

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Dr. Capizzi called the meeting to order at 5:09PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. FLAG SALUTE
- III. PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Public Meetings Act, the Little Falls Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by notifying the Board's official newspaper, the local parent-teacher associations, and posting same on the Community Bulletin Board and the District's Website.

IV. ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Mrs. Barone, Dr. Capizzi, Mrs. DiBuono, Mrs. Lijoi, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Tullo, and Mrs. Zurbruegg

Board Members Absent:

Also, Present. Mrs. Tracey Marinelli, Superintendent and Mrs. Melissa Sanzari- Stevens, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

V. CORRESPONDENCE- None

VI. MINUTES

MOVE that the Little Falls Board of Education approve the Minutes of the following Meeting.

- 1. Regular Meeting – December 9, 2025
- 2. Executive Meeting Minutes- December 9, 2025

M: Mrs. Smith S: Mrs. Zurbruegg

VII. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC – **(Limited to Agenda Items Only)**

On motion of Mrs. Barone and seconded by Mrs. Smith, the meeting was opened for public comment.

Since no one wished to be heard, on motion of Mrs. DiBuono, and seconded by Mrs. Smith, moved that, the Little Falls Board of Education close the meeting to the public.

AYES: 7

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: 0

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VIII. PRESENTATION-

Mrs. Marinelli presented the School #3 December Hornet of the Month with a certificate

1. Hornet of The Month

School #3

- Marissa Gizzi- Fourth Grade - (December Hornet of The Month)

2. Benchmarks and LinkIt Parent Portal Presentation was presented to the Board by Mrs. Castrovinci

3. Mrs. Castaldo did a presentation for the Multi-Tiered System of Support

4. Universal Screener Presentation was presented to the Board

IX. PRESIDENT’S REPORT- Dr. Capizzi

X. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Mrs. Tracey Marinelli)

1. Superintendent’s Report. (Exhibit A)

Mrs. Marinelli advised the Board of the following:

- Enrollment School #1- 410, School #2- 357, School #3- 203
- All safety and security drills have been performed in all three schools
- There were zero suspensions
- There was one HIB, which was found to be unconfirmed.
- The Student Safety Data System mid-year submission is on the agenda for approval. Mrs. Marinelli explained the mid-year submission to the Board.
- Project portion of our website will be updated

2. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Little Falls Board of Education affirms the Superintendent’s decision in HIB investigations (SC2-002-11-18-25-LFD-006, Sc3-003-11-13-25-LFD-005) for the reason set forth in the Superintendent’s decision to the students’ parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board’s decision to affected students’ parents.

M: Mrs. Barone

S: Mrs. Zurbruegg

RC JB DD PL VM NS MT SZ

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY

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XI. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY REPORT-
(Melissa Sanzari-Stevens)

Mrs. Stevens advised the Board of the following:

- Ethic disclosures will be emailed out this week for completion
- Discussion of ethics disclosure
- Board Training will be assigned
- Piloting Before and After Care program for single session days
- We will begin the bidding process for our projects
- There have been changes to the Pre-K funding

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS-None

XIII. SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

There are no supplemental resolutions.

XIV. CONSENT AGENDA

M: Mrs. DiBueno S: Mr. Tullo
JB DD PL VM NS MT SZ RC

XV. PTA LIAISONS

Mrs. Smith stated that the 8th grade fashion show will be held on March 19, 2026.

XVI. LITTLE FALLS EDUCATION LIAISON- None

XVII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ NEW BUSINESS- None

XVIII. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

On motion of Mrs. Barone and seconded by Mrs. Zurbruegg, the meeting was opened for public comment.

Since no one wished to be heard, on motion of Mrs. DiBuono, and seconded by Mrs. Smith, moved that, the Little Falls Board of Education close the meeting to the public.

AYES: 7

NAYES: 0

ABSENT: 0

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Mr. Tullo and seconded by Mrs. Smith move that the Little Falls Board of Education go into Executive Session to discuss one (1) HIB issues. Approximate time ten (10) minutes. No action will be taken.

AYES: 7 5:52pm

NAYES:0

ABSENT: 1

On motion of Mrs. Barone and seconded by Mrs. Smith move that the Little Falls Board of Education return from Executive Session.

AYES: 7 6:02pm

NAYES:0

ABSENT: 1

M: Mrs. Lijoi

S: Mrs. Zurbruegg

XX. ADJOURNMENT

M: Mrs. Smith

S: Mr. Tullo

The Little Falls Board of Education meeting was adjourned at 6:03pm.

AYES: 7

NAYES: 0

ABSENT:1

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Sanzari- Stevens
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSENT AGENDA (XIV)

Be IT RESOLVED, UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS in conjunction with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary move that the following actions be taken:

A. PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS, AND FINANCE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education rescind payment to the following individuals for chaperoning the 7th and 8th grade Winter Concert at School #1 held on December 17, 2025.

Employees	Date	Amount
Jim Delfino	12/17/2025	\$85.00

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

2. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify payment to the following individuals for chaperoning the 7th and 8th grade Winter Concert at School #1 held on December 17, 2025, at the contractual chaperone rate of \$30.00 per hour, for two hours.

Employees	Date	Amount
Jai Sathyamurthi	12/17/2025	\$60.00

3. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the following staff member and rate effective, February 15, 2026 through June 18, 2026 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Mentor	Provisional Teacher	School	Certificate	Rate	Weeks
Kelly Ostrowski	Samantha Conforti	School #3	CEAS	\$183.30	10 weeks

4. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the following employees for coverage of Hornet Reflection at the contractual rate of \$35.00 per hour, prorated. To be paid out of Title IV, account number 20-280-100-101-10-00, for the 25-26 School year.

Lynn Donovan
Sonia Santos
Kristy Gregory

Laurel Pietsch
Marc Perniciaro

5. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Alexa Barreiros, teacher, School #3 effective on or before February 18, 2026 through June 30, 2026. Rate of pay will be BA Step 1, pending all background checks.
6. The Little Falls Board of Education approve travel/conference expenses as noted for the following district employees/board members: (Exhibit B)
7. The Little Falls Board of Education accept with regret, the notice of intent to retire of Dawn Daura, Director of Special Services, effective July 1, 2026. Last day of work will be June 30, 2026.

B. EDUCATION AND STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education approve in accordance with the law approve the mid-year submission of the SSDS, (Student Safety Data System).
2. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the following field trips, as circulated.

(Exhibit C)

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

3. Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify the following new substitute applicants all substitutes have filed Federal Form I-9, and are in possession of acceptable clearance pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1/18A:39-10.1/18A:6-4.14, pending all background checks.

Diane Jankowski

C. MAINTENANCE, BUILDING & GROUNDS AND REFERENDUM COMMITTEE

D. HEALTH, SAFETY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education accept the Out of District Bus Evacuation Drills Report, as circulated for the first part of the 2025/2026 School.

(Exhibit D)

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