

**REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 4, 2025  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

*A Special Meeting of the Chester Board of Education will be held on  
March 4, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Black River Middle School,  
133 North Road, Chester, NJ*

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Sunshine Announcement**

Be advised that this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975 (Sunshine Law) and that adequate notice of the date, time and location has been sent to the Daily Record and has been posted and filed with the Chester Township and Chester Borough Clerks. The annual meeting calendar has also been sent to each District school and the Chester Post Office. Additionally, the agenda has been posted on the District website prior to the Board meeting.

**3. Roll Call**

Erick Arostegui		Suzanne Dundon	
John Barounis		Melissa Mauro-Duffy	
Amy Buck Faundez		Sarah Schultz	
Carolyn Byszewski		Adam Sorchini	
Adam Colicchio		<b>Quorum</b>	

**4. Pledge of Allegiance**

**5. President's Comments**

**6. Public Commentary**

*Please be aware that this portion is your opportunity to comment, and is not a forum for the Board to respond to your comments. However, the Board will certainly give all comments appropriate consideration.*

*When permitted, public participation shall be governed by the following rules under Policy 9325.2:*

- 1. Anyone wishing to speak before the Board shall indicate so during the Public Commentary portion of the agenda. The presenter shall give his/her name and address and make the presentation as brief as possible. Unless an extension of time is granted, each speaker should be limited to 3 minutes.*
- 2. Speakers may offer such objective criticisms of school operations and programs as concern them. But in public session, the Board will not hear concerns about the specific school personnel or any person connected with the school system. Other channels provide the Board consideration and disposition of such matters involving individuals.*

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*3. The Board vests in its President or other presiding officer authority to terminate the remarks of any individual when they do not adhere to the rules established above.*

- 7. Curriculum/Governance/Personnel**— Melissa Mauro Duffy (Chair), Erick Arostegui, Suzanne Dundon and Amy Buck Faundez.

**7a. Approves Superintendent Contract (Kochis)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approve the Superintendent contract for William Kochis, Ed.D. effective on or about June 5, 2025 through June 30, 2029.

**7b. Approves Interim Superintendent Contract (Ficarra)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approve the Interim Superintendent contract for Thomas Ficarra, Ed.D. effective March 24, 2025 through June 6, 2025 to be paid the per diem rate of \$900 for each day worked.

**7c. Approves Interim Bragg School Principal (Schilp)**

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approve the Bragg School Interim Principal contract for Russel Schilp effective March 10, 2025 through June 13, 2025 to be paid \$125,000 prorated.

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS

**8. Executive Session**

RESOLVED, that pursuant to NJS.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13 the Chester Board of Education holds a closed session on March 4, 2025 at \_\_\_\_ p.m. to discuss personnel, negotiations and items falling under attorney client privilege. It is expected that the minutes will be made public as soon as official action is taken.

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS

**9. Return to Public Session Time\_\_\_\_\_**

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS

**10. Unfinished Business**

**11. New Business**

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12. Adjournment Time\_\_\_\_\_

Motion by\_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by\_\_\_\_\_

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS