

**REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 8, 2020  
AGENDA**

*A regular meeting of the Chester Board of Education will be held on  
December 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Google Meet*

**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**

Amy Collins		Liz Madinabeitia	
Carolyn Kleppe-Collins		Heather Ronco	
Rebekah Forlenza		Mike Tomasco	
Sara Kalashian		Kerri Wright	
Christopher Lowry		Quorum	Y N

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

**5. Administration- Dr. Christina VanWoert and Tanya Dawson**

**5a. Superintendent's Report**

**5b. Business Administrator's Report**

**6. President's Comments**

**7. Presentations**

● **Public Hearing on HIB:** Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46, the Superintendent will report to the Board of Education all acts of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) which occurred during the previous reporting period, July 2020 through December 2020.

● **Chester CEA and Chester Board of Education Virtual Celebration of Retirements:** Jean Gilbert (BRMS), Jackie Spurr (Dickerson) Cynthia Thieringer (Bragg)

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**8. Public Commentary on Agenda Items**

*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 Regular Meeting Minutes from November 17, 2020**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting minutes of the meeting held on November 17, 2020.

**9b. Approves Regular Meeting Executive Minutes from November 17, 2020**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting Executive minutes of the meeting held on November 17, 2020.

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

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

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW

**10. Committee of The Whole—All.**

**10a. Approves Reorganization Meeting Date**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Reorganization Meeting for January\_\_\_\_, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Board of Education, 50 North Road Building 4, Chester, New Jersey.

**11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance—Amy Collins, Rebekah Forlenza, 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.

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<b>Bills List</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Payroll 11-20-2020 Custodian Retro Payroll	\$10,456.79
Payroll 11-30-2020	\$614,759.62
Bills List 11-30-2020	\$603,690.86

**11b. Accepts the ESEA**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education accepts the ESEA Grant Award amounts for fiscal year 2021.

Title I-A	\$8,525
Title II-A	\$14,963

**11c. 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><u>Employee</u> Conference/Workshop</b>	<b>Registration- Tuition</b>	<b>Travel Misc.</b>	<b>Estimated Total Expense</b>
December 2020	Tanya Dawson NJASBO-6 Part Excel Series	\$150	Virtual	\$150

**11d. Approves Increasing the Bid Threshold—Qualified Purchasing Agent**

WHEREAS, Chester School District, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary possesses a Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) certificate;

WHEREAS, the State Treasurer, in consultation with the Governor and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-7, and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (b), has increased the bid threshold amount for school districts with a Qualified Purchasing Agent , from \$40,000 to **\$44,000**, effective July 1, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a) and N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.4, establishes and sets the bid threshold amount of **\$44,000** for the Board of Education, and further authorizes Tanya Dawson, the Qualified Purchasing Agent, to award contracts, in full accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 (a), for those purchases that do not exceed in the aggregate of the newly established bid threshold amount.

**11e. Approves Home Instruction Services Contract (Hanes)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approve the contract with Dr. L. Hanes & Associates, Pompton Plains, NJ for home instruction services on an as needed basis for the 2020-2021 school year.

**11f. Approves Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings**

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education approves the Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 school year.

**11g. Approves Submission of USDA Equipment Assistance Grant**

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education approves submission of the USDA Equipment Assistance Grant in the amount of \$24,150.

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

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

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW

**12. Curriculum/Governance/Personnel—*Liz Madinabeitia, Heather Ronco, and Mike Tomasco***

**12a. Approves Leave of Absence (Employee #1132)**

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following personal leave of absence for employee # 1132:

Leave (Start Date)	11/18/2020
Accumulated Sick Days (Applied)	16
FMLA/NJFLA Start Date (unpaid with benefits)	12/14/2020
Date of Return (Anticipated)	01/04/2021

**12b. Amends Leave of Absence (Employee #1380)**

Resolved: that the Board of Education amends the following maternity leave of absence for employee # 1380:

	From	To
Leave (Start Date)	10/19/2020	10/19/2020
Accumulated Sick Days	0	0

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(Applied)		
FMLA/NJFLI Start Date (unpaid with benefits)	12/10/2020	12/03/2020
Extended Leave Start Date (unpaid without benefits)	N/A	3/3/2021
Date of Return (Anticipated)	3/11/2021	3/11/2021

**12c. Approves Field Experience and Classroom Student Teaching Placement**

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves a transition for Elizabeth Skrinski from Drew University, Madison, NJ to continue her field experience placement and classroom student teaching placement from under the guidance of Patricia Fisher, 6th grade Math Teacher to under the guidance of Dana Militante, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Teacher effective January 4, 2021 through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

**12d. Approves Office Aide (Hoffman)**

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Heather Hoffman as an Office Aide assigned to Bragg School, at a salary of \$11,928 prorated to \$8,409.24, no health benefits, effective November 30, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

**12e. Approves Long Term Substitute (Kalacheva)**

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Eugenia Kalacheva as a long term leave replacement for Andrea Varughese assigned to Dickerson School, at a salary of \$57,410.00, Step 1 MA prorated to \$41,668.56 with benefits effective December 3, 2020 through June 30, 2021 pending the approval of the criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L.2018, c 5.

**12f. Amends Resolution (12m.)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education amends Resolution (12m.) from the November 17, 2020 to add Taryn Mansolino as an advisor for the BRMS Student Government club with the stipend to be split with Sean McQueeney for the 2020-2021 school year with stipends as determined by Schedule "B" of the Agreement between The Chester Board of Education and The Chester Education Association.

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

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

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW

**13. Public Commentary**

**14. Executive Session**

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RESOLVED, that pursuant to NJS.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13 the Chester Board of Education holds a closed session on December 8, 2020 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	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW

**15. Return to Public Session**

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

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

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW

**16. Unfinished Business**

**17. New Business**

**18. Adjournment**

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

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

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW