

**CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING—BOARD RETREAT
JULY 16, 2025
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Sarah Schultz, Board President, called the meeting to order at **12:15** p.m. at the Chester Board of Education Building, 50 North Road, Chester, NJ 07930.

2. Sunshine Announcement

Sarah Schultz, Board President, announced 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 will be posted on the District website prior to the Board meeting.

3. Roll Call

Erick Arostegui	Yes	Suzanne Dundon	Yes
John Barounis	Yes	Melissa Mauro-Duffy	Yes
Amy Buck Faundez	Yes	Sarah Schultz	Yes
Carolyn Byszewski	Yes	Adam Sorchini	Yes
Adam Colicchio	Absent	Quorum	Yes

4. Pledge of Allegiance

Sara Schultz, Board President, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. Administration—Superintendent Dr. William Kochis, Brad Currie, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Peter Frascella, BA/SBA, Richard Celebre, Michele Tarnofsky, Andrew White, Rebecca Tsihlas, Peter Mercurio and Daniele Panizzi, School Board Attorney.

6. Public Commentary

None

7. Buildings, Grounds, Transportation/Finance— Adam Colicchio (Chair), Adam Sorchini, Carolyn Byszewski and John Barounis

7a. Approves Bid #2601 for Mechanical Services (Siemens Industry, Inc.)

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves Bid #2301 for Mechanical Services with Siemens Industry, Inc. for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of \$69,485.

Motion by Melissa Mauro Duffy Seconded by John Barounis

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

8. Executive Session

RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and 10:4-13 the Chester Board of Education held a closed session on July 16, 2025 at **12:18** p.m. to discuss HIB, 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 Melissa Mauro Duffy Seconded by John Barounis

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

9. Return to Public Session

Upon the motion of Amy Buck Faundez and seconded by Carolyn Byszewski, the Board returned to Public Session at 12:25 p.m.

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

10. Committee of The Whole—All.

10a. Approves Superintendent’s Recommendation for HIB Case #12

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation for HIB Case #12

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski Seconded by John Barounis

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

10b. Approves Superintendent’s Recommendation for HIB Case #13

RESOLVED, that the Chester Board of Education approves the Superintendent’s recommendation for HIB Case #13

Motion by Melissa Mauro Duffy Seconded by John Barounis

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

11. NJ School Boards Training – Charlene Peterson

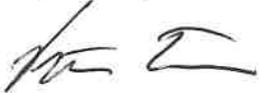
12. Goal Setting

13. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Carolyn Byszewski and seconded by John Barounis the Board considered a motion to adjourn at 3:15 p.m.

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
8-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Respectfully Submitted,



Peter Frascella
Board Secretary