

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
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I hereby certify that the following is a true and exact excerpt from the minutes of the Public Board of Education Meeting held on October 14, 2026, at which time a quorum was present:

A motion was made by Ms. Alvarez and seconded by Ms. Sharma that members of the Board of Education approve the following by consent roll call:

Whereas, the Monroe Township Board of Education ("Board") is insured by and through insurance policies that were issued by its insurance carrier, New Jersey Schools Insurance Group ("NJSIG"); and

Whereas, pursuant to its insurance policies with the Board, NJSIG assigns insurance defense counsel to represent its insureds related to claims that stem their service on the Board; and

Whereas, NJSIG has assigned the firm of Flanagan, Barone & O'Brien to serve as insurance defense counsel for Board members who are involved in litigation; and

Whereas, upon review of the various conflicts of interests of the current Board Members, it has been determined that five of the members have conflicts of interest pursuant to the New Jersey School Ethics Act; and

Whereas, pursuant to Policy 0163, when a quorum of the Board has conflicted interests, the doctrine of necessity may be invoked in order to allow conflicted Board members to participate and vote only when the Board of education has fewer non-conflicted Board members than are required, pursuant to statute, to take action; and

Whereas, when invoking the doctrine of necessity the Board shall state publicly that it is invoking the doctrine of necessity with the reasons for doing so and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

Whereas, the Board Policy further provides that it shall read the resolution invoking the doctrine of necessity at a regularly scheduled public meeting, post the notice of the resolution for thirty (30) days and provide the School Ethics Commission with a copy of the resolution; and

Whereas, the School Ethics Act, N.J.S.A. 18A 12-21, et seq., was enacted by the New Jersey State Legislature to ensure and preserve public confidence in School Board Members and School Administrators and to provide specific ethical standards to guide their conduct; and

Whereas, the School Ethics Commission has provided guidance regarding the invocation of the Doctrine of Necessity when a quorum of the Board of Education is not available because

members of the board of education have conflicts of interest on a matter required to be discussed and voted upon; and

Whereas, the Board intends to conduct votes this evening concerning the payment of legal invoices from Flanagan, Barone & O'Brien, insurance defense counsel for matters as assigned by New Jersey Schools Insurance Group;

Whereas, members of the Board have conflicts of interest that would prevent their participation in and vote on the matters related to Flanagan, Barone & O'Brien are as follows: Ms. Alvarez, Ms. DiPane, Ms. Forst, Mr. Piro, Ms. Sharma and Mr. Zeichner either were or are currently represented through NJSIG by Flanagan, Barone & O'Brien in connection with litigation filed by Dr. Chanley.

Whereas, as a result of the foregoing, the Board does not have a quorum to vote on matters related to the invoices from Flanagan, Barone & O'Brien, and the Board's counsel and the Board have determined that it is necessary to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above paragraphs are hereby incorporated by reference; and be it

Further Resolved, that the Doctrine of Necessity is hereby invoked with respect to the Board's public votes related to bills and claims by Flanagan, Barone & O'Brien; and be it

Further Resolved, that a copy of this Resolution, having been read at a public meeting of the Board on October 14, 2026 be posted in accordance with the Board's standard procedures for not less than thirty (30) days and that the Board Secretary reflect the same in the minutes of the meeting; and be it

Further Resolved, that a copy of this Resolution be provided to the School Ethics Commission.

Roll call 8-1-1-0-0 Motion carried with Mr. Tufano voting no and Ms. Rattner abstaining.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Allen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Allen, CPA

Business Administrator/Board Secretary