BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOROUGH OF TOTOWA

MEETING MINUTES

08/19/2026

The Special Meeting of the Board of Education of the Borough of Totowa was held at Washington Park School Media Center, 10 Crews Street, Totowa, New Jersey on August 19, 2026.

A motion was made by Mr. Bierach and seconded by Mr. La Rose to have Ms. Alesandrelli act as President for the August 19, 2026, Board of Education meeting. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.

1. Call To Order

Acting President Alesandrelli called the meeting to order at 7:11 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:	Ms. Alesandrelli, Mr. Bierach, Mr. La Rose and Parlegreco
Members Absent:	Ms. Antonucci, Ms. Carr, Ms. Panepinto and Dr. Vancheri
Also Present:	Patricia Capitelli, Superintendent of Schools
	Vincent Varcadipane, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
	Mr. Raymond B. Reddin, Board Attorney

3. Oath Of Office

Ms. Alesandrelli stated that the board posted our board member vacancy on our website and we received only one resume. The Board is appointing Eduardo Lopez for the remainder of the open term through April 2027.

Mr. Varcadipane administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Lopez.

4. Roll Call

Members Present:	Ms. Alesandrelli, Mr. Bierach, Mr. La Rose Mr. Lopez and Parlegreco
Members Absent:	Ms. Antonucci, Ms. Carr, Ms. Panepinto and Dr. Vancheri
Also Present:	Patricia Capitelli, Superintendent of Schools
	Vincent Varcadipane, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
	Mr. Raymond B. Reddin, Board Attorney

Ms. Alesandrelli led all present in the salute to the flag and remain standing for a moment of silence for our past and present troops.

5. Open Public Meeting Notice

The following statement was read by Mr. Varcadipane:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Municipal Building and notice was mailed to the North Jersey Herald News and The Record.

6. Public to be Heard

There was no public to be heard.

7. Policy Revision 5516 – Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revised mandated Policy 5516 – Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices.

8. Regulation Revision 5516 – Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices

The Superintendent presents to the Board the first read of the revised mandated Regulation 5516 – Student Use of Internet-Enabled Devices.

Motion for approval of item 7-8

MOTION: Mr. La Rose
SECONDED: Mr. Bierach
VOTE: Unanimous (Mr. Lopez abstained)

9. Executive Session

A request for executive session was made to discuss personnel matters and other business excluded from the Open Public Meeting by Law. The Board entered executive session at 7:18 p.m.

Mr. Reddin said, in Executive Session the Board will be discussing personnel and legal matters. The discussion will last approximately fifteen (15) minutes and no action will be taken.

Motion for approval of item 9

MOTION: Mr. Bierach
SECONDED: Mr. La Rose
VOTE: Unanimous

The Board returned from executive session at 7:49 P.M.

10. Appointment – Elementary Teacher

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends that the Board appoint Christina Reed to the position of Elementary School Teacher, LEAP/Specials, for the 2026 – 2027 school year, on a date to be determined. Ms. Reed will be placed on BA Step 1 - $61,150.00 of the contracted teacher's salary guide, pending approval of the Disclosures and Review of Applicants' Employment History and positive references.

11. Appointment – Vice Principal Washington Park School

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends that the Board appoint Daniel Anderson to the position of Vice Principal, Washington Park School, for the 2026 – 2027 school year, on a date to be determined. Mr. Anderson will receive a salary of $102,000 (prorated) pending approval of the Disclosures and Review of Applicants' Employment History and positive references.

12. Appointment – Principal

The Superintendent, in consultation with the Administrative Team, recommends that the Board appoint Elaina Maffucci to the position of Principal, Memorial School, for the 2026 – 2027 school year, on a date to be determined. Ms. Maffucci will receive a salary of $102,000 (prorated), pending approval of the Disclosures and Review of Applicants' Employment History and positive references.

13. Approval – Transfer

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the transfer of Joseph Compel from Principal, Memorial School, to Principal, Washington Park School, effective Monday, August 24, 2026.

14. Suspension – Employee #2627-01

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the suspension with pay of Employee #2627-01 beginning on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, until a date to be determined.

Motion for approval of item 10-14

MOTION: Mr. Parlegreco
SECONDED: Mr. Bierach
VOTE: Unanimous

15. Approval of Minutes- July 22, 2026 – Regular Meeting

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the minutes of the meeting of July 22, 2026, as presented.

Motion for approval of item 15

MOTION: Mr. La Rose
SECONDED: Mr. Bierach
VOTE: Unanimous (Mr. Lopez abstained)

16. Approval of Minutes- July 22, 2026 – Executive Session

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the minutes of the Executive Session during the meeting of July 22, 2026, as presented.

Motion for approval of item 16

MOTION: Mr. La Rose
SECONDED: Mr. Bierach
VOTE: Unanimous (Mr. Lopez abstained)

17. Approval of Bills List – June Supplemental 2

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends the Board accept the June Supplemental 2 Bills List as presented.

18. Approval of Payment of Cafeteria Invoices

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, recommends the Board approve payment of the following cafeteria invoices.

Vendor	Description	Check #	Amount
Pomptonian Food Service	Invoice #912063026	1727	$ 31,478.84

19. Approval of 2026-2027 Transportation Contract NRESC

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends that the Board retroactively approve the 2026-2027 transportation contract with North Region Educational Services Commission, Wayne as follows:

Route #	School	Contractor	Cost Per Route	Date
1014	Academy 360 – Upper School	Aldin Trans	$ 9,306.00+558.36	7/1/26-7/31/26
1016	Alpine Learning Center	Safeguard Trans	$7,740.00+464.40	7/1/26-8/12/26
1054	Felician School	American Star Trans	$2,460.00+147.60	7/6/26-7/31/26
1124	Windsor Learning Center	R&May Trans	$1,612.50+96.75	7/13/26-8/14/26
WashMe Mesy	Wash Pk Sch/Mem Sch	American Star Trans	$6,992.00+419.52	6/22/26-7/22/26

20. Unemployment Compensation Account

The Superintendent, in consultation with the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, recommends that the Board retroactively approve check #240 and #241 from the school district's Unemployment Compensation Account in the amount of $271.50 and $875.00 respectively to the State of New Jersey, Department of Labor Division of Employer Accounts for chargeable benefits.

Motion for approval of item 17-20

MOTION: Mr. La Rose
SECONDED: Mr. Bierach
VOTE: Unanimous (Mr. Lopez abstained)

21. Old Business

There was no old business.

22. New Business

There was no new business.

23. Hearing and Petition of Citizens

No citizens wished to be heard.

24. Other Matters of a Timely Nature

There was no other matters of a timely nature.

25. Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Bierach and seconded by Mr. La Rose this meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent Varcadipane
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary