



WEST ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Public Board Meeting - 5:30 p.m. – January 6, 2026
West Orange High School
51 Conforti Avenue
West Orange, NJ 07052

Reorganization Meeting Minutes

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ENSUING YEAR:

A. Call to Order by the Board Secretary

- Pledge of Allegiance

- Public Announcement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act:

- A written notice was sent from the Office of the Secretary of the Board on January 7, 2025.
- That said notice was sent by regular mail to the West Orange Township Clerk and the Editors of the West Orange Chronicle and the Star-Ledger.
- That said notice was posted in the lobby of the Administration Building of the Board of Education and posted on the district website at www.woboe.org
- Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded and may be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

- Results of the Annual School Election of November 4, 2025:

Four Candidate(s) ran for (2) Three Year Terms

	<u>Votes</u>
Dia Bryant	7,870
Robert Ivker	7,005
Susan Palmucci	5,423
Noha Sadany	5,206

- Administration of Oath Of Office to Elected Board Members
- Roll Call

B. Election of President, Brian Rock, following which the President will assume the Chair.

MOTION: Dr. Bryant

SECOND: Mr. Stevenson

VOTE: 5-0 (RC)

Yes

Bryant

Yes

Ivker

Yes

Rock

Yes

Stevenson

Yes

Vera

C. Election of Vice President, Maria Vera

MOTION: Mr. Stevenson

SECOND: Dr. Bryant

VOTE: 5-0 (RC)



Yes
Bryant

Yes
Ivker

Yes
Stevenson

Yes
Vera

Yes
Rock

(After the Election of Vice President, Mr. Stevenson left the Meeting.)

- D.** Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the following **Designation of Positions** - The following positions are filled by the person(s) or firm names through **Tuesday, January 5, 2027** (next Reorganization of the Board):

Business Administrator/Board Secretary Assistant Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary	Tonya M. Flowers Trenae Lambkin
Treasurer of School Monies	Dr. Melissa Simmons
Board Attorneys	Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs LLC Methfessel & Werbel
Architect	Di Cara Rubino
Attendance Officers	David Zawacki, Frank Yannuzzi
Health Benefits Insurance Broker	Brown & Brown - Michael Mauro
Property/Casualty Insurance Broker	Balken Risk Management
School Physician	ProCare Medical Associates LLC
Anti-Bullying Coordinator	Michelle Martino
504 Officer	Dr. Derek Ressa
Substance Assistance Coordinator	Lesley Chung, Ed. D.
Right-to-Know Officer	Nicholas Munoz
AHERA Representative (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act)	Nicholas Munoz
Integrated Pest Management Coordinator	Nicholas Munoz
Indoor Air Quality Coordinator	Nicholas Munoz
Chemical Hygiene Officer	Nicholas Munoz
Public Agency Compliance Officer	Tonya M. Flowers
District Affirmative Action Officer	Michelle Martino Elizabeth Veneziano
Qualified Purchasing Agent	Tonya M. Flowers
Custodian of Records	Tonya M. Flowers
District Liaison to DCP&P (Division of Child Protection and Permanency)	Dr. Derek Ressa
District Homeless Liaison	Hayden Moore



Bond Counsel	Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer
Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator	Dr. Derek Ressa
Title IX Coordinator	Stephen Zichella Elizabeth Veneziano
Claims Auditor	Tonya M. Flowers
Financial Advisor	Phoenix Advisors
Auditor	Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP
School Safety Specialist	Filipe Santiago, David Marion

- E. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education hereby appoints Hayden Moore, Superintendent of Schools, to **submit all federal, state, and local grants** on behalf of the West Orange Board of Education.
- F. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the following named banks to be **designated as depositories for school funds**:

Bank	Account Name	Authorized Signature	Required
PNC	Gregory School Activity Account	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Hazel School Activity Account	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Kelly School Activity Account	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Mt. Pleasant School Activity Account	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Redwood School Activity Account	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	St. Cloud School Activity Account	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Washington School Activity Account	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS	2



Bank	Account Name	Authorized Signature	Required
		ABA	
PNC	Edison School Activity Account	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Liberty School Activity Account	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Liberty Athletic Account	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Roosevelt School Activity Account	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Roosevelt Athletic Account	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Roosevelt School, Jhaveri Memorial Fund	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Roosevelt School, Betty L. Hardy Scholarship	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	WOHS Student Activity	Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC Bank	WOHS Athletic Fund	Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	General Checking Account	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA Executive Assistant	3



Bank	Account Name	Authorized Signature	Required
PNC	Payroll Account	Treasurer SBA/BS ABA	1
PNC	Payroll Agency Account	Treasurer SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	SUI Account	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	FLEX Account	Treasurer SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Capital Reserve	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Emergency Reserve	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Maintenance Reserve	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Food Services	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA	2
PNC	Student Fees Account	Treasurer Board President SBA/BS ABA	2

- G.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves The West Orange Chronicle and The Star Ledger as the **designated official newspapers for public notices**, for the 2026 Calendar Year.
- H.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the following:
1. That the **Current Bylaws and Policies** of the West Orange Board of Education adopted and amended as needed, are hereby **confirmed, ratified and approved and supersede any prior policy, bylaw, and regulation**.
 2. That the said **Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations** as described in paragraph 1 above, shall **remain in full force and effect for the 2026 Calendar Year**, except as may be amended from time to time.



- I.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education adopts the following **Schedule of Meetings for the 2026 Calendar Year** (subject to change):

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Private Session</u>	<u>Public Session</u>
Tuesday, January 6, 2026	Re-Org	WO High School	–	5:30pm
Monday, January 26, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, February 23, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, March 16, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, April 20, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, May 4, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, June 15, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, July 20, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, August 17, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, September 28, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, October 26, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, November 9, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm
Monday, December 14, 2026	Regular	WO High School	5:30pm	6:30pm

All meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. and immediately go into Executive Session. We will reconvene into the Public Business Meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board Of Education **approves the next Reorganization Meeting** to be held on **Tuesday, January 5, 2027** at 5:30 p.m.

- J.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the **use of the Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts** as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2 **for the 2026 Calendar Year**.
- K.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **WHEREAS**, each **School Board Member is responsible to read and become familiar with the Code of Ethics** for School Board Members; the Code of Ethics became part of the School Ethics Act on July 26, 2001.

WHEREAS, the following Code of Ethics (Policy No. 0142) for Board Members is set forth as a guide to conflict-of-interest situations and unethical activity for Board Members. The Members of the Board of Education recognize that they hold authority not as individuals but as Members of the Board.



In order to make a clear public statement of its philosophy of service to the pupils of the District, the Board adopts 18A:12-24.1 Code of Ethics for School Board Members.

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
- c. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- d. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow Board Members, to see that they are well run.
- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the Board.
- f. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow Board Members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

L. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education hereby **authorizes the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids and competitive contracting and obtain quotes and proposals when the need arises.**

M. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education hereby **designates the Business Administrator, responsible for any and all Board of Education investments, and authorizes the Business Administrator and the Assistant Business Administrator to make wire transfers** amongst Board accounts as may be necessary, and in payment of debt service to JP Morgan Chase Bank for the Benefit of the Depository Trust Company, TD Bank, and The Bank of New York Mellon.

N. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10 provides that a Board of Education, **without advertising for bids or after having rejected all bids obtained pursuant to advertising therefore by resolution, may purchase any goods or services pursuant to a contract or contracts for such goods or services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property; and**



WHEREAS, the West Orange Board of Education **has the need, on a timely basis, to procure goods and services utilizing State contracts; and**

WHEREAS, the West Orange Board of Education desires to **authorize its Purchasing Agent for the 2025 Calendar Year to make any and all purchases necessary to meet the needs of the School District throughout the school year.**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board of Education **authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to utilize State Contracts for the procurement of Goods and Services through State Agencies for the 2026 Calendar Year; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board of Education **does hereby authorize the District Purchasing Agent to make purchases of goods and services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property**, including but not limited to the Federal General Services Administration and cooperative purchasing programs in other states and those contained on the Division's website.

- O.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the West Orange Board of Education does hereby **authorize the Purchasing Agent to utilize Educational Data Services, Inc.** contracts for services and materials.
- P.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the West Orange Board of Education does hereby **authorize the Purchasing Agent to utilize the following agencies for goods and services:**
- Educational Data Services
 - Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC)
 - Educational Services Commission of New Jersey A.K.A. Middlesex County Cooperative
 - Region V Council for Special Education
 - South Bergen Jointure Commission
 - The Cooperative Purchasing Network
 - Union County Cooperative Pricing System #8-UCCP
 - Kelly Service Cooperative Pricing System
 - NJ State of the Art Requisition Technology (NJ START)
 - Purchasing Cooperative of America (PCA)
 - OMNIA Partners as Cooperative Purchasing Participants
 - Sourcewell as Cooperative Purchasing Participants
 - Bergen County Registered Cooperative Pricing System
 - Bergen County Special Services School District (BCSSSD)
 - Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System
- Q.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the West Orange Board of Education does hereby **authorize Certified School Personnel to collect and maintain the following mandated pupil records** as per N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3 and Policy 8330:

- a. The student's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, name of parent(s), gender,



standardized assessment and test answer sheets (protocol), grades, attendance, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

- b. Record of daily attendance;
- c. Descriptions of student progress according to the system of student evaluation used in the school district
- d. History and status of physical health compiled in accordance with State regulations, including results of any physical examinations given by qualified school district employees;
- e. Records pursuant to rules and regulations regarding the education of students with disabilities; and
- f. All other records required by the State Board of Education.

R. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, in compliance with statutes and rules of the State Board of Education, **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education **approve the adoption of all existing Board-approved programs and services, curriculum, school objectives and Comprehensive Equity Plan goals** until and unless modified upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

MOTION: Dr. Bryant

SECOND: Mr. Ivker

VOTE: 4-0 (RC)

Yes
Bryant

Yes
Ivker

Absent
Stevenson

Yes
Vera

Yes
Rock

II. PETITIONS AND HEARINGS OF CITIZENS

III. NEXT BOARD MEETING to be held at 6:30 p.m. on January 26, 2026 at West Orange High School.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION (as deemed necessary)

WHEREAS: The Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Board of Education adjourns to closed session to personnel, legal and miscellaneous confidential matters. Be it further

RESOLVED: The minutes of this closed session will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

V. ADJOURNMENT at 5:54 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Ivker

SECOND: Vice President Vera

VOTE: 4-0 (VV)

Yes
Bryant

Yes
Ivker

Absent
Stevenson

Yes
Vera

Yes
Rock



Respectfully submitted,

Trenae Lambkin

Trenae Lambkin, Assistant Board Secretary