

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 11, 2023
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Sarah Schultz, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. at the Chester Borough Courtroom, 50 North Road, Chester, NJ 07930

2. Sunshine Announcement

Sarah Schultz, Board President announced 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	Yes	Rebekah Forlenza	Yes**
Carolyn Byszewski	Yes	Christopher Lowry	Yes*
Adam Colicchio	Yes	Sarah Schultz	Yes
Matthew Downs	Yes	Adam Sorchini	Yes
Melissa Mauro-Duffy	Yes	Quorum	Yes

*Arrived 7:45

**Left meeting 8:05

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Sara Schultz, Board President led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive session moved to start of the meeting.

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 7:05 p.m. to discuss Personnel. It is expected that the minutes will be made public as soon as official action is taken.

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by John Barounis

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

14. Return to Public Session Time 8:35 pm

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by Matthew Downs

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

5. Presentations:

None

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

6a. Superintendent’s Report

- Upcoming Events and Board Presentations
- Clean Communities and Chester Day
- Working with the Chester Police Department on a repeat presentation of their Internet Safety Program

6b. Business Administrator’s Report

None

7. President’s Comments

Sarah Schultz thanked everyone for their work on the budget.

8. Public Commentary

None

9. Approval of Minutes

The Board took the following action:

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 Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by Matthew Downs

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

10. Committee of The Whole—All.

None

11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance— Carolyn Byszewski (chair)
Christopher Lowry, Adam Colicchio & Adam Sorchini

Adam Colicchio discussed ROD Grants

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:

Date	Employee Conference/Workshop	Registration- Tuition	Travel Misc.	Estimated Total Expense
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.

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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 th Grade Orientation	BRMS Chester NJ	Grade 5
Grove Street Park	Chester NJ	Kindergarten
BRMS Instrumental Music Celebration	Bragg School Chester NJ	7 th & 8 th Grade Band Members

Motioned by Matthew Downs

Seconded by Melissa Mauro-Duffy

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes
7-0-1 (11b.)	Yes	Yes	Abstained	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

John Barounis discussed HIB reporting and new legislations.

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.

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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 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.

BRMS			
Name	Step		Salary
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	(\$0.50) \$33,667.50
Micol Viscuso	Step 6	BA	\$57,105.00
Lorri Willis	Step 11	MA	\$67,335.00
Bragg School			
Name	Step		Salary
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	(\$0.50) \$34,980.00
Cathleen Matthews	Step 9-10	BA	(\$0.67) \$38,226.50
Elizabeth McGookin	Step 4	BA+30	(\$0.50) \$30,725.00
Amanda McGrane	Step 9-10	BA	\$58,810.00
Brandon Kornbluh	Step 17	MA	\$78,435.00
Dickerson School			
Name	Step		Salary
Linda Blazier	Step 17	MA+30	\$82,560.00
Annabelle Edelmann	Step 4	BA	\$56,200.00

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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.

BRMS				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Amy Schwartz	Science Teacher	Step 20A MA+30	95,260.00	08/23/2023
Bragg School				
Name	Position	Step	Salary	Tenure Date
Alexis Carle	Special Ed Teacher	Step 6 BA	\$57,105.00	08/23/2023
Gretchen Jacot-Guillarmod	4 th 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
Dickerson School				
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.

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Qualitative Merit Goals	
<p>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 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.</p>	<p>2.5% of salary</p>

Motioned by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by Adam Colicchio

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

15. Unfinished Business

John Barounis discussed Life Vacs Equipment Training for staff

16. New Business

Sarah Schultz asked about creating Event Calendars for Board Members.

17. Adjournment Time

There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Carolyn Byszewski and seconded by John Barounis the meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm

Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Peter Frascella
Board Secretary