

January 5, 2026

The Stillwater Township Board of Education met on January 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library for the Board Reorganization Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by René Metzgar, Board Secretary, at 7:00 p.m. In accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the time, date and location of this meeting was provided to the New Jersey Herald & Star Ledger on December 16, 2025. Notices were posted in the Stillwater School, Town Hall, Stillwater Post Office, Swartwood Post Office and the Stillwater School Website.

Mrs. Metzgar led the flag salute.

REPORT OF ELECTION RESULTS:

Mrs. Metzgar reported the following information:

Jeffery Parrott, Sussex County Clerk, certified the following election results for the Stillwater Township Board of Education:

Three-year full term for membership on the Board of Education:

Jennifer Kraft	1,120 votes
Joao Paulo "J.P." Domiciano	634 votes
Christine Voris	1,198 votes
Karen Thibault	1,057 votes
Write-In	49 votes

OATHS FOR NEW & RETURNING BOARD MEMBERS

(N.J.S.A:18A:17.11)

Mrs. Metzgar administered the oaths to the following people for the 3-year full term for membership on the Stillwater Township Board of Education:

For the 3-Three-year full term for membership on the Board of Education:

- Jennifer Kraft
- Christine Voris

Mrs. Thibault was not present and will be sworn in at the next board of education meeting.

Mrs. Metzgar congratulated all returning board members and thanked them for their continued service!

Mrs. Metzgar then called roll:

The following Board members were present: Mr. DeGroat, Mrs. Kraft, Mrs. Williver, Mr. Franek, Mrs. Valeich, Mrs. Voris, and Mrs. Frey.

Absent: Mrs. Galante and Mrs. Thibault.

Also present were Dr. Danny Papa, Superintendent, René Metzgar, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Marissa Cramer, Principal/Supervisor of CST and Special Education/Basic Skills, and members of the public.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Metzgar opened the floor for nominations for President of the Stillwater Board of Education.

1. The President shall be elected by a roll call vote of a majority of Board members in attendance.

- a. Mrs. Metzgar opened for nominations for President of the Stillwater Board of Education.

Nominations: Mrs. Williver nominated Mrs. Galante, second by Mrs. Valeich. Mrs. Galante accepted the nomination via email notification prior due to her absence.

Mrs. Metzgar asked for any further nominations. Hearing none;

Mrs. Metzgar closed the nominations for Board President and called for a vote.

- b. Mrs. Metzgar closes nominations and presents the vote for the office of the President of the Board.
- c. Roll Call Vote: Mr. DeGroat- Mrs. Galante; Mrs. Galante-Absent; Mrs. Thibault-Absent; Mr. Franek- Mrs. Galante; Mrs. Frey- Mrs. Galante; Mrs. Voris-Mrs. Galante; Mrs. Valeich-Mrs. Galante; Mrs. Williver- Mrs. Galante; Mrs. Kraft- Mrs. Galante.
- d. Unanimously, Mrs. Krista Galante is elected Board President.

NOMINATIONS & ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT

1. The Vice President shall be elected by a roll call vote of a majority of Board members in attendance.

- a. Mrs. Metzgar opened for nominations for Vice President of the Stillwater Board of Education.

Nominations: Mr. Franek nominated Mrs. Williver, second by Mrs. Frey. Mrs. Williver accepted the nomination.

Mrs. Metzgar asked for any further nominations. Hearing none;

Mrs. Metzgar closed the nominations for Board Vice President and called for a vote.

- b. Mrs. Metzgar closes nominations and presents the vote for the office of the Vice President of the Board.
- c. Roll Call Vote: Mr. DeGroat- Mrs. Williver; Mrs. Galante-Absent; Mrs. Thibault-

Absent; Mr. Franek- Mrs. Williver; Mrs. Frey- Mrs. Williver; Mrs. Voris-Mrs. Williver; Mrs. Valeich-Mrs. Williver; Mrs. Williver- Mrs. Williver; Mrs. Kraft- Mrs. Williver.

- d. Unanimously, Mrs. Cheryl Williver is elected Board Vice President.

THE MEETING IS TURNED OVER TO THE BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

ANNUAL MOTIONS

That the following Annual resolutions be approved:

1. Motion to adopt the present Stillwater Township Board of Education policy manual.
2. Motion to designate the New Jersey Herald as the official newspaper for the 2026 calendar year and the Star Ledger/NJ.com or The Township Journal as an alternate newspaper and for select advertising.
3. Motion to approve the following locations for posting all legal notices for the 2026 calendar year:

Stillwater Post Office
Stillwater Town Hall
Swartswood Post Office
Stillwater Board of Education Office
Stillwater Elementary School
4. Motion to hold Committee of the Whole meetings on the 2nd Monday of the month & regular meetings of the Board of Education on the 4th Monday of each month, unless otherwise noted, at 7:00 p.m. in the Stillwater School Library according to the attached schedule:

Committee of the Whole Meeting

February 10, 2026* (Tuesday)
March 16, 2026*
No Committee Meeting in April
No Committee Meeting in May
June 1, 2026*
No Committee Meeting in July
No Committee Meeting in August
September 14, 2026
No Committee Meeting in October
November 2, 2026*
No Committee Meeting in December

Regular Meeting

January 26, 2026
February 23, 2026
March 30, 2026*
April 27, 2026
May 11, 2026*
June 22, 2026
July 20, 2026*
August 17, 2026*
September 28, 2026
October 13, 2026* (Tuesday)
November 16, 2026*
December 14, 2026*

*Change from 2nd & 4th Monday

5. Motion to approve the following resolution regarding public relations and professional services maximum costs for the 2026-2027 school year.

Whereas, NJAC 6A:23A-5.2 provides that a school district must establish a maximum dollar limit prior to budget preparation for public relations and professional services fees, and

Whereas, the Stillwater Board of Education has established the following maximum dollar limits as required:

Public Relations	\$ 5,500
Architects	\$500,000
Attorneys	\$40,000
Auditors	\$17,000
School Physician	\$ 2,500

Whereas, if these professional services exceed the maximum amount listed, the Stillwater Board of Education will consider another motion to increase amounts listed.

Moved By: Mrs. Williver **Seconded By:** Mrs. Kraft

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Galante-Absent; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek-Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault- Absent; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Aye. Motions carried.

6. Board Members took turns reading the Board Member Code of Ethics.
7. Motion to acknowledge receipt and review of the State of New Jersey Code of Ethics as required by N.J.S.A. 18A.

Moved By: Mrs. Williver **Seconded By:** Mr. Franek

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Galante-Absent; Mrs. Williver-Aye; Mr. DeGroat-Aye; Mr. Franek-Aye; Mrs. Frey- Aye; Mrs. Kraft-Aye; Mrs. Thibault- Absent; Mrs. Valeich-Aye; and Mrs. Voris-Aye. Motion carried.

8. Review of board member contact information. If any changes/additions are needed, please notify Mrs. Metzgar.

ANNUAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS & COMMITTEES

1. Delegate and Alternate to the Sussex County School Boards Association
Delegate: Jennifer Kraft
Alternate: Cheryl Williver
2. Delegate and Alternate to the New Jersey School Boards Association
Delegate: Dennis DeGroat
Alternate: Darrick Franek
3. Committees/Chairpersons-Forms handed out, please return to Board President.

BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

Training required for BOE Members: Registration is completed through Mrs. Metzgar.

Dennis DeGroat- None
Darrick Franek- None
Margaret Frey- None
Krista Galante – None
Jennifer Kraft- Governance IV
Karen Thibault- Governance IV
Amy Valeich- None
Christine Voris- Governance IV
Cheryl Williver- None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

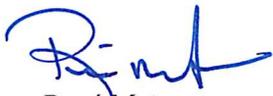
*This public session is designed for members of the public to speak on items for Board consideration. By law, the Board of Education is under no obligation to respond to public comment. If the Board of Education chooses to respond, it does not waive its right thereafter not to respond. Members of the public are asked to state their name and address for the record. ***Members of the public are requested to keep their comments to a maximum of 5 minutes. ***

-Richard Kelsky-Cedar Ridge Road, Stillwater-Questioned if the maximum costs for professional services for architects is normal at \$500,000. His opinion is to keep it at the normal amount and then increase it when needed.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. DeGroat, second by Mrs. Valeich to adjourn at 7:16 pm. A voice vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,



René Metzgar
Business Administrator/Board Secretary