

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA** **OCTOBER 13, 2026** **7:00 PM – Middle School Cafeteria**

I. Call to Order

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

Mrs. Donna Carey	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Nick Demsak	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Brian Drelick	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Ron Hoffman	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Ms. Dana Kalczuk	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Ms. Clarissa Marotta	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mr. Edward Reinle	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Ms. Kelly Stoll	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mrs. Jarlyn Veras	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.
Mrs. Susan Verso	present	absent	arrived at _____ p.m.

Quorum confirmed: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Special Guest(s) Present: _____

Staff Member(s) Present: _____

Community Member(s) Present: _____
 Other: _____

MISSION STATEMENT

The Hardyston School District together with our parents, families and community is dedicated to preparing our students by providing each student with a quality education, in a safe and caring environment, which allows all students to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning 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. Board President's Report
2. Superintendent's Report – QSAC Interim Placement
[Fire, Security, and Bus Evacuation Drill Report](#)
3. Committee Reports:
Curriculum, Programs, Educational Technology & Community Relations (Donna Carey)
Finance, Facilities and Operations & Technology Infrastructure (Ron Hoffman)
Personnel, Negotiations, Grievance & Policy (Nick Demsak)
4. HTEA Report
5. Updates to Agenda
6. HIB Self-Assessment Report (Meg O'Mara)
7. Michael Berta, AERO Environmental Services, Inc.

V. Public Comment (Board Policy #0167)

"All regular and special meetings of the Hardyston Township Board of Education shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of citizens throughout the district, and also need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, it shall schedule one or more periods during each meeting for public participation. Each speaker will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes per subject with a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes for all speakers on that subject. Additional segments in two-minute increments must be approved by a majority vote of the Board quorum present.

The Board President shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers, who shall properly identify themselves" (please provide name and municipality of residence).

VI. Old Business

O/B-1

- November 10 – Regular Meeting
- December 8 – Regular Meeting
- January 5 – Annual Reorganization
- February 9 – Regular Meeting

Motion to adopt: _____ Seconded By: _____

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

VII. Executive Session *if needed*

Motion is presented by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Hardyston Township Board of Education enters private session at _____ p.m. to discuss _____, 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.

VIII. Return to Public Session

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

Roll Call

Mrs. Donna Carey	_____
Mr. Nick Demsak	_____
Mr. Brian Drelick	_____
Mr. Ron Hoffman	_____
Ms. Dana Kalczuk	_____
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli	_____
Ms. Clarissa Marotta	_____
Mr. Ed Reinle	_____
Ms. Kelly Stoll	_____
Mrs. Jarlyn Veras	_____
Mrs. Susan Verso	_____

Action following Executive Session if needed:

IX. New Business

NB-1

Motion to accept the Fall 2026 report for the District's Bus Evacuation Drills conducted during the month of September, [as attached](#).

Motion to accept: _____ Seconded By: _____

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

X. Agenda Items:

MEETING MINUTES

1. September 8 – Regular Meeting

Motion to adopt: _____ Seconded By: _____

MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____

Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

HIB REPORT *All policies and procedures have been followed and met; the current report is based on the recommendation of the Superintendent and will be voted on at the next Board meeting.*

Background: *HIB report for 10-13-26 is located in the Executive Session folder and will be voted on at the November 10, 2026 meeting (if necessary).*

Motion of adopt:	_____	Seconded By:	_____	
<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

FINANCE

F-1

Motion to approve \$35,103.99 in transfers for the month of September 2026.

F-2

Motion to approve the Bills List for the month of September 2026 in the amount of \$1,423,356.24.

F-3

Motion to approve the Treasurer of School Monies Comparison Report for August 2026.

F-4

Motion to approve the Board Secretary’s Monthly Comparison Report for August 2026.

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 August 31, 2026.

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.

F-5

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7, a board of education may award a contract without public advertising for bids when an emergency affecting the health, safety, or welfare of students or staff requires the immediate delivery of goods or performance of services; and

WHEREAS, in September 2026, mold was discovered at Hardyston Township School District, creating a condition that could potentially endanger the health and safety of students and staff; and

WHEREAS, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary has determined that the situation constitutes an emergency requiring immediate corrective action to protect the health and safety of occupants and prevent further damage to district property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hardyston Township Board of Education declares that an emergency exists within the Hardyston Township School District and authorizes the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to award contracts without public advertising for bids, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7, to address the emergency condition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall file a written report describing the nature of the emergency and the actions taken, which shall be retained in the official records of the district.

F-6

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hardyston Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the withdrawal and transfer of \$700,000 from the Capital Reserve Account to fund the emergency mold remediation project, pending approval by the New Jersey Department of Education.

This withdrawal will leave a balance of \$595,103.73 in Capital Reserve.

F-7

RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Hardyston Township Board of Education, in the County of Sussex, New Jersey authorizes Parette Somjen Architects to submit all necessary plans and paperwork to the Department of Education concerning the “Mold Remediation at Hardyston Elementary School” to serve as an application to the office of School Facilities and an amendment to the District’s Long Range Facility Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this project shall be a “Capital Reserve” project and the Board of Education is NOT seeking State funding but will fund the Project through the District’s Capital Reserve Account.

Project	Estimated Cost
Mold Remediation	\$700,000

F-8

Move to approve a joint transportation agreement with the Vernon Township Board of Education for the transportation of Hardyston students during the 2026–2027 school year on the following Vernon route:

Route	School	Number of Hardyston Students	Joiner Cost
CHP-1	Chapel Hill	1	\$33,362.10

The total cost to the Hardyston Township Board of Education shall be \$33,362.10, subject to the terms and conditions of the joint transportation agreement.

F-9

Motion to approve The Medical Access Group, d/b/a A Caring Connection, to provide substitute nursing services on an as-needed basis for the 2026–2027 school year at the following hourly rates: Registered Nurse (RN), \$77.00; Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), \$67.00; and Certified Home Health Aide (CHHA), \$32.00. These services will serve as a backup when the District is unable to fill nursing assignments through its regular substitute pool and will be subject to staff availability, applicable credentialing requirements, and the terms and conditions of the approved agreement.

F-10

Motion to approve the submission of 26-27 ESEA funding for Titles IA, IIA, III, & IVA as follows:

- Title IA: Total \$72,137
 - 100-300 \$35,640 Purchased Prof. & Tech. Services
 - 100-600 \$11,825 Supplies and Materials
 - 200-300 \$24,672 Purchased Prof. Tech Services

- Title IIA: Total \$12,026

- Title III: Total \$0
 - The total available for this grant, \$3,028, does not meet the \$10,000 minimum threshold for this grant program. Funds were refused.

- Title IV: Total \$6,090
 - 100-300 \$6,090 Purchased Prof. & Tech Services

F-11

Motion to approve First Onsite Property Restoration to perform mold remediation services at Hardyston Elementary School in accordance with the scope of work set forth in its proposal. The work may include containment, removal of mold-affected materials, cleaning, air filtration, disposal, testing coordination, and related restoration activities necessary to address the identified conditions and protect the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors.

F-12

Motion to approve AERO Environmental Services, Inc. to provide professional mold remediation oversight, environmental monitoring, and post-abatement clearance testing in connection with the mold remediation work to be performed by First Onsite Property Restoration at Hardyston Elementary School.

ACTION ITEM(S): F -1 – F-12

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

FACILITIES/OPERATIONS

F/O-1

Motion to approve the following 2026-2027 school year requests for use of the district facilities for the dates and times as indicated. All required paperwork and insurance confirmation will be on file; the main office will coordinate all dates and times.

NAME	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	DAY
Wallkill Valley Basketball Practice	HMS Gym	Oct-Dec	5:30-8 PM	Mon – Fri
Wallkill Valley Youth Basketball League	HES Gym	Dec-Mar	6-8 PM	Mon - Fri

ACTION ITEM(S): F/O-1

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

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
STEM Articulation, SCCC	10/12/26	-0-	\$5.64	R. Demeter	Collaboration with other STEM teachers throughout the county
NJSBGA, Kenilworth	10/23/26	-0-	\$56.67	A. Tully	Gain valuable insights, hands-on knowledge, and best practices for cleaning and maintaining facilities

C/P-2

Resolved to approve the following parent-paid class trip(s) for the 2026-2027 school years:

Grade	Destination	Date	Cost Per Student
HMS 6-8 Select students	Anti-Bullying Summit, Sussex Technical School	10/21/26	Budgeted item
HMS Honors Band & Choir	Honors Band and Choir Regional Concert, Vernon High School	11/10/26	\$12.00/student <i>Sharing cost of bus with Hamburg & Franklin</i>
STEM Select HMS Students	Telecom Trailblazers STEM Program, RFI Industries, Parsippany	10/5/26	No cost to the district
HMS Grade 8	The Outsiders, Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre, NYC	5/20/2027	\$160-\$175 <i>Waiting on lunch pricing</i>

C/P-3

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 Food Service Biosecurity Management Plan as reviewed by committee.

C/P-4

Motion to approve the Nursing Services Plan 2025 for both the Hardyston Middle School and the Hardyston Elementary school.

C/P-5

Motion to approve the HIB Self-Assessment Score for the 2025-2026 school year as previously presented.

C/P-6

Motion to approve the Hardyston School District Professional Development Plan for the 2026-2027 school year.

C/P-7

Motion to approve the Hardyston School District Mentor Plan for the 2026-2027 school year.

ACTION ITEM(S): C/P-1 – C/P-7

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

PERSONNEL

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

P-1

Motion to appoint/re-appoint the extra-curricular coaches and advisors for the 2026/2027 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.

Kasey Kervatt	Golf Club Advisor	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Robert Demeter	Ski Club Advisor	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Robert Demeter	Academic Bowl Advisor	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Aliena Costabile	Math Club	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Jake Lombardo	Reading and Writing Club	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Jill Helmstetter	All Sports (Indoor/Outdoor)	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Kevin Castner	All Sports (Indoor/Outdoor)	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Dan Kornak	Music Production and Recording	Stipend: \$545/15 hours
Luis Moscoso	eSports	Stipend: \$545/15 hours

P-2

Motion to approve compensation to the following staff members who will be attending in-house CPI training on the October 12, 2026 In-Service Day (paraprofessionals/RPOs are not required to work on this day).

Erika Santos
Lindsey Nutter
Laura Komnath
Christopher Geene

P-3

Motion to approve a leave of absence for Meg O'Mara, commencing on Tuesday, October 14, 2026 through on or about November 30, 2026. Ms. O'Mara plans to use accumulated sick leave during this time.

P-4

Motion to approve Jeffrey Waldron as Interim Middle School Principal, for the period commencing October 14, 2026 and ending on or about November 30, 2026, at a daily rate of \$350.00, with no benefits.

ACTION ITEM(S): P-1 – P-4

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

POLICY

POL-1

Motion to abolish the following policy:

2363 Student Use of Privately-Owned Technology

Background: This policy is no longer needed with the passage of N.J.S.A. 18A:36-40b and the revisions made to policy and regulation 5516, which was adopted at the August 18, 2026 Board of Education Meeting.

ACTION ITEM(S): POL-1

<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	_____	_____	_____	_____
Demsak	_____	_____	_____	_____
Drelick	_____	_____	_____	_____
Hoffman	_____	_____	_____	_____
Kalczuk	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lucarelli	_____	_____	_____	_____
Marotta	_____	_____	_____	_____
Reinle	_____	_____	_____	_____
Stoll	_____	_____	_____	_____

XI. Written Communication

XII. Public Comment (Board Policy #0167)

“All regular and special meetings of the Hardyston Township Board of Education shall be open to the public. Because the Board desires to hear the viewpoints of citizens throughout the district, and also need to conduct its business in an orderly and efficient manner, it shall schedule one or more periods during each meeting for public participation. Each speaker will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes per subject with a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes for all speakers on that subject. Additional segments in two-minute increments must be approved by a majority vote of the Board quorum present.

The Board President shall be responsible for recognizing all speakers, who shall properly identify themselves” (please provide name and municipality of residence).

XIII. Executive Session if needed

A motion was presented by _____ and seconded by _____ that the Hardyston Township Board of Education enters private session at _____ p.m. to discuss _____ 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.

XIV. Return to Public Session

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

Roll Call

Mrs. Donna Carey _____
Mr. Nick Demsak _____
Mr. Brian Drelick _____

Mr. Ron Hoffman _____
Ms. Dana Kalczuk _____
Mrs. Susan Lucarelli _____
Ms. Clarissa Marotta _____
Mr. Ed Reinle _____
Ms. Kelly Stoll _____

Mrs. Jarlyn Veras _____
Mrs. Susan Verso _____

Action following Executive Session if needed:

XV. Adjournment

With no further action or discussion required of the Hardyston Township Board of Education as this time, a motion was presented by _____, and seconded by _____, to adjourn the meeting at _____ p.m.