MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE STUART SNYDER MEETING ROOM IN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING, 105 CEDAR BRIDGE ROAD, MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050.

Mr. Terhune called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

After the Opening Invocation, Flag Salute, and moment of silence Mr. Terhune, Board Secretary, read the following:
"In compliance with the 'Open Public Meetings Act' of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was posted January 8, 2025, at the entrance to all school buildings with a notice sent to The Press of Atlantic City, as well as a mailing sent to the municipal clerks of all constituent districts."

Present: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, M. Taylor, C. Taylor, Weidenhof (left at 7:03 PM), Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola (joined meeting at 7:00 PM), Mrs. Tatur, and Mrs. Zuzic

Absent: Mr. Sharkey

Also Present: Mr. Craig Henry (Chief School Administrator), Mr. Steven Terhune (School Administrator/Board Secretary), Mrs. Megan Vile (Assistant Superintendent), Ms. Nicole Carey (Assistant Business Administrator) and Mrs. Laura Benson (Board Attorney)

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Motion by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION, to go into executive session for the purposes of discussing student issues, matters of attorney/client privilege, and personnel for approximately one hour and that minutes from the closed session will become public when final action is taken and if the need for confidentiality is no longer required by the Board. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:00 PM.

RETURN TO PUBLIC FORUM
Motion by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Tatur, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION to return to public forum at 7:00 pm.
The motion was carried by unanimous vote.
The Board discussed:

- Student: HIB; Wellness Cohort update; residency; AP classes; athletic item
- Litigation – case updates
- Personnel – Retirements; employee status updates; agenda items.

Mr. Weidenhof left the meeting at this time.

Motion by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic and carried by a roll call vote, upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, to approve the agenda with the following add-ons:

Add-on 8. Board Minutes of Previous Meeting
   a. Executive Session Meeting – December 10, 2025
   b. Regular Meeting – December 10, 2025

Add-on 9a. Warrants for Payment – December

Add-on 9c. Treasurers Report – November 2025
Add-on 9k. Fundraising Requests
Add-on 10b. Biannual Stmt of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff
Add-on 11c. Recommendation to Approve Leaves
2. FMLA Certified Staff
3. Maternity
Add-on 11d. Recommendation to Approve Substitutes
4. Custodians
5. Bus Driver
6. Security
7. Secretary
Add-on 11h. Recommendation to Approve Wrestling Tournament
Add-on 11i. Recommendation to Approve Volunteer
Add-on 11j. Recommendation to Approve Homebound Instruction
Add-on 12a. School Facilities Project
Add-on 16a. Discipline Reports – High School & Middle School

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, M. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Mrs. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President Deakyne
Nays: None

EDUCATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Rocco Cassarino, Student Council Vice President, spoke about Door Decorating, January 15 Cabaret Night, Family Feud, Elf Movie Night, Quarterlies, Drum Line and the Fishing Flea Market.

Mr. Andrew Wright and members of the Golden Rams Marching Band spoke about the ACC Championship three wins in the past four years and ninth overall ACC Championship. Their theme was Journey of the Sun. The band members, staff and parents received congratulations from the Board members and public present at the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

FCCLA update by Brian Muirhead including the following: Care Kit Drive at the Middle School; National Leadership Conference and State Leadership Conference.

Mr. Steve Derion spoke about the State Conference Honors Schools – noting that it is the 26th time the Student Council has received Honors designation.

BOARD MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Tatur, seconded by Mr. Berkheiser, and carried by voice call vote to approve the following minutes:
Executive Session – December 10, 2025

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, M. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Mrs. Tatur, and Mrs. Zuzic
Nays: None
Note: Ms. Mazzola and Mr. C. Taylor abstained

Motion by Mrs. Tatur, seconded by Mr. Berkheiser, and carried by voice call vote to approve the following minutes:

Regular Session – December 10, 2025

Ayes:	Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, M. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Mrs. Tatur, and Mrs. Zuzic
Nays:	None
Note:	Ms. Mazzola and Mr. C. Taylor abstained

REORGANIZATION

Election Results – Representing Stafford (1 seat – 3 Year term)
Lisa Mazzola – 4,970
Kevin Lyons – 4,533
Write In – 66
Representing Long Beach Island (2 seats – 3 Year term)
Terry Deakyne – 246
Beth Anne Markoski – 225
Write In – 0

Board Secretary Administered Oaths to Ms. Mazzola, Mr. Deakyne and Mrs. Markoski

A motion was made by Mr. C. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Tatur to open the floor for nominations for Board President. A voice vote approved the motion.

Mr. C. Taylor nominated Mr. M. Taylor for Board President. Mr. Berkheiser seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations for the Office of Board President.

A motion was made by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor to close the floor for nominations of the Board President.

A motion was made by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor to elect Mr. M. Taylor as Board President.

Ayes:	Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays:	None

President M. Taylor took position in the Board President's seat.

The Board of Education thanked Mr. Deakyne for his service as Board President for the past year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. Berkheiser to open the floor for nominations for Board Vice President. A voice vote approved the motion.

Mrs. Zuzic nominated Mrs. Tatur for Board Vice President. Mr. Berkheiser seconded the motion.

There were no other nominations for the Office of Board Vice President.

A motion was made by Mrs. Zuzic and seconded by Mr. Berkheiser to close the floor for nominations for Vice President. A voice vote approved the motion.

A motion was made by Mrs. Zuzic and seconded by Mr. Berkheiser to elect Mrs. Tatur as Board Vice President.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

Vice President Tatur took position in the Board Vice President's seat.

Actions for Reorganization:

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to appoint Steve Terhune as Business Administrator/Board Secretary through reorganization in January 2027.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to appoint Kevin O'Shea Treasurer of School Monies through reorganization in January 2027.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to adopt all existing Bylaws, Policies, Regulations, Curricula, Textbooks, and all Teacher, Principal/Supervisor and other Staff Evaluation Instruments.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to adopt the following meeting schedule and times:
Closed Sessions begin at 6:00pm and Regular Meetings begin at 7:00pm:
February 11, 2026
March 11, 2026
April 1, 2026 *Not the 2nd Wednesday due to Spring Break
May 6, 2026 *Not the 2nd Wednesday due to Public Budget Hearing
June 17, 2026 (Closed Session begins at 5pm, Regular Meeting begins at 6pm) *Not the 2nd Wednesday due to HS Graduation
July 8, 2026 (Closed Session begins at 5pm, Regular Meeting begins at 6pm)
August 19, 2026 *Not the 2nd Wednesday due to summer hiring (Closed Session begins at 5pm, Regular Meeting begins at 6pm)
September 9, 2026
October 14, 2026
November 11, 2026
December 9, 2026
January 6, 2027 *Not the 2nd Wednesday due to Reorganization – This is both the Reorganization & Regular Meeting

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor

Nays: None

e. Discussion of Board Committees

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to adopt Code of Ethics as follows:
18A:12-24.1 Code of Ethics for School Board Members: A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve Steve Terhune as the Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Southern Regional School District / Board of Education.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, , Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to set Quote Threshold and authorize Purchasing Agent to Award Contracts Up to Bid Threshold:
T0he district bid limit at $53,000 and the quotation limit of $7,950. The purchasing agent is authorized to award bids up to the bid threshold.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve the payment of bills between board meetings.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve, as provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8-1 amended, that the Superintendent of designee, be designated to approve such line item budget transfers as necessary between Board of Education meetings, and that such transfers shall be reported to the Board of Education, ratified and duly recorded in the minutes of the next regular meeting.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve the procurement of Goods and Services through State Agencies via State Contract and through Federal Agencies via GSA Contracts. It is also recommended that the Board approve the procurement of Goods and Services through the following cooperatives: Educational Data Services, Education Services of NJ Consortium, Camden County Educational Services Consortium of NJ, Hunterdon County Education Services Consortium, Monmouth Ocean ESC Consortium and Stafford Township Purchasing Consortium.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to authorize the Business Administrator to invest monies in federally approved and State Government Unit Deposit Protection Act authorized banks with the award to be given to the bank quoting the highest return.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve the Integrated Pest Management Plan, Purchasing Manual, Comprehensive Equity Plan, Comprehensive Maintenance Plan, AHERA Plan, Hazard Communication Plan, Indoor Air Quality Plan, Drinking Water Testing Plan, Internal Controls and Standard Operation Procedures, District Position Control Roster, Affirmative Action Plan, Long Range Facility Plan, School District Reunification Plan, School District Emergency Management Plan, and OPRA form.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve the following appointments through the reorganization meeting in January 2027:

Compliance Category	Staff Member Responsible
Affirmative Action Officer (employees & classroom)	MS Supervisor and High School Supervisor
Affirmative Action Officer Contracts	Business Administrator
Public Agency Compliance Officer	Business Administrator
Title IX Coordinator	MS Sup and HS Supervisor
Americans w/ Disabilities Coordinator	Director of Special Ed
Section 504 Officer	HS Supervisor and MS Assistant Principal
Contracting Officer	Business Administrator
Rep for the purpose of applying for State & Federal Funds	Business Administrator
DCCP liaison	HS Supervisor
AHERA Officer	Director of Facilities
Safety and Health Designee	Director of Facilities
IPM Coordinator	Director of Facilities
Indoor Air Quality Designee	Director of Facilities
Chemical Hygiene Officer	Director of Facilities
HCS/Right to Know Officer	Director of Facilities
Custodian of Public Records	Business Administrator
Homeless Liaison	High School Asst. Principal
District Bullying Coordinator	Middle School Supervisor
High School Bullying Specialist	High School Asst. Principal
Middle School Bullying Specialist	Middle School Counselor

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to adopt the following newspaper as the official newspapers of District:
The Atlantic City Press as the Official Newspaper of the School District for the 2026 calendar year and The Asbury Park Press as the secondary Official Newspaper of the School District for the 2026 calendar year.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve the official depository of school funds be Ocean First Bank. And Be It Further Resolved that the following warrant signatures be approved:

Cafeteria Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies

School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Capital Project Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Capital Reserve Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Maintenance Reserve Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

General Checking Account
(3 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Government Trust Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Improvement Authority/Ticketing Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Net Payroll Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Payroll Agency Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Petty Checking Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator

Scholarship Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator

Chief School Administrator
Workers Comp Reserve Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator
Southern Regional Ram Walk Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator
Southern Regional Sports Camps Account
(2 signatures required)
Treasurer of School Monies
School Business Administrator
Chief School Administrator
Middle School Student Activity Account
(2 signatures required)
Principal
Assistant Principal
Middle School Student Activities Treasurer
High School Student Activity Account
(2 signatures required)
Principal
Assistant Principal
High School Student Activities Treasurer

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve the following 403(b) tax shelter providers:
Prudential Financial
Brighthouse Financial
Lincoln

NY Life Insurance
Primerica
AXA Equitable
MetLife
Vanguard
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to accept the Statement of Determination and Official Results relative to the Southern Regional School District, certified by the Ocean County Board of Canvassers from the canvass of the Official School Election held on November 4, 2025.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve $2,000 per staff member for school business travel where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given year. This shall be effective for the 2026-27 school year. Travel expenses for the 2026-27 school year will not exceed $50,000.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to establish Petty Cash funds for the following locations with the maximum amount identified:
a. Transportation $250.00
b. Maintenance $400.00
c. 11/12 Main Office $150.00
d. M.S. Main Office $150.00
e. 9/10 Main Office $150.00
f. Compass $150.00
g. M.S. Academics $100.00
h. District Petty Checking $2000.00
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor and carried by roll call vote to approve extending the following appointed officials through the reorganization in January 2027:
School Physician Todd Schmoll, MD
Employee Benefits Agent Brown & Brown
Architect of Record Garrison Architects
Liability & Workers Comp Broker Van Dyk Group
Civil Engineer Edwards Engineering Group, Inc.
Policy Services Provider Strauss-Esmay, LLP
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

FINANCE

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the warrants for the month of December 2025.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll vote to approve the list of budget transfers for the month of November 2025.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Treasurers Report for the month of November 2025.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Receipt Report for November 2025.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Board Secretary's Report for November 2025.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Board Secretary's Certification for November 2025.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following Shared Service Agreement:
WHEREAS, the Shared Services Act, NJSA 40A:65-1 et seq. authorized the Southern Regional School District to enter into a contract for the provision of certain governmental services with the County of Ocean; and
WHEREAS, NJSA 40A:65 requires such a contract to be authorized by resolution or ordinance; and
WHEREAS, it is the desire of the governing body to authorize the execution of a contract with the County of Ocean for the provision of services, materials and equipment as set forth in Schedule "C" attached hereto.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Southern Regional School District, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That the Board President and School Business Administrator are hereby authorized to execute a Schedule "C" agreement with the County of Ocean in accordance with the provisions of the law to include $5,000 for the Road Department and $1,000 for Engineering Department, for a total sum and not to exceed $6,000. A copy of the said agreement is attached hereto and made part hereof as Schedule "C".

2. This agreement is for the period January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.

3. That a copy of this agreement referenced herein shall be kept on file and made available for public inspection in the Board Secretary's office during normal business hours.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to authorize use of member cooperative or State Contract bids for the list of purchase orders as presented to the board.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to award the following firms for their professional services through the Reorganization meeting in January 2026 and accept the pricing proposal through the Reorganization meeting in January 2029:

Firm Name	2026 Fees	2027 Fees	2028 Fees
Auditor			
Holt McNally & Associates	$45,500	$47,000	$48,500
General Counsel			
Berry, Sahradnik, Kotzas & Benson, P.C.	$195/Hr.	$205/Hr.	$205/Hr.
Labor Counsel			
Plosia Cohen LLC	$160/Hr.	$160/Hr.	$160/Hr.
Special Education Counsel			
Plosia Cohen LLC	$160/Hr.	$160/Hr.	$160/Hr.
Construction & Bond Counsel			
Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer	$215/Hr.	$215/Hr.	$215/Hr..

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to enter into an agreement with Monmouth Ocean Educational Services Commission for the provision of Non Public Nursing Services for the period from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027. These services are mandated and funded by the State of NJ.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mr. Berkheiser, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to approve the fundraising requests for the 2025-2026 school year, as presented to the board.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

INSTRUCTION/PERSONNEL/EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE

It was moved by Mrs. Tatur, seconded by Mr. Berkheiser, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following policy for their first reading:
Section 2000

Policy/Reg	Name	Policy/Regulation
P2431.4	Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and Head Injuries	Policy
R2431.4	Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related	

Concussions and Head Injuries Regulation

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Tatur, seconded by Mr. Berkheiser, and carried by roll call vote to approve Biannual Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff for the 2025-2026 school year as presented to the Board.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

INSTRUCTION/PERSONNEL/EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to accept the retirement of Anthony Tango, effective June 30, 2026..

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to accept the resignation of Joe Tomczuk as MS Boys Cross County Coach.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to accept the resignation of Jeff Reilly as Girls Golf Coach, effective for the 2026 spring season.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve a leave of absence without pay for Mary Beth Planer. This unpaid leave will be charged against her Federal and New Jersey (FMLA) Family and Medical Leave Act Entitlements concurrently. The unpaid leave will begin on or about January 14, 2026, and end on April 13, 2026.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve a leave of absence without pay for Erica Raftery. This unpaid leave will be charged against her Federal and New Jersey (FMLA) Family and Medical Leave Act Entitlements concurrently. The unpaid leave will begin on or about February 2, 2026, and end on May 4, 2026.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the maternity leave request as submitted by Kelsey Truitt with a tentative beginning date of March 2nd, returning to work on June 3rd followed by Family medical leave which will begin on September 15th, with an anticipated return to work date of December 18th, 2026.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following substitute for employment in the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Position
Dylan Lockwood*	Substitute Teacher

*Pending the successful completion of all required paperwork and New Jersey Criminal History Record Clearance.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following long-term substitute teacher assignments for the 2025-2026 school year:

Ms. Malia Henefer in the position of high school special education teacher starting, January 5, 2026, through March 15, 2026. This assignment is covering for Emily Maxwell who will be covering for Sally Collins who will be on leave.

This is not a tenure-track or seniority-accruing position. There are no sick days or benefits associated with this position. Ms. Henefer holds New Jersey CE in Special Education. She will be paid $175 per diem.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to the approve the following long-term substitute teacher assignment for the 2025-2026 school year:

Mrs. Valerie Morris in the position of high school Spanish teacher starting February 2, 2026, through February 20, 2026. This assignment is covering for Leslie Gardner Longo who is retiring.

This is not a tenure-track or seniority-accruing position. There are no sick days or benefits associated with this position. Mrs. Morris is a retired teacher who holds New Jersey Standard Certificate in Spanish. She will be paid $250 per diem, and she will work no more than three days per week (substitute coverage will be arranged for the other days).

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the employment of the following individuals as substitute custodians for the 2025-2026 school year, pending criminal history review.

- Priscilla Johnson

• Nicolas Boehm

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve Bianca Mundy as a substitute bus driver for the 2025-2026 school year.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve Maximus DiPietro and Angela Nese as Substitute Security in the High School at the current sub rate of pay. Max DiPietro is currently employed as a substitute teacher and Angela Nese as a full-time paraprofessional.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve Nicole Schwerdt as a Substitute Secretary in the High School at the current pay rate. Mrs. Schwerdt is currently employed as a substitute cafeteria aide.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve a sixth-period stipend for the 2025-2026 school year for the following:

Teacher	Assignment	Building	Amount
Muska, Danielle	Autism	HS	January 5 – June 15 (prorated).

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Indoor Drumline will be traveling and participating in the following events during the 2026 season.

2/7/2026 Old Bridge High School (Matawan, NJ)
2/14/2026 Perkiomen Valley HS (Collegeville, PA)
3/7-3/8/26 RWJ Barnabas Health Arena (Toms River, NJ)
3/21/2026 Unionville HS (Kennett Square, PA)
3/28/2026 Hatboro Horsham HS (Horsham, PA)
4/11/2026 Spring-Ford HS (Royersford, PA)

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Indoor Guard will be traveling and participating in the following events during the 2026 season.

2/14/2026 Allentown High School

2/28/2026 South Brunswick High School
3/17/2026 Bridgewater-Raritan High School
4/11/2026 Brick Memorial High School
4/19/2026 MAIN Championships – Lehigh University (PA).
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following costs for the musical, Shrek. They will be a part of the pit orchestra. This includes four performances and up to ten rehearsals. The maximum payment will be up to $900 per person.
1. Joseph Brausam 2. Jaime Chavan
3. John Dondero 4. Todd Meredith
5. Neal Petti 6. Steve Strouse
7. Dan Sullivan
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following consultant to assist with the District Musical during the 2025-2026 school year:
Natalie Jones.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following candidate to serve as a volunteer for the District musical during the 2025-2026 school year:
• Nicholas Somodi***
***Pending fingerprint clearance.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the Emergency Action Plan for Athletic Events as presented to the Board.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the following tournament:
Middle School Wrestling OCIAL Red Division Tournament
Saturday, January 31, 2026
9/10 high school gym
Event will be all day from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.
Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor

Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve Mr. Joe Brausam as a volunteer with MS Drama and Chorus extracurricular activities. Mr. Brausam was previously approved as a long-term sub covering a leave in the music department.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

It was moved by Mrs. Zuzic, seconded by Mr. C. Taylor, and carried by roll call vote to approve the students for Homebound Instruction and the teachers to provide that instruction, as presented to the Board.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

CAPITAL PROJECTS/BLDGS/GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

It was moved by Mr. C. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Zuzic, and carried by roll call vote to authorize the delegation of authority to the School Business Administrator for the submission of this other capital project to the NJ Department of Education and to amend the district's Long Range Facility Plan to include said project:
Exterior Site Projects FY26 – Track Resurfacing and Turf Field Installation - Stadium
Local funding will come from the district's Capital Reserve Account. No State Aid will be provided for these projects.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor
Nays: None

COMMUNITY/OUTREACH/EXTERNAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Tatur spoke about Martin Luther King, Jr Day, the Seahawks Fundraiser, Collectible Show at the Middle School, Scholarship applications, Second Marking Period, the Middle School Winter Dane, how the Food Drive had over 1 million items and how it helps the Atlantic City Rescue Mission through June and concluded by advised that the next board meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2026.

INFORMATION

Mr. Henry welcomed everyone back, wishing all a Happy New Year. He then spoke about how the winter Athletic Programs are off to a strong start. He went on to welcome Ms. Mazzola to the board and spoke about Quarterlies.

REPORTS

It was moved by Mr. C. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Berkheiser, and carried by voice vote to approve the Facility Use, HS and MS Disciplinary Reports and HIB Resolution as presented to the Board.

Ayes: Messrs. Berkheiser, Deakyne, C. Taylor, Mrs. Markoski, Ms. Mazzola, Mrs. Tatur, Mrs. Zuzic and President M. Taylor

Nays: None

BOARD COMMENTS

Mrs. Tatur reminded the public that the success of the Annual Scholarship program depends on the generous support of local donors. She emphasized that anyone can start a scholarship by reaching out to Mrs. Prescott in the Board Office. Mr. Berkheiser reminded the public that scholarship donors can decide where there funds go by identifying criteria and selecting recipients. Ninety percent of scholarship donors select their own recipients. For the remaining ten percent there is a selection team of high school staff who know the graduating seniors best who can make a selection.

It was moved by Mr. C. Taylor, seconded by Mrs. Tatur, and carried by a voice vote to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Terhune
Steven Terhune
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary