

**SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
October 30, 2023**



MEETINGS:

6:00 p.m. - Special Meeting / Closed Executive Session- School #2 Media Center

7:00 p.m. - Special Meeting- School #2 APR

**SOUTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, SOUTHAMPTON, NJ 08088
"Building a Tradition of Excellence"**

OUR MISSION

The Southampton Township School District shall empower our students with the life skills necessary to attain academic excellence while fostering social and emotional growth.

STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC

Please be advised that often it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the administration has thoroughly reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools. If the Superintendent of Schools is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board committee. The members of the Board committee work with the administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. When the committee is satisfied that the matter has been thoroughly researched, it is presented to the Board of Education for discussion prior to any final action being taken. Only then, is it placed on the agenda for action at a public meeting. Please be aware this meeting may be recorded in accordance with District Policy #0168.

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING:

ROLL CALL:

Board of Education Member	Present	Absent
Jeffrey Hicks, <i>Vice President</i>		
Kit Applegate		
Sean Cassel		
Katie Topf		
Melissa Walker		
John McMichael		
Irving Bodine III		
Russell Hann		
Betty Wright, <i>President</i>		

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SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING: This meeting is held in compliance with N. J. S. A. 10:4-6. A schedule of meetings was posted in all schools and the township municipal building, advertised in the *Burlington County Times* on January 6, 2023, and the *Courier Post* on February 17, 2023, and posted on the district website and the Southampton Township School District Facebook page. A revised schedule of meetings was filed with the Township Clerk on March 28, 2023. Notice of this meeting was transmitted to the Township Clerk, Burlington County Times, and the *Courier Post* on October 25, 2023.

Notice that public session may be audio recorded.

Please note that the **public session** of tonight's meeting may be audio recorded.

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS PUBLISHED

MOTION: _____ **SECOND:** _____

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA:

Members of the public are invited to submit comments during the public comment portion of this meeting. The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting; however, the Board will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all individual complaints to the Superintendent of Schools or Administration for resolution. Each citizen will be allotted up to three (3) minutes to speak, in order to allow everyone an opportunity to express their opinions or concerns.

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

RESOLUTION TO ENTER CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board of Education is exercising their right to an exemption pursuant to N. J. S. A. 10:4-6 et seq. which provides that a public body may hold a closed session under certain statutory exceptions to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act with a general description of exceptions being matters:

1. rendered confidential by expressed provision of law or court order
2. right to receive federal funds
3. unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. collective bargaining negotiations
5. purchase/lease/acquisition of real property with public funds
6. items where immediate disclosure would impair public safety
7. investigation of violations of or possible violations of law

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- 8. falling within attorney-client privilege
- 9. personnel matters
- 10. penalty or loss of license to an individual
- 11. pending or anticipated litigation
- 12. contract negotiation

The Board of Education has determined that such a circumstance exists which warrants a closed executive session under **items #8 and #9** as above indicated and the subject to be discussed is as follows:

Falling Within Attorney-Client Privilege/Personnel Matters

The Southampton Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq, will meet in executive session closed to the public for the discussion of a matter which falls under a statutory exception to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act and that said closed session will be held on **Monday, October 30, 2023** and the closed executive session discussions will pertain to the above mentioned items and that the minutes of the closed executive session will be disclosed after the Board of Education takes formal action or after the reason for the discussions in closed session no longer exists.

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

TIME: _____ MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ VOICE VOTE

MOTION BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

TIME: _____ MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ VOICE VOTE

ACTION ITEMS:

- 1. APPROVE THE RESIGNATION AGREEMENT AND GENERAL RELEASE BETWEEN ASIA MICHAEL AND THE BOARD**

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ to approve the resignation agreement and general release between Asia Michael and the Board (Item # 1) ROLL CALL VOTE

**J. Hicks, Vice President
K. Applegate
S. Cassel**

**K. Topf
M. Walker
J. McMichael**

**I. Bodine III
R. Hann
B. Wright, President**

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- 2. APPROVE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL L. HARRIS AS INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS PURSUANT TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WHICH HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 2023 THROUGH A DATE TO BE DETERMINED AT A PER DIEM RATE OF \$675.00.**

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ to approve appointment of Michael L. Harris as Interim Superintendent of Schools pursuant to the employment agreement which has been reviewed and approved by the Executive County Superintendent, effective November 1, 2023 through a date to be determined at a per diem rate of \$675.00 (Item # 2) ROLL CALL VOTE

**J. Hicks, Vice President
K. Applegate
S. Cassel**

**K. Topf
M. Walker
J. McMichael**

**I. Bodine III
R. Hann
B. Wright, President**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Meeting Dates**

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ TO ADJOURN TIME: _____