

**CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING—BOARD RETREAT
August 5, 2026
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order

Sarah Schultz, Board President, called the meeting to order at **9:10 A.M.** at the Chester Board of Education Office, 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	Absent
Adam Colicchio	Yes*	Quorum	Yes

***Arrived 9:40 AM**

4. Pledge of Allegiance

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

5. Administration

- Superintendent - Dr. William Kochis
- Assistant Superintendent - Mr. Brad Currie
- Business Administrator/Board Secretary - Mr. Peter Frascella

6. Public Commentary

None

7. Curriculum/Governance/Personnel—Melissa Mauro Duffy (Chair), Sarah Schultz, Suzanne Dundon, and Amy Buck Faundez

7a. Approves Revision to the 2026-2027 School Calendar

RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Chester Board

of Education approves revising the 2026-2027 School Calendar to show an early dismissal on October 31st in observance of Halloween.

Motion by Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by John Barounis

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
7-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent

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 **August 5, 2026 at 9:15 A.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 Carolyn Byszewski

Seconded by Melissa Mauro Duffy

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
7-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent

9. Return to Public Session

Upon the motion of Carolyn Byszewski and seconded by Melissa Mauro Duffy, the Board returned to Public Session at 9:25 A.M.

Roll Call Vote	EA	JB	ABF	CB	AC	SD	MMD	SS	AS
7-0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent

10. School Boards Training/Goal Setting

Kathy Helewa worked with the Board Members and Administration to establish goals.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, upon the motion of Carolyn Byszewski and seconded by Erick Arostegui, the Board considered a motion to adjourn at 12:13 P.M.

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Peter Frascella

Board Secretary