

**Bass River Elementary School  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2026**

**1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** led by the Board President, Mr. Swanseen

**Time: 6:20 pm**

**2. ROLL CALL** by Board Secretary Mrs. Van Tassel

**PRESENT:** Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**ABSENT:**

**Others Present:** Katherine Van Tassel, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**3. Work Session - Executive Session**

**Voice Vote to enter executive work sessions for the purpose of budget matters. Time in: 6:00 p.m.**

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**Voice Vote to exit executive session announced Time out: 6:30 p.m.**

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**4. RECOGNITION**

The notice was read aloud to the public by the Board Secretary Mrs. Van Tassel

**“This is to advise those present at this meeting of the Board of Education of the Bass River School District, in the County of Burlington, that adequate notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act. The notice has been posted on the Board of Education Website. The notice was also mailed to the Press of Atlantic City and filed with the Municipal Clerk of Bass River Township.”**

**5. PUBLIC HEARING – 2026-27 SCHOOL BUDGET**

**Motion by Mr. Bush, seconded by Mr. Curtin to** open the Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 proposed budget.

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**PRESENTATION**

The Business Administrator, Katherine Van Tassel, will present an overview of the proposed budget for the 2026-2027 school year.

**Bass River Elementary School  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2026**

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

When addressing the Board of Education, please respect the following procedure:

- Be recognized by the Board of Education;
- State your full name and address before commenting.
- Wait to be recognized before making your comment(s).

No public comment

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING**

**Motion by Mr. Bush, seconded by Mr. Curtin to close the Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 proposed budget.**

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanssen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

- 6. Motion by Mr. Curtin, seconded by Mr. Bush to Adopt the 2026-27 budget** Following the discussion and questions on the 2026-27 budget as presented, it is recommended that the Board

WHEREAS, the Bass River Board of Education adopted a tentative budget on March 23, 2026, and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and WHEREAS, the tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on 04/16/2026, and WHEREAS, the tentative budget was posted on the district's paper of record on April 23, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the final budget was presented to the public during a hearing held in the Board of Education /Township municipal office in New Gretna, NJ, on April 27, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has now determined to make modifications to the tentative budget as follows:

Budget Line	Description	Tentative Budget	Final Budget	Change	Explanation
		\$1,853,636	\$1,853,637	\$ 1.00	Typo in tax levy amount
		\$1,853,636	\$1,853,637	\$ 1.00	Typo in tax levy amount

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in consideration of the above the Bass River Board of Education hereby

**Bass River Elementary School  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2026**

adopts the following final budget for SY 2026-2027:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	TOTAL
2026-2027 Total Expenditures	\$1,853,637	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$1,853,637
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$712,062	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$ 712,062
Taxes to be Raised	\$1,141,575	\$ -0-	\$ -0-	\$1,141,575

**Use of Banked Cap**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bass River 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 \$20,000 for the purpose of Tuition Costs. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2027.

**Tuition Reserve Withdrawal**

BE IT RESOLVED that the general fund appropriations include a \$158,800 withdrawal from the Tuition Reserve Account which were deposited into the account in SY 2024-2025 and are now required to be withdrawn to pay tuition obligations in the 2026-2027 SY.

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**7. MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Bush, seconded by Mr. Curtin to approve the agenda as presented.

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**8. Motion by Mr. Curtin, seconded by Mr. Bush to approve March 23, 2026 Regular Meeting and March 23, 2026 Executive .**

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**Bass River Elementary School  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2026**

Motion carried


- 9. **OLD BUSINESS - None**
- 10. **NEW BUSINESS - None**

**11. RESIDENT’S FORUM - AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**


The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to comment. The public may comment on any item on the agenda at this time. General public comment will occur later in the meeting. (Policy 0167).  
- no resident’s participation

**12. FINANCE**

**Motion by Mr. Curtin seconded by Mr. Bush to approve finance as presented**


A. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve all bills and claims for March in the amount of \$443,863.71 which are presented for approval. Also, authorize the Business Administrator to pay any bills due and owing before the next Board of Education meeting, and make any transfers of funds necessary so that no budgetary line item is over expended for the 2025-2026 school year. Any additional bills paid, and transfers made will be presented at the next Board of Education meeting.  
(  BillsList April.pdf )

B. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve all Line Item Transfers and Adjustments as per attachments. ( ) **No Transfers.**

C. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the March 2026 Board Secretary’s Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 3, that as of March 2026, no major budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Bass River Township Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.2, and no budgetary line item has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (a)1. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)2, it is certified that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts and sources for the month of March 2026.  
(  bsr2-2025-26-MARCH-All-Funds.pdf )

<u>Katherine Van Tassel</u>	<u>April 27, 2026</u>
Board Secretary	Date

D. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education approve the Board of Education’s Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c)4, the Bass River Township Board of Education certifies that as of February 2026, and after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report appropriations section as presented, and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, that to the best of the Board’s knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a)1, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

E. **RESOLVED** that the Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the Treasurer’s report and the Board Secretary’s report which are in agreement for the period ending March 2026.  
(  Treasurer- March.pdf )

**Bass River Elementary School  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 27, 2026**

**Voice Vote**

**Ayes:** (3) Mr. Bush, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Swanseen

**Nays:** 0

**Abstain:**

Motion carried

**13. PUBLIC COMMENT**

The floor is now open to members of the public. The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express with each statement made by a participant limited to three minutes as cited in Policy No. 0167. Diane Naylor - resident, inquired when the survey would be published. Also, the Board using publications like Pineland Tribune for meetings and other updates.

No Public Comment

**14. BOARD FORUM - None**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Mr. Curtin and seconded by Mr. Bush to adjourn the meeting:**

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BASS RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION to adjourn at 6:58 pm**

**14. MEETING SCHEDULE**

Meeting - Regular Meeting May 18, 2026

The Bass River Board of Education meeting will be held at the Bass River Municipal Building located at:

3 North Maple Ave, New Gretna.