STAFFORD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
Manahawkin, NJ

PUBLIC AGENDA

REORGANIZATION MEETING

PLACE: Stafford Township Arts Center (STAC)

DATE: January 8, 2025

TIME: 6:00pm

CALL TO ORDER – Board Secretary

The Stafford Township's Board of Education is called to order in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act Law – 1975 Chapter 231 (P.L. 1975-231C). This meeting was advertised in the Atlantic City Press. Notice has been posted in the office of the Stafford Township Clerk and all school buildings. A mechanical device is being used to video record this meeting. Further, please take notice that this is the first regular meeting of the Board of Education and required Reorganization of elected board members pursuant to 18A:10-3 through 10-6.

FLAG SALUTE

ELECTION RESULTS

The following are the official results of the November 5, 2024 annual school election for three, three-year term office seats 2025-2027.

Three-Year Term	
Tammy Wagner	7,660 votes
Robert Morello	7,423 votes
Matthew Regulski	7,152 votes
Write-In	156 votes

SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBERS – Board Secretary
ROLL CALL

Kevin Cooney	Member
Brian Fenlon	Member
Gregory Gioe	Member
Robert Morello	Member
Matthew Regulski	Member
Christopher Smith	Member
Bonnie Strouse	Member
Tammy Wagner	Member
Joseph Washco	Member

ALSO PRESENT

Stephanie Bush	Acting Superintendent
Lourdes LaGuardia	School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Martin J. Buckley, Esq.	Board of Education Attorney

THE BOARD SECRETARY ENTERTAINS NOMINATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF BOARD PRESIDENT

1. _____ is nominated by _____ for the office of Board President. Seconded by _____.

Motion to close nominations for the office of President and that the Board Secretary cast the ballot(s) for _____ for Board President.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Kevin Cooney	___	___	___	Christopher Smith	___	___	___
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___				

The Board Secretary turns the meeting over to the Board President.

THE BOARD PRESIDENT ENTERTAINS NOMINATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

1. _____ is nominated by _____ for the office of Board Vice President. Seconded by _____.

Motion to close nominations for the office of Board Vice President and that the Board Secretary cast the ballot(s) for _____ for Board Vice President.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Kevin Cooney	___	___	___	Christopher Smith	___	___	___
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___				

RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

School boards are required to set aside a portion of every meeting for public comments. School boards use the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to community concerns - not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session. School boards are not required to respond to questions but may choose to respond to public comments by seeking additional information or delegating authority to the superintendent or a designee to investigate an issue brought forth during public comment.

While public education can be an emotional issue, the school board strives to maintain a certain level of decorum at its meeting. As such, all persons speaking during the public comment ·period should maintain a tone of respect and civility. Courteous behavior is extremely important by all members and attendees.

To allow all speakers to address their comments to the board, it may be necessary for the board and/or administration to hold any responses until after the conclusion of the public comment period; rather than respond to individual speakers. The board cannot recognize proxies, nor will the board tolerate persons that call out, shout down or disrupt others in attendance during public comment; any person who cannot abide by this will be asked to leave.

The Stafford Township Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest, especially when it is intended to assist the Board of Education.

Please feel free to speak to the Board during the public session. Pursuant to Board Policy 0167, comments and discussion will be limited to one three (3) minute period per individual unless requested by the chairperson to continue on a point of clarification.

Public comment at special meetings of the Board shall be related to the call of the meeting. In accordance with the Board of Education Policy, each participant must be recognized by the presiding

officer and must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation, if applicable.

Your anticipated courtesy to the members of the public and the Board is appreciated.

For additional information, please review the "Guide to Board of Education Meetings in New Jersey" available on \ e New Jersey Boards Association website at www.njsba.org.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. To approve the Acknowledgement of Receipt for the Code of Ethics and to adopt the Code of Ethics as distributed.

2. To reapprove the 2024-2025 Board of Education Goals and the 2024-2025 Stafford Township School District Goals as attached.

3. To approve the Board of Education meeting dates from January through December 2025 as attached.

4. To adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct Board meetings and appoint the Board Secretary and Board Attorney to act as the parliamentarian ending at the next organization meeting of the Board of Education.

5. To designate Atlantic City Press, Asbury Park Press and/or The Beacon as official Board newspapers for advertisements and on-line services through December 2025.

6. To designate OceanFirst Bank as official depository for all Board funds with the following signatories: Stafford Township Board of Education President, Treasurer of School Monies, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator through December 2025.

7. To designate the State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund as a legal depository for Board funds and further to authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator as the authorized agent for Cash Management Transactions through December 2025.

8. To approve Brown & Brown Benefit Advisors of Shrewsbury, NJ as Health Insurance Broker through December 2025. This exception to the advertised bidding requirements is in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5. Proposals were solicited for the 2023 calendar year with option to renew for two additional years. Selection factors and documentation are on file in the Board Secretary/Business Administrator's Office.

9. To acknowledge the following providers for Life Insurance Options:

    a. Legacy Benefits Group to broker New York Life's Voluntary Guaranteed Issue Whole Life Insurance Program and Colonial Life's Voluntary Guaranteed Issue Short Term Disability Insurance Program as voluntary providers for Stafford Township Board of Education. All plans will be offered at no cost to the school district through payroll deduction.

    b. Creative Financial Group to broker MassMutual's Voluntary Group Whole Life Insurance as a voluntary provider for Stafford Township Board of Education. All plans will be offered at no cost to the school district through payroll deduction.

10. To approve Spiezle Architectural Group of Hamilton, NJ as Architect of Record through December 2025. Proposals were solicited for the 2023 calendar year with option to renew for two additional years.

11. To appoint Acacia of Marlton, NJ as Financial Advisor through December 2025. This is a professional service.

12. To approve Dasti, Murphy, McGuckin, Ulaky & Connors of Forked River, NJ as Board Attorney through December 2025. Proposals were solicited for the 2024 calendar year with option to renew for two additional years.

13. To acknowledge the following Stafford Board of Education law firms, as previously appointed:

    a. Machado Law Group of Springfield, NJ as Legal Counsel for Special Education Issues (July 2024 – June 2025)
    b. Comegno Law Group of Moorestown, NJ as Conflict Attorney (July 2024 – June 2025)
    c. Comegno Law Group of Moorestown, NJ as Legal Counsel for Labor Relations Services (July 2024 – June 2025)
    d. Lenox Law Firm of Lawrenceville, NJ for Legal Services as Special Counsel (October 2024 – June 2025)
    e. Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. of Woodbridge, NJ as Bond Counsel (January – December 2025)

    These are professional services. Selection factors and documentation are on file in the Board Secretary/Business Administrator's Office.

14. To appoint Flett Exchange of Jersey City, NJ as an option to manage the sale of solar generated SRECs through December 2025.

15. To appoint Marex Spectron of New York, NY as an option to manage the sale of solar generated SRECs through December 2025.

16. To approve authorization to award contracts up to bid threshold of $44,000 and quote threshold of $6,600 through June 2025, based upon the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) certification of the Business Administrator.

17. To approve the Stafford Township Board of Education Travel Expense Reimbursement District Maximum and Travel Expense Reimbursement per Employee Resolutions through December 2025 as attached.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Kevin Cooney	___	___	___	Christopher Smith	___	___	___
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___				

ADVANCED PLANNING

PUBLIC COMMENT

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CLOSED SESSION (IF NEEDED)

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist;

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Stafford Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action of the hereinafter specified subject matters.

The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is as follows:

_____

It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated subject matters shall be made public at such time as the reasons for non-disclosure no longer exists.

ADJOURNMENT

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Ab		Yes	No	Ab
Kevin Cooney	___	___	___	Christopher Smith	___	___	___
Brian Fenlon	___	___	___	Bonnie Strouse	___	___	___
Gregory Gioe	___	___	___	Tammy Wagner	___	___	___
Robert Morello	___	___	___	Joseph Washco	___	___	___
Matthew Regulski	___	___	___				