

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PUBLIC AND EXECUTIVE MEETING  
OF THE TENAFLY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 28, 2021

TENAFLY HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER  
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE

*Motion to enter Closed Session at 6:04 p.m.  
Moved: Ms. Meytes Second: Ms. Juhng*

1. **Closed Session**

**Be it Resolved**, that the Tenafly Board of Education determines it is necessary to meet in Closed Session on June 28, 2021 to discuss Legal, Personnel matters and Student matters; and **Be it Further Resolved**, that these matters will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

*Motion to adjourn Closed Session and enter Open Session  
Moved: Ms. Schwarz Second: Ms. Juhng*

2. **Open Session**

*The public meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Board President Jocelyn Schwarz*

3. **Adequate Notice Statement/Call To Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance**

*Board President Jocelyn Schwarz read the following statement:*

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Board of Education Hegelein Building, the Borough office, Tenafly Public Library, the local press and on the district's web site.

The following Board members were present:

<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
Mark Aronson	X	
Inbal Israeli Miller	X	
Michelle Merchant	X	
Yelena Meytes	X	
Paula Newman	X	
Edward J. Salaski	X	
Michael Wilderman		X
Jane Juhng, Vice President	X	
Jocelyn Schwarz, President	X	

Also present:

Ms. Shauna C. DeMarco, Superintendent/Acting Board Secretary  
Dr. Evelyn Mamman, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

**Board President's Statement** – see attached

4. **Public Comment**

- Will the Superintendent's report or summary of the investigation into the Maugham matter be made public?

*Motion to enter 2nd Closed Session at 8:18 p.m.  
Moved: Ms. Meytes Second: Ms. Merchant  
All in Favor*

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m.  
Moved: Ms. Merchant Second: Ms. Newman*

Respectfully submitted,

*Shauna C. DeMarco*

Shauna C. DeMarco  
Acting Board Secretary

Thanks to everyone who is here in person, and tuning in via zoom from home.

This has been a very difficult few weeks for our community. It's been especially difficult for the family and student at the center of all the attention from the press and social media, through no fault of their own, and for the members of our Jewish community. I've been heartened with how the parents in the classroom have come together and supported the student and her family, and we continue to provide support and resources at the district level for the student, class and school involved.

We've appreciated how engaged the community has been around this situation, and have listened and taken seriously all of the input we've received at our Board meetings and in private conversations.

Tonight during our closed session, the Superintendent presented the findings from her investigation into the situation, which included a comprehensive account of what occurred, what happened that should not have, and all of the facts and context that informed the final recommendation. It also outlined some of the steps we will take in the coming weeks to prevent a similar situation from occurring in the future.

I personally am very satisfied with the manner and level of rigor of this investigation, which Shauna conducted and which included advice and consultation from our legal counsel at every step.

It's now up to the Board to decide what action to take based on Shauna's recommendations. As everyone knows, this is a complex situation, and thus the board will be taking more time to consider the investigation's findings before voting on any potential action.

There is nothing we take more seriously, and that I know our community cares about more than the education and well being of our children. It's so important to us that we get this right, and we appreciate your patience while we digest the information that has been given to us.

Our next meeting is scheduled for July 12. We hope to bring all of this to a resolution at that time.

As we've done throughout this process, we welcome your thoughts and are happy to answer any questions during the public comment period. While we may not yet be able to provide the answers you are looking for, we certainly encourage your questions and will provide as much information tonight as we are able.

Thank you.

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