

M I N U T E S



THOMAS EDISON ENERGYSMART CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARCH MEETING
MARCH 25, 2026

REGULAR MEETING

THE MEETING NOTICE HAS BEEN ADVERTISED IN THE COURIER NEWS.

THOMAS EDISON ENERGYSMART CHARTER SCHOOL

150 Pierce St. 2nd Floor, Somerset, NJ 08873

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

REGULAR MEETING

Date : March 25, 2026/ 7:30 pm
Place : 150 Pierce St. 2nd Floor, Somerset, NJ 08873

I. Call To Order

The Regular Board Meeting of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School is called to order. Time: 7:44 pm

II. Meeting Notice Announcement

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School has caused this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in 'The Courier News'. The Board reserves the right to act on any and all agenda items.

III. Flag Salute

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

IV. Roll Call

BOARD MEMBERS	P/A
Raif Rustamov (Board President)	E
Keshaw Sahay (Vice President)	P
Stephen Alexis (Board Member)	E
Ashok Munisamy (Board Member)	E
Mehmet Eke (Board Member)	P
Raquel Neri (Board Member)	P
Latif Dolunay (Board Member)	P

Also Present:

Oguz Yildiz (Lead Person)	P
Ilgar Sadigov (Board Secretary)	P

V. Public Comment

Board President or designee opens the public comment session on any topic. Each person is limited to speak for a period of three (3) minutes and will be asked to give their full name, spell their last name, and provide their address. During this portion of the meeting, the public is invited to address the Board with questions or comments on agenda items. While all comments will be considered and a response will be made if and when appropriate, the Board will not respond to speakers at the time of their appearance. Board President or designee closes the public comment session on any topic.

VI. Report by Lead Person

Below is a schedule of the activities that have taken place since the last board meeting:

February

Monday, February 2

- Green Day - World Wetlands Day
- 3rd Q starts

Monday February 2 - Friday, February 6

- SJS Vegan Challenge run by JPatel

Tuesday, February 3

- Virtual PTO meeting
- HS BB Game #16 @ Boonton High School @ 6pm

Thursday, February 5

- 100th day of school
- MS/HS grd 7-9 wetlands assembly 10am-115pm
- HS BB Game #17 @ Hopatcong High School @ 4pm, bus leaves TEECS @ 2:35pm
- MS BB Game #5 vs. Great Oaks Legacy Campus @ 5pm

Friday, February 6

- Senior fundraiser slime night, 430-630pm in cafeteria

Saturday, February 7

- Lottery at 10am

Monday, February 9

- Delayed Opening for SuperBowl (9:20am)
- HS BB Game #18 @ Palisades Park High School @ 5:30pm, bus leaves @ 3:30pm

Tuesday, February 10

- HS BB Game #19 @ Academy Charter High School @ 5:00pm, bus leaves @ 3:00pm

Tuesday, February 10 - Thursday, February 12

- K-2 benchmarks

Wednesday, February 11

- Thomas Edison's Bday/National Inventors Day
- Elementary wetlands assembly 10am-2pm in the Learning Center
- MS BB Game #6: Home vs. Union County TEAMS in gym @ 5pm

Thursday, February 12

- Q2 awards

Friday, February 13

- free Vday dress down for K-8, red/pink/white
- World Language Day run by MS/HS students in Learning Center

Monday, February 16

- Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, February 17

- Character Ed - Random Acts of Kindness Day
- HS BB Game #20 @ Kearny Christian Academy @ 6pm, bus leaves @ 4:15pm

Wednesday, February 18

- HS BB Game #21 @ Somerset VoTech @ 5:30pm, bus leaves @ 4pm

Wednesday, February 18 - Thursday, February 19

- Elementary Art Fair in Learning Center

Monday, February 23 - Tuesday, February 24

- Closed due to inclement weather

Wednesday, February 25

- HS BB Game #23 @ CAPS Central Tip @ 4:30pm, bus leaves @ 3:15pm
- Black History Month Math Night, 3-430pm run by R Patel & Orchard
- MS BB Game #7: vs. Marion P. Thomas PAC Acad @ 5pm, students in gym @ 3:30pm

Thursday, February 26

- MS BB Game #8: vs. KIPP Team Academy @ 5pm, students in gym @ 3:30pm
- free dress down for math night
- BHM grade 4 & 5 presentations in cafeteria, 830-930am w/parents

Friday, February 27

- 2nd grade wax museum, 945-1015am in classrooms w/parents

GREEN TEAM UPDATES

- **In Progress:** Feedback was received from the first round of submissions for the Sustainable Jersey for Schools application, next due date for submission is March 23
- **In Progress:** new clothing bin coming, snow is preventing scheduling
- **Completed:** Green Day - February 2/World Wetlands Day - classes had assembly with Wetlands Institute
- **Completed:** two grants
 - SJS \$15,000 grant to Reduce Waste in the Cafeteria due Jan 30 - did not get
 - NJDOE \$46,000 grant for Climate Literacy due Feb 12 - waiting to hear
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - March 23/Green Day/World Water Day - working on possible rain barrel workshop
 - March 25/Lost & Found Cleanout before Spring Break
 - April 22/Earth Day - looking for speaker(s)
 - April 25/Wellness Fair
 - May 15/Community Hike
 - April 29/Red Cross Blood Drive

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCESSIBLE COMMUNICATION

Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School is always looking for ways to improve our communication for the TEECS community. A Beginning of the Year parent survey was sent out in early October. Based on the results of the survey our parents:

- Receive enough information to start the year successfully
- Had an easy transition into school after the summer
- Thought their students felt prepared to start the new school year
- Thought the First Marking Period Project was effective for their student
- indicated that they do not idle their cars during pick-up and drop-off
- Thought we could offer a larger variety of after school programs

To better our communication:

- We continue to send out quarterly surveys to our parents and staff. These surveys provide an opportunity for our community to provide feedback on our communication - are we providing enough details, is it timely and efficient, are we meeting their needs, etc.
- We strive to make all our communication/expectations clearer. All faculty members are made aware of the suggestions and steps are taken to ensure dates, times, requirements and expectations from parents, if any, are clear. In addition, answering email/voice mail in a timely fashion is stressed to our staff members.
- TEECS' PTO has set up WhatsApp Groups for all grades. All parents/guardians are reminded of this as an additional way to receive communication about school activities and reach out to other parents in their child's grade.

In addition to quarterly surveys, we send out a Quarterly Update email to all parents on the status of any new projects and events that may be going on as well as any future plans that the school may be planning.

March

Monday, March 2

- Read Across America Week: wear your favorite hat w/uniform
- MS BB Game #9 vs. Greater Brunswick Charter School in gym @ 5pm

Monday, March 2 - Friday, March 6

- Read Across America week: homeroom teachers decorate their doors, DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) all week, themed dress downs all week for K-8

Tuesday, March 3

- Read Across America Week: dress down in superhero shirt
- PTO meeting

Tuesday, March 3 - Friday, March 6

- Scholastic Elementary Book Fair

Wednesday, March 4

- Read Across America week: dress down in animal print/theme

Thursday, March 5

- PSAT 10 in classrooms 8-12pm
- Read Across America week: dress down in sports wear
- HS boys volleyball tryouts 245-4pm

Friday, March 6

- MS BB Game #7 vs. Marion P. Thomas PAC Academy in gym @ 5pm
- Read Across America week: dress down in pjs or comfy clothes
- Student Council visit from other school
- Door judging for Read Across America, 9am, 1G won with 179 votes

Monday, March 9

- Delayed Opening for Daylight Savings (9:20am)

Tuesday, March 10

- American Heart Assoc Kids Heart Challenge info session for K-6
- NJSLA Parent Info session (Zoom), grades 7-11, 5-6pm-canceled, sending out recording

Wednesday, March 11

- Early Dismissal / PT Conferences

Thursday, March 12

- Early Dismissal / staff development

Friday, March 13

- Character Ed - Honesty & Integrity Day
- Pie Day: grades 7-12 activities with Ms Syed, Elem Math Dept assembly in gym with pie in the face
- MS Volleyball Tryouts, 4-6pm

Friday, March 13 - Thursday, March 19

- NJSLA practice tests, grades 3-9

Monday, March 16

- Mathcon comp with RPatel

Monday, March 16 - Monday, March 23

- NJGPA for grade 11

Tuesday, March 17

- St Patrick's Day dress down
- HS boys Volleyball Game #1 @ CJCP @ 4:30pm, bus leaves @ 3:30pm

Thursday, March 19

- HS boys Volleyball Game #2 @ Bound Brook @ 4pm, bus leaves @ 3pm
- Math Kangaroo competition with RPatel

Friday, March 20

- School closed for EID

Monday, March 23

- Green Day - World Water Day

Monday, March 23 - Thursday, March 26

- MS/HS Scholastic Book Fair in LC

Tuesday, March 24 - Thursday, March 26

- Elementary Science Fair (MakerSpace Fair) @ 930 parents arrive (K in class, 1-6 cafeteria)

Wednesday, March 25

- Green Team Lost & Found cleanout

Thursday, March 26

- PTO talent show in the gym, 530-730pm

Friday, March 27

- College fair in the LC from 9-11am

Monday, March 30 - Monday, April 6

- Closed for Spring Break

GREEN TEAM UPDATES

- ***In Progress:*** Submitted for the second round of submissions for the Sustainable Jersey for Schools application, next and final due date for submission is June 15
- ***Completed:*** new clothing bin has been installed
- ***Completed:*** Green Day - March 23/World Water Day - educating families on the benefits of rain barrels
- ***Completed:*** NJDOE \$46,000 grant for Climate Literacy due Feb 12 - waiting to hear
- ***Upcoming Events:***
 - March 25/Lost & Found Cleanout before Spring Break
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VII. Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept the following minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting:

- ❖ Regular Meeting Minutes of January 2026 (Minutes forwarded to trustees via email)

Motion# 260325.1	Moted by: Mr. Eke			Seconded by: Mr. Dolunay		Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay
YES					V		V
NO							
ABSTAIN		V				V	
ABSENT	V		V	V			

VIII. Financial Section: Mr. Ilgar Sadigov, Board Secretary

Approval of Bills: Motion to approve the Bill List from January 29, 2026, to March 25, 2026. No unusual budgetary line-item account expenditure. (Attached)

FY27 Budget:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School has approved the projected budget for 2026-2027 school year.

Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports: Motion to approve the Board Secretary's and the Treasurer's Reports for the months of November and December 2025. (emailed)

WHEREAS both the Report of the Secretary and the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies are in agreement with the cash balance in the Governmental Funds for the months of November and December 2025;

RESOLVED, that the Report of the Secretary and the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies be accepted.

Transfers: Motion to approve the list of Transfer of Funds resolution for the period ending March 2026.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School that the attached inter-appropriation transfer made on the financial records of the Board affecting the 2025-2026 budget be affirmed and approved.

a. Board Secretary's Cert of Accounts:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11, I certify that as of December 2025, no major budgetary line-item account expenditure exceeds the amount appropriated by the charter Board of Trustees.


Mr. Ilgar Sadigov - Board Secretary

03/25/2026

Date

b. Board Certification of Accounts:

RESOLVED, that after review of the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports for the months of November and December 2025, and based upon consultation with and representations of the appropriate officials (Secretary, Treasurer, Business Administrator and Lead Person), the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School has ascertained, to the best of our knowledge and ability, with the information provided, that no major account (Current Expense, Capital Outlay, Debt Service) has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the charter's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, and hereby certifies the charter's financial plan (the budget) as approved is being followed as revealed in the financial reports.

Motion# 260325.2 Motioned by:				Seconded by:		Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay
YES		V			V	V	V
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT	V		V	V			

IX. Human Resources

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Lead Person to approve the following resolution.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School approves the following hiring

Mr. Alessandro Dato as an part time Security without benefits with per diem salary of \$25.00/hour effective February 17, 2026, through June 30, 2026 (resume emailed)

Motion# 260325.3 Motioned by:				Seconded by:		Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay
YES		V			V	V	V
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT	V		V	V			

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Lead Person to approve the following resolution.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School approves the following payments

- Ms. Bayram Zeliha for teaching 2nd grade classes in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Bhattad Shrijaya for covering extra classes for Mrs. Lefebvre in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mr. Gedik Sean for Saturday Science Olympiad participation in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Kon Magdalena for PLC duties in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mr. Kurtulus Abdurrahman for Robotics State Championship participation in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mrs. Nardella Adrianna for Grade Chair position in the amount of [REDACTED] (prorated as of 2/1/2026)
- Mr. Ozer Halil for Robotics State Championship participation in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mr. Sanchez Mario for taking extra responsibility as a custodian in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mr. Vetere Anthony for HS Competitions management in the amount of [REDACTED]
- Mr. Yanbul Bunyamin for obtaining his master's degree as of 12/5/2025 in the amount of [REDACTED] (prorated)

Motion# 260325.4 Motioned by:				Seconded by:		Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay
YES		V			V	V	V
NO							
ABSTAIN							
ABSENT	V		V	V			

X. Action Items

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Lead Person to approve the waiver of requirements for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program:

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2026-2027 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid-eligible classified students.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School hereby authorizes the Lead Person to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Somerset an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2026-2027 school year.

Motion# 260325.5		Motioned by:		Mr. Eke		Seconded by:		Dr. Neri		Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay				
YES		V			V	V					V
NO											
ABSTAIN											
ABSENT	V		V	V							

XI. Action Items

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Lead Person to approve the following resolution.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School has renewed the food service contract with Maschio's Food Service Inc. on a flat management fee basis. TEECS shall pay Maschio's Food Service Inc. an annual management fee in the amount of \$10,644.48. The management fee shall be payable in 10 monthly installments of \$1,064.45 per month commencing on September 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2027. The total cost of the program is \$198,033.75

Motion# 260325.6		Motioned by:		Dr. Neri		Seconded by:		Mr. Dolunay		Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay				
YES		V			V	V					V
NO											
ABSTAIN											
ABSENT	V		V	V							

XII. Action Items

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Lead Person to approve the following resolution

RESOLVED, that the board of trustees of Thomas Edison EnergySmart Charter School has approved following field trips.

Trip Name	Date (s)	Grades Attending	# of Students	# of Chaperones	Trip Location	Notes
Liberty Science Center	3/27/2026	Grades 7 & 8	100	10	Jersey City, NJ	
Senior Trip to Ocean City Maryland	5/28/2026	Grade 12	42	5	Ocean City, Maryland	no busses needed
Science Olympiad Competition	3/9/2026	MS Science Olym.	17	0	Edison, NJ	
Princeton University	3/10/2026	Grade 10 Physics	45	5	Princeton, NJ	
Monmouth Battlefield	4/8/2026	Grade 5	51	6	Manalapan, NJ	
State Museum/Planetarium	4/14/2026	Grade 3 and 4	100	11	Trenton, NJ	
TEECs PAC Rehearsals	4/14, 4/15, 4/17/26	TEECs PAC Students	29	1	Somerset, NJ	CJCC
Lucky Strike New Brunswick	6/8/2026	Grade 6	50	2	New Brunswick, NJ	
JA of NJ Education Center	4/9/2026	Grade 6	50	3	Edison, NJ	
NJASC Spring Awards Program - Six Flags	6/1/2026	Student Council	5	1	Jackson, NJ	no bus needed

Motion# 260325.7				Motioned by:		Mr. Eke	Seconded by:		Mr. Sahay	Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay				
YES		V			V	V	V				
NO											
ABSTAIN											
ABSENT	V		V	V							

Adjournment

Time: 8:30 pm

Motion# 260325.8				Motioned by:		Mr. Eke	Seconded by:		Dr. Neri	Passed:	Yes
ROLL CALL	R Rustamov	K Sahay	S Alexis	A Munisamy	M Eke	R Neri	L Dolunay				
YES		V			V	V	V				
NO											
ABSTAIN											
ABSENT	V		V	V							

Attachments

Previous Meeting Minutes
Board Secretary's Report
Semi Projection

Bill List
Treasurer's Report
Food Service Renewal

FY27 Original Budget
Resumes (Emailed)