

MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE WOODSTOWN-PILES GROVE BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 2, 2020 AT THE WILLIAM ROPER SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM, 211 EAST LAKE ROAD, PILES GROVE, AT 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Chin, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

READING OF STATEMENT OF NOTICE

Mrs. Chin read aloud the following: The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the rights of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Woodstown-Piles Grove Regional Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the South Jersey Times, Elmer Times, Borough of Woodstown Municipal Hall, Township of Piles Grove Municipal Hall, general offices and faculty rooms of the district's four schools, the school district's central office, and with the Borough of Woodstown Clerk and the Township of Piles Grove Clerk.

ROLL CALL OF SEATED BOARD MEMBERS:

Members Present: Mrs. Chiarelli, Mrs. Miller, Dr. Nielsen, Mr. Pennal, Mrs. Thomas, and Ms. Wojciechowski.

Members absent: None.

Also Present: Mrs. Virginia M. Grossman, Superintendent of Schools and Mrs. Rose Wang Chin, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Administrators Present: None.

FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Chin then led the group in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

PRESENTATION: Mr. Kahlil Gunther presented the Chamber Choir who then gave an impressive performance.

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND APPOINTED SENDING DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. Chin administered the oath of office to the newly elected Board Members and appointed sending district representative as follows (Note: Upper Pittsgrove had not named a representative):

Nelson Carney
Richard C. Morris, Jr., Alloway sending district representative
Julie Stanton
Travis Zigo

Mrs. Chin then roll called the newly sworn in and seated board members.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Mr. Carney, Mr. Morris, Dr. Stanton and Mr. Zigo.

Members absent: None

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Chin, asked for a motion to open the floor for nominations for the Office of President of the Board of Education.

Moved by Mr. Pennal, seconded by Ms. Wojciechowski, and carried 10-0 that the Board of Education open the floor for nominations for the Office of President.

Ms. Wojciechowski nominated Eileen Miller as President.

There being no further nominations, Mrs. Chin asked for a motion to close the floor for nominations for the Office of President.

Moved by Mrs. Chiarelli, seconded by Mr. Zigo, and carried 10-0 that the Board of Education close the floor for nominations for the Office of President.

Motion that the Board of Education approve Eileen Miller as President of the Board of Education for a term of one year, commencing January 2, 2020 and until their successor is elected and shall qualify.

Motion made by: Maricia Chiarelli

Motion seconded by: Amy Wojciechowski

Nelson Carney – Yes
Maricia Chiarelli – Yes
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris – Yes
Anne Nielsen – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

Mrs. Miller then presided over the meeting.

Mrs. Miller, President, asked for a motion to open the floor to nominations for the Office of Vice President of the Board of Education.

Moved by Mr. Morris, seconded by Mrs. Chiarelli, and carried 10-0 that the Board of Education open the floor for nominations for the Office of Vice-President.

Dr. Nielsen nominated Maricia Chiarelli as Vice-President.

There being no further nominations, Mrs. Miller asked for a motion to close the floor for nominations for the Office of Vice-President.

Moved by Mr. Carney, seconded by Ms. Wojciechowski, and carried 10-0 that the Board of Education close the nominations for the Office of Vice-President.

Motion that the Board of Education approve Maricia Chiarelli as Vice-President of the Board of Education for a term of one year, commencing January 2, 2020 and until their successor is elected and shall qualify.

Motion made by: Floyd Pennal

Motion seconded by: Amy Wojciechowski

Nelson Carney – Yes

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD SECRETARY AND PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER (P.A.C.O)

Motion that the Board of Education approve the following appointments:

Approve by resolution, and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A: 17-5, the appointment of Mrs. Rose Wang Chin, as Board Secretary effective immediately for a one-year term that expires January 15, 2021.

Designate Mrs. Rose Wang Chin as the Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O) effectively immediately through to the next reorganization meeting in January 2021.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Julie Stanton

Nelson Carney – Yes

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING - Mrs. Miller reviewed the Code of Ethics attachments with the Board.

Motion to approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey School Boards Association "Code of Ethics" shall be considered the official Code of Ethics of the Woodstown-Pilesgrave Regional Board of Education.

Motion made by: Richard C. Morris

Motion seconded by: Nelson Carney

Nelson Carney – Yes

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

Motion to authorize the South Jersey Times and the Elmer Times be adopted as the official newspapers to be used for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads and all other necessary public notifications for 2020.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Maricia Chiarelli

Nelson Carney – Yes

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

DISCUSSION OF BOARD STRUCTURE

The Board discussed the following options:

- Committee Structure
- Work Session Structure (which is the current structure)
- Combined Work Session followed by the Board Meeting Structure

Members voiced their opinions, rationale, and preference for each type of structure. They also discussed calling for an Ad Hoc meeting when needed.

Mr. Carney left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Motion to amend the agenda to add two motions to the agenda to determine Board Structure.

Motion made by: Richard C. Morris

Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris – Yes
Anne Nielsen – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

Motion passed.

Motion to maintain the current Board structure as Board of the Whole.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris – No
Anne Nielsen – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – No

Motion passed.

Motion to maintain the current structure of two dates for Board of Education meetings per month, Work Session and Board Meetings.

Motion made by: Floyd Pennal

Motion seconded by: Travis Zigo

Maricia Chiarelli – No
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris – Yes
Anne Nielsen – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – No
Travis Zigo – Yes

Motion passed.

The Board further discussed the meeting date calendar and the following changes were incorporated:

Eliminate July meeting dates

Try out the Combined Structure in May 2020 and June 2020 with a start time of 6:00 p.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT/ESTABLISH MEETING DATES, TIME AND PLACE

Motion that the Board of Education approve the following Open Public Meetings Act Resolution and attached Board of Education meeting dates for 2020 through to the next reorganization meeting in January 2021. (see page ___)

RESOLVED that the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education, pursuant to Chapter 231, PAL. (Open Public Meetings Act) does hereby proclaim the public meetings of the Board of Education will be held in William Roper School Multi-Purpose Room, 211 East Lake Road, Pilesgrove, NJ, at 7:00 p.m., as set forth in the attachment unless indicated otherwise.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the Regular Meetings shall be the normal conduct of business of the Board of Education and any other items brought to the Board's attention by the Board Members, Board Attorney, Superintendent and Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education does hereby designate the South Jersey Times and the Elmer Times as official newspapers to receive notices of meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notices of meetings of the Board of Education will be sent to the Borough of Woodstown Clerk, Township of Pilesgrove Clerk, and will be posted in the Borough of Woodstown Municipal Hall, the Township of Pilesgrove Municipal Hall, the general offices and faculty rooms of the four District schools, the School District's Central Office and the school district's website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education reserves the right to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time to discuss such matters that may be considered in closed session. However, the Board will first adopt a resolution stating the general nature of the subject to be discussed, and, as precisely as possible, the time and circumstances under which disclosure to the public will be made; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board shall require the following procedures pertaining to public participation at Board meetings:

- Any individual desiring to speak shall give his or her name, address, and the group, if any, that is represented.
- The presentation shall be as brief as possible but no more than three (3) minutes per individual.
- The Board vests in its president, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual if he/she deems it in the best interest of those present to do so.

Motion made by: Floyd Pennal

Motion seconded by: Amy Wojciechowski

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

Motion to approve the following resolution:

Except as may otherwise be provided by law, the proceedings of the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional School District School Board shall ordinarily be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order; provided, that a failure to observe or enforce such rules shall in no manner affect the regularity, validity or legality of any action or proceeding taken by the Board. The School Board, in its discretion, hereby reserves the right to proceed at any time otherwise than as prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order and to appoint the board secretary and board attorney to act as the parliamentarians for 2020.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Abstained

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

BOARD POLICIES/REGULATIONS

Motion to adopt all existing Board Policies and Procedures.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Julie Stanton

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Anne Nielsen – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

Dr. Nielsen left the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

DOCTRINE OF NECESSITY

Motion to approve the Doctrine of Necessity resolution as follows:

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, questions have arisen regarding how a Board should invoke the Doctrine of Necessity when a quorum of a board of education has conflicts of interest on a matter required to be voted upon; and

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission has provided some guidance in Public Advisory Opinion A03-98 (April 1, 1998) but finds that there is a need to repeat and clarify its opinion; and

WHEREAS, the opinion set forth that, when it is necessary for a Board to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity, the Board should state publicly that it is doing so, the reason that such action is necessary and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, the opinion further provided that if the Board must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity not just to vote, but also to form a negotiations committee because it is without even three members to serve as a committee, then the Board must determine whether to act as a committee of the whole or to choose a smaller negotiations committee from among its members after stating publicly its reason for doing so as set forth above; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the Legislative purpose as set forth in N.J.S.A.18A:12-22(a) the School Ethics Commission views public disclosure of conflicts of interest to be paramount when it is necessary to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the School Ethics Commission hereby requires Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity to adopt a resolution setting forth that they are invoking the Doctrine, the reason for doing so and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that invoke the Doctrine are directed to read the resolution at a regularly scheduled public meeting, post it where it posts public notices for 30 days and provide the Commission with a copy;

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the Commission shall distribute this Resolution to the county superintendents for distribution to the school districts and charter schools, the New Jersey School Boards Association, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials and the New Jersey Education Association.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes

Shonta Thomas – Yes

Amy Wojciechowski – Yes

Travis Zigo – Yes

BOARD MEMBER TRAINING

Mrs. Miller reviewed with the Board the mandatory Board Member training requirements.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Appreciation Month

Motion to approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the mission of the public schools is to meet the diverse educational needs of all children and to empower them to become competent, productive contributors to a democratic society and an ever-changing world; and

WHEREAS, local school board members are committed to children and believe that all children can be successful learners and that the best education is tailored to the individual needs of the child; and

WHEREAS, local school board members work closely with parents, educational professionals, and other community members to create the educational vision we want for our students; and

WHEREAS, local school board members are responsible for ensuring the structure that provides a solid foundation for our school system; and

WHEREAS, local school board members are strong advocates for public education and are responsible for communicating the needs of the school district to the public and the public's expectations to the district;

NOW, THEREFORE, do hereby recognize and express appreciation to the members of the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional School Board and proclaim the month of January 2020, as

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH. We urge all citizens to join us in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and in working with them to mold an education system that meets the needs of both today's and tomorrow's children.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski

Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal

Maricia Chiarelli – Yes

Eileen C. Miller – Yes

Richard C. Morris – Yes

Floyd Pennal – Yes

Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

Mrs. Chiarelli left the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

INSTRUCTION

Motion to approve the following as recommended by the Superintendent:
Readoption of the Curriculum for the 2019-2020 school year.

2020-2021 High School Program of Studies

High School Field – The Mock Trial club to travel to the Salem City Courthouse on January 14, 2020,
Teacher in Charge – Julie Knight, approximately 10 students, at no cost.

Motion made by: Amy Wojciechowski
Motion seconded by: Floyd Pennal
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - None

Dr. Stanton took the floor and announced her resignation effective immediately.

Mrs. Miller thanked Dr. Stanton for her service to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn this meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Motion made by: Julie Stanton
Motion seconded by: Amy Wojciechowski
Eileen C. Miller – Yes
Richard C. Morris – Yes
Floyd Pennal – Yes
Julie Stanton – Yes
Shonta Thomas – Yes
Amy Wojciechowski – Yes
Travis Zigo – Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Rose Wang Chin
SBA/BS

Approved by Motion of the Board

Date

Signature /SBA