

**HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING  
MINUTES  
March 12, 2024**

**I. OPENING**

The meeting was called to order by the Board President at 6:34 p.m. in the IMC at Memorial Junior School, 61 Highland Avenue, Whippany, NJ 07981.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, notice of this meeting was provided to the newspaper of record, appropriately posted and sent to the Township Clerk on March 4, 2024.

Mrs. Bomengo led the flag salute.

Present: Board Members

Mr. Jeffrey Basile  
Mr. Marc Amoresano, Vice President  
Mrs. Christine Egbert  
Mrs. Gina Johnston  
Mr. Christopher Mattessich  
Mr. William McCabe  
Mr. Gregory Skiff  
Mrs. Michelle Stricchiola  
Mrs. Lisa Bomengo, President

Superintendent  
Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary

Mr. Michael J. Wasko  
Mrs. Vanessa M. Wolsky

**II. SPECIAL PRESENTATION - 2024-2025 Preliminary Budget**

Mr. Wasko began the presentation with a review of projected enrollments for the 2024-25 school year at each school in the District. Bee Meadow School is expected to have an enrollment of 322 students. Mountview Road School is expected to have an enrollment of 265 students. Salem Drive School is expected to have an enrollment of 238 students. Memorial Junior School is expected to have an enrollment of 413 students.

Mr. Wasko also shared various enhancements in the area of Curriculum & Instruction including new classroom furniture, new Reading and Writing materials, maintain STEM programs and activities, maintain digital resources and continue professional development and teacher coaching to support curriculum initiatives.

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Mrs. Wolsky reviewed the preliminary 2024-25 appropriations. She highlighted the larger variances to the preliminary budget summary from the prior year. In reviewing the revenues, she noted that state aid increased \$79,775 from the previous year and the projected budget includes utilizing an Adjustment for Healthcare Costs in the amount of \$233,876 and Banked Cap in the amount of \$86,342. The 2024-25 preliminary budget that was reviewed is an overall budget increase of \$1,012,975 or 3.18% and a tax rate increase of 1.6%. The Special Revenue Fund totaling \$547,157 was presented for reference as there is no tax implication for these funds. The presentation concluded with a 10 years history of tax rate changes reflecting a 10 year average increase 52.45 annually.

Mrs. Wolsky and Mr. Wasko answered questions from the Board.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items Only--None**

**IV. BOARD ACTIONS**

**C. FINANCE, TRANSPORTATION, PHYSICAL PLANT**

**I. FINANCE**

**Upon recommendation of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, move to:**

1. Adopt the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the tentative budget be approved for the 2024-2025 School Year and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

General Fund	\$ 32,914,265
Special Revenue	\$ 547,157

And to advertise said tentative budget in the newspaper of record in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a public hearing be held in the Memorial Junior School Library/Media Center, on April 23, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2024-2025 School Year.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Preliminary Budget is subject to amendments and/or modifications by the Morris County Office of the New Jersey Department of Education and the Board of Education at the April 23, 2024 Public Hearing of the budget.

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mrs. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

2. Approve a General Fund Tax Levy for the 2024-2025 budget, in the amount of \$29,781,939.

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**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mr. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

3. Authorize appropriating \$500,000 Additional Fund Balance and \$273,331 Designated Fund Balance to reduce the General Fund Tax Levy for the 2024-2025 school budget.

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mr. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

4. Authorize an adjustment for health care costs:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$233,876. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mr. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

5. Authorize an adjustment for banked cap:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget the adjustment for banked cap in the amount of \$86,342. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.3(b), the district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority. The adjustment will be used to/for increased transportation costs. The Board of Education will complete this by June 30, 2025 and acknowledges that it cannot be deferred or incrementally completed over a longer period of time.

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mr. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

6. Establish the following maximum annual expenditures for the 2024-2025 school year:

Public Relations	\$ 20,000
Auditor	\$ 44,000
Attorney	\$ 55,000
School Doctor	\$ 21,000

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mr. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

7. Adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Hanover Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

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**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

**WHEREAS**, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq., to a maximum expenditure of \$49,400 for all staff and board members.

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mr. Basile      **Roll Call:** 9 yes, 0 no

V. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** -- None

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** – 7:05 p.m.

**Motion:** Mr. Amoresano      **Second:** Mrs. Johnston      **Approved:** Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



Vanessa M. Wolsky  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary