

AGENDA
PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REORGANIZATION MEETING
January 7, 2025
7:00 p.m. Anticipated Public Session
NEW EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL

Vision Statement

“Unleashing Unlimited Opportunities . . . Empowering One Warrior At A Time!”

Mission Statement

The Plumsted Township School District shall inspire all students to realize their personal potential. A rich and challenging learning environment, in partnership with the community, will develop critical thinkers, lifelong learners and productive citizens in an emerging global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gately, Board Secretary, will preside and voice the call to order.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been given in the form of an Annual Notice contained in Resolution No. 2024-1, which Resolution was immediately thereafter posted upon the bulletin board in the main office of all four schools and the Board Secretary’s office and disseminated within seven (7) days of passage to the Asbury Park Press and The Trenton Times, and a copy of such resolution was filed with the Plumsted Township Clerk. No advance written notice of this meeting was requested and paid for by any person according to the record of the Secretary of the Board. I direct the Secretary of the Board to enter into the minutes of this meeting this public announcement.

III. FLAG SALUTE

IV. REORGANIZATION

A. Election Results

Kevin Dreher	1,596
Dr. Vincent Giardina	1,709
Justin Goodman	1,780
Ashley Raywood	1,669
Write-in	840

Three (3) Board of Education members were elected to fill two (3) expired three (3) year terms as follows:

Dr. Vincent Giardina	1,709
Justin Goodman	1,780
Ashley Raywood	1,669

B. Administer the Oath of Office

V. ROLL CALL/REORGANIZATION

- A. Election of President
- B. Close nominations for the Office of the President of the Board
- C. Election of the Vice-President
- D. Close nominations for the Office of the Vice President of the Board

VI. REORGANIZATION MOTIONS

A. Code of Ethics

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

The Board of Education Members had the required Board of Ethics Training session as required under N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.3 and N.J.A.C.6A:30.

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey School Boards Association “Code of Ethics” shall be considered the official Code of Ethics of the Plumsted Township Board of Education:

- a. 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.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.
- e. 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.
- f. 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.
- g. 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.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

B. Adoption of Official Newspapers

- 1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

To authorize the Asbury Park Press and The Trenton Times be adopted as the official newspapers to be used for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads and all other necessary public notifications for the 2024 - 2025 school year.

C. Parliamentary Procedures

- 1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

To adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings and appoint the Board Secretary and Board Attorney to act as the parliamentarians for the 2024 - 2025 school year.

D. Board Policies/Regulations

- 1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

The adoption of all existing Board Policies and Regulations.

E. Doctrine of Necessity

- 1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Act, N.J.S.A. 18AA:12-21 et seq. was enacted by the New Jersey State Legislature to ensure and preserve public confidence in school Board members and school administrators and to provide specific ethical standards to guide their conduct; and

WHEREAS, questions have arisen regarding how a Board should invoke the Doctrine of Necessity when a quorum of a Board of Education has conflicts of interest on a matter required to be voted upon; and

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission has provided some guidance in Public Advisory Opinion A03-98 (April 1, 1998) but finds that there is a need to repeat and clarify its opinion; and

WHEREAS, the opinion set forth that, when it is necessary for a Board to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity, the Board should state publicly that it is doing so, the reason that such action is necessary and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, the opinion further provided that if the Board must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity not just to vote, but also to form a negotiations committee because it is without even three members to serve as a committee, then the Board must determine whether to act as a committee of the whole or to choose a smaller negotiations committee from among its members after stating publicly its reason for doing so as set forth above; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the Legislative purpose as set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-22(a) the School Ethics Commission views public disclosure of conflicts of interest to be paramount when it is necessary to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the School Ethics Commission hereby requires Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity to adopt a resolution setting forth that they are invoking the Doctrine, the reason for doing so and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that invoke the Doctrine are directed to read the resolution at a regularly scheduled public meeting, post it where it posts public notices for 30 days and provide the Commission with a copy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission shall distribute this Resolution to the county superintendents for distribution to the school districts and charter schools, the New Jersey School Boards Association, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials and the New Jersey Education Association.

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the reorganization meeting agenda for January 7, 2025.

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None

IX. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- A. Board Meeting dates:

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held: (pending the vote on motion XI A.1)

X. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

The Plumsted Township Board of Education appreciates and welcomes public comment, advice and suggestions on agenda items. We have reserved an opportunity during each meeting for this purpose. Please feel free to speak to the Board during this period by stating your name, address, and agenda item number that you wish to speak about, followed by your comments.

Although the balance of the meeting is conducted in public (except legally permitted executive session items), our procedures do not allow for public comment on non-agenda items during this period. Your cooperation is anticipated so that the Board can conduct business in a thorough and efficient manner.

In accordance with the Board of Education policy each individual will be limited to speak for three minutes during the public comment periods and the cumulative total for each public comment period shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes.

XI. SUPERINTENDENTS AGENDA

- A. Other Motions

1. Recommend approval of [resolution 2024-2025 No. 1](#), Open Public Meeting Act.

2. Recommend approval for the Plumsted Township School District to apply for, and possibly obtain a grant from EWEG NJDOE, for the New Jersey Afterschool Program Competitive grant for approximately \$200,000.00 - \$400,000.00.
3. Recommend approval to apply for the EWEG NJDOE Expanding Access to Computer Science High School Courses - Competitive \$40,000.00 Grant.
4. Recommend approval to apply for the EWEG NJDOE Esports Industry Career Exploration - Competitive \$50,000.00 Grant.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL RELATED TOPIC

The Plumsted Township Board of Education appreciates and welcomes public comment, advice and suggestions on any topic concerning the education process. We have reserved an opportunity during each meeting for this purpose. Please feel free to speak to the Board during this period by stating your name, address, and the agenda item number or the topic that you wish to speak about, followed by your comments.

Although the balance of the meeting is conducted in public (except legally permitted executive sessions items), our procedures do not allow for public comment on executive session agenda items during this period. Your cooperation is anticipated so that the Board can conduct business in a thorough and efficient manner.

In accordance with the Board of Education policy each individual will be limited to speak for three minutes during the public comment period and the cumulative total for each public comment period shall not exceed thirty (30) minutes.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

XV. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Request resolution for Executive Session at this point in the meeting of the Plumsted Township Board of Education on _____ for the purpose of discussing _____.

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) permits bodies to discuss certain matters in closed sessions, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.), such a meeting may be held in private;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Board shall meet in closed session on these matters; and
2. The matters to be discussed in private may be shared with the public at such other time as the Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT