

Minutes of the Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 03, 2019 at the Monroe Township High School.

The meeting was called to order by the Board Secretary at 7:00 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Robert Goodall, Acting Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Dori Alvich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –24

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date; time and place thereof posted December 28, 2018:

1. At all Schools,
2. Home News Tribune,
3. Cranbury Press, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ELECTION RESULTS

Mr. Gorski stated that the Board was provided a copy of the election results and copies are available for the public. A copy of the election results will be attached to the official set of minutes.

STATUTORY OATH

Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Board Secretary/Business Administrator administered the statutory oath to the following elected Board of Education Members:

Mr. Anand Andy Paluri

Ms. Rupa Siegel

Mr. Peter Tufano

Mr. Paul Rutsky – Jamesburg Representative

A copy of the statutory oaths will be maintained with the official minutes.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Michele Arminio

Mr. Ken Chiarella

Ms. Jill DeMaio

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Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Ms. Patricia Lang
Mr. Andy Paluri
Mr. Steven Riback
Ms. Rupa Siegel
Mr. Peter Tufano

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Paul Rutsky

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mr. Goodall requested a moment of silence in memory of fourth grade student, Nicholas Kakar who recently passed away after a brief illness.

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Gorski announced that nominations were in order for the election of Board President.

Ms. Lang nominated Ms. Kolupanowich for the position of Board President.

Mr. Chiarella nominated Ms. Lang for the position of Board President. Ms. Lang respectively declined the nomination due to a recent health concern that she is still recovering from.

Ms. Arminio nominated Mr. Riback for the position of Board President. Mr. Riback declined his nomination as well.

Mr. Gorski announced that since there were no other nominations, the nominations for the position of Board President were closed. Mr. Gorski proceeded with a roll call vote.

Ms. Kolupanowich for Board President:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Ms. Arminio	No
Mr. Chiarella	No
Ms. DeMaio	Yes
Ms. Kolupanowich	Yes
Ms. Lang	Yes
Mr. Paluri	Yes
Mr. Riback	Yes
Ms. Siegel	Yes
Mr. Tufano	No
Mr. Rutsky	Yes

7-3-0-0-0

Mr. Gorski announced that Ms. Kolupanowich was elected President of the Monroe Township Board of Education.

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Ms. Kolupanowich took her seat as President of the Monroe Township Board of Education.

Ms. Kolupanowich read a list of criticisms and things that she has been blamed for over the past year. Ms. Kolupanowich asked that the Board and community make a fresh start and work together for the best interest of the students to provide them with the best education possible.

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE- PRESIDENT

Ms. Kolupanowich announced that nominations were now in order for the election of Vice President for the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Paluri to nominate Mr. Riback as Vice President. Ms. DeMaio seconded the motion.

Ms. Kolupanowich announced that there were no other nominations. A motion was made by Ms. DeMaio and seconded by Ms. Lang that the nominations for the position of Board Vice President be closed. Mr. Gorski proceeded with a roll call vote.

Mr. Riback for Board Vice President:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Ms. Arminio	Yes
Mr. Chiarella	Yes
Ms. DeMaio	Yes
Ms. Kolupanowich	Yes
Ms. Lang	Yes
Mr. Paluri	Yes
Mr. Riback	Yes
Ms. Siegel	Yes
Mr. Tufano	Yes
Mr. Rutsky	Yes
10-0-0-0-0	

Mr. Gorski announced that Mr. Riback was elected Vice President of the Monroe Township Board of Education.

Mr. Riback thanked the members of the Board for their support and stated that the Board and community need to work together, join hands and focus on the need of schools. Mr. Riback reported that he recently learned that the Township is going to bring forth a resolution to be in favor of imposing impact fees for developers, which is currently illegal in New Jersey.

CODE OF ETHICS

Ms. Kolupanowich stated that all board members received the New Jersey School Board Association Code of Ethics and School Ethics Commission handout to review, and requested that the Acknowledgment of Review be signed and returned to Mr. Gorski as soon as possible. A copy of the Acknowledgment of Review will be maintained with the official minutes.

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A motion was made by Mr. Chiarella and seconded by Ms. DeMaio to approve the following resolution by consent roll call:

It is recommended that members of the Monroe Township Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and acceptance of the New Jersey School Boards Association Code of Ethics. Roll call 10-0-0-0-0. Motion carried.

SUSPENSION OF POLICY/BYLAWS

A motion was made by Ms. Lang and seconded by Ms. DeMaio to approve the following resolution by consent roll call:

It is recommended that the Board of Education suspend the operation of Policy/Bylaw #0164 to permit the Board to conduct only one public forum at this evening's public meeting. Motion carried. Roll call 10-0-0-0-0 motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Christine Paterson, Representative of League of Women Voters - informed and invited the Board to a panel discussion on Human Trafficking to be held at the Monroe Township Library on June 29, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Hemant Patel 15 Eldorado Way – requested that the Board add a report from the Director of Security to the monthly agenda. Mr. Patel stated that it would be nice for parents to be informed of any security problems whether the district has them or not.

Chrissy Skurbe 21 Preakness Drive – stated that she hopes that the Board comes together this year and do what is right for the district. Ms. Skurbe reported that the Monroe Township Middle School Parent Staff Association invited administration and the teachers union to their January 16th meeting, for support of the referendum, adding that the association is looking forward to helping the district with the referendum.

Sajeev Ravindran 8 George Allen Court – stated that a group of parents conducted a survey regarding the construction of schools. Considering the results of that survey, Mr. Ravindran recommended that the Board reword the referendum questions and suggested that they consider a 5/6 Grade school as an alternate choice.

Ram Ranganath 6 Owens Drive – stated that he was disappointed that there was only one valid nomination for board president. Mr. Ranganath inquired about the possibility of the Board having a meeting just for the topic of the referendum. Ms. Kolupanowich responded that there are many presentations for the referendum already planned, which will be posted on the website. Ms. Kolupanowich added that she will discuss the need for a meeting with administration and the Board.

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Corrine Masters 9 Makayla Court – regarding the new financial literacy law, Ms. Masters inquired how it will be implemented at the middle school level.

Ambika Sukia 2 Cier Court – spoke in regards to the referendum questions. Next, Mr. Sukia inquired about the possibility of expediting the middle school construction to 2021 instead of 2022. Mr. Gorski responded that due to the submission process to the Department of Education; the amount of testing and requirements that are involved; the bidding process required; and other factors the district is on a crunch time table for a September 2022 opening. Lastly, Mr. Sukia inquired if the district has considered introducing Math Olympiad in the middle school. Dr. Alvich responded that she could take that suggestion back to the math supervisor and principals. Adding, that there are several different competitions at that level.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mr. Riback and seconded by Ms. Lang that the members of the Board of Education accept and approve Organizational Items letters A-D and by consent roll call.

a. Meeting Dates:

Be It Resolved that the regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe shall be held as per the previously submitted schedule, at which time formal action may be taken.

b. Policy:

Be It Resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe that all policies of the previous Board are hereby adopted until such time as the Board decides to revise, or otherwise alter policies.

c. Designation of Banks or Depositories:

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education designates the following banks or depositories for school district funds:

The Depository Trust Company
State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
Provident Bank*
US Bank

*Provides most of the banking services.

Be it Further Resolved that the Business Administrator is authorized to establish accounts, and wire transfer funds among the accounts as needed, and approve the payment of bills between Board Meetings.

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d. Newspapers For Legal Advertisements:

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education designates the Cranbury Press or the Home News Tribune, both of which circulate in the school district, as official newspapers for legal advertisement.

Ms. Arminio requested an explanation of the Depository Trust Company. Roll Call 10-0-0-0-0 Motion carried with Ms. Arminio voting no on Item C/Depository Trust Company.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Kolupanowich stated that the survey which Mr. Ravindran, was referring to early, was not a Board initiated or official survey. Ms. Kolupanowich stated that the district conducted a survey regarding the defeated referendum and those results were considered when administration recommended a two part question for the March 2019 referendum. Next, Ms. Kolupanowich announced that the Committee Preference Forms have been handed out and requested that they be returned by tomorrow. Lastly, Ms. Kolupanowich reported that the Ad Hoc Committee for Fair Funding has been disbanded and the creation of a new committee, the Educational Advocacy Committee will be formed. Ms. Kolupanowich stated that the committee will look at funding; legal opportunities to sue the state; curriculum for educational opportunities for the students; and potential enterprise opportunities.

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

Mr. Paluri thanked the community for giving the new members the opportunity to serve on the board of education and stated that they will do justice for the trust that has been put in them. Mr. Paluri added that the responsibility lies with the Board to move forward and not dwell on the past.

Ms. Arminio welcomed the new board members and encouraged the public to continue to attend and speak up and participate, whether it be by attendance or email.

Mr. Chiarella welcomed the new members as well. Next, Mr. Chiarella stated that instead of the Township passing a resolution in support of impact fees, he would like to see them vote to stop development.

Ms. Lang spoke in regards to the recent news, which as of this week the NJ court has declared that having PARRC as the only means of graduation is not constitutional. Ms. Lang added that there will still be some sort of testing to make sure that students are progressing.

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Kolupanowich welcomed Mr. Rutsky back to the Board as the Jamesburg Representative. Mr. Rutsky responded that he is looking forward to a great year and greatly appreciates the Board for making him feel part of the Monroe Township Board.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Ms. Kolupanowich stated that the next public meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education will convene at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 23, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

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A motion was made by Ms. Lang and seconded by Mr. Paluri that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The public meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael C. Gorski", written in a cursive style.

Michael C. Gorski, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



Thursday, January 3, 2019

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

**MONROE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
200 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD
MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831
7:00 P.M.**

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING

Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

1. STATEMENT

Subject	A. STATEMENT
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Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
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Category	1. STATEMENT
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Access	Public
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Type	Information
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In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date; time and place thereof posted December 28, 2018 :

1. At all schools,
2. Home News Tribune,
3. Cranbury Press, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

2. CALL TO ORDER

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. ELECTION RESULTS

Subject	A. OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS
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Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	4. ELECTION RESULTS
Access	Public
Type	

Official Election Results

File Attachments
[Certified Election Resluts.pdf \(163 KB\)](#)

5. STATUTORY OATH

Subject A. STATUTORY OATH

Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	5. STATUTORY OATH
Access	Public
Type	

STATUTORY OATH

Mr. Andy Paluri
Ms. Rupa Siegel
Mr. Peter Tufano
Mr. Paul Rutsky - Jamesburg Representative

Executive File Attachments
[Oath 2019.pdf \(185 KB\)](#)

6. ROLL CALL

Subject A. BOARD MEMBERS

Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	6. ROLL CALL
Access	Public
Type	Information

Ms. Michele Arminio
Mr. Ken Chiarella
Ms. Jill DeMaio
Ms. Kathy Kolupanowich
Ms. Patricia Lang
Mr. Andy Paluri
Mr. Steven Riback
Ms. Rupa Siegel
Mr. Peter Tufano

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (See Note 2)

Mr. Paul Rutsky

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Sreeja Mamillapalli

Mr. Manan Shah

7. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT**8. ELECTION OF BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT****9. CODE OF ETHICS**

Subject	A. CODE OF ETHICS
Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	9. CODE OF ETHICS
Access	Public
Type	

It is recommended that members of the Monroe Township Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and acceptance of the New Jersey School Boards Association Code of Ethics.

File Attachments
[Code of Ethics 2019.pdf \(822 KB\)](#)

Executive File Attachments
[Signed Code of Ethics 2019.pdf \(601 KB\)](#)

10. SUSPENSION OF POLICY/BYLAWS

Subject	A. SUSPENSION OF POLICY/BYLAWS
Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	10. SUSPENSION OF POLICY/BYLAWS
Access	Public
Type	

It is recommended that the Board of Education suspend the operation of Policy/Bylaw #0164 to permit the Board to conduct only one public forum at this evening's public meeting.

11. PUBLIC FORUM

Subject	A. PUBLIC FORUM (See Note 3)
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Meeting Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Category 11. PUBLIC FORUM

Access Public

Type

See Note 3.

12. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Subject A. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Meeting Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Category 12. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Access Public

Type

It is recommended that the members of the Monroe Township Board of Education approve the Organizational Items A-D by consent roll call.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

A. MEETING DATES

Be It Resolved that the regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe shall be held as per the previously submitted schedule, at which time formal action may be taken.

B. POLICY

Be It Resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe that all policies of the previous Board are hereby adopted until such time as the Board decides to revise, or otherwise alter policies.

C. DESIGNATION OF BANKS OR DEPOSITORIES

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education designates the following banks or depositories for school district funds:

The Depository Trust Company
State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
Provident Bank*
US Bank

*Provides most of the banking services.

Be it Further Resolved that the Business Administrator is authorized to establish accounts, and wire transfer funds among the accounts as needed, and approve the payment of bills between Board Meetings.

D. NEWSPAPERS FOR LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education designates the Cranbury Press or the Home News Tribune, both of which circulate in the school district, as official newspapers for legal advertisement.

File Attachments
[Draft 2019 Board of Education meeting dates.pdf \(286 KB\)](#)

13. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

14. OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

15. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - JANUARY 23, 2019

Subject	A. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION JANUARY 23, 2019
Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	15. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - JANUARY 23, 2019
Access	Public
Type	

The next scheduled Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2019 7:00 p.m. at the Monroe Township High School.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Subject	A. Notes
Meeting	Jan 3, 2019 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	16. ADJOURNMENT
Access	Public
Type	Action

NOTES

Note 1: Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

Note 2: The Jamesburg Representative shall be eligible to vote on only those matters specifically designated in N.J.S.A 18A:38-8.1, as follows:

- (1) Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district.

- (2) New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils.
- (3) Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff.
- (4) Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district.
- (5) Any matter directly involving sending district students or programs and services used by them.
- (6) The annual receiving district budget.
- (7) Any collectively-negotiated agreement involving employees who provide services used by sending district students.
- (8) Any individual employee contracts not covered by a collectively-negotiated agreement, if those employees provide or oversee programs or services utilized by sending district students.
- (9) Any matter concerning governance of the receiving district board of education, including, but not limited to, the selection of board president and vice-president, approval of board bylaws, and the employment of professionals or consultants such as attorneys, architects, engineers, or others who provide services to the receiving district board of education.

To the extent the Jamesburg Representative inadvertently votes on any other matter, his vote shall not be counted.

Note 3: Public discussion is confined to this portion of the Agenda unless permission is granted by the Board President prior to the start of the meeting or when the Board is considering a Special Agenda Item that the Board deems appropriate for public participation. Anyone wishing to address the Board is requested to stand and state his/her name and address.