

**RUMSON-FAIR HAVEN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FY 2025-2026 No.03
OFFICIAL MINUTES

August 26, 2025 Regular Meeting

“Our mission is to empower all of our students with the tools to find their passions and thrive as knowledgeable, confident, resilient, creative, and compassionate citizens of a global community.”

1. Call to Order

The Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School Board of Education regular meeting was held in the Learning Commons. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Mrs. McGinty, Board President.

2. Salute the Flag

3. Statement of Compliance - Mrs. McGinty read the statement of compliance

Adequate notice of this meeting has been disseminated in accordance with NJSA 10:4-8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, specifying the date, time and place and filed with the Asbury Park Press, the Two River Times, the Borough Clerks, posted on the District website and in the Main Office.

4. Roll Call

Mr. Dougherty	Present	Mrs. Kiley	Present	Ms. Romano	Present
Mr. Grant	Present	Mrs. McGinty	Present	Mrs. Thompson	Present
		Mr. Page	Present	Mrs. Whitehouse	Present

Also in attendance:

Dr. Lee McDonald, Superintendent

Sean Cranston, School Business Administrator

Athina Cornell, Board Counsel

Ms. Romano read the mission statement.

5. Welcome of Visitors

Mrs. McGinty welcomed all visitors to the meeting.

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6. Communications

- a. Mr. Page received an email that he forwarded to Dr. McDonald regarding cuts with athletic programs.
- b. Mrs. Whitehouse received communication about first aid with games on the turf.
- c. Ms. McGinty informed the board that we currently have no applicants for the vacant BOE position.

7. Board Reports

- a. Education - Ms. Kiley read the notes from the August 18th meeting.
- b. Personnel - Mr. Page read the notes from the August 21st meeting.
- c. Policy - Mrs. Thompson read the notes from the August 14th meeting.
- d. Superintendent's Report
 - i. Dr. McDonald commented on the summer projects and he was excited to present the district goals.

8. Special Recognition / Presentations

- a. HIB Self Assessment - 2024 - 2025 School Year - Dr. Meredith Brow, Assistant Principal - District Scored a 76 out of 78.
- b. District Goals / First 100 Days - Dr. Lee McDonald, Superintendent (Presentation Attached)

9. Public Comment on Agenda Items

- a. None

10. ACTION ITEMS

The Superintendent recommends approval of minutes and goals #1-2.

- 1. Recommend Board approval of the following meeting minutes:
 - a. August 12, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

2. Approval of District Goals for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following District Goals for the 2025 - 2026 School Year:

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1. Teaching & Learning: Improve educator capacity for the 2022 Danielson Framework to enhance student outcomes. Continue to leverage the Framework as a guide for staff goal-setting, reflection, feedback, and conversations regarding professional practice.

2. Artificial Intelligence: Deepen stakeholder AI literacy to align philosophy, develop goals, and establish practices that support student centered learning, teacher pedagogy, and organizational efficiency.

3. Bell Schedule: Analyze, adapt, and assess the rotating block schedule to best support student academic, social, and emotional development.

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mr. Page, the Board of Education approved the minutes and goals #1-2 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
		Mr. Page	Yes	Mrs. Whitehouse	Yes

PERSONNEL

The superintendent recommends personnel items #3 - 5

3. Approval of Job Descriptions

Recommend Board approval of the following job descriptions:

- AV Computer Tech
- Secretary to the Assistant Principal
- Security Monitor

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4. Approval to Amend Resignation Date

Recommend Board approval to amend the resignation effective date for Matthew Leddin, Social Studies Teacher, from on or before September 29, 2025 to August 13, 2025.

5. Approval of Substitutes for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

NO.	NAME
1.	Barbara Kay
2.	Sang Ah Cathee Kim
3.	Jamien Lawson
4.	John Loennecker
5.	Connor McLoone

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Dougherty and seconded by Mr. Page, the Board approved Personnel Items #3-5 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
		Mr. Page	Yes	Mrs. Whitehouse	Yes

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FINANCE

The superintendent recommends finance items #6 - 11

6. Approval of Bill List

Recommend Board approval of the following bill lists dated **August 22, 2025**:

General Fund	\$ 390,365.97
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 121.99
Capital Projects Fund	\$ 229,036.50
Food Services Fund	\$ 87.25
Unemployment Fund	\$ 3,755.22
Total	\$ 623,366.93
Payroll 08-15-25	\$ 203,860.22
Total Expenditures	\$ 827,227.15

7. Approve of Use of Facilities - Non Chargeable

Recommend Board approval of the following applications For Use of School Facilities:

Date(s)	Time(s)	Organization	Event	Facility
9-6-25 9-13-25 9-20-25 9-27-25 10-4-25 10-11-25 10-18-25 10-25-25	8am - 12:30 pm	Rumson Recreation Department	Flag Football	Upper Turf Field
9-16-25 9-18-25 9-23-25 9-25-25	5:30-6:30 pm	Rumson Recreation Department	Field Hockey	Lower Field Field

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9-30-25 10-2-25 10-7-25 10-9-25 10-14-25 10-16-25 10-21-25				
9-6-25 To 11-2-25 Saturdays and Sundays	Saturdays 1pm - 7pm Sundays 8am - 4pm	Rumson Recreation Department & Fair Haven Recreation Department	Baseball & Softball Games	Upper Turf Field

8. Approval of Attendance at Professional Conferences and or Workshops:

Recommend Board approval of the following staff to attend professional conferences and or workshops as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

Date	Name	Conference/Workshop (Budget Account #)	Registration	Estimate d Travel	Day	Location
9-29-25 to 10-1-25	Lorelei Cheli-Voorhees	Handle with Care Instructor Recertification Program	\$1,525	\$100	Full	Vineland, NJ
10-28-2 5	Nicholas Delbuono	High School Mock Trial Workshop for Teachers	\$0	\$0	Full	New Brunswick, NJ
12-4-25	Lauren Malaney	Hot Topics in Special	\$160	\$0	Full	Virtual

9. Approve Submission of the FY 2026 ESEA Grant Application

Recommend Board approval of the submission of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) grant application for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026, and hereby accepts the grant funds upon approval of the grant application from the NJ Department of Education. Grant allocations are as follows:

Title II Part A \$ 9,631

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Total Allocation \$ 9,631

10. Approve Shared Service Agreement with Rumson - SLEO

Recommend Board approval of a Shared Service Contract with the Borough of Rumson to provide an SLEO Officer to Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School for the 2025-2026 SY.

11. Approval to Accept a Donation

Recommend Board approval to accept a donation from the New York Giants in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be used for the Flag Football Team.

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mrs. Whitehouse and seconded by Mr. Page the Board approved Finance Items 6-11 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
		Mr. Page	Yes	Mrs. Whitehouse	Yes

EDUCATION

The superintendent recommends education items #12 - 23

12. Approval of Field Trip Request(s) for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed

Recommend Board approval of the following field trip request(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

DATE	DESTINATION	CLUB/CLASS	ADVISOR/ CHAPERONES
September 20	Brick Township High School	Marching Band	Sara Marino Mel Chayette Rebecca Olivero

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September 27	West Windsor Plainsboro High School South	Marching Band	Sara Marino Mel Chayette Rebecca Olivero
October 11	Sayreville War Memorial High School	Marching Band	Sara Marino Mel Chayette Rebecca Olivero
October 19	Woodbridge High School	Marching Band	Sara Marino Mel Chayette Rebecca Olivero
October 25	Barnegat High School	Marching Band	Sara Marino Mel Chayette Rebecca Olivero

13. Approval of Fundraising Request(s) for the 2025-2026 School Year as listed

Recommend board approve the following fundraising request(s) for the 2025-2026 school year:

DATE	CLUB/PROGRAM	ADVISOR(S)	ACTIVITY
August 23	Boys / Girls Soccer	Jeffrey Soares Jeffrey Herkimer	Coed soccer game supporting "Don't Shock Me" Foundation
August 28	Field Hockey	Kelsi Ehehalt	Gear Up Night at Road Runner

14. Approval of Home Instruction

Recommend Board approval of home instruction for the 2025 - 2026 school year as listed:

STUDENT NO.	TIME FRAME	REASON	PROVIDER/COST
26000276	5/31 - 7/31 12 total hours	Medical	MOESC \$75/hour

15. Approval of Delayed Opening

Recommend approval of a 10:30 a.m. delayed opening on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 for students in grades 9 and 12 for PSAT Testing.

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16. Approval of Revised Curricula

Recommend Board approval of the following revised curricula:

- Anatomy & Physiology Honors
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Computer Science
- AP Environmental Science
- AP US History
- Chinese I
- Chinese II Honors
- Chinese III Honors
- Contemporary Issues in Environmental Science
- English II
- English II Honors
- French I
- French II
- French III
- Integrated Art
- Music in Film
- Spanish I
- Spanish II
- Spanish III
- Sports Medicine I
- Sports Medicine II
- US History II

17. Approval of Textbooks

Recommend Board approval of the following new textbooks:

- *Crying in H Mart: A Memoir*
- *Believe: My Faith and the Tackle that Changed my Life*
- *Into Thin Air*
- *Marley & Me*
- *Death of a Salesman*
- *Educated*
- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

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- *Just Mercy*
- *Alfred's Basic Adult All-in-one Course*

18. Approval of the School District Grade Report for the 2023 - 2024 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the School District Grade Report for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

19. Approval of Dual Enrollment Program

Recommend Board approval of the Dual Enrollment Program with Rutgers University for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

20. Approval of Dual Enrollment Program

Recommend Board approval of the Dual Enrollment Program with Stockton University for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

21. Approval of Evaluation Tool for Faculty for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the Danielson Framework for Teacher Practice (2022 version) as the evaluation tool for the teachers in the 2025 - 2026 school year.

22. Approval of Evaluation Tool for Administrators and Supervisors for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the New Jersey Principal Evaluation for Professional Learning (NJPEPL) (2018 version) as the evaluation tool for principals, assistant principals, and supervisors in the 2025 - 2026 school year.

23. Approval of the District Mentoring Plan for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the District Mentoring Plan for the 2025 - 2026 school year.

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mrs. Whitehouse, the Board approved Education Items #12 - 23 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes

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		Mr. Page	Yes	Mrs. Whitehouse	Yes
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POLICY & PLANNING

The Superintendent recommends Policy & Planning item #24

24. Approval of First Reading of Policies and Regulations

Recommend Board approval of the first reading of the policies and regulations listed below:

- Bylaw 0143 - Board Member Election and Appointment
- Bylaw 0174 - Legal Services
- Bylaw 0177 - Professional Services
- Policy & Regulation 1570 - Internal Controls
- Policy 2361 - Acceptable Use of Computer Networks and Computer Resources
- Policy 2422 - Statutory Curricular Requirements
- Policy & Regulation 6111 - Special Education Medicaid Initiatives
- Policy 5339.01 - Student Sun Protection

Board Comment: None

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Grant and seconded by Mrs. Whitehouse, the Board approved Policy & Planning Item #24 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
		Mr. Page	Yes	Mrs. Whitehouse	Yes

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ADDENDUM

The superintendent recommends addenda items #25 - 29

25. Approval of Leave of Absence

Recommend Board approval of the following leave of absence for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

<u>NO.</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>LEAVE OF ABSENCE DATES</u>
1.	5255	<u>Unpaid FMLA</u> 8/27/2025 - 9/5/2025 <u>Return Date</u> 9/8/2025

26. Approval of Substitutes for the 2025 - 2026 School Year

Recommend Board approval of the following substitute teachers for the 2025 - 2026 school year:

NO.	NAME
1.	Lisa Biccari
2.	Joseph Dunn
3.	Michael Matozzi
4.	Peter Settles

27. Approval of a Voluntary Transfer

Recommend Board approval of a voluntary transfer of Luz Coby from the Guidance Secretary (#11-000-218-105-000-0) to the Secretary to the Assistant Principal of Discipline and Student Attendance (.50 #11-000-211-105-000-0 & .50 #11-000-240-105-000-0), effective August 27, 2025.

28. Approval of Settlement Agreement

The Board of Education, on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Settlement Agreement regarding student #29001604.

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29. Amend Contract with Speech Start LLC

Recommend Board to approve an amended contract with Speech Start LLC to provide services listed, per settlement agreement:

Previously Approved	Updated Approval Amount
\$190 per week for 52 weeks, not to exceed \$9,880.	\$120 per hour for 215 hours for individual speech therapy \$70 per hour for 45 hours for social skills therapy Not to exceed a total of \$28,950

Board Comment: Mr. Dougherty asked a question about #28 that was answered by Mrs. McGinty

On a **MOTION** made by Ms. Kiley and seconded by Mr. Grant, the Board approved Addenda Items #25-29 with the following roll call vote:

Mr. Dougherty	Yes	Mrs. Kiley	Yes	Ms. Romano	Yes
Mr. Grant	Yes	Mrs. McGinty	Yes	Mrs. Thompson	Yes
		Mr. Page	Yes	Mrs. Whitehouse	Yes

11. Public Comment - None

12. Adjournment

As there was no further business before the Board, on a **MOTION** by Ms. Whitehouse, seconded by Mr. Grant, and carried by unanimous roll call vote the Board adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Sean S. Cranston

Sean S. Cranston
Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School



RFH

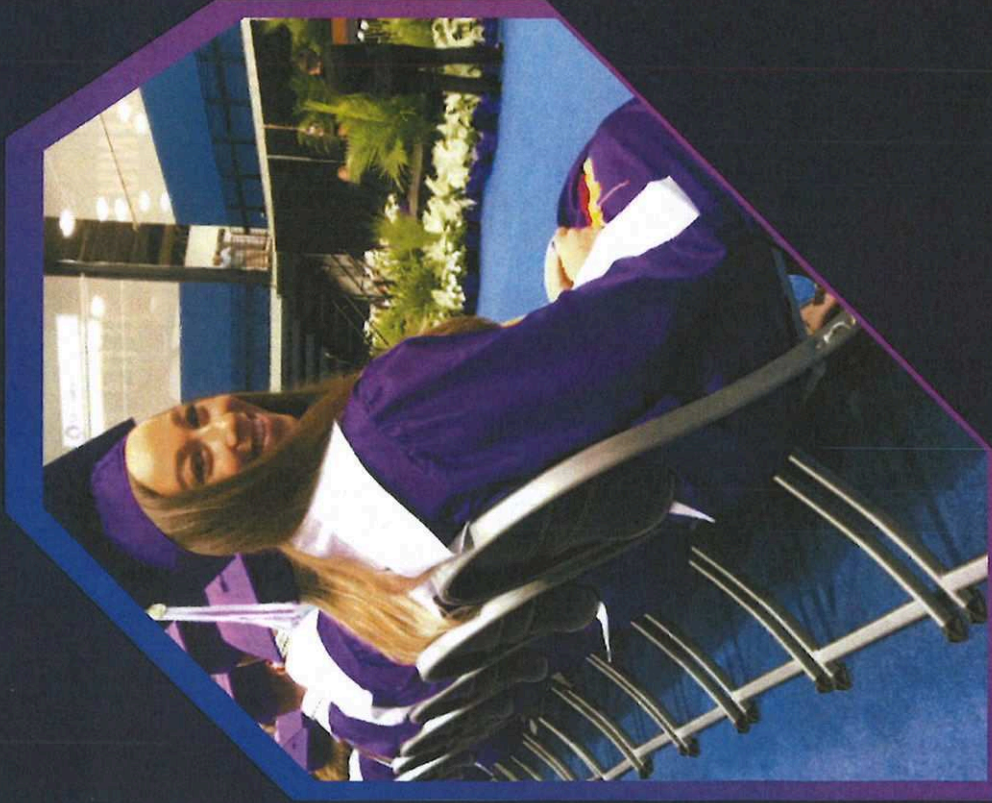
FIRST 100 DAYS / 2025-2026 DISTRICT GOALS

RUMSON-FAIR HAVEN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

LEE MCDONALD, ED.D., SUPERINTENDENT

MISSION

Our Mission is to empower all of our students with the tools to find their passions and thrive as knowledgeable, confident, resilient, creative, and compassionate citizens of a global community.



FIRST 100 DAYS



LISTEN



LEARN



RELATIONSHIPS

ENTRY GOALS

GOAL 1

Build a trusting, respectful, collaborative relationship with the Board of Education.

GOAL 2

Foster open communication with students, staff, parents, and the school community.

GOAL 3

Celebrate and support successful practices while identifying areas for growth.



GOAL 1 OBJECTIVES

Build a trusting, respectful, collaborative relationship with the Board of Education.

- Establish mutual understanding and open communication
- Share the Board's commitment to enhancing student opportunities and continuous improvement
- Acknowledge the Board's accomplishments and identified areas for future focus



GOAL 1 ACTIVITIES

Build a trusting, respectful, collaborative relationship with the Board of Education.

- Conduct meetings with the Board to clarify roles, responsibilities, and needs
- Establish communication protocols and agenda setting process
- Identify District goals and begin to plan for the future



PRACTICE

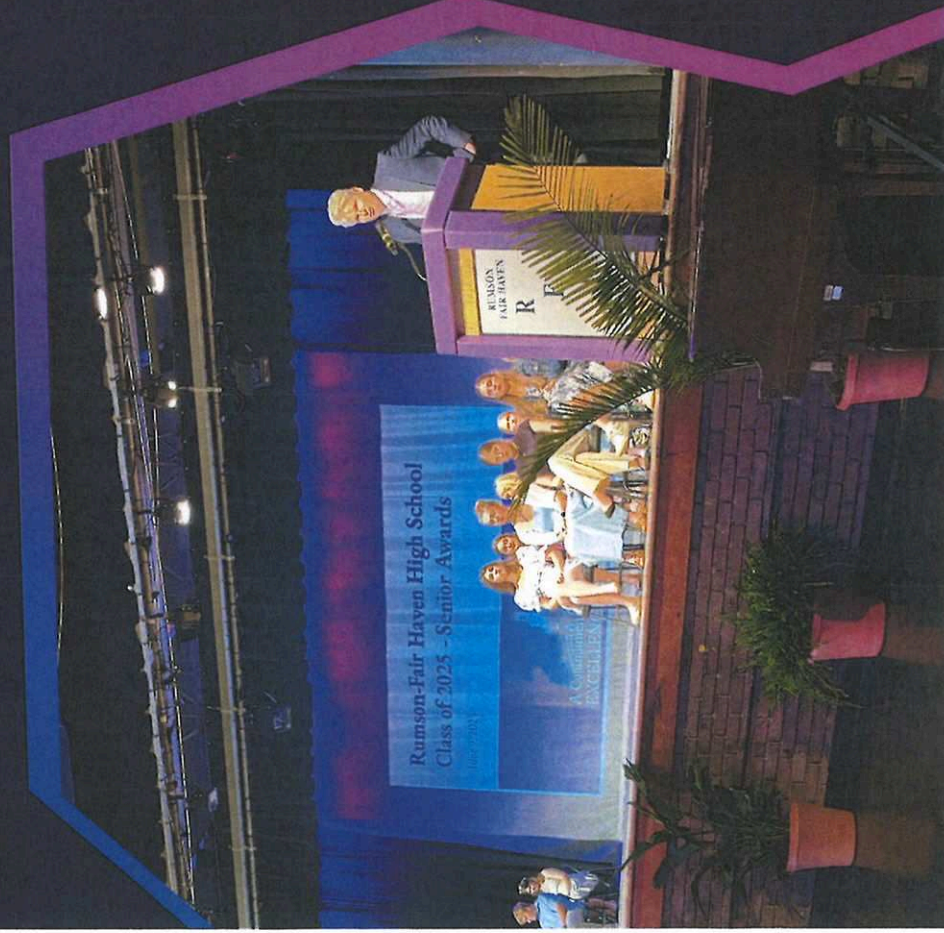
- Board of Education Goals
- Board of Education Manual
- BOE member meetings
- Committee Roles & Responsibilities
- District Policy & Regulations
- District Strategic Plan
- Weekly BOE Briefings
- Clear, Timely, Transparent Communication



GOAL 2 OBJECTIVES

Foster open communication with students, staff, parents, and the school community.

- Engage in proactive listening and learning sessions to build and strengthen partnerships
- Connect with school community members to better understand the RFH way and establish relationships



GOAL 2 ACTIVITIES

Foster open communication with students, staff, parents, and the school community.

- Meet key stakeholders, including school leaders, association representation, PTA, town officials, law enforcement, etc.
- Conduct meetings with school administration, teachers, counselors, CST and staff to understand achievements and challenges
- Establish an outreach engagement framework for open communication



PRACTICE



- Administration and Staff Association Leadership
- Community Introduction Letter
- Education Foundation Meetings
- Faculty & Department Meetings
- Individual Staff Meetings
- Student Leadership Meetings
- Student Lunch Conversation
- Student, Staff, Parent Surveys
- Parent Teacher Association Meetings
- Township Leadership Meetings
- School and Community Events
- Social Media
- Superintendent Meet & Greet

GOAL 3 OBJECTIVES

Celebrate and support successful practices while identifying areas for growth.

- Ensure a smooth transition for school leadership
- Actively collaborate with the leadership team on key areas including curriculum, instruction, assessment, student services, professional development, human resources, facilities, and the budget



GOAL 3 ACTIVITIES

Celebrate and support successful practices while identifying areas for growth.

- Support school culture to foster a positive climate for learning
- Analyze data for trends including student achievement scores, grades, college and career, mental health, code of conduct, attendance, nursing crisis response, I&RS etc.
- Review curriculums, program of studies, student services, policies, programming, crisis management, school safety, facilities, hiring, technology, budget etc.



PRACTICE

- Assessment Data Analysis
- BOE Policies & Regulation
- Buildings & Grounds Walk-Throughs
- Curriculum & Instruction Meetings
- Human Resources
- I&RS / MTSS Briefings
- Professional Development Wednesdays
- Safety & Security Briefings
- School & Community Events
- School Counseling Meetings
- Technology Team Meetings



STRENGTHS

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Assessment Scores (NJSLA/NJGPA/AP)
- Curriculum
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Post-Secondary Opportunities
- Professional Development
- Program of Studies
- Rotating Block Schedule
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Students & Staff



CHALLENGES

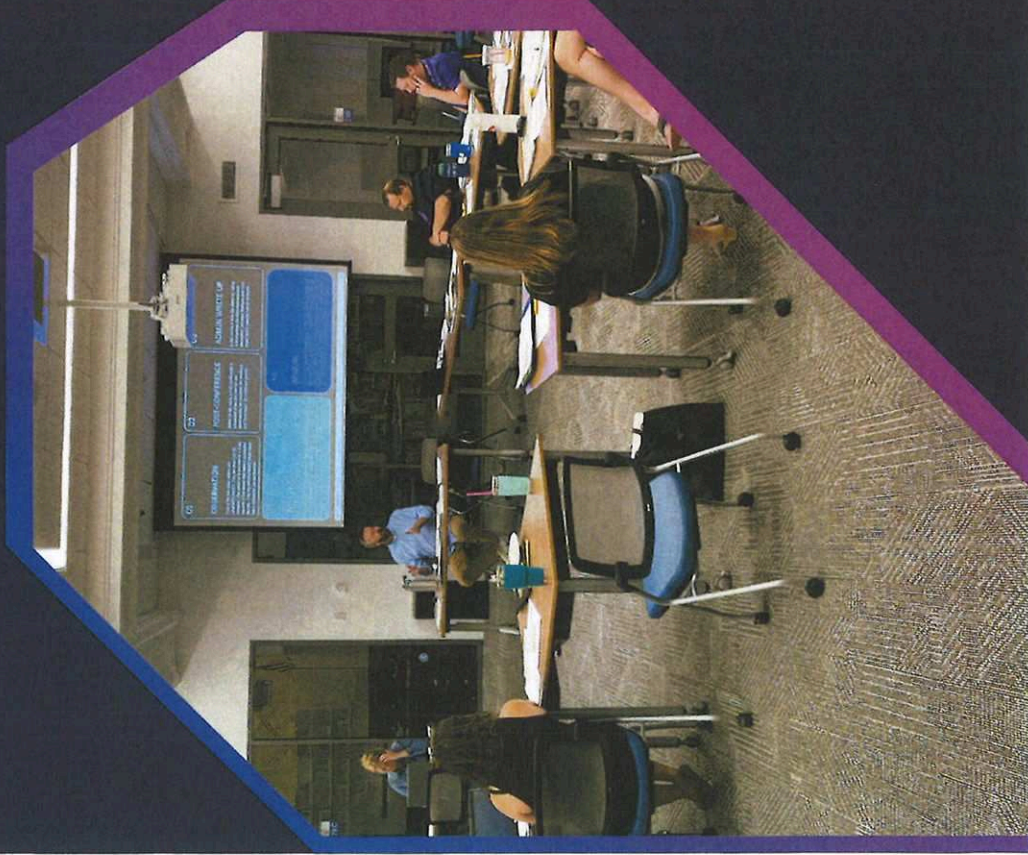
- Attendance
- Authentic Assessments
- Cell Phones
- Classroom Engagement
- Common Lunch
- Facilities
- Process & Protocols
- Parking
- School Grounds
- Technology



DISTRICT GOAL 1

Teaching & Learning: Improve educator capacity for the 2022 Danielson Framework to enhance student outcomes. Continue to leverage the Framework as a guide for staff goal-setting, reflection, feedback, and conversations regarding professional practice.

- Provide administrator, staff, and teacher coach training
- Implement protocols for instructional rounds and periodic observer calibration
- Appraise the current teacher coaching and evaluation process



DISTRICT GOAL 2

Artificial Intelligence: Deepen stakeholder AI literacy to align philosophy, develop goals, and establish practices that support student centered learning, teacher pedagogy, and organizational efficiency.

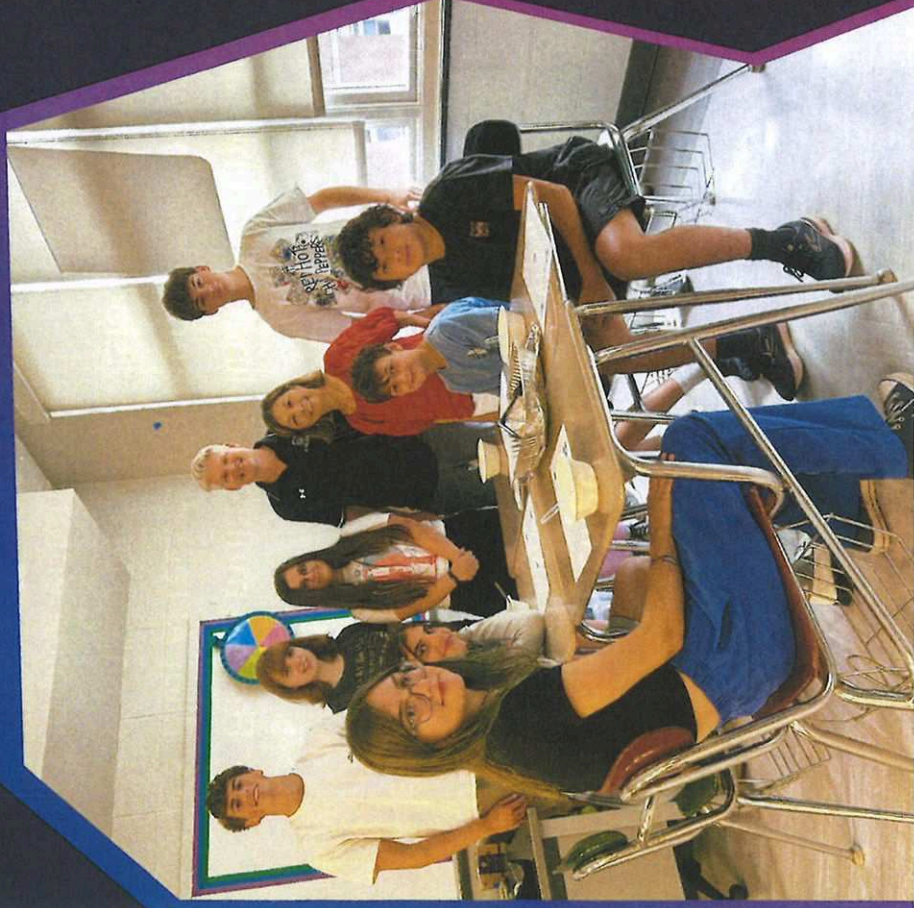
- Form a multi-disciplinary AI Think Tank
- Pilot AI technology, tools, and software
- Create a District AI vision, guidelines, and implementation plan



DISTRICT GOAL 3

Bell Schedule: Analyze, adapt, and assess the rotating drop schedule to best support student academic, social, and emotional development.

- Establish an intervention model for student success (e.g. teacher office hours, learning labs, study hall)
- Reinforce pupil engagement (e.g. attendance, cell phones, code of conduct)
- Examine student learning experiences (e.g. assessments, problem based learning, labs)



OTHER PRIORITIES

- Branding
- Budget
- Communication
- Safety & Security
- School Facilities
- Staffing
- Strategic Plan
- Wellness



QUESTIONS?

