hrs. per week, at \$60/hr., effective 2/4/2025-approx. 4/29/25.

225-244-APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – HIGH FOCUS TREATMENT CENTER

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve contract with High Focus Treatment Center, to provide clinical treatment for student ID #34003, at a rate of \$450 per PCP session and \$350 per IOP, effective 2/4/2025-approx. 4/30/25.

225-245-APPROVAL OF CONTRACT – HIGH FOCUS TREATMENT CENTER

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve contract with High Focus Treatment Center, to provide clinical treatment for student ID #33110, at a rate of \$350 per IOP, effective 2/10/2025-approx. 4/15/25.

225-246 - APPROVAL -NRESC –TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT – 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the transportation contract with NRESC for the following 2024-2025 bus routes:

Route#	School (s)	Contractor	# of Students	Estimated Cost per Route (+ surcharge)	Starting Date
Q3719	Gen Psych	Omar Transport	1	7,995.00+479.70	1/8/25-2/28-25
Q3731	ICPC	Omar Transport	1	5,280.00+316.80	1/27/25-2/28/25

POLICY:

The following policy items have been deemed to be non-controversial in a matter of routine business and will be voted on by one motion. Any item deemed controversial can be removed and voted on as a separate agenda item. Motion by RODRIGUEZ Seconded by GIAMMARELLA to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the following policy agenda numbers 225-247 through 225-249.

Roll Call: 9 YES

225-247 - APPROVAL OF NEW POLICIES & REGULATIONS – 1ST READING

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the 1ST reading of the following new policies & regulations:

POLICY/REGULATION #	POLICY/REGULATION	MANDATED/RECOMMENDED
R5516	Use of Electronic Communication Devices	Recommended

225-248 -APPROVAL OF POLICY & REGULATION REVISIONS-MOA

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve policy & regulations revisions pertaining to Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education & Law Enforcement Officials 2023.

POLICY/REGULATION #	POLICY/REGULATION	MANDATED/RECOMMENDED
P5512	Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying	Mandated
P5533 & R5533	Student Smoking	Mandated
P7441 & R7441	Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings and On School Grounds	Mandated
P9320 & R9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies	Mandated

225-249 -APPROVAL OF POLICY & REGULATION REVISIONS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WOODLAND PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION, to approve the revisions and abolishment of the following existing policies & regulations:

POLICY/REGULATION #	POLICY/REGULATION	MANDATED/RECOMMENDED
P5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students	Mandated
P5516	Use of Electronic Communication Devices	Recommended
P5701	Academic Integrity	Recommended
P5710	Student Grievance	Recommended
P8500	Food Services	Mandated

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Policy: Mr. Amanullah stated the Policy committee met and discussed various policies that were on tonight's agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING

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Mr. Weiss responded to the question in the first public session regarding ICE. He stated that if they do come to any school, they need a warrant signed by a judge, not by the ICE agency. He stated that the only authority local police have is to make sure that it is a judicial warrant before they are allowed to enter the building. He told parents to make sure all emergency contact information is updated in the parent portal, so the school has current contact information. He stated that he has been in situations where parents have been detained by ICE, so it is important to make sure contact information is accurate.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. by GALBRAITH, Seconded by MINGIONE
Voice Vote: 9 YES