COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Session of the Colonial School District Board of Education was called to order by Board President Christopher Piecuch at **6:32 PM** in the Colonial School District Administration Building.

ATTENDANCE

The following Board members were in attendance:

Christopher Piecuch, Sr., President
Christine L. Smith, Vice President
Phila M. Breeding
Carlos Dipres
Dr. Keenan Dorsey
Ron Handy, Sr.
Joseph T. Laws, III
Mia Castaneda-Ocampo, Student Board Representative
Dr. Jeffrey D. Menzer, Executive Secretary/Superintendent

Also in attendance were:

Jennifer Alexander
Tyann Butts
Kate Cale
Emily Falcon
Jeffory Gibeault
Nneka Jones, E.D
Joe Kite
Maureen Leary
Drew Moffett
Gabe Phillips
Camille Logic
Crystal Lancour, E.D
John Sopkanich
Hyacinth Lewis
Nicole Sumner
Aaron Lamb
Steve Talmo
Dave Distler
Lori Wiley
Krystin Bowe
Andrew Erickson
Robert Desjardin
Ursula McCoy
Erik Jones
Kim Barbado
Gary Lumpkin
Tameka Mays

The recording secretary was Tyann Butts.

1. FLAG SALUTE

Senator Tizzy Lockman , led everyone in the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

2. ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS TO BOARD AGENDA

None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

IT WAS PROPERLY MOVED BY **Ted Laws**, SECONDED BY **Ronald Handy**, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE AGENDA AS CORRECTED.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

A. Redding Consortium Redistricting Options

Redding Consortium Chairs, Senator Elizabeth Lockman and Matt Denn presented the three options under consideration for redistricting with respect to school districts that serve the City of Wilmington and take Questions from the Board.

Following the Q&A with the Board there was a Public Comment period to allow for reaction and feedback from the Colonial Community Members in attendance.

At the conclusion of Public Comment the Redding Co-Chairs will offer closing comments and any response/reactions to public comment.

To view the full presentation, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Helen Anderson who was an Alum of William Penn as well as a previous teacher, spoke about the education data in the Delaware School districts and the resources available for our students. She spoke about the model of education in 1978 and how

Eric Perry is a fellow citizen of New Castle who expressed concern about the consolidation of the schools and how it would have an impact on finances when it came to taxation. He questioned how it would have a huge financial impact on senior citizens and people on fixed incomes. He wanted to know when there would be information available if this would happen.

To view the full comment, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

6. THE E IN THE POWER OF WE

A. Student Member (Non-Voting) on the Colonial School Board

In June 2020, the District established a process for recruiting and nominating a William Penn High School student to be a non-voting member of the Colonial School Board.

Mia Castaneda-Ocampo, the current Student Representative to the School Board, will provide an update to the Board.

- Student Activities and Groups - William Penn's Care Closet is open for anyone who needs assistance with clothing and other essential items. Tuesday is Polar Express Day. Students will be able to try out for the Talent and PRom Fashion Show next week.

- Athletics - Winter Sport will have their first games in the upcoming week. Congratulations to Justin Widener, Mike Baker and Colby Gilbert on their signing with Wilmington University, Goldie Beacom and Arcadia University for Baseball.

- Academics - William Penn's Peer Tutoring program is up and running for students that need academic assistance. Ms. Handy-Hayes published her weekly email with many scholarship opportunities for all students, not just seniors.

Since 2014, Colonial Nation has thrived on "The Power of WE", with a determined commitment to the Four Pillars that are represented in **"W"**.

Based on lessons learned from Colonial's successful 2024 referendum campaign, the pillars alone are not enough to improve student outcomes.

In 2024 we proudly proclaimed Improvement is a WE thing, and began to recognize the true power behind our success, the **"E"** in "The Power of WE".

Join us as we celebrate the stories of Colonial Students, Staff, Families and Community.

B. Staff

Camille Logic, Legal Studies Teacher at William Penn

Camille was recently named the 2025 DEL-REC Law-Related Educator of the Year. She was not only the winner by unanimous decision among the members of the Delaware Law Related Education Center, she was also nominated by her students at William Penn.

To view the full presentation, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

7. <u>ASSOCIATION UPDATES</u>

Colonial School Board DSBA Board of Directors Representative **Ronald Handy**, DSBA Legislative Committee Representative **Dr. Keenan Dorsey** and Colonial Board Executive Secretary, Dr. Jeffrey Menzer provided updates from recent DSBA and CSOA meetings as needed. Other statewide or district committee updates, such as DIAA, may also be discussed.

During this time Board members may also discuss PK-12 topics of national interest as highlighted by NSBA.

DSBA - Delaware School Boards Association

Legislative Committee: January 7, 2026
Executive Committee:

CSOA- Chief School Officers Association
Met last Thursday in Smyrna for Professional Development with University of Delaware.

NSBA- National School Boards Association
https://www.nsba.org/resources/asbj/asbj-october-2025

District Committees
Strategic Plan: Finalized new Mission and Vision Statements and Priority Statements. Dec 10, 2025 will be a time to review feedback and start writing goals.

To view the full discussion, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Copies of the items listed on the Consent Agenda provided below were presented to the Board for review and approval:

A. To Approve All Consent Agenda Items
IT WAS PROPERLY MOVED BY **Kennan Dorsey**, SECONDED BY **Ronald Handy**, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT ALL "ACTION ITEMS" ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

B. Board Meeting Minutes
- Executive Session Minutes - November 4, 2025
- Regular Session Minutes - November 4, 2025
- Personnel - Monthly Board Report - November 4, 2025
- Personnel - Monthly Board Report-Confidential - November 4, 2025

C. Education
- **Choice Reports**
  - 2025-2026 Good Cause Choice Invitations
  - 2025-2026 Choice Terminations

D. Operations & Finance
- Budget Variance Monthly Report as of October 31 2025

- Summary of Revenue
- Summary of Expenditures
- Local Fund Property Tax Receipts

- **WILLIAM PENN SECURITY / ADA**

- **GUNNING BEDFORD RENOVATION**

E. Personnel

- Confirmation of Personnel Action
- Standard Personnel Items
- EPER and Volunteer Coaches
- Administrative Salary Structure

To view the full discussion, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

9. UPDATES AND ACTION ITEMS

A. Administrative Contract Non-Renewal

The district administration seeks a motion of consideration and action upon the non-renewal of Colonial Administrative Contracts as presented by the district administration during Executive Session.

IT WAS PROPERLY MOVED BY **Christine Smith**, SECONDED BY **Ted Laws**, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT NON-RENEWAL AND LANE.

To view the full discussion, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

B. Administrative Contract Renewals and Lanes

The district administration seeks a motion of consideration and action upon the renewal of Colonial Administrative Contracts and Lane Placements as presented by the district administration during Executive Session.

IT WAS PROPERLY MOVED BY **Ronald Handy**, SECONDED BY **Carlos Depres**, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT RENEWALS AND LANES.

To view the full presentation, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

C. McCullough Middle School - Parent Partnership and Lanes

"McCullough's Vision in Action: How Four Years of Growth and Parent Partnership Pushed Us Beyond the Benchmarks"

Over the past years, McCullough proved what happens when a school commits to clear goals , strong instruction, and real partnership with families. Consistent use of data, coaching and aligned supports move students far beyond expected benchmarks and build a culture where growth is the norm. This journey shows how a shared vision-lived out daily-can reshape outcomes for an entire community.

To view the full discussion, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

D. Leadership and Learning: Math

Dr. Crystal Lancour, supervisor of Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction will present: Math in Motion: Growth, Goals & Good News.

To view the full discussion, please click here:

https://www.youtube.com/live/1ABD73M0r8A

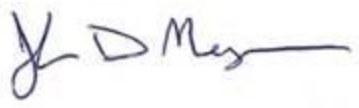
10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, IT WAS PROPERLY MOVED BY **Ted Laws**, SECONDED BY **Christine Smith** AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED TO ADJOURN AT **9:07 PM**.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey D. Menzer, Ed.D.
Executive Secretary