

REGULAR MEETING
September 14, 2020
MINUTES

1. Call To Order

Mike Tomasco, Board President, called the meeting to order on September 14, 2020 at 7:02 p.m. via Google Meet.

2. Sunshine Announcement

Mike Tomasco, Board President, announced that this meeting was 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	Yes	Liz Madinabeitia	Yes
Carolyn Kleppe-Collins	Absent	Heather Ronco	Yes
Rebekah Forlenza	Yes	Mike Tomasco	Yes
Sara Kalashian	Yes	Kerri Wright	Yes
Christopher Lowry	Absent	Quorum	Yes

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Mike Tomasco, Board President, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Administration-Dr. Christina VanWoert and Tanya Dawson

5a. Superintendent's Report

- The Road Back; Chester Hybrid Plan
- Personnel and support from CEA
- Evolving guidance from the NJDOE and the NJDOH
- Chester Chat Series of interviews and questions

5b. Business Administrator's Report

None

6. President's Comments

None

7. Presentations

None

8. Public Commentary on Agenda Items

There were no members of the public in attendance, there were no comments.

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The Board took the following action:

9. Approval of Minutes

Upon the motion of Mike Tomasco and seconded by Kerri Wright the Board approved the following resolutions.

9a. Approves Executive Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2020

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Executive meeting minutes of the meeting held on June 23, 2020.

9b. Approves Regular Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2020

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting minutes of the meeting held on June 23, 2020.

Motion by Mike Tomasco

Seconded by Kerri Wright

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW
7-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

10. Committee of The Whole—All.

Upon the motion of Mike Tomasco and seconded by Kerri Wright the Board approved the following resolutions.

10a. Approves Chester Board of Education 2020-2021 Goals

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following Chester Board of Education Goals for 2020-2021.

Board Goal One:

To provide our Chester School District students with an educational program of the highest academic standards and boundless creativity during this COVID-19 pandemic that allows students to continue to grow and develop academically, socially and emotionally and is fluid as needed in delivery as responsive to the public health climate that exists throughout 2020 - 2021.

Board Goal Two:

To provide all Chester School District students and faculty with school facilities that meet or exceed all recommended health and safety protocols as outlined in the State of New Jersey's Road Back Plan for opening school districts during this period of COVID-19.

Board Goal Three:

To continue to be fiscally responsible and strategically manage the loss of state aid and the increased costs associated with returning to school during this unprecedented period for PPE, additional personnel and additional equipment while maintaining a balanced

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budget by reallocating resources and utilizing our capital and maintenance reserves for these purposes.

10b. Approves Settlement Agreement with Chester Education Association

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the attached settlement agreement regarding the unfair practice charge CE-2021-001 and CO-2021-017 between the Chester Board of Education and Chester Education Association.

Motion by Mike Tomasco

Seconded by Kerri Wright

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW
7-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance—Amy Collins, Rebekah Forlenza, Sara Kalashian and Chris Lowry

Upon the motion of Mike Tomasco and seconded by Kerri Wright the Board approved the following resolutions.

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 08-28-2020	\$146,655.43
Payroll 09-11-2020	\$500,598.12
Bills List 08-20-2020	\$2,088.66
Bills List 09-14-2020	\$936,297.60

11b. Approves Monthly Appropriation Transfers for July 2020

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following transfers within the 2019-2020 budget for the month of July 2020 in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 1.; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11c. Approves Monthly Transfer Report for July 2020

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3, the Chester Board of Education approves the Monthly Report of Transfers for July 2020; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11d. Approves Board Secretary Report for July 2020

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RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9 and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.2(h), the Chester Board of Education approves the Report of the Board Secretary for July 2020; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11e. Approves Board Treasurer Report for July 2020

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-36, the Chester Board of Education approves the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for July 2020; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11f. Approves Certification of Secretary and Treasurer Report for July 2020

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-16.10 (c) 3, the Board Secretary does certify that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation; and

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c) 4, the Chester Board of Education has reviewed for the minutes of this meeting the Board Secretary and Treasurer's monthly financial report for July 2020 and that no major account or fund has been over-expended.

11g. Approves Prime Healthcare Services-Saint Clare's, LLC

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education approves a contract between the Chester Board of Education and Prime Healthcare Services-Saint Clare's, LLC. to provide certain medical services for the Chester School District on an on needed basis effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

11h. Approves Parent Reimbursement

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves The Learning Curve to provide ABA therapy services for student # 20406 from July 1st through August 31 at a cost of \$1960 payable to the parent as reimbursement.

11i. Approves Tuition Student

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education accepts a tuition student of a staff member from Scotch Plains, New Jersey for the 2020-2021 school year at a cost of \$7,459.60 for the full year.

11j. Approves Withdrawal from Capital Reserve

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education approves withdrawal from capital reserve in the amount of \$204,500 for HVAC Ozone Free Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization.

Motion by Mike Tomasco

Seconded by Kerri Wright

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW
7-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

Upon the motion of Mike Tomasco and seconded by Kerri Wright the Board approved the following resolutions.

12a. Approves Advancement on Guide

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves advancement on the salary guide for the following staff members effective October 1, 2020:

Name	Current Step/Guide	Advance Step/Guide
Melissa Bene	MA+15	MA+30
Cassandra Cangiano	BA +15	BA +30
Erica David	MA+15	MA+30
Kelli Dolan	MA+15	MA+30
Lauren Marianino	MA	MA+15
Linda Mayers	MA+15	MA+30
Vivian Norman	MA	MA+15
Timothy Rain	BA+30	MA
Katherine Strauss	MA	MA+15
Maryrose Walsh	MA	MA+15

12b. Approves Resignation (Lucas)

RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education accepts the resignation of Christopher Lucas, Bragg School Custodian effective September 4, 2020.

12c. Approves Translator (Capan)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Gretchen Capan to translate documents from English to Spanish for up to 10 hours per month for the 2020-2021 school year at the professional hourly rate of \$62 for a total cost of up to \$6,200.

12d. Approves Custodian (Rojas)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Jevi Rojas as a Custodian assigned to Bragg School, at a salary of \$36,000 prorated to \$29,850 with benefits effective September 2, 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.

12e. Approves Long Term Substitute (Mahr)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Dylan Mahr as a long term leave replacement for employee #1088 at a salary of \$51,580 (Step 1 BA), prorated to \$14,958.20 with benefits effective September 1, 2020 through November 25, 2020 pending the approval of the criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L.2018, c 5.

12f. Approves Kindergarten Paraprofessional (Corcoran)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Dorian Corcoran as a Kindergarten Literacy Paraprofessional at Dickerson School, 3 hours per day, at a salary of \$9,720 without benefits effective August 25, 2020-June 30, 2021.

12g. Approves Statement of Assurance Professional Development/Mentoring Plan

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves for the 2020-2021 school year the following mentors for the following new teachers:

New Employee <i>(New to profession must pay mentor fee of \$550 or prorated amount)</i>	Mentor	School
Melissa D'Auria	Natalie Tarnacki	BRMS
Valerie Lemp	Danielle Meekings	Dickerson
Christie Yates	Stamatia Westberg	Dickerson

12h. Approves Team Leaders (BRMS)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following BRMS team leaders 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:

Team Leaders	Grade
Patricia Fisher	6 th Grade
Theresa Meierhofer	7 th Grade
Gina Lorusso	8 th Grade
Kathleen Vespignani	Related Arts

12i. Approves Team Leaders (Bragg)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following Bragg School team leaders 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:

Team Leaders	Grade
Kelli Dolan and Lauren Scarfo (Split)	3 rd Grade
Brian Seely	4 th Grade
Colleen Cahill and Millicent Roskie (Split)	5 th Grade
Kelly Tompkins and TBD (Split)	Related Arts

12j. Approves Team Leaders (Dickerson)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following team leaders for the 2020-2021 school year with sti-

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pendents as determined by Schedule "B" of the Agreement between The Chester Board of Education and The Chester Education Association:

Team Leaders	Grade
Dorianne Taquinto	Kindergarten
Rebecca Gambuti	1 st Grade
Melissa Tonnessen	2 nd Grade
Dana Katzenoff	Related Arts

12k. Approves CST Team Leaders

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following CST team leaders 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:

Team Leaders	School
Jennifer Christal	Dickerson
Maryanne Vindici	Bragg
Jennifer Yeager	BRMS
Debra Androvette (ESL)	District

12l. Approves Professional Work (Curtin)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Julie Curtin for up to 16 hours for professional work at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$62 for a total of up to \$992.

12m. Approves Transfer (Fusco)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves a transfer of Donna Fusco from Paraprofessional, BRMS to Nurse's Assistant, BRMS at a salary of \$31,500 effective August 26, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

12n. Approves Transfer (Youtz)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves a transfer of Christine Youtz from Paraprofessional, Bragg School to Nurse's Assistant, Bragg School at a salary of \$31,500 effective August 26, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

12o. Approves Transfer (Cohen)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves a transfer of Jill Cohen from Paraprofessional, Dickerson School to Nurse's Assistant, Dickerson School at a salary of \$31,500 effective August 26, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

12p. Approves EFMLEA Leave (#1263)

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following EFMLEA leave of absence for employee #1263:

Description	From	To
EPSLA Dates designated as EFMLEA	09/01/2020	09/16/2020
Use of 10 Accumulated Sick Days	09/17/2020	10/01/2020
EFMLEA Dates (unpaid with benefits)	10/2/2020	10/16/2020

12q. Approves EFMLEA Leave (1152)

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following EFMLEA leave of absence for employee #1152:

Description	From	To
EPSLA Dates designated as EFMLEA	09/01/2020	9/16/2020
Use of 57 Accumulated Sick Days	09/17/2020	12/11/2020
EFMLEA Dates (unpaid with benefits)	12/14/2020	02/19/2021

12r. Approves EFMLEA Leave (1364)

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following EFMLEA leave of absence for employee #1364:

Description	From	To
EPSLA Dates 2 weeks designated as EFMLEA	08/24/2020	09/15/2020
EFMLEA Dates 10 weeks 2/3 pay	09/16/2020	11/16/2020

12s. Approves EFMLEA Leave (1002)

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education approves the following EFMLEA leave of absence for employee #1002:

Description	From	To
EPSLA Dates 2 weeks designated as EFMLEA	08/24/2020	09/15/2020
EFMLEA Dates 10 weeks 2/3 pay	09/16/2020	11/16/2020

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12t. Approves Field Experience and Classroom Student Teaching Placement

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves field experience placement and classroom student teaching placement for Hanna Ahlert from Drew University, Madison, NJ under the guidance of the following teachers:

Teacher	Classroom Placement
Jennifer Christal	K-2 Special Education
Stacey Thompson	3 rd Grade

12u. Approves Professional Work (Yeager)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Jennifer Yeager to provide supplemental services of 3 hours to student #19812 at the contract professional rate of \$62 an hour for the week of August 16, 2020.

12v. Approves Long Term Substitute (Hoffman)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Heather Hoffman as a long term maternity leave replacement for employee #1239 at a salary of \$57,410 (Step 1 MA), prorated to \$12,630.20 without benefits effective September 16, 2020 through November 25, 2020 pending the approval of the criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L.2018, c 5.

12w. Approves Statement of Assurance (Paraprofessional Staff)

RESOLVED, that that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the 2020-21 Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff.

Motion by Mike Tomasco

Seconded by Kerri Wright

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW
7-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

13. Public Commentary

None

14. Executive Session

None

15. Unfinished Business

None

16. New Business

None

17. Adjournment

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There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Mike Tomasco and seconded by Heather Ronco the Board considered a motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Motion by Mike Tomasco

Seconded by Kerri Wright

Roll Call Vote	AC	CKC	RF	SK	CL	LM	HR	MT	KW
7-0	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Tanya Dawson
Board Secretary