

PITMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Education Reorganization Meeting

January 8, 2025

MINUTES

Open Public Meeting

The meeting was opened to the public at 7:00 PM.

Notice of Meeting per Sunshine Law Requirements - *Notice of the Reorganization Meeting of the Pitman Board of Education was advertised in the South Jersey Times, posted at Borough Hall, a copy thereof delivered to all Pitman Schools to be posted, and posted on the district's website. Further, notice was posted and filed as required by law stating that the Board would meet at 7:00 pm. for the Reorganization Meeting in the Pitman Elementary School Auditorium. The President shall entertain any objections, with supporting reasons, to the conduct of this meeting on the grounds that it violates the Open Public Meetings Act.*

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Certification of Election

1. That the Pitman Board of Education certifies the Annual School Board Election Results as listed below:

Candidate Vote Count:

*Rebecca Higbee Ionno - 3,428
*David J. Grossman - 3,109
Write-In Totals - 259

*elected for three (3) year terms as a board members

Oath of Office

- **Mrs. Higbee-Ionno was sworn-in for a full three-year term that expires on 12/31/2027.**
- **Mr. Grossman was sworn-in for a full three-year term that expires on 12/31/2027.**

Code of Ethics

Mr. Miles spoke about the Code of Ethics that needs to be reviewed and signed-off on by each Board member.

Nominations for President and Vice-President

Nomination for April Miller as President:

Motion: Higbee-Ionno
Second: Grossman
Mrs. Boulton: Yes
Mrs. Farrell: Yes
Mr. Grossman: Yes
Mrs. Higbee-Ionno: Yes
Mrs. Pappalardo: Yes
Mrs. Pote: Yes
Mrs. Miller: Yes
Motion Carried: 7-0

Nomination for Stacey Pappalardo as Vice-President:

- Motion:** Higbee-Ionno
- Second:** Farrell
- Mrs. Boulton:** Yes
- Mrs. Farrell:** Yes
- Mr. Grossman:** Yes
- Mrs. Higbee-Ionno:** Yes
- Mrs. Pappalardo:** Yes
- Mrs. Pote:** Yes
- Mrs. Miller:** Yes
- Motion Carried:** 7-0

Committee Appointments

Mrs. Miller informed the Board about the new meeting times and dates for the 2025 Committee meetings, discussed the procedure if a Committee meeting is not attended by a member, and reviewed the Board positions for the 2025 year. Mrs. Miller also discussed the possibility of sharing the Liaison to the Borough Council position in the future.

1. Recommend motion to approve the following board members to serve on committees as listed (committee chairperson is listed first):

Committee	Board Members
Finance & Facilities	David Grossman*, Rebecca Higbee-Ionno**, April Miller
Curriculum & Instruction	Sara Boulton*, Natalie Pote**, April Miller
Communication & Policy	Rebecca Higbee-Ionno*, Melissa Farrell**, Stacey Pappalardo

- *Chairperson
- ** Alternate Chairperson

Gloucester County School Board Executive
Committee Representative: **April Miller**

NJSBA Delegate Voting Member: **David Grossman**
Alternate: **Sara Boulton**

Liaison to Borough Council: **April Miller**

FINANCE & FACILITIES COMMITTEE – Grossman, Higbee-Ionno, Miller

Mr. Miles reviewed the financial audit for fiscal year 2024. Specifically, he informed the Board about the excess surplus amount (listed on the Balance Sheet) and the debt service breakdown (listed on the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures). The audit had no findings or recommendations.

1. Recommend motion to approve the Board of Education meeting dates for 2025. (Attachment F&F-1).

- 2. Recommend motion to approve the following resolution related to the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024:

WHEREAS, the Pitman Board of Education in accordance with NJSA 18A:23-1 must have a certified External Audit of the district’s account and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Pitman Board of Education received the audit performed by Ford, Scott & Associates, LLC, and discussed said audit as its public meeting held on Wednesday, January 8, 2025;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pitman Board of Education accepts the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. (Attachment F&F-2)

Motion to Approve Items #1-2

- Motion:** Miller
- Second:** Grossman
- Mrs. Boulton:** Yes
- Mrs. Farrell:** Yes
- Mr. Grossman:** Yes
- Mrs. Higbee-Ionno:** Yes
- Mrs. Pappalardo:** Yes
- Mrs. Pote** Yes
- Mrs. Miller:** Yes
- Motion Carried:** 7-0

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE – Boulton, Pote, Miller

No motions.

COMMUNICATION & POLICY COMMITTEE – Higbee-Ionno, Farrell, Pappalardo

Mrs. Miller discussed the School Code of Ethics and reminded Board members to complete it.

- 3. Recommend motion to approve Robert’s Rules of Order be adopted as the basis for the conduct of all meetings of the Pitman Board of Education.
- 4. Recommend motion to approve the Annual Schedule of Meetings, as listed, shall serve as sufficient notice of the Pitman Board of Education’s regularly scheduled meetings, and shall be posted at Pitman Borough Hall, filed with the Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Pitman and delivered to the Board’s official newspaper.
- 5. Recommend motion to approve that the Pitman Board of Education, in compliance with the Ethics Acts, certifies the following by roll call vote:
 - a. That the School Ethics Act and Code of Ethics for School Board Members has been received and discussed.
 - b. That Policies and Procedures regarding training of district Board of Education members have been adopted, and
 - c. That each Board of Education member acknowledges receipt of the Code of Ethics for School Board Members and has become familiar with the Code of Ethics.

Motion to Approve Items #3-5

Motion: Miller
Second: Boulton
Mrs. Boulton: Yes
Mrs. Farrell: Yes
Mr. Grossman: Yes
Mrs. Higbee-Ionno: Yes
Mrs. Pappalardo: Yes
Mrs. Pote Yes
Mrs. Miller: Yes
Motion Carried: 7-0

(Attachment C&P-1)

Public Comment

- **Michael Razze - On behalf of the Borough Council, Mayor Razze thanked the BOE for their service to the school district.**

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting at 7:18 PM

Motion: Pappalardo
Second: HIgbee-Ionno
In Favor: ALL

The next Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2025, in the Pitman Jr./Sr. High School Media Center.

The Pitman Board of Education reserves the right to add and/or delete motions or make changes to motions in this agenda up to the time of the meeting and during the actual meeting.

Board Minutes Certified by Robert Miles, Board Secretary; In Attendance on Wednesday, 01/08/25