

**REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 11, 2023  
AGENDA**

*A regular meeting of the Chester Board of Education will be held on  
April 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Chester Borough Courtroom.  
50 North Road, Chester, NJ*

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Sunshine Announcement**

Be advised that this meeting is 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		Rebekah Forlenza	
Carolyn Byszewski		Christopher Lowry	
Adam Colicchio		Sarah Schultz	
Matthew Downs		Adam Sorchini	
Melissa Mauro-Duffy		Quorum	Y N

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

**5. Presentations:**

**6. Administration**-Dr. Christina VanWoert and  
Peter Frascella Business Administrator/Board Secretary

**6a. Superintendent’s Report**

**6b. Business Administrator’s Report**

**7. President’s Comments**

**8. Public Commentary**

*Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment, and is not a forum for the Board to respond to your comments. However, the Board will certainly give all comments appropriate consideration.*

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*When permitted, public participation shall be governed by the following rules under Policy 9325.2:*

- 1. Anyone wishing to speak before the Board shall indicate so during the Public Commentary portion of the agenda. The presenter shall give his/her name and address and make the presentation as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is granted, each speaker should be limited to 3 minutes.*
- 2. Speakers may offer such objective criticisms of school operations and programs as concern them. But in public session, the Board will not hear concerns about the specific school personnel or any person connected with the school system. Other channels provide the Board consideration and disposition of such matters involving individuals.*
- 3. The Board vests in its President or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when they do not adhere to the rules established above.*

**9. Approval of Minutes**

**9a. Approves Meeting Minutes from March 20, 2023**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting minutes of the meeting held on March 20, 2023

**9b. Approves Executive Meeting Minutes from March 20, 2023**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Executive meeting minutes of the meeting held on March 20, 2023.

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_                      Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS

**10. Committee of The Whole—All.**

None

**11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance— Carolyn Byszewski (chair)**

Christopher Lowry, Adam Colicchio & Adam Sorchini

**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    03/24/2023	\$651,367.88
Bills List    04/11/2023	\$562,969.17

**11b. 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:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Employee Conference/Workshop</b>	<b>Registration- Tuition</b>	<b>Travel Misc.</b>	<b>Estimated Total Expense</b>
April 29, 2023	Joseph Pizzo National School’s to Watch Conference Pennington NJ	\$25.00	\$0	\$25.00
April 28, 2023	Andrea Colicchio Ready, Set, Reset: Addressing the Heart of the IEP Bridgewater NJ	\$165.00	\$22.00	\$187.00
April 28, 2023	Vivian Norman Ready, Set, Reset: Addressing the Heart of the IEP Bridgewater NJ	\$165.00	\$22.00	\$187.00

**11c. Approves Joint Transportation Agreement for the 2023-2024 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

**11d. Approves School Resource Officers Agreement (SRO)**

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education approves the School Resource Officers Agreement between the Chester Board of Education, Township of Chester and The Borough of Chester. To be effective December 1, 2022 - June 30, 2027.

**11e. Approves ROD Grant Applications**

WHEREAS, the Chester Public School District Board of Education (the “Board”), a regular operating public school district in the State of New Jersey has identified certain anticipated capital improvement projects (the “Projects”) for which it wishes to seek the approval of the New Jersey Department of Education (“DOE”); and

WHEREAS, the anticipated Projects identified by the Board are as follows:

**Dickerson Elementary School:**

- Foam Roof Recoat w/Roof and Fascia Repair
- Exterior Door and Hardware Replacement
- Lockdown System Installation
- Fire Alarm System Upgrade

**Bragg Elementary School:**

- Foam Roof Recoat
- Interior Door and Hardware Replacement
- Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade
- Lockdown System Integration
- Fire Alarm System Upgrade

**Black River Middle School:**

- Foam Roof Recoat / Replacement w/Fascia and Trim Replacement
- Interior Door and Hardware Replacement
- Gymnasium HVAC Upgrade
- Classroom Wing HVAC Upgrade
- Fire Alarm System Upgrade

WHEREAS, the Board, through its architect DIGroupArchitecture, LLC (the “Architect”), intends to submit a separate application for each Project to the DOE for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to request allocation of R.O.D. Grant funds in connection with the Projects.

RESOLVED the Chester Board of Education approve the following:

Section 1. The Board hereby authorizes the Architect to submit to the DOE for approval an application for each Project.

Section 2. The Board hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in conjunction with the Architect, to request allocation of the R.O.D. Grant funds in connection with the Projects.

This resolution will take effect immediately on April 12, 2023.

**11f. Approves BCBA United Therapy Solutions, Inc.**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves United Therapy Solutions, Inc, to provide BCBA services for the remainder of the 2022- 2023 school year at an hourly rate of \$95.00 for 6 hours weekly for a total cost of \$6270.

**11g. Approves BCBA United Therapy Solutions, Inc. Camp Achieve**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves United Therapy Solutions, Inc, to provide BCBA services for Camp Achieve at an hourly rate of \$95.00 for 8 hours weekly for a total cost of \$3800.

**11h. Approves Home Instruction**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Stepping Forward to provide home instruction to student # 20593 at \$100.00 per hour for up to 10 hours a week effective 02/09/23 for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

**11i. Approves Recycling of Obsolete Technology Equipment**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Chester Board of Education approves Recycling of obsolete technology equipment; a list of which can be viewed at the Board of Education Business office.

**11j. Approves School Trips (Bragg/Dickerson)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following school trip for the 2022-2023 school year:

Field Trip	Location	Grade/Group
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation	BRMS Chester NJ	Grade 5
Grove Street Park	Chester NJ	Kindergarten
BRMS Instrumental Music Celebration	Bragg School Chester NJ	7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Band Members

Motion by \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS

**12. Curriculum/Governance/Personnel**—John Barounis (chair), Matthew Downs, Rebekah Forlenza & Melissa Mauro-Duffy

**12a. Approves Home Instruction (Marianino)**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Lauren Marianino to provide home instruction services to student # 20593 up to 10 hours per week to be paid \$50.00 per hour effective March 20, 2023 through the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

**12b. Approves Camp Achieve Substitute Nurses**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Chester district nurses as needed to serve as substitute nurses for the 2023 Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program at their professional hourly rate.

**12c. Approves Camp Achieve Junior Aides**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following junior aides for the Camp Achieve summer program from July 10, 2023 through August 10, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$15 for up to 4.5 hours daily for up to a total of \$1,350 pending working paper requirements and the approval of

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the criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L. 2018,

Raya Acquaviva  
Mark Gysleman

**12d. Approves Non-Tenured Teachers 2023-2024 School Year**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following non-tenured teachers for the 2023-2024.

<b>BRMS</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Step</b>		<b>Salary</b>
Melissa D’Auria	Step 6	BA+15	\$58,605.00
Susannah Patience	Step 2-3	MA	\$65,925.00
Gina Ruvolo	Step 2-3	BA	\$55,800.00
Jacquelyn Tasker	Step 11	MA	(.5) \$33,667.50
Micol Viscuso	Step 6	BA	\$57,105.00
Lorri Willis	Step 11	MA	\$67,335.00
<b>Bragg School</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Step</b>		<b>Salary</b>
Laura Allen	Step 4	BA	\$56,200.00
Evelyn Casperson	Step 7	BA+15	\$59,105.00
Angelina Cicero	Step 7	BA	\$57,605.00
Andrea DeFabrizio	Step 7	MA	\$63,605.00
Sara Klause	Step 16	MA+15	\$76,260.00
Danette Lewis	Step 12-13	MA	(.5) \$34,980.00
Cathleen Matthews	Step 9-10	BA	(.67) \$38,226.50
Elizabeth McGookin	Step 4	BA+30	(.5) \$30,725.00
Amanda McGrane	Step 9-10	BA	\$58,810.00
<b>Dickerson School</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Step</b>		<b>Salary</b>
Linda Blazier	Step 17	MA+30	\$82,560.00
Annabelle Edelman	Step 4	BA	\$56,200.00
Jordyn Gangemi	Step 2-3	BA	\$55,800.00
Valerie Lemp	Step 4	BA	\$56,200.00
Elizabeth Madinabeitia	Step 16	MA	\$75,510.00
Courtney Nealon	Step 2-3	BA	\$55,800.00
Gabrielle Pecoraro	Step 2-3	MA	\$61,800.00
Denielle Saucedo	Step 12-13	MA+15	\$70,710.00

**12e. Approves Teachers Who Receive Tenure in 2023-2024 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 2023-2024.

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<b>BRMS</b>				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Amy Schwartz	Science Teacher	Step 20A MA+30	95,260.00	08/23/2023
<b>Bragg School</b>				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Alexis Carle	Special Ed Teacher	Step 6 BA	\$57,105.00	08/23/2023
Gretchen Jacot-Guillarmod	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	Step 19 MA	\$84,585.00	02/18/2024
Christopher Jala	Instrumental Music Teacher	Step 6 BA+30	\$62,335.00	08/23/2023
<b>Dickerson School</b>				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Julie Curtin	Nurse	Step 21 BA+15	\$89,035.00	08/23/2023
Sarah Skrabal	Speech Therapist	Step 17 MA	\$78,435.00	08/23/2023

**12f. Accepts Resignation (Mejia)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education accepts the resignation of Hector Mejia, custodian, effective April 6, 2023.

**12g. Awards Compensation (Van Woert)**

WHEREAS, the employment contract for Dr. Christina Van Woert, Superintendent of Schools, provides for merit goals pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-3.1 € (10); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Christina Van Woert, Superintendent of Schools, successfully attained the following Qualitative Goals as outlined below.

<b>Qualitative Merit Goals</b>	
The Superintendent will lead the district in the reinvention of the Chester Science Fair which for more than thirty years has been organized, chaired and administered by a Chester Borough and Chester Township organization from outside of the schools. During COVID-19, the Chester Science Fair has not happened for the past two years and the borough and township committee has dissolved. Duties include transferring many of the responsibilities from the committee to the school district as led by the Superintendent. These duties include finding, supporting and mentoring a large number of volunteers; organizing the fair displays and exhibits in the physical	2.5% of salary

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plant; recruiting and supervising out of district scientific professionals to serve as judges for the fair; leading teachers and students through the process of preparing to compete in the fair and offering workshops for their projects; maintaining the website, judging and communication tools; providing food services on the day of the fair; and generally supervising the entire process of many moving parts on the day of the fair scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2023.	
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Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS

**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 11, 2023 at \_\_\_\_ p.m. to discuss \_\_\_\_\_. It is expected that the minutes will be made public as soon as official action is taken.

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS

**14. Return to Public Session Time\_\_\_\_\_**

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS

**15. Unfinished Business**

**16. New Business**

**17. Adjournment**

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS