

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2022
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Kerri Wright, Board President, called the meeting to order on January 18, 2022 at 6:02 p.m. at the Black River Middle School Gymnasium, 133 North Road, Chester, NJ

2. Sunshine Announcement

Kerri Wright, Board President, announced that this meeting was being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975 (Sunshine Law) and that adequate notice of the date, time and location has been sent to the Daily Record and has been posted and filed with the Chester Township and Chester Borough Clerks. The annual meeting calendar has also been sent to each District school and the Chester Post Office. Additionally, the agenda has been posted on the District website prior to the Board meeting.

3. Roll Call

John Barounis	Yes	Heather Ronco	Yes
Matthew Downs	Yes	Sarah Schultz	Yes
Amy Collins	Yes	Kerri Wright	Yes
Rebekah Forlenza	Yes	Vacancy	-----
Christopher Lowry	Yes	Quorum	Yes

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Kerri Wright, Board President, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Interviews/Presentations:

5a. Interview of prospective Board candidates

- Sara Kalashian
- Matthew Frederick
- Adam Colicchio

6. Administration-Dr. Christina VanWoert and Tanya Dawson

6a. Superintendent's Report

- HIB Grade Submission to the State DOE Report
- QSAC
- School Attendance for faculty and administrators
- COVID-19 numbers at the schools

6b. Business Administrator's Report

- Food Services Procurement Audit
No financial findings, one administrative finding
- QSAC
- Budget Preparation

7. President’s Comments
None

8. Public Commentary

Nina Edwards - Read a comment citing CDC information regarding COVID in children and how facts do not warrant children getting vaccinated. Shared the following article with the Board <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S221475002100161X#>

The Board took the following action:

9. Approval of Minutes

9a. Reapproves Meeting Minutes from December 14, 2021

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education reapproves the Regular meeting minutes of the meeting held on December 14, 2021.

9b. Approves Reorganization Meeting Minutes from January 4, 2022

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Reorganization meeting minutes of the meeting held on January 4, 2022

9c. Approves Regular Meeting Minutes from January 4, 2022

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting minutes of the meeting held on January 4, 2022

9d. Approves Regular Meeting Executive Minutes from January 4, 2022

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting Executive minutes of the meeting held on January 4, 2022.

Motion by Heather Ronco

Seconded by Amy Collins

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-----

10. Committee of The Whole—All.

10a. Appoint Board Member to fill Vacancy (Matthew Frederick)

Upon the motion of Sarah Schultz, seconded by Matthew Downs, the Board considered the following motion:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-56 and Policy 9113 the Chester Board of Education votes on Matthew Frederick to fill the vacancy of the Board of Education effective January 18, 2022 for a term prescribed by law.

Appoint Board Member Vacancy Matthew Frederick	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

3-5	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	---
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10b. Appoint Board Member to fill Vacancy (Sara Kalashian)

Upon the motion of Amy Collins, seconded by Rebekah Forlenza, the Board considered the following motion:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-56 and Policy 9113 the Chester Board of Education votes on Sara Kalashian to fill the vacancy of the Board of Education effective January 18, 2022 for a term prescribed by law.

Appoint Board Member Vacancy Sara Kalashian	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy
5-3	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	---

10c. Approves Committee and Administrative Appointments

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following committee appointments:

Assignments	Members Assigned
Curriculum & Personnel/Governance Committee January 25, 2022 First Meeting	Heather Ronco (chair) John Barounis Rebekah Forlenza Sarah Schultz
Finance, Buildings/Grounds and Transportation Committee January 25, 2022 First Meeting	Amy Collins (chair) Matthew Downs Sara Kalashian Chris Lowry
Negotiations Committee	TBD

Motion by Heather Ronco

Seconded by Rebekah Forlenza

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-----

10d. Approves School Board Recognition Month

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State Board of Education, which adopts the administrative code to implement state education law, has established rigorous standards through its promulgation of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, which set the expectations of academic achievement for nearly 1.4 million public schoolchildren; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s locally elected and appointed boards of education play a vital role in ensuring that their local school districts meet state standards and adhere to all code provisions, with the goal of providing an outstanding education to prepare all students for college and the workplace and to enable them to compete in a global economy; and

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, New Jersey’s 5,000 non-partisan local board of education members and charter school trustees are public servants who dedicate their time, without pay or benefit, to the oversight of school district operations, sound financial practices, comprehensive policies, curriculum, staffing, and the well-being and academic achievement of all students in the district; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of local boards of education, in conjunction with state education officials and local educators, have built a foundation of success that has led to New Jersey’s status as a leader in student achievement, as evidenced by the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores; and

WHEREAS, the National School Boards Association and the New Jersey School Boards Association have declared January 2022 to be School Board Recognition Month; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes the contributions of our state’s local boards of education to the academic success of its public school students and expresses its sincere appreciation to local board of education members for their continued focus on the achievement of children throughout New Jersey; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State Board of Education encourages qualified New Jersey citizens to consider serving as members on their local school boards.

Motion by Heather Ronco

Seconded by Chris Lowry

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-----

11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance—

Upon the motion of Heather Ronco and seconded by Amy Collins, the Board considered the following motions:

11a. Approves Bills List

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Chester Board of Education approves payment of the bills list as approved by the Finance Committee.

Bills List	Totals
Payroll 01/15/2022	\$650,203.62
Bills List 01/18/2022	\$635,989.67

11b. Approves Monthly Appropriation Transfers for December 2021

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following transfers within the 2021-2022 budget for the month of December 2021 in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

23A-16.10 (c) 1.; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11c. Approves Monthly Transfer Report for December 2021

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3, the Chester Board of Education approves the Monthly Report of Transfers for December 2021; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11d. Approves Board Secretary Report for December 2021

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(h), the Chester Board of Education approves the Report of the Board Secretary for December 2021; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11e. Approves Board Treasurer Report for December 2021

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36, the Chester Board of Education approves the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for December 2021; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11f. Approves Certification of Secretary and Treasurer Report for December 2021

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10 (c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation; and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, the Chester Board of Education has reviewed for the minutes of this meeting the Board Secretary and Treasurer’s monthly financial report for December 2021 and that no major account or fund has been over-expended

11g. Approves Travel Requests

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 and N.J.A.C.6A:23A and Board Policy 9250 and upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following travel requests:

Date	Employee Conference/Workshop	Registration- Tuition	Travel Misc.	Estimated Total Expense
2/22/2022- 2/24/2022	Stephanie Damiano Crisis Prevention Training Edison, NJ	\$3,899.00	\$79.50	\$3978.50
02/14/2022	Melissa D’Auria NJ AHPERD Conference Long Branch, NJ	\$149.00	\$44.80	\$193.80
03/21/2022- 03/23/2022	Evan Morley	\$300.00	\$302.50	\$602.50

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

	NJ Buildings & Grounds Expo Atlantic City, NJ			
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11h. Approves School Trip for BRMS School

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following school trip for the 2022 school year for BRMS School:

Field Trip	Location	Grade/Group
Dorney Park May 20, 2022	Allentown, PA	BRMS Band/ Chorus

11i. Approves agreement with Dr. L. Hanes & Associates

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves Dr. L. Hanes and Associates to provide home instruction for student #19025 for up to 10 hours per week at a rate of \$65.00 per hour effective December 15, 2021 through March, 2022.

11j. Approves agreement with InTouch Collaborative LLC.

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves agreement with InTouch Collaborative, LLC (Deafblind Specialist) to evaluate student #20496 at a total cost of \$2,500 for the 2022 school year.

11k. Approves agreement with Diane Lang, Psychologist

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves agreement with Psychologist Diane Lang to provide a parent workshop at a cost of \$350.00.

11l. Approves Consulting Author Event with Carl Anderson

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves a virtual author event on March 15-16, 2022 with Carl Anderson for Dickerson teachers and students to improve writing skills. The cost is \$8,000 with \$4,000 to be paid with a grant from the Chester Education Foundation awarded to Literacy Coach, Danielle Meekings.

11m. Approves Corrective Action Plan for School Food Service

The Chester Board of Education hereby approves the Corrective Action Plan responding to the Procurement Review of the School Nutrition Program for Fiscal Year 2019-20 to be implemented in the 2021-22 school year.

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Amy Collins

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-----

12. Curriculum/Governance/Personnel—

Upon the motion of Rebekah Forlenza and seconded by Heather Ronco, the Board considered the following motions:

12a. Approves Submission of Self-Assessments of HIB Grades Statement of Assurance
RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Chester Board of Education approves submission of the 2020-2021 Statement of Assurance for self-assessments for determining HIB grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act.

12b. Rescinds Resolution 12r. (Ladinski)
RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education rescinds Resolution 12r. from the December 14, 2021 meeting that approves Mark Ladinski as a Custodian, at Black River Middle School.

12c. Amends Resolution (Viscuso)
RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education amends Resolution 12a. from the December 20, 2021 meeting to change the start date for Micol Viscuso to February 28, 2022.

12d. Amends Resolution (Livesey/Willis)
RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education amends Resolution (12bb.) from the October 12, 2021 meeting to designate Lorri Willis as Yearbook Advisor in place of Alexandra Livesey.

12e. Amends Resolution (Dolan/Polkowski)
RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education amends Resolution (12l.) from the December 14, 2021 meeting to replace Kelli Dolan with Nicole Polkowski for 4th grade Science Curriculum writing.

12f. Amends 2022-2023 School Calendar
RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education amends the 2022-2023 school calendar to revise the following dates:

NJEA Convention **From:** November 3-4, 2022 **To:** November 10-11, 2022

Conferences(Early Dismissal) **From:** November 9-11, 2022 **To:** November 7-9, 2022

12g. Approves at home instruction (Christal)
RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Jennifer Christal to provide home instruction to student #20112 at the contracted professional rate for up to 10 hours a week effective January 3, 2022 through February 28, 2022.

12h. Approves Professional Work

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following staff member for up to 20 hours science curriculum work at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$62 for a total of up to \$1,240.

Grade Level	Subject	Staff Member
1	Science	Christine Donlon

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Heather Ronco

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	CL	HR	SS	KW	Vacancy
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-----

13. Oath of Office

Tanya Dawson, Board Secretary, administered the oath of office to the newly appointed Board Member: (Policy 9113, N.J.S.A.18A:6-56) Sara Kalashian.

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Heather Ronco and seconded by Amy Collins the Board considered a motion to adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	SK	CL	HR	SS	KW
9-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Tanya Dawson
Board Secretary