REGULAR MEETING MARCH 14, 2023 MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Sarah Schultz, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 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	Absent	Adam Sorchini	Yes
Melissa Mauro-Duffy	Yes	Quorum	Yes

4. Pledge of Allegiance

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

5. Presentations:

None

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

6a. Superintendent's Report

Dr. VanWoert discussed the weather and its effect on the school day, after school activities and the Board Meeting. All Presentations that were scheduled for March 14, 2023, will postponed until March 20, 2023. Dr. VanWoert introduced the new Business Administrator, Peter Frascella, and explained that one of the purposes for the March 20, 2023 was to give him the time to prepare the presentation. She also discussed the Eagle Scout presentation that will take place on March 20, 2023.

Mr. Lowery also briefly discussed the Eagle Scout Presentation and congratulated the eight local students that became Eagle Scouts in a ceremony over the weekend.

6b. Business Administrator's Report

Mr. Frascella thanked the Board for their patience in giving him the time and opportunity to thoroughly prepare the budget in condensed timeframe. Informed the Board Members of budget documents that were posted to their Committee Classrooms and budget binders will be sent out before the end of the week.

7. President's Comments

Mrs. Schultz discussed that her and Mrs. Mauro-Duffy had the pleasure of taking part in the Executive County Superintendent, Dr. Nancy Gartenberg's visit to Dickerson where books were read to the children as part of Read Across America Week.

8. Public Commentary

Mike Tomesco - Requested that the Board of Education consider not increasing the Tax Levy this year.

9. Approval of Minutes

The Board took the following action:

9a. Approves Meeting Minutes from February 7, 2023

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Regular meeting minutes of the Reorganization meeting held on February 7, 2023

9b. Approves Executive Meeting Minutes from February 7, 2023

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Executive meeting minutes of the meeting held on February 7, 2023.

Motion by: John Barounis

Seconded by: Carolyn Byszewski

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

10. Committee of The Whole—All.

Approves to Table Resolutions 10a. and 10b.

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves to table resolutions 10a. and 10b.

Motion by Adam Sorchini

Seconded by Christopher Lowry

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

10a. Approves Superintendent's Recommendation for HIB Case # 6

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation for HIB Case #6.

- 10b. Approves Superintendent's Recommendation for HIB Case # 7
 RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation for HIB Case#7.
 - 11. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance— Carolyn Byszewski (chair) Christopher Lowry, Adam Colicchio & Adam Sorchini

Discussion:

Mrs. Byszewski discussed the Buildings & Dickerson and Bragg, the Generator Project at Dickerson, and Security Camera Upgrades at the Elementary School. She discussed the damage caused during evenings and weekends by organizations renting the School Buildings. Mrs. Byszewski also updated the Board and Public on the Ad Hoc Water Committee's meeting and progress as well as letting them know the paperwork has been filed with the State so the district could receive funds to offset the project in the future.

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 2/15/2023	\$670,701.23
Payroll 2/28/2023	\$640,156.76
Payroll 3/15/2023	\$668,955.00
Bills List 2/28/2023	\$210,966.27
Bills List 3/14/2023	\$1,391,887.03

11b. Approves Monthly Transfer Report for January 2023

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-13.3, the Chester Board of Education approves the Monthly Report of Transfers for January 2023; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11c. Approves Board Secretary Report for January 2023

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 January 2023; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11d. Approves Board Treasurer Report for January 2023

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 January 2023; a copy of which is available for public review in the Chester Board of Education Business Office.

11e. Approves Certification of Secretary and Treasurer Report for January 2023 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 January 2023 and that no major account or fund has been over-expended.

11f. Approves Recycling/Disposal of Obsolete Security Equipment

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, the Chester Board of Education approves Recycling/Disposal of obsolete security equipment; a list of which can be viewed at the Board of Education Business office.

11g. 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/Work- shop	Registration-	Travel Misc.	Estimated Total Expense
March 24, 25,31 and April 1, 2023	Evan Morley NJ Electrical Contractor Continuing Education Program	\$270.00	Virtual	\$270.00
June 21-24, 2023	Dr. Kenneth Piascik National Schools to Watch Conference	\$429.00	\$1,655.22	\$2,084.22
June 21-24, 2023	Joe Pizzo National Schools to Watch Conference	\$429.00	\$1,133.38	\$1,562.38

11h. Approves 2022-2023 Author Visit to Bragg School (Parry)

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following Author to visit Bragg School for the 2022-2023 school year.

Date	Visitor	School	Total Expense
04/19/2023	Rosanne Parry	Bragg Elementary	\$1,000.00

11i. Approves (Occupational Therapist) Morris County Educational Services

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves Morris County Educational Services to provide occupational therapy services for the Camp Achieve Summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, at an hourly rate of \$107 for 9 hours weekly for a total cost of up to \$4,815.

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by Adam Colicchio

									1
Roll Call Vote	JB	CB	AC	MD	MMD	RF	CL	SS	AS

8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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

Discussion:

Mr. Barounis reviewed the topics discussed at the Curriculum/Governance/Personnel Committee Meeting. He went into detail on the work that was being done for the Science Fair. He discussed personnel items including Sick Leave Bank Request, and Dental Reimbursement for some employees. There was more discussion on Read Across America Week. Mr. Barounis also spoke about the Parent Survey regarding technology and the district looking into making the website more user friendly.

12a. Approves 2022-2023 School Trips (District)

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the following Chester School District field trips for the 2022-2023 school year:

Field Trip	Location	Grade/Group
05/02/2023	Liberty Hall Museum, Union	4 th Grade
03/08/2023-03/09/2023	Morris County Court House	5 th grade students
05/04/2023	Ort Farm, Long Valley	Kindergarten Students

12b. Accepts Resignation (Amaya)

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education accepts the resignation of BRMS custodian Iris Amaya effective February 24, 2023.

12c. Approves Horizontal Advancement on Guide

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves advancement on the salary guide for the following staff members effective March 1, 2023.

Name	Current Step/Guide	Advance Step/Guide
D'Auria, Melissa	Step 5 BA \$55,070.00	Step 5 BA +15 \$56,570.00
Vilagos, Lori	Step 18 BA +30 \$80,200.00	Step 18 MA \$80,950.00

12d. Approves SEMI Waiver

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2023-2024 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Chester Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having 40 or fewer Medicaid eligible Special Education Students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chester Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Morris an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2023-24 school year.

12e. Approves Leave of Absence Employee #1152

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

Leave	02/01/2023
(Start Date)	02/01/2023
FMLA Start Date	02/01/2023
(unpaid with benefits)	02/01/2023
Date of Return	03/02/2023
(Anticipated)	03/02/2023

12f. Approves BRMS After School Duty (Boy's Locker Room/Gym Hallway Monitor)

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following staff members as Boy's Locker room/Gym hallway monitors for afterschool sports activities from 2:30-4:30 to be paid the contracted professional hourly rate of \$62.00 for the 2022-2023 school year:

Christopher Duffy David Leckie Sean McQueeney

12g. Approves Staff for Extra-Curricular Activities (Bragg)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following staff to conduct board approved extra-curricular activities for the 2022-2023 school year with stipends as determined by Schedule "B" of the Agreement between The Chester Board of Education and The Chester Education Association:

BRMS Club	Advisor
Homework Club	Allie Johnson
Homework Club	Maryanne Vindici

12h. Approves Nurse for 2023 Chester Science Fair

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Anne Pape, RN to work at the 2023 Chester Science Fair to be paid \$62.00 per hour for up to 6 hours.

12i. Approves Revised (2/7/23 Agenda) Summer Scholars Program Secretary (Scarfo) RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following staff member for the 2023 Summer Scholars program, from July 10, 2023 through August 10, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$26.00 for 4 days a week (20 days):

Teacher	Total
Lauren Scarfo-Secretary (30 hours advance prep)	\$780
Lauren Scarfo-Secretary (4 hours daily)	\$2,080

12j. Approves Home Instruction (Capan)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Gretchen Capan to provide home instruction to student # 20005 up to 10 hours per week to be paid \$50.00 per hour effective February 20, 2023 through the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

12k. Approves Revised (2/7/23 Agenda) Professional Work (2023 Science Fair Chaperones) RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following staff members for up to 4 hours each to be 2023 Science Fair Chaperones at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$43.00.

Bridge, Sarah	Mauger, Lori
D'Auria, Melissa	Roskie, Millicent
Maico, Krista	Willis, Lorri
Matthews, Cathleen	Yankowitz, James

121. Approves Professional Work (2023 Science Fair Chaperones)

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following staff members for up to 4 hours each to be 2023 Science Fair Chaperones at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$43.00.

Madinabeita, Liz	
Nealon, Courtney	
Polkowski, Nicole	

12m. Approves Professional Work (2023 Science Fair Judge)

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves the following staff members for up to 4 hours each to be 2023 Science Fair Judges at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$62.00.

Capan, Gretchen	Miller, Dani
Casperson, Evelyn	Viscuso, Micol
Gambuti, Rebecca	

12n. Approves Custodian Shift Change (Brady)

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves a shift change for Thomas Brady from night custodian to day custodian effective February 27, 2023 at his contracted annual salary plus an annual Day Stipend of \$1,750.00.

120. Approves Substitute Nurse (Stringham)

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves substitute nurse Susan Stringham for the 2022-2023 school year effective March 1, 2023 at a daily rate of \$250.00 pending approval of criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L.2018, c5.

12p. Approves Custodian (Brocklehurst)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Lara Brocklehurst as Custodian at Dickerson School, with an annual salary of \$36,500 (pro-rated) and a night stipend of \$880.00 effective March 15, 2023 through June 30, 2023.

12q. Approves Custodian Transfer (Ronkowitz)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the transfer of custodian Thomas Ronkowitz from Dickerson to Bragg School effective March 15, 2023.

12r. Approves Practicum Student (Cohen)

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Centenary University student Amanda Cohen to obtain practicum experience with the Chester School District under the supervision of the district Guidance Counselors for the 2023-2024 school year.

12s. Approves Camp Achieve Nurse (Pape)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Anne Pape as School Nurse for the Camp Achieve summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, at the professional hourly rate of \$62 (includes one prep day) for up to 5.5 hours daily at a cost of up to \$7,161.

12t. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Teachers

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following teacher for the Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program from July 10, 2023 through August 10, 2023, at \$62 (includes one prep day) for up to 4.5 hours daily for a total of \$5,859.00 each.

Christie, John	Saucedo, Denielle
Dolan, Kelli	Vindici, Maryanne
Pela, Lisa	Warren, Sarah
Rodriguez, Cinthia	Werner, Kathleen

12u. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Related Services Personnel

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following Related Services Employees for the Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program from July 10, 2023 through August 10, 2023, at \$62 (includes one prep day) for up to 4.5 hours daily for a total of \$5,859.00 each.

Brandon Kornbluh, School Social Worker Sara Skrabal, Speech Specialist

12v. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Teacher (Oakes)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Kelly Oakes as a teacher for the Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, at an hourly rate of \$62 (includes one prep day) for up to 4.5 hours daily at a total cost of up to \$5,859.

12w. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Lead Teacher (Christal)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Jennifer Christal as Lead Teacher for the 2023 Camp Achieve/Camp 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023 (20 days) for up to 5.5 hours daily at a cost of up to \$6820.

12x. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Related Arts Teachers

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following Related Arts teachers for the Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, at \$62 (includes one prep day) for up to 4.5 hours (2 days a week).

Capan, Gretchen Rain, Timothy Stachura, Alyssa

12y. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Substitute Teachers

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Chester district teachers as needed to serve as substitute teachers for the 2023 Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program and/or to attend Child Study Team meetings at the professional hourly rate of \$62.

12z. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Substitute Paraprofessionals

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Chester district paraprofessionals as needed to serve as substitute paraprofessionals for the 2023 Camp Achieve/Camp Success summer program at their contracted hourly rate.

12aa. Approves Teachers for Professional Work

RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following teachers for professional work for the summer at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$62 for up to 30 hours for a total of up to \$1860 each.

Debra Androvette Jennifer Christal

12bb. Approves Camp Achieve Junior Aides

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following 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 any working papers requirements and the approval of the criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L.2018,

Hector Carrera

Aimee Koby

12cc. Approves Camp Achieve Aide (Mancuso)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Olivia Mancuso as an aide for the Camp Achieve summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, at \$15 an hour for up to 6.5 hours daily for up to a total of \$1,950.00.

12dd. Approves Physical Therapy (Detore)

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves Dr. Donna Detore to provide physical therapy services for the Camp Achieve summer program from July 10, 2023 through August 10, 2023 at an hourly rate of \$95 for 9 hours weekly for a total cost of up to \$4225.

12ee. Approves Camp Achieve/Camp Success Bus Drivers

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following bus drivers for Camp Achieve and Camp Success programs for the 2023-2024 ESY from July 10, 2023 through August 10, 2023 (20 days) at their contracted hourly rate:

Driver	Hourly Rate
Tracy Kometani	\$28.64
Holly Law	\$32.00
Yoslin Lopez	\$29.44
Emily Perez	\$29.44
Pamela Roberts	\$31.51

12ff. Approves Camp Achieve Classroom/Bus Paraprofessionals

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves the following paraprofessionals for the 2023 Camp Achieve summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, at \$17.00 an hour for up to 6.5 hours daily for up to a total of \$2,210 each.

Samantha Capan Victoria Alban

12gg. Approves Camp Achieve Classroom/Bus Paraprofessional (Shira)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Paula Shira as a classroom/bus paraprofessional for the 2023 Camp Achieve summer program from July 10, 2023, through August 10, 2023, her contracted hourly rate of \$20.17 per hour for up to 6.5 hours daily.

12hh. Approves Custodian (Matos)

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board of Education approves Hector M. Matos as night custodian at Bragg school effective March 15, 2023 at an annual salary of \$43,175.00 (prorated) and an annual night stipend of

\$880.00 pending the approval of the criminal history background check for school employees and compliance with NJ P.L.2018,

12ii. Approves Professional Work (D'Auria-2023 Science Fair Judge)

RESOLVED: that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approves Melissa D'Auria for up to 4 hours to be a 2023 Science Fair Judge at the contracted professional hourly rate of \$62.00.

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by John Barounis

Discussion:

Two questions were asked by Mr. Barounis:

1. Why 12f was required?

2. Was the Nurse for the Science Fair judging or providing nursing services (12h)?

Dr. VanWoert responded by explaining that we do not always have a male presence to supervise the boy's locker room after school so Motion 12f provides coverage. She explained that Motion 12h was to provide nursing services during the Science Fair.

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

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 March 14, 2023 at 7:31 p.m. to discuss HIB and Personnel. It is expected that the minutes will be made public as soon as official action is taken.

Motion by Adam Colicchio

Seconded by Carolyn Byszewski

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

14. Return to Public Session Time

Upon the motion of Carolyn Byszewski and seconded by John Barounis, the Board returned to Public Session at 8:02 p.m.

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

10a. Approves Superintendent's Recommendation for HIB Case # 6

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation for HIB Case #6.

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by John Barounis

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

10b. Approves Superintendent's Recommendation for HIB Case # 7

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation for HIB Case#7.

Motion by John Barounis

Seconded by Adam Colicchio

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

15. Unfinished Business

Mr. Colicchio thanked Mr. Frascella for his work on the Budget.

16. New Business

None

17. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Carolyn Byszewski and seconded by Adam Colicchio the Board considered a motion to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Frascella

Board Secretary