LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

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

V. CORRESPONDENCE

VI. MINUTES

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

1. Regular Meeting – January 6, 2026
2. Reorganization Meeting Minutes- January 6, 2026
3. Executive Meeting Minutes- January 6, 2026

M: **S:**

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

VIII. PRESENTATION-

1. January Hornet of The Month
   School #1
   - 5th- Grade- Ameen Al Bizri
   - 6th Grade- Kieran King
   - 7th Grade- Violeta Velasquez
   - 8th Grade- Madelyn Larionoff

2. February Hornet of The Month
   School #1
   - 5th- Grade- Aiden Fisher
   - 6th Grade- Stephanie Lavallen
   - 7th Grade- Issa Sharif
   - 8th Grade- Yazan Adawi

3. January Hornet of The Month
   School #2
   - Kindergarten- Ariana Bosea
   - 1st Grade- Naya Costa
   - 2nd Grade- Joshua Piccoli

4. February Hornet of The Month
   School #2
   - Kindergarten- Giovanna Porecco
   - 1st Grade- Gianna Benevento
   - 2nd Grade- Maya Kidangan

5. January Hornet of The Month
   School #3
   - 3rd Grade-Anaaya Behera
   - 4th Grade-Sophia Heubner

6. February Hornet of The Month
   School #3
   - 3rd Grade- Zarnish Fatima
   - 4th Grade- Maksym Knihnicky

IX. PRESIDENT'S REPORT- Dr. Capizzi

X. SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (Mrs. Tracey Marinelli)

1. Superintendent's Report. (Exhibit A)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Little Falls Board of Education affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB investigations (SC1-002-12-3-25-LFD-007) 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: S:

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ms. Janine Barone			
Ms. Desiree DiBuono			
Ms. Patricia Lijoi			
Ms. Nicole Smith			
Mr. Michael Tullo			
Ms. Shannon Zurbruegg			
Dr. Rachel Capizzi			

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

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

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

XIII. SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA

XIV. CONSENT AGENDA

M: S:

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ms. Janine Barone			
Ms. Desiree DiBuono			
Ms. Patricia Lijoi			
Ms. Nicole Smith			
Mr. Michael Tullo			
Ms. Shannon Zurbruegg			
Dr. Rachel Capizzi			

XV. PTA LIAISONS

XVI. LITTLE FALLS EDUCATION LIAISON

XVII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS/ NEW BUSINESS

XVIII. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

M: S:

XX. ADJOURNMENT

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:

LITTLE FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA: Tuesday, February 17, 2026

A. PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS, AND FINANCE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the list of bills dated February 17, 2026, Warrant No.'s #_32030__ thru #32177(voided 32088 & recut as 32107)Current Account) totaling $3,894,188.97; Wire Transfers #1212025, #01092026, &_#01092026, (Health Insurance) totaling $1,067,025.80; Warrant No. #1362 through #1363 (Cafeteria Account) totaling $106,161.72_; Warrant #1098 thru #1194 (Before & After Care Account) totaling _$6,482.33; Wire Transfer #01282026 (Debt Service) totaling $16,605.00;Wire Transfers #01082025,01222026, &02062026 (Postage) totaling $400.00; be paid if, properly sworn to and funds are available in accordance with Board of Education Policy and to be appended to the minutes of this meeting. The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11I3, certifies that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a) and the Board of Education, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, certifies that after review of the Board Secretary's & Treasurer's --monthly financial reports that no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b). Further, the Board of Education and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary certify that major accounts/fund balances have not been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

(Exhibit B)

2. The Little Falls Board of Education authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's action of making transfers prior to the Board Meeting as per the attached December 31, 2025 Transfer Report.

(Exhibit B-1)

3. The Little Falls Board of Education authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary's action of making transfers prior to the Board Meeting as per the attached January 31, 2026 Transfer Report.

(Exhibit B-2)

4. The Little Falls Board of Education accept the Treasurer and Secretary's Reports for the month ending December 31, 2025.

(Exhibit C)

5. The Little Falls Board of Education accept the Treasurer and Secretary's Reports for the month ending January 31, 2026.

(Exhibit C-1)

6. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the Monthly Report of County Transfers for December 31, 2025. (Exhibit D)

7. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify contract with Solutions Architects in the amount of $23,600.00 for facility health check.

8. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify the contract with Solutions Architects in the amount of $72,669.10 for final cost of pre-referendum fees.

9. The Little Falls Board of Education authorize the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to submit the attached bills list dated through February 17, 2026, to the trustee M&T Bank. (Exhibit E)

10. The Little Falls Board of Education amend the employees and salaries listed below to be charged to the ESEA Grant (Title I) for the 2025-26 School Year:

Name	Account Number	Amount
Emily Conti	20-231-200-104-00-00	$29,599.00

11. The Little Falls Board of Education accept the following, pursuant to Board of Education Policy #7230, "Gifts, Grants and Donations," for the 2025-2026 school year.

    A. Ball Cart Garage Sports Equipment Organizer by Char-Griller – Donated by an anonymous doner

12. The Little Falls Board of Education approve payment to Reiner and Company, for emergency boiler work, in the amount of $60,625.00.

13. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the resignation of Kenana Nader, paraprofessional, effective January 30, 2026.

14. The Little Falls Board of Education abolish the position of secretary, UPC code SECPRIN05.

15. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify, pursuant to Article XVII of the contract between the Little Falls Board of Education and the Little Falls Education Association, the following salary guide advancement effective February 1, 2026.

Tiffany Studzinski
From: MA Step 7
To: MA 45 Step 7

Lauren Noack
From: MA 30 Step 4-5
To: MA 45 Step 4-5

Jessica Saunders
From: MA Step 15
To: MA 45 Step 15

16. The Little Falls Board of Education amend the approval of the following paternity leave of absence for the 2025-2026 school year:
25/26 SY

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDED LEAVE Unpaid leave/no benefits	Date of Return (Anticipated)
5094	Sch. 2	03/02/2026		03/02/2026	03/02/2026 Through 05/31/2026		6/01/2026

17. 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.

Courtney Kearns Lindsey Enchelmaier

18. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the resignation of Michele Donker, teacher School #2 effective March 9, 2026.

19. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the job descriptions for Business Administrator effective July 1, 2026.

(Exhibit F)

20. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the job descriptions for Special Services Director/District Testing Coordinator effective July 1, 2026.

(Exhibit G)

21. The Little Falls Board of Education amend Kristy Gregory, Christine Fiorendino, and David Farrell to provide home instruction for student #2002261, not to exceed 10 hours cumulative at $52.00 per hour September 15, 2025 through **April 17, 2026**, at a rate of $52.00/hr.

22. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Tracey Marinelli and Melissa Sanzari-Stevens to be Acting principal for School #1 from approximately February 27, 2026 through April 2, 2026**,** at no cost to the district. As compensation, each will receive compensation days.

23. The Little Falls Board of Education approve travel expenses as noted for the following district employees and Board Members for the NJSBGA Conference being held MARCH 22-25, 2026:

NAME	WORKSHOP/LOCATION	DATE	ESTIMATED COST (Mileage/Meals Conference)
Charles Smith	NJSBGA Workshop	3/22/26-3/25/26	$16.00 Tolls $124.08 mileage $350.00 Registration Atlantic City, NJ
		3/22/26-3/25/26	$68.00 Meals Overnight Stay $51.00 Meals 1st & last day of travel for each

NAME	WORKSHOP/LOCATION	DATE	ESTIMATED COST
Charles Smith	NJSBGA Workshop	3/22/26-3/25/26	Hotel Conference $1100.00 as per GSA rate Hotel Accommodations per night, each Attendee + applicable taxes

24. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Eman Hamouda, paraprofessional, Effective February 2, 2026 through June 30, 2026, Step 1, pending all background checks.

25. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the payment of a $5,000.00 stipend, for the 2025-2026 school year to the following employees for serving as Substitute Bus Driver on an as needed basis:

Robert Scelzo

26. The Little Falls Board of Education approve travel/conference expenses as noted for the following district employees/board members: (Exhibit H)

27. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the resignation of Anastasia Mitroka, ABA paraprofessional, effective January 20, 2026.

28. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the approval of the following maternity leave of absence for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school year:

25/26 SY

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDED LEAVE Unpaid leave/no benefits	Date of Return (Anticipated)
5040	Sch. 2	05/13/2026	26 sick days				9/01/2026

26/27 SY

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDED LEAVE Unpaid leave/no benefits	Date of Return (Anticipated)
5040	Sch. 2	10/5/2026		10/5/2026	10/5/2026 Through 1/3/2027		1/04/2027

29. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Leslie Cornejo, ABA paraprofessional, Effective February 17, 2026 through June 30, 2026, Step 1, pending all background checks.

30. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Paola Crespo, ABA paraprofessional, Effective February 17, 2026 through June 30, 2026, Step 1, pending all background checks.

31. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Maria Doland, ABA paraprofessional, Effective February 18, 2026 through June 30, 2026, Step 1, pending all background checks.

32. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the following staff listing for the 2025-2026 Zero Period Remediation Program. Remuneration for each staff member will be $52.00, which will be

funded through the Title I ESEA Grant. Program to run February 23, 2026 through May 1, 2026. (Exhibit G-1)

33. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify Lori Debari, as a substitute for The Hive, Before and Aftercare program for the 2025-2026 school year, effective January 28, 2026.

34. The Little Falls Board of Education approve Karlee Yallo, leave replacement teacher School #2, effective March 2, 2026 through May 29, 2026 or the return of the teacher. Rate of pay will be BA Step 1, pending all background checks.

35. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify Bergen County Special Services, 540 Farview Ave Paramus, NJ 07652, to provide home instruction for student #2002121, not to exceed 10 hours per week at a rate not to exceed $17,600.00, on or about January 20, 2026 through June 18, 2026.

36. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the resignation of Jessica Saunders, LDTC, effective March 24, 2026.

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

Mentor	Provisional Teacher	School	Certificate	Rate	Weeks
Natasha Boyce	Alexa Berreiros	School #2	CEAS	$34.37	15weeks

38. The Little Falls Board of Education approve payment to Amy Kobelka, to accommodate change in bus schedule, at a rate of $23.42, per day effective February 10, 2026, on an as needed basis.

39. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the following volunteers for the School #1 plays pending all background checks, at no charge to the district.

Lexis Kiefer
Dena Manzanarez
Mysti Mugleston
Randy Mugleston
Brian Sears
Jenny Sears
Jenn Bromley
Gina Ostrowski
Colleen Larinoff
Catherine DeLuccia

40. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the approval of the following maternity leave of absence for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 school year:

25/26 SY

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDED LEAVE Unpaid leave/no benefits	Date of Return (Anticipated)
4966	Sch. 2	05/18/2026	20 sick days And 3 personal days				9/01/2026

26/27 SY

Name	Position/ Location	Leave Start Date	Accumulated Sick days Applied	FMLA Start date	NJFLA Date	EXTENDED LEAVE Unpaid leave/no benefits	Date of Return (Anticipated)
4966	Sch. 2	9/1/2026		9/1/2026 Through 11/20/2026		11/23/2026 Through 6/30/2027	09/01/2027

B. EDUCATION AND STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the following new substitute applicants supplied to us by the Northern Regional Educational Services Commission Substitute Teacher Registry. 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:

   (Exhibit I)

2. The Little Falls Board of Education amend/approve home instruction services for the following district student:

Student #	Hours per week	Start Date	End Date
2002261	Not to exceed 10 hours per week	Retroactive to 9/15/2025	**4/17/2026**

3. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the field trips as attached.

   (Exhibit J)

4. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the Hive Before and After School program tuition rates for single session days as follows: The Single Session Dates are as follows: January 28, January 29, February 13, March 13, April 2, May 22

   - After Care Single Session Day Drop In Fee - $40 per day per student
   - After Care Six Single Session Day Drop In Fee - $200 per student for all remaining (6) Single Session Days
   - The Single Session Dates are as follows: January 28, January 29, February 13, March 13, April 2, May 22

5. The Little Falls Board of Education approve/ratify Build Yourself Up, to provide an Aftercare Enrichment program, to the Hive Afterschool Program. Enrichment Program will run Mondays and Wednesdays at School #3, and Tuesdays and Thursdays at School #2, February 2, 2026 through March 26, 2026, at a total cost of $10,000.00. The program is being offered at no cost to the families.

6. 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.

   Karlee Yallo
   Anna Hosri- Nurse
   Maria Doland

7. The Little Falls Board of Education amend/approve home instruction services for the following district student:

Student #	Hours per week	Start Date	End Date
2002121	Not to exceed 10 hours per week and 1 hour prep time	Retroactive to 1/30/2026	6/18/2026

C. MAINTENANCE, BUILDING & GROUNDS AND REFERENDUM COMMITTEE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education approve the use of district facilities by the following community groups who have filed the proper application form and have submitted proof of necessary insurance coverage:

School #1 *approve/ratify

Date	Event	Location and Time	Requested By:	Cost
5-14-26	5th and 6th Grade In house field trip	APR 9:00am-3:00pm	Class Advisors	$0.00
2-20-2026	Fashion Show Head Shots	Cafeteria 3:00-6:00pm	School #1 PTA	$0.00
3-12-26	7th and 8th grade dance	APR 5:00-9:00pm	Class Adviser	$0.00
2/19,2/23,3/2/26	Fashion Show Ticket Sale	Cafeteria 5:00-7:00pm	School #1 PTA	0.00

School #2 *approve/ratify

Date	Event	Location and Time	Requested By:	Cost
5-16-26	Clothing Drive	Upper Parking Lot 9:00am-3:00pm	School 2/3 PTA	$0.00

D. HEALTH, SAFETY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

1. The Little Falls Board of Education hold a first reading of the following policy alert 236: (Exhibit K)

P	0142.1	Nepotism (M)(Revised)
P	1220	Employment of Chief School Administrator (M)(Revised)
P&R	1552	Sexual Harassment- Staff (M)(Revised)
P&R	2530	Resource Material (Revised)
P&R	2535	Library Material (M)(New)
P	3362	Sexual Harassment (M)(Abolished)
R	3362	Sexual Harassment of Teaching Staff Members Complaint

		Procedure (Abolished)
P	4352	Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure (Abolished)
R	4352	Sexual Harassment of Support Staff Members Complaint Procedure (Abolished)
P&R	9130	Public Complaints (Revised)