

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 Mr. Piro and seconded by Ms. Sharma that members of the Board of Education approve the following by consent roll call:

Whereas, Dr. Chari Chanley serves in the capacity of Superintendent for the 2026-2027 school year; and

Whereas, the Board hired the law firm of Schenck Price Smith and King to handle legal matters relative to Dr. Chanley's employment; and

Whereas, upon review of the various conflicts of interests of the current Board Members, it has been determined that seven 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 the Board intends to conduct votes this evening concerning the payment of invoices from Schenck Price Smith and King for legal services regarding matters related to Dr. Chanley; 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 financial and employment-related matters concerning Dr. Chanley;

Whereas, members of the Board have conflicts of interest that would prevent their participation in and vote on the matters related to Dr. Chanley are as follows:

- Carmen Alvarez, Gail DiPane, and Vanessa Forst are involved in litigation filed by Dr. Chanley.
- Peter Piro, Usha Sharma, and Charles Zeichner were involved in litigation with Dr. Chanley.
- Kate Rattner's husband, David, is a teacher employed by the Board.

Whereas, as a result of the foregoing, the Board does not have a quorum to vote on the invoice from Schenck Price Smith and King, 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 the payment of the Schenck Price Smith and King legal invoice; 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,


Laura Allen, CPA

Business Administrator/Board Secretary