

Minutes of the Special Public Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education which was held at the Monroe Township High School on August 06, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Carmen Alvarez at 6:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Ms. Carmen Alvarez, Board Vice President
Ms. Gazala Bohra
Ms. Gail DiPane
Mr. Peter Piro
Ms. Kate Rattner
Ms. Usha Sharma
Mr. Peter Tufano
Mr. Charles Zeichner

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Dr. Amanda Peck

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Adam Layman, Acting Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Laura Allen, CPA, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

ATTORNEY PRESENT

Mr. Adam Weiss, Busch Law Group

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – approximately 7

After the Pledge of Allegiance, and the roll call, the Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published, and electronic notice provided by having the date, time, and place thereof posted August 4, 2025:

1. At all schools,
2. On the District website at <https://www.monroe.k12.nj.us/>,
3. Home News Tribune, and
4. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Ms. Alvarez announced that nominations were in order for the election of Board President.

Ms. Sharma nominated Ms. DiPane for the position of Board President. Mr. Piro seconded the motion.

Mr. Tufano nominated Ms. Bohra for the position of Board President. Dr. Peck seconded the motion.

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Ms. Bohra refused the nomination, adding that the Board needs to heal and work together and perhaps with everyone getting behind one member to lead, it could be a good first step towards that.

Ms. Alvarez announced that since there were no other nominations, the nominations for the position of Board President were closed.

Ms. DiPane for Board President:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Ms. Carmen Alvarez	Yes
Ms. Gazala Bohra	Yes
Ms. Gail DiPane	Yes
Dr. Amanda Peck	Yes
Mr. Peter Piro	Yes
Ms. Kate Rattner	Yes
Ms. Usha Sharma	Yes
Mr. Peter Tufano	No
Mr. Charles Zeichner	Yes

Roll call 8-1-0-0-0. Motion carried.

Ms. Alvarez announced that Ms. DiPane was elected President of the Monroe Township Board of Education. As the elected Board President, Ms. DiPane began her role as Chair of the meeting.

Ms. DiPane thanked all for the nomination and stated that as President, it is her hope that everyone will be able to speak from their hearts. Ms. DiPane stated that she hopes that all members will compromise and work together to become one. Ms. DiPane thanked past President Fabiano for all her efforts on the Board, Dr. Layman for jumping in and taking care of the district, and Board Attorney Adam Weiss for his guidance throughout the past year.

A motion was made by Ms. Bohra and seconded by Mr. Tufano that the members of the Board of Education reinstate Superintendent Dr. Chanley to her position. Ms. Alvarez stated that personal matters cannot be discussed in public and specified that the Board is ongoing with their discussions on this matter in their closed session meetings. Roll call 3-5-1-0-0. Motion did not carry with Ms. Alvarez, Ms. DiPane, Mr. Piro, Ms. Sharma, Mr. Zeichner voting no and Ms. Rattner abstaining.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. DiPane stated that in future meetings there will be a sheet for speakers to fill in their name, phone number, and email address. Adding that, the information will be used in case the Board or Administration needs to get back with them with a response to their comment or question.

Eric Marozine, Monroe Township – inquired about the plan moving forward with the Superintendent's leave.

DISCUSSION ON BOARD VACANCY

Ms. Alvarez reported that she has shared the policy regarding Board vacancy with the Board and they have 65 days to fill the vacancy. Ms. Alvarez stated that per district policy every candidate

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will be interviewed in public. Ms. Alvarez conveyed that she has received some feedback from community members that they are leery of sharing their employer at this stage of the process due to some past behaviors of some members of the public.

Ms. DiPane suggested that board members receive the resumes prior to the meeting, compile a list of questions to ask the candidates, and set a time limit of 15-20 minutes for the interviews. Ms. DiPane requested that members email her and Ms. Alvarez a list of questions that they think are pertinent.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS (10-member vote)

A motion was made by Ms. Alvarez and seconded by Ms. Bohra that Board Action Item A be approved by consent roll call. Roll Call 9-0-0-0-0. Motion carried. A copy of the Board Action section of the Business Administrator's Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

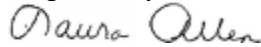
NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Ms. DiPane stated that the next public meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education will convene at 6:15 p.m. on August 27, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Zeichner and seconded by Ms. Alvarez that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The public meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Allen, CPA

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

The video recording of this meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education can be found on the district website or at the following link:

<https://www.monroe.k12.nj.us/board-of-education-2/boe-meeting-information/videotaped-boe-meetings>

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING

ALL INDIVIDUALS SITTING AT THE BOARD TABLE SHOULD HAVE THEIR PHONES PUT AWAY

MONROE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL
200 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD
MONROE TOWNSHIP, NJ 08831
6:30 P.M.

Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary. The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Subject :	A. BOARD MEMBERS
Meeting :	Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category :	3. ROLL CALL
Type :	Information

Public Content

Ms. Carmen Alvarez, Board Vice President

Ms. Gazala Bohra

Ms. Gail DiPane

Mr. Peter Piro

Ms. Kate Rattner

Ms. Usha Sharma

Mr. Peter Tufano

Mr. Charles Zeichner

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE(See Note 2)

Dr. Amanda Peck

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Aaditya Arora

Ms.Siyona Patel

4. STATEMENT

Subject :	A. STATEMENT
Meeting :	Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category :	4. STATEMENT
Type :	Information

Public Content

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5. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Subject :	A. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT
Meeting :	Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category :	5. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT
Type :	

6. PUBLIC FORUM

Subject :	A. PUBLIC FORUM (See Note 3)
Meeting :	Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category :	6. PUBLIC FORUM
Type :	

Public Content

See Note 3.

7. DISCUSSION ON BOARD VACANCY

Subject : A. DISCUSSION ON BOARD VACANCY
Meeting : Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF
EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category : 7. DISCUSSION ON BOARD VACANCY
Type :

8. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT /RECOMMENDATIONS

Subject : A. BOARD ACTION
Meeting : Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF
EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category : 8. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
/RECOMMENDATIONS
Type : Action

Public Content

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1, the Jamesburg Representative is eligible to vote on the items delineated by an asterisk (*) in the Business Administrator's Board Action section of the Agenda.
BOARD ACTION(Item A)

A. *AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES

It is recommended that the Monroe Township Board of Education designate the newly elected Board President as an Authorized Signatory Board of Education accounts.

9. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AUGUST 27, 2025

Subject : A. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING
Meeting : Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF
EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category : 9. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING AUGUST 27, 2025
Type :

Public Content

The next Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2025 6:15 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Subject :	A. NOTES
Meeting :	Aug 6, 2025 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
Category :	10. ADJOURNMENT
Type :	Action

Public Content

NOTES

Note 1: Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

Note 2:The Jamesburg Representative shall be eligible to vote on only those matters specifically designated in N.J.S.A 18A:38-8.1, as follows:

1. Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district.
2. New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils.
3. Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff.
4. Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district.
5. Any matter directly involving sending district students or programs and services used by them.
6. The annual receiving district budget.
7. Any collectively-negotiated agreement involving employees who provide services used by sending district students.
8. Any individual employee contracts not covered by a collectively-negotiated agreement, if those employees provide or oversee programs or services utilized by sending district students.
9. Any matter concerning governance of the receiving district board of education, including, but not limited to, the selection of board president and vice-president, approval of board bylaws, and the employment of professionals or consultants such as attorneys, architects, engineers, or others who provide services to the receiving district board of education.

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:38-8.1, the Jamesburg Representative is eligible to vote on the items delineated by an asterisk (*) in the Superintendents and Business Administrator/Board Secretarys Board Action section of the Agenda.

Note 3: Public discussion is confined to this portion of the Agenda unless permission is granted by the Board President prior to the start of the meeting or when the Board is considering a Special Agenda Item that the Board deems appropriate for public participation. Anyone wishing to address the Board is requested to stand and state his/her name and municipality.