

GREEN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA

Regular Meeting

March 12, 2025

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Green Hills School - Library

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. FLAG SALUTE

B. OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

“This is a regular meeting of the Green Township Board of Education held for the purpose of transacting appropriate Board business. In compliance with Chapter 31, Laws of 1975, the New Jersey Herald was properly notified and copies of the agenda of this meeting were appropriately posted and made available for the public.”

C. ROLL CALL

		Term	Roll Call
Mr.	CJ Bilik	2025	
Mrs.	Marie Bilik	2026	
Mrs.	Ann Marie Cooke	2027	
Mrs.	Alyssa Eisner	2027	
Mrs.	Heather Ellersick	2027	
Mrs.	Amy Jones	2025	
Mrs.	Maureen McGuire	2026	
Mrs.	Kristin Post	2025	
Dr.	Melissa Vela	2026	
Dr.	Jennifer Cenatiempo, Superintendent		
Mrs.	Karen Constantino, SBA		

D. Mission

Green Township School District educates every student to become a confident and caring life-long learner who communicates effectively and contributes positively to the evolving needs of society. The district, in partnership with the community, promotes academic excellence and equitable opportunities for all students.

II. **PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Presentation of the 2025-2026 Tentative Budget by Dr. Jennifer Cenatiempo
- B. Mid Year Update on District Goals by Dr. Jennifer Cenatiempo

III. **INTRODUCE THE PRELIMINARY 2025-2026 BUDGET**

ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET

2025-2026

DISTRICT NAME: Green Township School District
BOE MTG DATE: March 12, 2025

Adoption of Tentative Budget

2025-2026

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2025-2026 School Year using the 2025-2026 state aid figures 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:

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>SPECIAL REVENUES</u>	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2025-2026 Total Expenditures	\$14,058,404	\$132,329	\$142,506	\$14,333,239
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ 2,533,718	\$132,329	\$ 48,449	\$ 2,714,496
Taxes to be Raised	\$11,524,686	\$0	\$94,057	\$11,618,743

And to advertise said tentative budget in the NJ Herald 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 library at Green Hills School, New Jersey on April 30, 2025 at 7:00pm for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2025-2026 School Year.

**Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement
2025-2026**

WHEREAS, the Green 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

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 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 \$1,500 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:23B-1.1 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:23B-1.1 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:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$20,000 for all staff and board members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Township School District Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the use of the Health Care Cost Adjustment of \$14,578. The purpose of this use will be to support the operations and programs of the school district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Township School District Board of Education includes in the proposed budget withdrawal from the Capital Reserve in the amount of \$195,000. The purpose of this withdrawal is to fund the septic tank replacement, teller window/license scanner, network backbone and stage edging.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the district’s maximum taxing authority is composed of:

\$ 225,688	2% Current Expense Tax Levy Increase
\$11,284,420	Prior Year 2024 - 2025 Current Expense Tax Levy
\$ 14,578	Increase in Health Care Costs
\$11,524,686	Maximum District Tax Levy 2025-2026

. Motion to adopt the Preliminary Budget for the 2025-2026 school year.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA TOPICS

This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on this evening's agenda topics. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Length of comments is limited to three minutes to the individual who has been recognized by the Board president. Each individual may be limited to one opportunity to speak per topic. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record.

VI. VARIOUS REPORTS

A. NEWTON BOARD OF EDUCATION UPDATE - Mrs. Cooke

B. PTA UPDATE - Mrs. Post

C. SCESC UPDATE-Mr. Bilik

D. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE-Mrs. Eisner

E. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Mrs. Bilik

F. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - Dr. Cenatiempo

HIB: There is 1 founded HIB to report since the last BOE meeting.

Drills: Fire Drill - 2/10/25

Security Drill - 2/25/25

G. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT - Mrs. Constantino

VII. DISCUSSION ACTION ITEMS

VIII. **BOARD BUSINESS** - Mrs. Ann Marie Cooke

A. Motion to accept minutes of the following meetings:

1. Regular Meeting of February 19, 2025. (Attachment)

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

2. Executive Session of February 19, 2025.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

3. Budget Workshop Hearing of March 3, 2025. (Attachment)

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

4. Executive Session of March 3, 2025.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

B. Motion to accept the HIB Reports from the February 19, 2025 meeting.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

C. Motion to appoint Special Counsel-Patrick Carrigg of Lenox Law Firm. Rates are:

Attorney	\$200/hour
Associates	\$175/hour
Paralegals	\$100/hour

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. CURRICULUM - Mrs. Maureen McGuire, Chairperson

1. Motion to approve the following professional development request(s):

<u>Staff Member</u>	<u>Conference Name</u>	<u>Provider/Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Costs</u>
Karen Constantino	Sussex County Regional Cooperative 2025 Annual Meeting	Essex County Country Club 350 Mount Pleasant Ave West Orange, NJ 07052	5/1/25	No Cost to the BOE
Jennifer Romano	Warren & Sussex Media Specialists Focus	Hackettstown High School	4/8/25	No Cost to the BOE
Kathleen Wolfe	Social Executive Functioning Strategies	Farmstead Golf & Country Club 88 Lawrence Rd Lafayette, NJ	5/20/25	Registration \$100.00 Mileage \$ 4.23 Total \$104.23
Lori Homentosky Catherine Nowaczyk	Differentiating Literacy Instruction to Meet the Needs of all Learners, Gr K-8	Centenary University 400 Jefferson Street Hackettstown, NJ	3/28/25	No Cost to the BOE

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

2. Motion to approve the following field trips:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Trip</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Kyle Mirena Beth Denuto	3rd & 4th SOAR	SOAR	21 Normandy Heights Rd Morristown, NJ	3/19/25 3/20/25 (rain date)	Transportation \$350.00
Kyle Mirena Beth Denuto	5th & 6th SOAR	SOAR	21 Normandy Heights Rd Morristown, NJ	4/3/25 4/4/25 (rain date)	Transportation \$350.00
Beth Denuto	Select 8th	Government Day	Green Township Municipal Building 150 Kennedy Road Tranquility, NJ	4/7/25	Transportation \$350.00
JP Bollette	8th	Tridistrict Field Day	Newton High School 44 Ryerson Ave Newton, NJ	5/22/25 Rain Date: 5/29/25	Transportation \$350.00
Kyle Mirena Kristen Grzymko	Select 8th	Solar Sprint Car Competition	Hershfield Park Pompton Plains, NJ	5/20/25 Rain Date: 5/22/25	Transportation \$350.00
Sarah Pittenger Erin Moles Jessica Zur Ana Velez	K	Sussex County FairGrounds Ag/Gardening Science Hands on Experience	Sussex County FairGrounds 37 Plains Road Augusta, NJ	6/2/25	Transportation \$620.00
Suzanne O'Connor Sandy Franciosi Sue Miller Steve Bird Declan Carroll	5th	Ecology Class Trip, 3 classes plus hike	Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area 1978 River Road Bushkill, PA	5/29/25	Transportation \$700.00
Jessica Giller	4th	Waterloo Village	Waterloo Village 525 Waterloo Road Stanhope, NJ	5/28/25	Transportation \$255.00

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

B. FINANCE - Mrs. Kristin Post, Chairperson

February 2025 Financial Reports (attachment)

1. Motion to approve the General Fund bills list for February 20, 2025 through March 12, 2025 for a total of \$901,209.63 (attachment)

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

2. Motion to accept the Board Secretary’s monthly certification, as attached, and that as of February 28, 2025, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23A-16.10(c)3.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

3. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. the Green Township School District Board of Education, after review of the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s monthly financial reports certify that as of February 28, 2025 and upon consultation with the appropriate 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:23-16.10(c)4 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

4. Motion to accept the financial reports from the Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Monies for the month of February, 2025.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

5. Motion to approve transfers for February, 2025.

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

6. Motion to approve the disbursements from February 20, 2025 through March 12, 2025 for the Student Activities Account in the amount of \$1,384.00, Cafeteria Account of \$0.00, and the Business Office Petty Cash Account in the amount of \$10.50. (Attachment)

Motion..... Second.....

/Roll Call/

7. Motion to approve the contract with J and B Therapy, LLC, for professional services for the 2025-2026 school year, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, at the hourly rates outlined below:

Service	Rate
Occupational, and/or Speech Therapy	\$97.50/hour
Physical Therapy	\$99.50/hour
Educational Support Services (LDTC)	\$99.50/hour
Psychologist Services	\$99.50/hour
Evaluations*	\$439.00/evaluation
Bilingual Evaluations	\$535.00/evaluation
Behavioral Support Services as provided by BCBA / Behavioral Supervisor	\$99.50/hour (3 hours a week minimum)
Behavioral Plans & Functional Behavior Assessments	\$99.50/hour
Behavioral Support Services As provided by a Behaviorist	\$99.50/hour
Reading Specialist	\$90.50/hour
Home Instructor	\$74.00/hour
Social Work Services	\$90.50/hour
*ABA Paraprofessional Services	\$43.00/hour
*Paraprofessional Services	\$37.00/hour
Teacher of the Deaf Services	\$151.00/ hour
ESY Services	\$495.00/per day

ESY Services - 1 hour or less	Billed hourly, 2 hour minimum
Administrative Fee	2%

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

8. Motion to approve the Resolution to participate in the Joint Transportation Agreement for the 2025-2026 school year with the Sussex County Regional Cooperative with administrative fees as follows:

Transportation For:	Administrative Fee:
Public School Students Transportation To and From	2%
Athletics and Field Trips	4%
Non-Public Routes	2%
Special Education School Students To and From	4%

Motion..... Second.....
/Roll Call/

C. OPERATIONS - Mr. CJ Bilik, Chairperson

1. Motion to approve the Student Council to run a floor hockey tournament after school on March 21, 2025, with all funds going towards new sports equipment in collaboration with the National Junior Honor Society.

Motion Second
/Roll Call/

D. PERSONNEL - Dr. Melissa Vela, Chairperson

1. Motion to approve the following staff members to instruct in the Extended School Year Program.

Staff Schedule: 8:15 am – 12:00 pm (Students will be on site from 8:30 am - 11:30 am.)

Staff Roles Available: PREK - K Teacher - TBD

Gr. 1-3 Teacher - Karen Smith

Gr. 3-5 Teacher - Edward Bradley

Gr. 6-8 Teacher - TBD

Speech and Language Instructor - TBD

School Nurse - TBD

3 Paraprofessionals - Kate Mull, Tamatha McArdle, Ana Velez

Program Dates: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday as noted below:

7/7/25, 7/8/25, 7/9/25, 7/10/25, 7/11/25
7/14/25, 7/15/25, 7/16/25, 7/17/25, 7/18/25
7/21/25, 7/22/25, 7/23/25, 7/24/25, 7/25/25
7/28/25, 7/29/25, 7/30/25, 7/31/25, 8/1/25

Salary: Hourly, To be paid at staff member's hourly rate of pay as per the contract.

Substitute Nurse: \$250 a day or \$125 for half a day

Substitute Teacher: \$115 a day

Motion..... Second.....

/Roll Call/

2. Motion to approve the extension of leave for employee ID# 0979, as noted below:

November 11-February 14 - FMLA (Use of 28 sick days Nov-Dec)

January 2-March 26- NJFLA

March 27-April 17- GTEA Leave as per contract

Extension - March 27 - EOY (tentatively 6/19/25) - GTEA Leave as per contract.

Motion..... Second.....

/Roll Call/

3. Motion to approve the extension of Edward Bradley's Leave Replacement, previously approved as Grade 3 Special Education Leave Replacement Teacher from November 4, 2024 to April 17, 2025, to extend to EOY (Tentatively 6/19/25), BA Step 1, \$63,777, (prorated), full time with no benefits, at the recommendation of the Superintendent.

Motion..... Second.....

/Roll Call/

E. **POLICY** - Mrs. Heather Ellersick, Chairperson

1. Motion to approve the second reading of the following policies.

- P 5533, Student Smoking
- P 5701, Academic Integrity
- P 5710, Student Grievance
- P 7441, Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings and On School Grounds

Motion Second
/Roll Call/

XII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NEW BUSINESS TOPICS

This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on non- agenda topics. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Length of comments is limited to three minutes to the individual who has been recognized by the Board president. Each individual may be limited to one opportunity to speak per topic. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record.

XIII. CLOSED MEETING

Closed Meeting Motion was read by _____ at _____ pm.

The Board of Education of the Green Township School District in the County of Sussex will adjourn into closed meeting to discuss item(s) which fall within an exception of our open meetings policy and permits the Board to have private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in

- a Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule
- b Individual privacy
- c Collective bargaining agreements
- d Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- e Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- f Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- g Pending or anticipated litigation
- h Attorney-client privilege

- i Personnel—employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

Be it resolved that the Board will now go into private session to discuss matters rendered confidential due to the nature of pending or anticipated litigation, attorney-client privilege and personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee privilege. Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

Motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing _____

Motion..... Second.....

Roll Call/

XIV. **RECONVENE**

Motion to reconvene into public session at _____ pm.

Motion..... Second.....

/Roll Call/

XV. **BOARD COMMENTS**

XVI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion that the Board of Education shall adjourn at _____ pm.

Motion..... Second.....

/Roll Call/

Next Meeting Date:

April 16, 2025

Vision

Empower students and staff to embrace their individual strengths in a safe, supportive environment that fosters a love of learning while pursuing their full potential.