

**Branchburg Township School District
REGULAR ACTION MEETING**

March 16, 2023

Board of Education Conference Room

Executive Session - 6:30 p.m.

Public Meeting – 7:30 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Branchburg Township School District and Community
is to inspire our children to learn, think, grow, and excel in life.*

VISION STATEMENT

“Excellence in Education”

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS the “Open Public Meetings Act.” (Chapter 231 Laws of 1975) authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting during which specified topics are to be discussed under circumstances where the public consideration of such topics will clearly endanger the public, or where the personal privacy or guaranteed rights of individuals whose activities or affairs are to be discussed would be clearly in danger of unwarranted invasions, and

WHEREAS the matters about to be presented for discussion clearly meet the “circumstances” test of such Act:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of Branchburg now adjourns its public session to reconvene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the following: Personnel, Student Matters, Contracts, Negotiations and Legal Issues.

And, be it further,

RESOLVED that the discussion in Executive Session be disclosed when the Board’s consideration of the subject matter has been closed, or when such matter does not adversely affect the rights of prospective, current, or past public officers, or personnel of the Board, unless such individuals have in writing requested the disclosures of such discussion at a public meeting and provided such a public disclosure will no longer clearly endanger the public interest.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE AND WELCOME

Welcome to a meeting of the Board of Education of Branchburg. Please be advised that this and all meetings of the Board are open to the public and media, consistent with the Open Public Meetings Act: (Chapter 231 Laws of 1975), and that advance notice required therein has been provided. This is a meeting of the Board of Education of Branchburg at which formal action may be taken. The public will have an opportunity to be heard as shown on the Agenda.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

- Recognition of Student Artists
 - Ava Steigerwald (Teacher: Chris Boehm)
 - Landon Ortiz (Teacher: Samantha Rueger)
 - Haven Sarles (Teacher: Meghan Russo)
- David Rubin, Esq., Board Attorney - Ethics Presentation
- Demographic Study Presentation - Statistical Forecasting LLC, Dr. Richard S. Grip
- Presentation of the Recommended 2023-2024 Budget

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items Only

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and school matters of community interest. In support of this position, the law establishes a period of public comment at every board meeting. Individuals wishing to speak must state their name and place of residence. Comments are limited to three minutes per person for a total of 30 minutes. An individual may speak a second time after all others who wish to speak on the topic have been heard.

Please understand that our public forums are not structured as question and answer sessions, but offered as opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer and no participant may address or question Board members individually. All speakers are requested to express themselves in a civil manner with due respect for the dignity and privacy rights of others whose legal rights may be affected.

Please note: While it is not the Board’s intention to stifle comment on matters of legitimate concern to the school community, the public should be aware that if their statements violate the rights of others under the law governing defamation or invasion of privacy, they may face personal liability to the injured party. If speakers are uncertain of the legal ramifications of their comments, the Board urges them to seek guidance beforehand from their own legal advisor.

VIII. GOVERNANCE

- **Report** – Vince Carpentier

(ACTION) It is recommended that Items VIII.A. through VIII.F. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

A. Approval of Minutes

It is recommended that the Board approve the Minutes of the Executive Session and Regular Meeting of February 16, 2023, and Minutes of the Executive Session of March 8, 2023.

B. Approval of 2023 - 2024 School District Calendar

It is recommended that the Board approve the 2023-2024 School District Calendar.

C. Approval of 2023 - 2024 Holiday Calendar for 12 Month Staff

It is recommended that the Board approve the 2023-2024 Holiday Calendar for the 12 Month Staff.

D. Approval of Summer Calendar for all District Offices

It is recommended that the Board approve the summer calendar for all District offices, Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., July 3, 2023 through August 25, 2023.

E. Approval of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Report			
Building	Incident #	Date	Discussion
SBS	SSDS# 045355	2/1/23	BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent that this incident did not meet the criteria of H.I.B. as defined in N.J. 18A:37-14.
SBS	SSDS# 043482	2/2/23	BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent that this incident did not meet the criteria of H.I.B. as defined in N.J. 18A:37-14.
SBS	SSDS# 043503	2/1/23	BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent that this incident did not meet the criteria of H.I.B. as defined in N.J. 18A:37-14.
BCMS	SSDS# 047735	2/2/23	BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education accepts the recommendation of the Superintendent that this incident did meet the criteria of H.I.B. as defined in N.J. 18A:37-14.

F. Approval of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Parental Appeal			
Building	Incident #	Date	Discussion
SBS	SSDS# 019918	12/15/22	BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education has conducted a hearing on an appeal of a finding of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying for parents of Student ID# 2093947842, and hereby confirms the Board's decision of March 8, 2023, and denies the parent appeal.

(ROLL CALL – ITEMS VIII.A. through VIII.F.)

IX. POLICY AND REGULATIONS

- **Report – David Dugan**

(ACTION) It is recommended that Items IX.A. through IX.B. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

A. Policy and Regulations Second Reading		
Policy/Regulation	Title	Discussion
P 0161	Call, Adjournment, and Cancellation	Revised
P 0162	Notice of Board Meetings	Revised
P 2423	Bilingual and ESL Education (M)	Revised
R 2423	Bilingual and ESL Education (M)	Revised
P 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M)	Revised
R 2425	Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M)	New
P 5200	Attendance (M)	Revised
R 5200	Attendance (M)	Revised
P 8140	Student Enrollments (M)	Revised
R 8140	Enrollment Accounting (M)	Revised
P 8330	Student Records (M)	Revised
R 8330	Student Records (M)	Revised

B. Policy and Regulations First Reading		
Policy/Regulation	Title	Discussion
P 0152	Board Officers	Revised

(ROLL CALL – ITEMS IX.A. through IX.B.)

X. EDUCATION

- **Report – Bob Mairder**

(ACTION) It is recommended that Items X.A. through X.I. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

A. Conferences/Travel

WHEREAS, the employees listed below are requesting Board of Education authorization to attend the conferences/workshops listed below; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the stated function was previously approved by the Chief School Administrator as work related within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendee and within the funds budgeted for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the function was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board authorizes attendance at the stated conferences/workshops and reimbursement for the related expenses in accordance with Board policy on conference and workshop attendance.

Conferences/Workshops	Employee/ Account Number	Date(s)	Registration Fee	Hotel	Meals/Exp.	Tolls/Parking/ Mileage	Total
Increasing Your Impact as an Instructional Coach Virtual	Kelly Boyle 20-270-200-500-02-649	5/10/23	\$395.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$395.00
Understanding & Managing Mental Health Kenilworth, NJ	Bradley Harris 20-270-200-500-02-649	3/29/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$11.75	\$11.75
Adapting the Units of Study in Reading for Students with IEPs Virtual	Lauren Knoke 20-270-200-500-02-649 20-484-200-300-02-000	5/17/23- 5/19/23	\$242.18 \$457.82	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$242.18 \$457.82
Restorative Discipline Conference Virtual	Kristen Kries 11-000-240-580-02-000-020	3/8/23- 3/9/23	\$489.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$489.00
Restorative Discipline: Help Your Students Improve Their Behavior Virtual	Kristen Kries 11-000-240-580-02-000-020	4/3/23	\$159.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$159.00
Child Study Team Training Series 3 New Providence, NJ	Anthony Maiorano N/A	5/3/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Strengthening Your Student's Math Learning & Engagement with DESMOS Activity Builder Virtual	Kristyn Perello 20-270-200-500-02-649	3/30/23	\$279.00	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$279.00
NGSS Engineering Branchburg, NJ	Kristen Perrine N/A	3/29/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
You Too Can Do ABA New Providence, NJ	Shannon Reilly 20-270-200-500-02-649	2/22/23 2/28/23 3/8/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$50.19	\$50.19
NJAMLE Annual Conference Middletown Township, NJ	Suzanne Updegrove 20-270-200-500-02-649	3/15/23	N/A	N/A	N/A	39.95	39.95

B. Approval of Acceptance of Grant Funds					
Grantor	Grant Name	Requester	Location	Check #	Amount
Branchburg Education Foundation	Author's Day	Christina Pernini Michelle Dooley	Whiton	1309	\$2,660

C. Approval of Field Trips			
Trip	Coordinator	Grade	Purpose
Flair Dance Academy Hillsborough, NJ	Liana Nemiroff	6-8	Enrichment Day Activity
Private Ghost Tours New Hope, PA	Sam Turner Deborah Glick	6-8	Enrichment Day Activity
Raritan Valley Theater Branchburg, NJ	Ruth Pluymers	2	Enhancement of the character reading unit. Students will be attending the show "It's Okay to be Different"

D. Approval of Fundraisers/Service Projects				
School	Group	Event Coordinator	Dates	Purpose
SBS	Whole School	Kristen Kries Nina Manger	5/1/23- 5/25/23	As part of Stony Brook's Memorial Day celebration, to support our veterans we will be collecting items to create care packages for active duty military personnel.
BCMS	Student Council	Wendy Michels	4/25/23	The Student Council would like to propose a Color Run/Walk fundraiser to be held after school. It will be held on school grounds and participants will donate money to participate and also be able to collect pledge donations from family and friends. All proceeds will be donated to this year's NJASC State Charity, Imagine: A Center for Coping with Loss.
BCMS	Student Council	Wendy Michels	3/17/23- 4/10/23	The Student Council would like to raise money to support research into childhood cancer via the St. Baldrick's Foundation. If the collection goal is met, students (with parental permission) and faculty will have their heads shaved at an assembly.
WES	2nd Grade	Christopher Boehm	4/28/23	For the Empty Bowls fundraiser, Whiton staff members create pottery bowls which are raffled off to attendees who purchase tickets. The event also showcases pottery that students made in art class which are put on display. Families are asked to bring a box of mac and cheese which along with the proceeds of the auction, are donated to the Somerset County Food Bank.

E. Approval of Contracted Educational Services					
Vendor	Account Number	Student ID #	Rate	Effective Date	Discussion
Silvergate Prep Bridgewater, NJ	11-150-100-320-03-069-020	11006499353	\$45.00 (per hour)	3/6/23	Homebound Contracted Instruction. Not to exceed 10 hours per week.

F. Approval of Fieldwork/Mentoring					
Name	College/University	Certification	Location	Dates	Discussion
Breanne Szatkowski	Rutgers University	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant	District	4/17/23-6/23/23	Fieldwork/mentoring will be completed outside of Breanne's daily teaching responsibilities

G. Approval of Outside Presenter for Professional Development Days				
Vendor	Account Number	Cost	Dates	Discussion
Minding Your Mind	11-000-223-320-02-225-999	\$1,200 (not to exceed)	3/24/23 4/6/23	“Just Talk About It” presentation

H. Approval of Revision of Vendor						
Vendor	Account Number	Cost	Dates	From	To	Discussion
				Total	Total	
Preferred Special Services, LLC	11-000-216-320-03-456-800	\$45 (per PT unit) \$200 (per evaluation)	9/1/22-6/30/23	\$45,000	\$54,000	Physical Therapy Services for IEP Students

I. Approval of 2022-2023 Out of District Programs						
Program/Location	Account #	Student ID #	SY Tuition	SY Extra Services	Dates	Total Cost
Mercer County Special Services School District Hamilton, NJ	11-000-100-562-03-105-000	9925443611	\$29,520.00 (non resident tuition)	\$16,000.00	2/21/23-6/30/23	\$45,520.00
Shepard School Kinnelon, NJ	11-000-100-566-03-109-000	4142189538	\$18,263.62	N/A	3/20/23-6/21/23	\$18,263.62

(ROLL CALL - ITEMS X.A. through X.I.)

XI. HUMAN RESOURCES

- Report – Charlie Tuma

(ACTION) It is recommended that Items XI.A. through XI.M. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

A. Approval of Leave				
Employee #	Account Number	Type of Leave	Dates	Discussion
4351	11-230-100-101-01-072-090	Paid Sick Leave	3/15/23-4/26/23	Estimated date of return is 4/27/23
5640	11-213-100-101-01-057-060	Paid Sick Leave	3/7/23-3/21/23	Estimated date of return is 3/22/23

B. Approval of Mentoring				
Mentee	Mentor	Fee	Dates	Discussion
Noelle Decowski	Nina Manger	\$550	2/24/23-10/10/23	Fee to be paid by mentee via payroll deduction

C. Approval of Retirements				
Name	Account Number	Position	Location	Effective Date
Geralyn Cecchini	11-110-100-101-01-001-090	Kindergarten Teacher	WES	6/30/23
Marie Miceli	11-000-240-105-01-343-090	School Clerk	WES	6/30/23

D. Approval of Athletic Stipend			
Name	Account	Position	Stipend
Anthony Camisa	11-401-100-101-01-078-020	Lacrosse Coach	\$3,474

E. Approval of Extra Duty Pay				
Name	Account	Rate	Date	Discussion
Danielle Puglisi	11-424-100-178-01-013-020	\$41 per hour	3/8/23	Attend career fair at TCNJ with Human Resources

F. Approval of Personnel						
Name	Account Number	Position	Step/Level	Salary/Rate	Dates	Discussion
Ann Marie Polinger (subject to delivery of documents)	11-000-219-104-01-162-340	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant	21/182	\$83,550 (prorated)	5/16/23-6/30/23	Replacing Antonia DaSilva

G. Approval of Revision of Non-Athletic Stipends					
Name	From	To	Position	Stipend	Discussion
Kelly Evans	N/A	2/1/23	Encore Team Leader	\$2,259 (prorated)	Adding Effective date
Noel Maroon	11-401-100-101-01-078-020	11-401-100-101-01-078-060	Drama Coach	\$1,765	Change of account number
Kristen Perrine	11-401-100-101-01-078-020	11-401-100-101-01-078-060	Assistant Drama Coach	\$1,104	

H. Approval of Retroactive Pay					
Name	Account Number	Position	Amount	Effective Date	Discussion
Kenneth Forsyth	11-130-100-101-01-021-020	Social Studies Teacher	\$22,975	3/17/23	Salary correction due to error in the 2009-2010 school year

I. Approval of Revision of Personnel				
Name	Account Number	Position	From	To
Katrina Wong	11-120-100-101-01-012-060	LR - 5th Grade Teacher (no tenure accrual)	2/21/23-3/17/23	2/21/23-4/28/23

J. Approval of 2022-2025 Agreement between Branchburg Board of Education of the Township of Branchburg and Branchburg Township Education Association

K. Approval of 2022-2023 Contracts (Attachment 1)

- Tenured Teachers
- Non-Tenured Teachers
- Secretaries/Clerks
- Bus Drivers
- Custodians
- Library Media Assistants
- Instructional Aides

L. Approval of Title I Tutors				
Name	Account	Location	Rate	Dates
Randi Childers	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Ludmila Battista	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Kathleen Schunk	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Isabella Russo	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Victoria Avila	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Noelle Decowski	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Lauren Knoke	20-231-100-101-02-648	SBS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Cristina Pernini	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Megan VanHorn	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Joseph Larramendia	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Marissa Larramendia	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Emily Lloyd	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Karen Palko	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Dawn Eelman	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23

Jodi Harwood	20-231-100-101-02-648	WES	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Kristen Cardona	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Michele Jordan	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Sonia Pereira	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Zach Miracle	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Kathleen Monteforte	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Deborah Volpe	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Liana Nemiroff	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Tiffany Stuack Polak	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Wendy Dejulio	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23
Danielle Puglisi	20-231-100-101-02-648	BCMS	\$41 per hour (not to exceed \$1,353)	3/17/23-6/2/23

M. Approval of Resignation				
Name	Account Number	Position	Location	Effective Date
Patricia Rodgers	11-000-251-100-01-529	Assistant School Business Administrator/Board Secretary	BOE	5/12/23

(ROLL CALL – ITEMS XI.A. through XI.M.)

XII. BUSINESS

- Report – Terri Joyce

(ACTION) It is recommended that Items XII.A. through XII.M. be moved upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

A. Adoption of the Branchburg Township School District Tentative Budget

BE IT RESOLVED that the Branchburg Township School District tentative budget be approved for the 2023-2024 school year using the 2023-2024 state aid figures;

AND, the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
Expenditures	\$53,793,561	\$822,816	\$2,131,888	\$56,748,265
Anticipated Revenues	\$ 8,715,910	\$822,816	\$1	\$ 9,538,727
Taxes to be Raised	\$45,077,651	\$0	\$2,131,887	\$47,209,538

AND, to advertise said tentative budget in the Courier News in accordance with the form suggested by the New Jersey Department of Education and according to law;

AND, a public hearing on the budget for the 2023-2024 school year will be held at the Branchburg Central Middle School on May 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Maximum Travel

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditures, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et seq.,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$63,200.00 for the 2023-2024 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2022-2023 school year is \$76,475.00, of which \$6,629.60 has been spent and \$1,744.00 is encumbered to date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education establishes, for regular district business travel only, an annual maximum amount per employee of \$500 for which board approval is not required in 2023-2024.

Capital Reserve

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$1,200,020 for capital projects as detailed in the tentative budget which includes the following projects:

School	Project
Branchburg Central Middle School	Partial Roof Replacement
Branchburg Central Middle School	Boilers #4 and #5 - Replacement
Branchburg Central Middle School	Bathrooms: Remodel bathrooms in 200 wing
Branchburg Central Middle School	Entry Driveway Milling and Paving
Branchburg Central Middle School	Security Bollards
Stony Brook School	Security Bollards
Stony Brook School	Playground Replacement
Stony Brook School	Bathroom Renovation
Whiton Elementary School	Gym Heaters
Whiton Elementary School	Playground Fence
Transportation	Building Parking Lot Lighting
Transportation	Repaving Parking Lot
Old York School	HVAC Units Replacement (5)

Tuition Reserve

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the budget a tuition reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$900,000 for anticipated tuition expenses in the 2023-2024 school year.

Professional Spending

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2, establishes for public relations and each type of professional service, a maximum level of spending in the 2023-2024 budget as follows:

Service	Not to Exceed
Legal	\$ 60,000
Auditing	\$ 52,500
Special Education Related Services	\$380,000
Architect/Engineering	\$500,000

B. Bill List

It is recommended that the Board approve the List of Bills for the period February 17, 2023 through February 24, 2023, totaling \$57,232.00, and for the period February 25, 2023 through March 8, 2023, totaling \$2,260,163.05, and for the period March 9, 2023 through March 16, 2023, totaling \$429,326.36, and ratify the Payroll for the period February 16, 2023 through February 28, 2023, totaling \$957,962.30, and for the period March 1, 2023 through March 15, 2023, totaling \$956,622.35.

C. Secretary's Report

The Report of the Secretary for February 2023 has been submitted for Board review. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(3) I, Beverly Vlietstra, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no line item account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations this fiscal year.

It is recommended that the Secretary's Report for February 2023 be accepted and filed, and the Board of Education hereby certifies that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

D. Treasurer's Report

It is recommended that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and filed for the month of February 2023.

E. Line Item Transfers

It is recommended that the Board accept the list of Line Item Transfers for the month of February 2023.

F. Monthly Transfer Report

It is recommended that the Board approve the Monthly Transfer Report for the month of February 2023.

G. Approval to Pay Bills

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-4.1, the Board of Education approves Beverly Vlietstra, Interim School Business Administrator, to issue payment of bills for March 16, 2023 through April 20, 2023 prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of April 20, 2023, and with the approval and consent of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, then present said bills to the Board at the April 20, 2023 meeting for ratification.

H. Approval of Contract for Auditor

It is recommended that the Board approve a contract with the firm of Nisivoccia LLP for the 2023-2024 school year to perform an audit of the 2022-2023 financial operations

of the District at a fee of \$52,000, and \$6,000 for the Food Service Enterprise Fund, to be paid from account #11-000-230-332-01-282, and sufficient funds are available in the 2023-2024 budget.

I. Approval to Repair Steps and Railings at Whiton Elementary School

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve Kalogridis Contracting LLC to repair steps and railings on the loading dock at Whiton Elementary School, at a total cost of \$7,100, to be paid by purchase order, through account #61-910-310-420-01-000, and sufficient funds are available in the 2022-2023 budget.

J. Approval of Submission of Grant Application

It is recommended that the Branchburg Township Board of Education approve the submission of a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Education for an anticipated award of \$6,500 for Climate Awareness Education.

K. Approval of Accounting and Consulting Services

It is recommended that the Board approve School Accounting Services, LLC, to provide accounting and consulting services to the District for the 2022-2023 school year at an hourly rate of \$150, not to exceed \$2,500, to be paid from account #11-000-251-330-01-000, and sufficient funds are available in the 2022-2023 budget.

L. Approval of 2023-2024 Somerville High School Tuition Rate

It is recommended that the Board approve an estimated Somerville High School tuition rate of \$19,402 per pupil for the 2023-2024 school year.

M. Use of Banked Cap

BE IT RESOLVED that the Branchburg Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for banked cap in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.1(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$423,384 for the purpose of supporting current programs. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2024.

(ROLL CALL - ITEMS XII.A. through XII.M.)

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

XIV. BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

Group	Representative
Somerville Liaison/Board Member	Kristen Fabriczi
Parent Teachers Organization	Bindu Shah
Somerset County Educational Services Commission	Vince Carpentier
N.J.S.B.A./S.C.S.B.A Representative	David Dugan
Branchburg Township Liaison	Terri Joyce
Emergency Management Planning Committee	Karen Chase
Branchburg Education Foundation	Puja Desai
Branchburg SEPAG - Special Education Parents Advisory Group	Terri Joyce

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**