

**HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 11, 2025
7:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Board President Donna Carey called the Regular Meeting of the Hardyston Board of Education to order on November 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., from the Cafeteria of the Hardyston Middle School, 183 Wheatsworth Road, Hamburg, NJ 07419. President Donna Carey read the Open Public Meetings Act statement:

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the Minutes that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Law 1975, entitled, "Open Public Meetings Act," Hardyston Township Board of Education posted a meeting notice setting forth the time, date, and location of this meeting at the Office of Hardyston Township Board of Education and on the district's web site and mailed to the New Jersey Herald and to the Office of the Municipal Clerk of Hardyston Township.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Mr. Anthony Alfano	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mrs. Jean Barrett	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m. virtual
Mrs. Donna Carey	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Nick Demsak	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Brian Drelick	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Ron Hoffman	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli	present		absent	x arrived at _____ p.m.
Ms. Clarissa Marotta	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Edward Reinle	present		absent	x arrived at _____ p.m.
Dr. Michael Ryder	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mrs. Susan Verso	present	x	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.

Quorum confirmed: Yes No

Special Guest(s) Present: Mr. Joseph Roselle, Esq., Schenck, Price, Smith & King

Staff Member(s) Present: None

Community Member(s) Present: 5
Other: None

MISSION STATEMENT

The Hardyston School District together with our parents, families and community is dedicated to preparing our students for the 21st Century by providing each student with a quality education, in a safe and caring environment, which allows

all students to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and Common Core State Standards at all grade levels and includes the knowledge, confidence, and self-esteem to be successful life-long learners in a culturally diverse democracy.

IV. Workshop

1. Updates to Agenda
2. Committee Reports:
Curriculum, Programs, Educational Technology & Community Relations (J. Barrett)
Finance, Facilities and Operations & Technology Infrastructure (A. Alfano)
Personnel, Negotiations, Grievance & Policy (D. Carey)
3. Board President’s Report
4. Superintendent’s Report – [NJSLA Test Results Presentation](#)
- District Goals Update

[Fire and Security Drill Report](#)

V. Public Comment (Board Policy #0167) (please limit comments to action agenda items only)

None

VI. Executive Session *if needed*

None

VII. Return to Public Session

Motion to the Board of Education will return to public session at _____ p.m.

Roll Call

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Mr. Anthony Alfano | _____ |
| Mrs. Jean Barrett | _____ |
| Mrs. Donna Carey | _____ |
| Mr. Nick Demsak | _____ |
| Mr. Brian Drelick | _____ |
| Mr. Ron Hoffman | _____ |
| Mrs. Susan Lucarelli | _____ |
| Ms. Clarissa Marotta | _____ |
| Mr. Ed Reinle | _____ |
|
 | |
| Dr. Michael Ryder | _____ |
| Mrs. Susan Verso | _____ |

Action following Executive Session if needed:

VIII. Old Business

O/B-1

- December 9 – Regular Meeting
- January 6 – Regular Meeting and Annual Reorg

- January 20 – Budget Workshop
- February 10 – Regular Meeting
- February 24 – Budget Workshop

O/B-2

2025-2026 Budget Calendar

IX. New Business

X. Agenda Items:

MEETING MINUTES

1. October 14 – Regular Meeting

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Alfano	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carey	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Drelick	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Marotta	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>

HIB REPORT *All policies and procedures have been followed and met; the September report is based on the recommendation of the Superintendent.*

Background: HIB report for 11-11-25 is located in the Executive Session folder and will be voted on at the December 9, 2025 BOE meeting (if necessary).

No Action.

FINANCE

F-1

Motion to approve \$850.55 in transfers for the month of October 2025.

F-2

Motion to approve the Bills List for the month of October 2025 in the amount of \$1,686,735.73.

F-3

Motion to approve the Treasurer of School Monies Comparison Report for September 2025.

F-4

Motion to approve the Board Secretary’s Monthly Comparison Report for September 2025.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education regulation N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3 require local school districts to file a monthly certification of budgetary line item status,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education acknowledges that Susan Verso, Board Secretary, certifies the following statement: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, I, Susan Verso, Board Secretary, certify that no budgetary line items accounts are over-appropriated nor over-expended for the period ending September 30, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4 the board of Education certifies that as of after review of the board secretary's and treasurer's monthly financial reports and upon consultation with the appropriate school district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

ACTION ITEM(S): F-1 – F-4

Motion of adopt: A. Alfano

Seconded: B. Drelick

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Alfano	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carey	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Drelick	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Marotta	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>

FACILITIES/OPERATIONS

F/O-1

BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the following resolution for submission of the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (CMP) and M-1 Report for the 2025-2026 school year:

WHEREAS, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities; and

WHEREAS, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of Hardyston School District are consistent with these requirements; and

WHEREAS, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Hardyston Public School District hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for Hardyston School District in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

ACTION ITEM(S): F/O-1

Motion to adopt: A. Alfano

Seconded: R. Hoffman

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Alfano	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carey	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Drelick	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Marotta	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>

CURRICULUM/PROGRAMS

C/P-1

Motion to approve the listed travel events in agreement with Chapter 53, Public Law 2007, Title 18A, and Board Policy 9250:

EVENT	DATE	REGISTRATION FEE	MILEAGE & OTHER EXPENSES	EMPLOYEE / BOARD MEMBER	BENEFIT
Automatic Logic Training	1/28-1/29/26	\$1,300.00	VIRTUAL	P. Clipperton	Training for heating/air systems
Techspo 2026, Atlantic City	1/28-1/30, 2026	\$610/ea.	\$194/ea. <i>rooms</i> \$158.86/ea	M. Ryder D. Kornak	Latest developments in tech field
Basic AI Workshop, "Transforming the Classroom", Bloomfield	11/17/25	-0-	\$42.77	R. Demeter	Integration and education of AI tool
Buddy Programming for Students and Teachers, Bloomfield	12/8/25	-0-	\$42.77	R. Demeter	Working with trainers and students for a "hands-on" variety of STEM based tools

C/P-2

Resolved to approve the following parent-paid class trip(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

Grade	Destination	Date	Cost Per Student
MS Band & Choir	WSUS and Elementary School, Franklin	12/20/25	Transportation is a budgeted item

ACTION ITEM(S): C/P-1 – C/P-2

Motion to adopt: D. Carey

Seconded: R. Hoffman

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Alfano	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carey	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Drelick	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Hoffman	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Marotta	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>

PERSONNEL

(All Personnel resolutions are based on the recommendation of the Superintendent.)

P-1

Motion to approve a leave extension for Larissa Potosnak from a return date of November 26, 2025 to January 16, 2026.

P-2

Motion to approve an extension of leave replacement as LTS – HES Counselor for Sam Contreras, to January 16, 2026, as outlined in the current negotiated agreement. On the 61st day (December 3), Sam will go on guide, MA, Step 1, \$63,515, prorated.

P-3

Resolved, that the Board of Education hereby places John Torppey on a Federal family medical leave of absence under the Federal and State family leave acts, commencing on January 19, 2026 and end on April 19, 2026. Mr. Torppey will return to his current position April 20, 2026.

P-4

Motion to accept, with regret, the retirement letter from Ann Kasa, Physical Education Teacher, effective June 30, 2026. Mrs. Kasa has been with the district for over 20 years.

P-5

Motion to appoint/re-appoint the extra-curricular coaches and advisors for the 2025/2026 school year (step amount as per negotiated agreement):

The Board of Education shall determine the requirements of and qualifications for all extracurricular positions in the district as dictated by the nature of the activity in accordance with N.J.S.A. 34:13A-23. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board shall appoint to all extracurricular assignments, those individuals who have the proper qualifications for the position and can meet the requirements of the position. In the event a qualified candidate cannot be found within the district, the Board may employ a qualified person from outside the district.

Caitlin Carrigan	Ski Club Advisor	Stipend	\$526/15 hours
Aliena Hull	Math Club Advisor	Stipend	\$526/15 hours

P-6

Motion to accept, with regret, the retirement letter from David Lenz, Supervisor of Building and Grounds, effective June 30, 2026. Mr. Lenz has been with the district for over 25 years.

P-7

Motion to approve two new part time paraprofessional positions for the elementary school. These positions are required through the IEP plans.

ACTION ITEM(S): P-1 – P-7

Motion to adopt: D. Carey

Seconded: N. Demsak

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Alfano	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Barrett	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carey	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Demsak	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Drelick	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Hoffman	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Lucarelli	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>
Marotta	<u> x </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Reinle	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> x </u>

POLICY

There are no policy motions this month.

XI. Written Communication

None

XII. Public Comment (Board Policy #0167)

None

XIII. Executive Session *if needed*

A motion was presented by D. Carey and seconded by A. Alfano that the Hardyston Township Board of Education enters private session at 7:36 p.m. to discuss legal and, which is exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, "Open Public Meetings Act". Any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the closed session.

All in favor.

XIV. Return to Public Session

*Motion to the Board of Education will return to public session at 8:20 p.m.
Motion made by A. Alfano and seconded by N. Demsak.*

All in favor.

Roll Call

Mr. Anthony Alfano	<u> x </u>
Mrs. Jean Barrett	<u> </u>
Mrs. Donna Carey	<u> x </u>

Mr. Nick Demsak	<u> x </u>
Mr. Brian Drelick	<u> x </u>
Mr. Ron Hoffman	<u> x </u>
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli	<u> </u>
Ms. Clarissa Marotta	<u> x </u>
Mr. Ed Reinle	<u> </u>
Dr. Michael Ryder	<u> x </u>
Mrs. Susan Verso	<u> x </u>

Action following Executive Session if needed:

None

XV. Adjournment

With no further action or discussion required of the Hardyston Township Board of Education as this time, a motion was presented by D. Carey, and seconded by R. Hoffman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Verso
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary