

Hanover Public School District
School Board Meeting
Administration Building - 403 Moul Avenue, Hanover, PA

February 9, 2026
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

I. Opening Business

A. Call to Order - 6:00 PM

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Mr. Frederick, Mrs. Gulden, Mr. Huston, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Keeney, Mr. Lippy, Mrs. Shea, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Walter

Also Present: Dr. Scola, Dr. Seiple, David Fry, Tim Kress, Troy Wentz, Isaac Riston, Dr. Hilyard, Jody Kessinger, Heather Wagaman, Liz Padgett, Mark Hershner, Kathy Forbes, Dr. Abels

II. Recognition of Visitors: Mr. Riston to speak at the end of the meeting.

Public Comments: None

Mr. Frederick announced that an Executive Session was held after the previous meeting to discuss personnel and contract matters.

Mr. Frederick announced that an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss real estate and student discipline.

III. Approval of minutes from Past Meetings - The Board is requested to approve the minutes for January 28, 2026 (January 26, 2026) ([enclosure](#))

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Shea made a motion to approve, Second by Mr. Lippy. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

IV. Superintendent's Report - Dr. John Scola

- Middle School Musical - Disney's Dare to Dream Jr was held at the Middle School. Dr. Hilyard is working with Duane Bull to have students at the February 23 Board Meeting to sing a few numbers from the musical. The musical was a success and I am looking forward to hearing the students.
- Innovation In Action -March 24, 2026, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Hanover High School, Open House - Open House for the Hanover community. Highlight incredible programs including STEAM activities at all levels, Spanish offerings, Code to the Future, Technology in High School, Robotics, Entertainment Technology, Sound Technology, Mechatronics, precision welding, machining,

drones, coding, E Sports. Forty to fifty students will be demonstrating. An extensive invitation list will be offered for local organizations and people to attend. Open to everyone. The District offers a lot and teachers will be involved. Nice event and all Board Members are invited to attend and it would be great to see you there to offer support and appreciation.

- Athletic Hall of Fame - Mr. Frederick along with Liz Padgett worked extensively on this. Dr. Scola was able to briefly address over one hundred attendees in the ILC where sandwiches and refreshments by Kris Francella were enjoyed. There was great conversation and it's unique when Hanover people get together and the bond is different than other areas. There were ten inductees, including one team. Some inductees spoke. It was a sensational night and a PR bonanza for the District. Those in attendance were proud that the District is moving forward with contributions by everyone from administration to the Board. Mr. Frederick thanked Mr. Kress for hanging the plaques and Mrs. Kessinger and Mrs. Padgett for fixing the audio prior to the induction ceremony.

V. Assistant to Superintendent's Report - Dr. Susan Seiple

- School Counselors Week - Last week this was held with our seven District counselors. They are involved with small group discussions, one on one counseling, college planning. There is a website for District counseling. If a parent feels their student needs assistance, direct your student to the services offered here at the District.
- District Guidance Plan 2026 - Every three years a plan is reviewed. This plan will go to the Educational Committee of the Board in March for preliminary review and then the School Board for approval.

VI. Matters for Which Board Action is Required

A. Personnel

- 1) Resignation - The Board is requested to approve the following resignation:

Classified Employee:

Tracy Warner, Secretary at Clearview Elementary, effective March 13, 2026.

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Keeney made a motion to approve, Second by Mr. Lippy. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

- 2) Employment - The Board is requested to approve the following employment:

Substitute Employee:

Jasmine Everett, Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher, at Hanover High School, effective January 15, 2026. Rate of compensation will be in accordance with the current Substitute Rate Schedule.

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Gulden made a motion to approve, Second by Mr. Lippy. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

- 3) Leave of Absence - The Board is requested to approve the following request for leave of absence:

Professional Employee:

Melanie Hess, Language Arts Teacher, Grade 8, at Hanover Middle School, leave of absence (FMLA) effective March 18, 2026, for approximately 6 weeks, but not to exceed 12 weeks.

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Shea made a motion to approve, Second by Mrs. Smith. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

- B. Expulsion - The Board is requested to approve the enclosed expulsion waiver: ([enclosure](#))

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Keeney made a motion to approve, Second by Mrs. Gulden. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

C. Budget and Finance

- 1) Check Registers - The Board is requested to approve the following check registers from the General Fund including athletic, middle school, and high school activity accounts totaling \$998,578.69, Cafeteria totaling \$55,945.85, and Capital Reserve totaling \$70,200.00, for a grand total of \$1,124,724.54 ([General Fund](#)) ([Cafeteria](#)) ([Capital Reserve](#))

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Shea made a motion to approve, Second by Mr. Huston. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

- 2) Tax Equity Supplement Funds - The Board is requested to approve acceptance and allocating of \$112,453.64 in tax equity supplement funds for use to supplement the amount calculated for Farmstead and Homestead Property Tax Reduction exclusion under section 342 of the Taxpayer Relief Act. The funds will be used for the specific purpose outlined under Subparagraph (III) of the Taxpayer Relief Act during the subsequent fiscal year (2026-2027) for which the money has been appropriated by the PA General Assembly (2025-2026) as required.

BOARD ACTION: Mrs. Shea made a motion to approve, Second by Mrs. Rice. Approved on a roll call vote of 9-0.

VII. Public Comment: Isaac Riston, Hanover Borough Council - New Fifth Ward council person and due diligence talking to the community. Expressing a passion for education As his mom was a school social worker in the 90's, when not as common a field. Wife is school teacher and he was a long term sub and teacher in the past. Experienced homelessness and poverty and when Mr. Kress talks about the lunch program it hits home. Partnership issue bringing items to Mr. Kress or myself. Rolling up sleeves to get into an issue and a commitment to the community. Will stay afterwards if anyone wants to talk. Happy was a short meeting.

VIII. Adjournment - Mr. Frederick adjourned the meeting at 6:12 PM.

Next Board Meeting - February 23, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

Troy S Wentz