

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
120 N. MAIN STREET
MULLICA HILL, NEW JERSEY

REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2025
7:00 PM**

Mrs. Lisa M. Ridgway, Interim Board Secretary, called the Reorganization Meeting of the Harrison Township Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. It was announced that the Board might adjourn into Executive Session during the meeting to discuss personnel, student issues, property, or any other matter appropriate for this session, the results of which would be made public at a later time.

I. Call to Order: The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Act of 1975 was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Harrison Township Board of Education has caused notice of the meeting to be published by having the dates, time, and place thereof posted on the Harrison Township School District website, at the Harrison Township School Building, and mailed to the Township Municipal Clerk, the South Jersey Times and the Courier Post.

II. Flag Salute:

Led by Mrs. Lisa Ridgway, Interim Board Secretary of the Harrison Township Board of Education.

III. Report of School Election Place: Lisa M. Ridgway, Board Secretary

District School Election of the School District of Harrison Township, in the County of Gloucester in the State of New Jersey was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, pursuant to the notice given in accordance with State Law.

I, Lisa M. Ridgway, Interim Board Secretary, after electronic counting of the ballots by the Gloucester County Board of Elections, announced the results of the election as follows:

| <u>Three-Year Term (3 seats):</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| a. Stacey Muscarella | 3,505 |
| b. John Cavanaugh | 3,226 |
| c. Colleen Kendrick | 3,155 |

A total of 71 votes were received for write-in candidates for the three-year terms.

| <u>Unexpired One-Year term (1 seat):</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|--------------|
| a. Tim Bast | 4,552 |

A total of 136 votes were received for write-in candidates for the one-year term.

IV. Administration of the Oath: Lisa M. Ridgway, Board Secretary

- 1) Tim Bast
- 2) John Cavanaugh
- 3) Colleen Kendrick
- 4) Stacey Muscarella

V. Roll Call:

2023 – 2025

Jennifer Bowen
Walter Bright

2024 – 2026

Todd Baron
Janette Coslop
Shannon Williams

2025

Tim Bast

2025 - 2027

John Cavanaugh
Colleen Kendrick
Stacey Muscarella

VI. Reorganization of the Board of Education:

A. Election of Officers

Lisa M. Ridgway, Interim Board Secretary, declared the nominations for the Office of Board President open.

Motion by Walter Bright to nominate Stacey Muscarella for Board President.

Motion: Mr. Bright
Roll Call: (8-1)
No: Ms. Kendrick

Second: Mr. Cavanaugh
Carried: Yes

Motion by Colleen Kendrick to nominate Shannon Williams for Board President.
There was no second for this motion.

The Interim Board Secretary declared Stacey Muscarella elected to the Office of Board President.

Lisa M. Ridgway, Interim Board Secretary, administered the Oath of Office to the Board President, Stacey Muscarella. The meeting was turned over to the Board of Education President.

Stacey Muscarella, President of the Board of Education, declared the nominations for the Office of Board Vice-President open.

Motion by Jennifer Bowen to nominate Shannon Williams for Vice-President of the Board of Education.

Motion: Mrs. Bowen
Roll Call: (9-0)

Second: Mr. Baron
Carried: Yes

Lisa M. Ridgway, Interim Board Secretary, administered the Oath of Office to the Vice-President, Shannon Williams.

B. The Board President named the following committees of the Board of Education:

1. Finance/Buildings and Grounds

- a. Jennifer Bowen
- b. John Cavanaugh
- c. Stacey Muscarella

Chairperson: Walter Bright

2. Personnel

- a. Tim Bast
- b. Walter Bright
- c. Janette Coslop

Chairperson: Shannon Williams

3. Negotiations

- a. Todd Baron
- b. Walter Bright
- c. John Cavanaugh

Chairperson: Jennifer Bowen

4. Curriculum

- a. Todd Baron
- b. Colleen Kendrick
- c. Shannon Williams

Chairperson: Stacey Muscarella

5. Board Development

- a. Tim Bast
- b. Janette Coslop
- c. Shannon Williams

Chairperson: Todd Baron

6. Shared Services

- a. Walter Bright
- b. Janette Coslop
- c. Colleen Kendrick

Chairperson: John Cavanaugh

- 7. Transportation
 - a. Jennifer Bowen
 - b. Walter Bright
 - c. Shannon WilliamsChairperson: Tim Bast

- 8. Public Relations
 - a. Jennifer Bowen
 - b. Colleen Kendrick
 - c. Stacey MuscarellaChairperson: Janette Coslop

- C. Approval of Board of Education Meeting dates for the period from January 2025 through January 2026. (*Attachment: Reorg. #VI.B.*)

Motion: Mr. Bright Second: Mrs. Coslop
Roll Call: (9-0) Carried: Yes

VII. Superintendent’s Report

A. Personnel

Motion: For the Board of Education to approve the following action items:

- 1. Approval of the employment of the following individuals as substitutes for the district on an as-needed basis effective through June 30, 2025, at the currently-approved hourly and daily rates, pending receipt of required clearances:

Emma Hartman – Teacher Kim Davis – Bus Driver

- 2. Approval of the medical leave of absence for Heather Casserly, Instructional Aide at Pleasant Valley School, effective January 7, 2025 utilizing 28 days without pay concurrent with FMLA through February 19, 2025, with an estimated return date of February 20, 2025.
- 3. Approval of the employment of Erin Dougherty, current Substitute Teacher, as Long-Term Substitute Instructional Aide at Pleasant Valley School, during the absence of Heather Casserly for the period of January 9, 2025 through February 28, 2025, with a salary established at the daily substitute Instructional Aide rate of \$22.59 per hour in accordance with the 2022-2025 contract between H.T.E.A. and H.T.B.O.E., pending receipt of required clearances.
- 4. Approval of Lucinda Bull, current Substitute Aide as Substitute Teacher for the district on an as-needed basis effective through June 30, 2025, at the currently-approved hourly and daily rates.

Motion: Mrs. Coslop Second: Mrs. Bowen
Roll Call: (9-0) Carried: Yes

B. Administration

1. Approval to designate Dr. Peretti as the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O) pursuant to the requirement of the State of New Jersey, Department of Treasury, Division of Purchase and Property.

Motion: Mrs. Coslop
Roll Call: (9-0)

Second: Mrs. Bowen
Carried: Yes

VIII. Audience Participation

Members of the audience discussed the following items:

- There was disappointment that there was not an audience participation before the nomination for Board President.
- Discussed campaign literature. Audience members were opposed to and wanted a change for Board President.
- The belief that there should not be any suppression in schools, religion should not be removed from school.
- The newly elected Board President should not be held responsible for the campaign literature.
- A statement was read from Alexis Rubino.

IX. Adjournment

There was no further business. A motion was made to adjourn at 7:53 p.m.

Motion: Mr. Bright
Roll Call: Voice

Second: Mrs. Bowen
Carried: Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Ridgway
Interim Board Secretary