

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 26, 2022
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Kerri Wright, Board President called the meeting to order on April 26 ,2022 at 7:01 p.m. in the Chester Borough courtroom, 50 North Road, Chester, NJ 07930

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	Christopher Lowry	Yes
Amy Collins	Yes	Heather Ronco	Yes
Matthew Downs	Yes	Sarah Schultz	Yes
Rebekah Forlenza	Yes	Kerri Wright	Yes
Sara Kalashian	Yes	Quorum	Yes

4. Pledge of Allegiance

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

5. Presentations:

2022-2023 Budget Presentation-presented by Tanya Dawson

6. Administration-Dr. Christina VanWoert and Tanya Dawson

6a. Superintendent's Report

- Update on NJ Student Learning Comprehensive Health & Physical Education Curriculum
- Strategic Planning Update
- BRMS Graduation

6b. Business Administrator's Report

- Board Retreat
- Water Project Update

7. President's Comments

None

8. Public Commentary

Adam Sorchini-asked if the calendar in the school app could be more comprehensive to

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

include all school events for each school on one calendar.

9. Approval of Minutes

The Board took the following action:

9a. Approves Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2022

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2022.

9b. Approves First Executive Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2022

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Executive meeting minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2022.

9c. Approves Second Executive Meeting Minutes from April 12, 2022

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Executive meeting minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2022.

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Amy Collins

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

10. Committee of The Whole—*All.*

10a. Approves Superintendent’s Recommendation for HIB case #6

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation for HIB Case #6.

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Heather Ronco

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

11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance—*Amy Collins (chair) Matthew Downs, Sara Kalashian and Chris Lowry*

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 04/14/2022	\$665,711.52

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Bills List 04/22/2022	\$126,857.40
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11b. Approves Monthly Appropriation Transfers for March 2022

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

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3, the Chester Board of Education approves the Monthly Report of Transfers for March 2022; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11d. Approves Board Secretary Report for March 2022

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 March 2022; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11e. Approves Board Treasurer Report for March 2022

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 March 2022; 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 March 2022

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 March 2022 and that no major account or fund has been over-expended

11g. Approves 2022-2023 School Budget

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2022, the Chester Board of Education approved a tentative budget to be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval; and

WHEREAS, the tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on 04/08/2022; and

WHEREAS, the budget was presented to the public during a public hearing on April 26, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the budget for General Fund expenses shall be \$24,057,581 of which \$21,667,749 shall be raised by tax levy, which represents a 1.90% Increase over the prior year for the 2022-2023 school year and;

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, \$1,000,000 shall be withdrawn from Capital Reserve; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education hereby adopts the 2022-2023 School Year budget that includes \$21,667,749 that shall be raised by tax levy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that \$1,000,000 shall be withdrawn from Capital Reserve for the 2022-2023 School Year towards the following approved capital projects:

Project	Cost
Ceiling Replacement at BRMS	\$220,000
Generator at Dickerson	\$400,000
Pole Barn	\$80,000
Water Project at Bragg/Dickerson	\$303,000

11h. Approves Bus Leasing

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Chester Board of Education approves US Bancorp Government Leasing at a rate of 2.89% to finance 2 new bus vans for the district for total lease amount of \$120,710.

11i. Approves Architect

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Chester Board of Education approves proposal from DI Group Architecture in the amount of \$42,500 for the Dickerson generator project.

11j. Approves Renewal of Transportation Agreement (Roxbury BOE)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Chester Board of Education approves renewal of Joint Transportation Agreement with Roxbury Board of Education effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2027.

11k. Approves Joint Transportation Agreement for the 2022-2023 School Year

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:39-11 provides that the Boards of Education of two or more school districts may provide jointly for the transportation of pupils to and from any school or schools within or without the district, and

RESOLVED, in order to accomplish the above purposes, **Roxbury School District** and Chester School District are desirous of entering into this non-profit agreement for the transportation of pupils jointly in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, the rules and regulations of the State Board of Education governing the transportation of pupils.

11l. Approves Home Instruction Provided by Stepping Forward, LLC

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Stepping Forward, LLC to provide home instruction to student # 19050 at \$75.00 for up to 10 hours a week effective 4/18/2022 for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Sara Kalashian

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

12. **Curriculum/Governance/Personnel**—*Heather Ronco (chair) John Barounis, Rebekah Forlenza and Sarah Schultz*

12a. **Approves Non-Tenured Teachers 2022-2023 School Year**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following non-tenured teachers for the 2022-2023 school year prior to ratified contract:

BRMS		
Name	Step	Salary
Melissa D’Auria	Step 4 BA	\$53,535.00
Susannah Patience	Step 1 MA+15	\$59,085.00
Gina Ruvolo	Step 1 BA	\$52,335.00
Amy Schwartz	Step 18A MA+15	\$84,885.00
Jacquelyn Tasker	Step 9 MA	\$61,535.00
Micol Viscuso	Step 4 BA	\$53,535.00
Lorri Willis	Step 9 MA	\$61,535.00
Bragg School		
Name	Step	Salary
Laura Allen	Step 2 BA	\$52,735.00
Alexis Carle	Step 4 BA	\$53,535.00
Evelyn Casperson	Step 5 BA	\$53,935.00
Angelina Cicero	Step 5 BA	\$53,935.00
Heather Hoffman	Step 1 MA	\$58,335.00
Gretchen Jacot	Step 17 MA	\$77,235.00
Christopher Jala	Step 4 BA+15	\$55,035.00
Brandon Kornbluh	Step 12 MA	\$70,135.00
Danette Lewis	Step 9 MA	\$31,067.50
Elizabeth McGookin	Step 2 BA+30	\$28,992.50
Lauren Seibert	Step 9 MA	\$62,135.00
Dickerson School		
Name	Step	Salary
Linda Blazier	Step 12 MA+15	\$70,885.00
Julie Curtin	Step 17 BA+15	\$83,035.00
Annabelle Edelmann	Step 2 BA	\$52,735.00
Valerie Lemp	Step 2 BA	\$52,735.00
Liz Madinabeitia	Step 11 MA	\$67,235.00
Courtney Nealon	Step 1 BA	\$52,335.00
Denielle Saucedo	Step 9 MA	\$62,135.00

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Sarah Skrabal	Step 12 MA	\$70,135.00

Motion by _____

Seconded by _____

Roll Call Vote	JB	AC	MD	RF	SK	CL	HR	SS	KW

12b. Approves Teachers Who Receive Tenure in 2022-2023 School Year

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following teachers who will receive tenure for the 2022-2023 school year prior to ratified contract:

BRMS				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Lauren Marianino	ELL Teacher	Step 5 MA+15	\$60,685.00	09/02/2022
Catherine McPherson	6 th Grade Social Studies Teacher	Step 5 BA	\$53,935.00	12/02/2022
Bragg School				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Cassandra Cangiano	5 th Grade Teacher	Step 5 MA	\$59,935.00	09/02/2022
Patricia Lewis	CAAP Teacher	Step 5 MA+15	\$30,342.50	09/02/2022
Katherine Strauss	CAAP Teacher	Step 7-8 MA+30	\$65,060.00	09/02/2022
Dickerson School				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Katherine Turnbull	Kindergarten Teacher	Step 5 MA	\$59,935.00	09/02/2022

Motion by _____

Seconded by _____

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

12c. Approves Staff for Extra-Curricular Activities (BRMS)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following staff to conduct board approved extra-curricular activities for the 2021-2022 school year with stipends as determined by Schedule "B" of the

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agreement between The Chester Board of Education and The Chester Education Association:

BRMS Club	Advisor
Variety Show (2)	Doreen Aiello, Dana Mazza

- 12d. Approves for First Reading Policy 5141.10/5141R**
RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves for first reading Policy 5141.10/5141.10R-Face Coverings.
- 12e. Approves for First Reading Policy 5131/5131R**
RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves for first reading Policy 5131/5131R-Conduct Discipline.
- 12f. Accepts Resignation (Brady)**
RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education accepts the resignation of Jesse Brady, Custodian at Dickerson School effective April 19, 2022.
- 12g. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Teachers**
RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following teacher for the Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program from July 6, 2022 through August 9, 2022, at \$62 (includes one prep day) for up to 4.5 hours daily prior to ratified contract:

Teacher	Total (up to)
Susannah Patience	\$5,859
Denielle Saucedo	\$5,859

- 12h. Accepts Retirement (Emp# 1265)**
RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education accepts the retirement of Emp #1265, with much gratitude for 18 years of service, effective July 1, 2022.
- 12i. Approves Unpaid Leave of Absence (Emp# 1263)**
RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following unpaid leave of absence for employee # 1263:

FMLA/NJFLA Start Date (unpaid with benefits)	05/02/2022
Weeks Used	3
Date of Return (Anticipated)	05/24/2023

- 12j. Approves Leave of Absence (Emp. #1095)**
RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following leave of absence for employee #1095:

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

	From
Leave (Start Date)	02/23/2022
Accumulated Sick/Personal Days (Applied)	38
FMLA/NJFLA Start Date (unpaid with benefits)	04/25/2022
Date of Return (Anticipated)	08/22/2022
FMLA/NJFLA Start Date (unpaid with benefits)	09/12/2022
Date of Return (Anticipated)	10/10/2022

12k. Approves Medical Leave of Absence (Emp. #1119)

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following leave of absence for employee #1119:

	From
Leave (Start Date)	03/21/2022
Accumulated Sick/Personal Days (Applied)	39
Date of Return (Anticipated)	05/23/2022

12l. Approves Extended Unpaid Child Care Leave of Absence (Emp. #1013)

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following Extended Unpaid Child Care leave of absence for employee # 1013:

Leave (Start Date)	08/23/2021
Accumulated Sick Days (Applied)	46
FMLA/NJFLA Start Date (unpaid with benefits)	11/1/2021
Extended Leave Start Date (unpaid without benefits)	01/17/2022
Date of Return (Anticipated)	08/22/2023

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Heather Ronco

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

13. Executive Session

RESOLVED, that pursuant to NJS.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13 the Chester Board of Education holds a closed session on April 26 2022 at 7:44 p.m. to discuss student matters and negotiations. It is expected that the minutes will be made public as soon as official action is taken.

Motion by Rebekah Forlenza

Seconded by Matthew Downs

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

14. Return to Public Session

Upon the motion of Heather Ronco and Seconded by Amy Collins, the Board returned to public session at 7:57 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

15. Unfinished Business

None

16. New Business

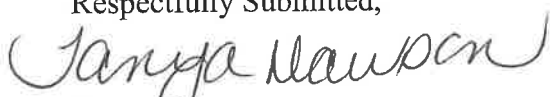
John Barounis-Policy 1100-Sponsor survey- have we done one recently?
 Dr. VanWoert-Raj Shah award sponsored by the Shah family
 Dr. VanWoert-Board Sponsored Award -Board usually sponsors one award
 Chris Lowry; Mental Health services article is a good read published in the School Leader
 Sarah Schultz-Attending the NJSBA meeting

17. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Rebekah Forlenza and seconded by Sara Kalashian the Board considered a motion to adjourn at 8:04 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