



WEST ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Public Board Meeting - 5:30 p.m. – January 4, 2024
West Orange High School
51 Conforti Avenue
West Orange, NJ 07052

Minutes - Reorganization Meeting

Present: Mr. Ivker, Mr. Rock, Mr. Stevenson, Ms. Tunncliffe and Ms. Vera.

Absent: None.

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE ENSUING YEAR:

A. Call to Order by the Board Secretary

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Public Announcement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of the Act:

- A written notice was sent from the Office of the Secretary of the Board on September 6, 2023.
- That said notice was sent by regular mail to the West Orange Township Clerk and the Editors of the West Orange Chronicle and the Star-Ledger.
- That said notice was posted in the lobby of the Administration Building of the Board of Education and posted on the district website at www.woboe.org
- Please be advised that this meeting is being recorded and may be broadcasted on local TV and the district's website at a future date.

- Results of the Annual School Election of November 8, 2023

| <u>(2) Candidates ran for (2) Three Year Terms</u> | <u>Votes</u> |
|---|---------------------|
| Maria Vera | 3,735 |
| Melinda C. Huerta | 1,911 |

- Administration of Oath Of Office to Elected Board Members
- Roll Call

Dr. Melissa Simmons, Board Secretary, swore in the newly elected Board Member, **Ms. Maria Vera**. All members were present for a roll call.

B. Election of Board President, Brian Rock, following which the President will assume the Chair.

MOTION: Mr. Stevenson

SECOND: Ms. Vera

VOTE: 4-0 (RC)

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> |
| Ivker | Rock | Stevenson | Tunncliffe | Vera |



C. Election of Vice President, Maria Vera

MOTION: Mr. Stevenson

SECOND: Ms. Tunncliffe

VOTE: 5-0 (RC)

Yes
Ivker

Yes
Rock

Yes
Stevenson

Yes
Tunncliffe

Yes
Vera

D. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the following **Designation of Positions** - The following positions are filled by the person(s) or firm names through **Monday, January 6, 2025** (next Reorganization of the Board):**

| | |
|--|---|
| Business Administrator/Board Secretary | Tonya M. Flowers |
| Treasurer of School Monies | Dr. Melissa Simmons |
| Board Attorneys | Cleary Giacobbe Alfieri Jacobs LLC Methfessel & Werbel |
| Architect | Di Cara Rubino |
| Attendance Officers | David Zawacki, Frank Yannuzzi |
| Health Benefits Insurance Broker | Brown & Brown - Michael Mauro |
| Property/Casualty Insurance Broker | Balken Risk Management |
| School Physician | ProCare Medical Associates LLC |
| Anti-Bullying Coordinator | Cheryl Butler |
| 504 Officer | Cheryl Butler |
| Substance Assistance Coordinator | Cheryl Butler |
| Right-to-Know Officer | Michael Cimmino |
| AHERA Representative (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act) | Michael Cimmino |
| Integrated Pest Management Coordinator | Michael Cimmino |
| Indoor Air Quality Coordinator | Michael Cimmino |
| Chemical Hygiene Officer | Michael Cimmino |
| Public Agency Compliance Officer | Tonya M. Flowers |
| District Affirmative Action Officer | Cheryl Butler Annette Towson |
| Qualified Purchasing Agent | Tonya M. Flowers |
| Custodian of Records | Tonya M. Flowers |
| District Liaison to DCP&P (Division of Child Protection and Permanency) | Constance Salimbeno |
| District Homeless Liaison | Cheryl Butler |



| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Bond Counsel | McManimon & Scotland LLC |
| Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator | Constance Salimbeno |
| Title IX Coordinator | Stephen Zichella Annette Towson |
| Claims Auditor | Tonya M. Flowers |
| Financial Advisor | Phoenix Advisors |
| Auditor | Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP |
| School Safety Specialist | Filipe Santiago, David Marion |

- E. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education hereby appoints Hayden Moore, Superintendent of Schools, to **submit all federal, state, and local grants** on behalf of the West Orange Board of Education.
- F. Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the following named banks to be **designated as depositories for school funds**:

| Bank | Account Name | Authorized Signature | Required |
|------|--------------------------------------|---|----------|
| PNC | Gregory School Activity Account | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Hazel School Activity Account | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Kelly School Activity Account | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Mt. Pleasant School Activity Account | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Redwood School Activity Account | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | St. Cloud School Activity Account | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |



| Bank | Account Name | Authorized Signature | Required |
|----------|--|---|----------|
| PNC | Washington School Activity Account | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Edison School Activity Account | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Liberty School Activity Account | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Liberty Athletic Account | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Roosevelt School Activity Account | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Roosevelt Athletic Account | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Roosevelt School, Jhaveri Memorial Fund | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | Roosevelt School, Betty L. Hardy Scholarship | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | WOHS Student Activity | Principal Assistant Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC Bank | WOHS Athletic Fund | Principal Administrative Assistant SBA/BS ABA | 2 |
| PNC | General Checking Account | Treasurer Board President | 3 |



| Bank | Account Name | Authorized Signature | Required |
|------|------------------------|--|----------|
| | | SBA/BS | |
| PNC | Payroll Account | Treasurer SBA/BS | 1 |
| PNC | Payroll Agency Account | Treasurer SBA/BS | 2 |
| PNC | SUI Account | Treasurer Board President SBA/BS | 2 |
| PNC | FLEX Account | Treasurer SBA/BS | 2 |
| PNC | Capital Reserve | Treasurer Board President SBA/BS | 2 |
| PNC | Emergency Reserve | Treasurer Board President SBA/BS | 2 |
| PNC | Maintenance Reserve | Treasurer Board President SBA/BS | 2 |
| PNC | Food Services | Treasurer Board President SBA/BS | 2 |

- G.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves The West Orange Chronicle and The Star Ledger as the **designated official newspapers for public notices**, for the 2024 Calendar Year.
- H.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the following:
1. That the **Current Bylaws and Policies** of the West Orange Board of Education adopted and amended as needed, are hereby **confirmed, ratified and approved and supersede any prior policy, bylaw, and regulation**.
 2. That the said **Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations** as described in paragraph 1 above, shall **remain in full force and effect for the 2024 Calendar Year**, except as may be amended from time to time.
- I.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education adopts the following **Schedule of Meetings for the 2024 Calendar Year** (subject to change):

| <u>Meeting Date</u> | <u>Type</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Private Session</u> | <u>Public Session</u> |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|



| Monday, January 22, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
|---|---------|----------------|--------|---------------|
| Monday, February 26, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, March 18, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, April 22, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, May 6, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, June 17, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, August 19, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, September 16, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, October 28, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, November 18, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, December 16, 2024 | Regular | WO High School | 5:30pm | <u>6:30pm</u> |
| Monday, January 6, 2025 (Reorganization Meeting) | Reorg. | WO High School | — | <u>5:30pm</u> |

All meetings will be held at 5:30 p.m. and immediately go into Private Session. We will reconvene into Public Session at approximately 6:30 p.m.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board Of Education **approves the next Reorganization Meeting** to be held on **Monday, January 6, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.**

- J.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education approves the **use of the Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts** as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.2 **for the 2024 Calendar Year.**
- K.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **WHEREAS**, each **School Board Member is responsible to read and become familiar with the Code of Ethics** for School Board Members; the Code of Ethics became part of the School Ethics Act on July 26, 2001.

WHEREAS, the following Code of Ethics (Policy No. 0142) for Board Members is set forth as a guide to conflict-of-interest situations and unethical activity for Board Members. The Members of the Board of Education recognize that they hold authority not as individuals but as Members of the Board.

In order to make a clear public statement of its philosophy of service to the pupils of the District, the Board adopts 18A:12-24.1 Code of Ethics for School Board Members.

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal



and ethical procedures.

- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
- c. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- d. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow Board Members, to see that they are well run.
- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the Board.
- f. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow Board Members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

L. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education hereby **authorizes the Purchasing Agent to advertise for bids and competitive contracting and obtain quotes and proposals when the need arises.**

M. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the West Orange Board of Education hereby **designates the Business Administrator, responsible for any and all Board of Education investments, and authorizes the Business Administrator and the Assistant Business Administrator to make wire transfers** amongst Board accounts as may be necessary, and in payment of debt service to JP Morgan Chase Bank for the Benefit of the Depository Trust Company, TD Bank, and The Bank of New York Mellon.

N. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools **WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10 provides that a Board of Education, **without advertising for bids or after having rejected all bids obtained pursuant to advertising therefore by resolution, may purchase any goods or services pursuant to a contract or contracts for such goods or services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property; and**

WHEREAS, the West Orange Board of Education **has the need, on a timely basis, to procure goods and services utilizing State contracts; and**

WHEREAS, the West Orange Board of Education desires to **authorize its Purchasing Agent for the 2024 Calendar Year to make any and all purchases necessary to meet the needs of the School District throughout the school year.**



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board of Education **authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to utilize State Contracts for the procurement of Goods and Services through State Agencies for the 2024 Calendar Year; and**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the West Orange Board of Education **does hereby authorize the District Purchasing Agent to make purchases of goods and services entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property**, including but not limited to the Federal General Services Administration and cooperative purchasing programs in other states and those contained on the Division's website.

- O.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the West Orange Board of Education does hereby **authorize the Purchasing Agent to utilize Educational Data Services, Inc.** contracts for services and materials.
- P.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the West Orange Board of Education does hereby **authorize the Purchasing Agent to utilize the following agencies for goods and services:**
- Educational Data Services
 - Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC)
 - Educational Services Commission of New Jersey A.K.A. Middlesex County Cooperative
 - Region V Council for Special Education
 - South Bergen Jointure Commission
 - The Cooperative Purchasing Network
 - Union County Cooperative Pricing System #8-UCCP
 - Kelly Service Cooperative Pricing System
 - NJ State of the Art Requisition Technology (NJ START)
 - Purchasing Cooperative of America (PCA)
 - OMNIA Partners as Cooperative Purchasing Participants
 - Sourcewell as Cooperative Purchasing Participants
 - Bergen County Registered Cooperative Pricing System
 - Bergen County Special Services School District (BCSSSD)
 - Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System
- Q.** Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the West Orange Board of Education does hereby **authorize Certified School Personnel to collect and maintain the following mandated pupil records** as per N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.3 and Policy 8330:
- a. The student's name, address, telephone number, date of birth, name of parent(s), gender, standardized assessment and test answer sheets (protocol), grades, attendance, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.
 - b. Record of daily attendance;
 - c. Descriptions of student progress according to the system of student evaluation used in the school district
 - d. History and status of physical health compiled in accordance with State regulations,



- including results of any physical examinations given by qualified school district employees;
- e. Records pursuant to rules and regulations regarding the education of students with disabilities; and
- f. All other records required by the State Board of Education.

R. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, in compliance with statutes and rules of the State Board of Education, **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education **approve the adoption of all existing Board-approved programs and services, curriculum, school objectives, and Comprehensive Equity Plan goals** until and unless modified upon recommendation of the Superintendent.

MOTION: Mr. Stevenson

SECOND: Ms. Tunncliffe

VOTE: 5-0 (RC)

Yes
Ivker

Yes
Rock

Yes
Stevenson

Yes
Tunncliffe

Yes
Vera

II. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approval by the Board of Education of the overnight field trip to the Thespian Festival Theatre Competition for the 2023-2024 school year.

| School | Grades | Course / Group | Destination | City | State |
|--------|--------|---|--------------------------|--------------|-------|
| WOHS | 9-12 | Advanced Theatre/ Thespian Festival Theatre Competition | Robbinsville High School | Robbinsville | NJ |

MOTION: Mr. Stevenson

SECOND: Ms. Tunncliffe

VOTE: 5-0 (RC)

Yes
Ivker

Yes
Rock

Yes
Stevenson

Yes
Tunncliffe

Yes
Vera

III. PETITIONS AND HEARINGS OF CITIZENS

IV. NEXT BOARD MEETING for Public Session to be held at 6:30 p.m. on January 22, 2024 at West Orange High School.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION (as deemed necessary)

WHEREAS: The Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: The Board of Education adjourns to closed session to personnel, legal and miscellaneous confidential matters. Be it further

RESOLVED: The minutes of this closed session will be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.



VI. ADJOURNMENT at 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Melissa Simmons

Dr. Melissa Simmons, Board Secretary