

Mansfield Township Board of Education

AGENDA

Reorganization Meeting

January 3, 2024

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order - Board Secretary, Mr. Paul DeAngelo

Pledge of Allegiance - Board Secretary, Mr. Paul DeAngelo

Statement of Advance Notice

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, The Mansfield Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Mansfield Township Municipal Building and sent to the following newspapers: *The Express Times and Star Ledger*.

Roll Call – Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator & Board Secretary

Mansfield Township Board of Education:

Ms. Alison Lorentson
Ms. Diane Margolin
Ms. Constance Quinn
Mr. Jonathan Rood
Ms. Linda Watters
Mr. James J. Winand

Administration:

Dr. Gary McCartney, Interim Superintendent
Mr. Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator and Board Secretary
Mr. John Melitsky, Principal
Ms. Caryn Coscia, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Others in Attendance:

OATH OF OFFICE - NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS - Board Secretary will administer the Oath of Office to Newly Elected Members of the Board of Education. The oath of office will be signed, notarized, and held by the Board Secretary in the Board of Education Office.

Mr. Jonathan Lemp - Majority of votes cast, Three Years
Mrs. Judy Irwin - Majority of votes cast, Three Years
Mrs. Jennifer Rosenblum - Majority of votes cast, Three Years

Reorganization Agenda - Board Organization

Temporary Chair Appointment to Conduct Election of Board President

1. Appoint Board Secretary, as temporary Chair, to conduct election of Board President.

Board Organization - Board Secretary

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS THE BOARD SECRETARY CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT:

1. Resolved to nominate _____ for President. Motion Made By: _____ Seconded By: _____ (Additional Nominees): if any Nomination: _____ Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Nomination: _____ Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____
Hearing no other nominations from the floor: Resolved to close nominations for President.

2. Appoint _____ as Board President. Nominations for Mansfield Board President.

The Board Secretary turns the meeting over to the newly elected President.

3. THE BOARD PRESIDENT WILL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT: Resolved to nominate _____ for Vice President. Motion Made By: _____ Seconded By: _____

(Additional Nominees): if any Nomination: _____ Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____
Nomination: _____ Motion by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Hearing no other nominations from the floor: Resolved to close nominations for Vice President.

4. Appoint _____ as Mansfield Board Vice President.
5. Adopt Code of Ethics - Resolved that the Board of Education adopts the New Jersey School Boards Association Code of Ethics as listed; Be It Further Resolved each Board of Education Member will sign the documentation that he/she has received a copy of the code and it is understood.

CODE OF ETHICS

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will behave toward my fellow board members with the respect due their office-demonstrating courtesy, decorum and fair play at all public meetings and in all public statements.
5. I will refrain from inappropriate conduct in public meetings and in making public statements, refraining from any disparagement of my fellow board members or others on a personal, social, racial or religious basis.
6. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
7. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board.
8. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
9. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.

10. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief school administrator.

11. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

12. I will refer all complaints to the chief school administrator and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

6. Parliamentary Procedures Resolved, to adopt Robert's Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings and to appoint the board secretary and board attorney to act as the parliamentarians until the next Reorganization Meeting on January 2, 2025.
7. Approve the 2024-2025 Mansfield Township Board of Education Meeting dates.
8. Readoption of Policy Manual Resolved, to readopt all current written policies, by-laws and rules/regulations of the Mansfield Township School District for the period from the date of this Reorganization Meeting until the Reorganization Meeting in the next calendar year unless modified by the Board of Education in accordance with those applicable policies, by-laws and/or rules/regulations.
9. Appointment of Delegates and Representatives Resolved, to appoint the following delegates/representatives:

Warren County Educational Services Commission _____
Warren County School Boards Association _____
New Jersey School Boards Association _____
Township Committee Liaison _____

10. Designate Official Newspapers/Meeting Schedule Whereas, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of NJ (1975) known as, and hereinafter designated as, the "Open Public Meetings Act" requires notification of meetings of public bodies, as therein defined, in the manner therein set forth, now therefore be it Resolved, that for purposes of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act the Mansfield Township Board of Education hereby makes the following designations: The Star-Gazette and (primary) and The Express Times (secondary) are hereby designated as the two newspapers to receive notification of meetings as required by any and all sections of the Open Public Meetings Act. Notices of meetings shall be posted on the bulletin boards in the main entrance of the schools, on the district website, and sent to the Township Clerk. Be it Further Resolved, to

approve the annual board meeting calendar as follows: The regular monthly meetings of the Mansfield Township Board of Education in Warren County begin with an executive session at 7:00 p.m. and the regular public meeting held at 7:30 p.m. and are open to the public.

Superintendent's Report – John Comegno, Esq. Mansfield TWP BOE Attorney - Ethics Training

Communications and Petitions (If required) – The Superintendent and members of the Board may acknowledge any communications and/or petitions received.

Public Comments Agenda

Public comments are invited on matters pertaining only to the agenda action items at this time. All participants shall be given three (3) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening; rather, the Board will, in appropriate cases, delegate the authority to investigate the matter to the Superintendent or his designee.

Please let the record reflect that the BOE does not endorse your comments nor will the BOE be held liable for comments you make about a staff member, or other person, which the staff member, or other person, may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you. The Board will hear all public comments and then close the public comment session and respond if appropriate.

Executive Session (If Required)

New Business - Members of the Board may introduce any new item or topic of discussion for the Board to consider.

Old Business - Members of the Board may comment on any item or topic that was previously discussed by the Board.

FUTURE BOE MEETING DATES:

Recommended Action - Motion to adjourn the meeting.



State of New Jersey

REQUIRED OATHS FOR SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

(Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.1 and N.J.S.A. 41:1-1 and 1-3)

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey, and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Governments established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.*

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of a board of education and that I will faithfully, impartially and justly perform all the duties of that office according to the best of my ability So help me God.*

Sworn and subscribed to

before me this..... day of

.....20.....

(Authorized Signature)

} _____
(Signature of Board Member)

School District of.....

County of.....

*No individual shall be required to swear or affirm that part of the oaths which states "So help me God."