

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
FOR THE PURPOSE OF A BOARD RETREAT HELD
December 16, 2021**

In accordance with the State’s Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending a notice of the time, date, location, and, to the extent known, the agenda of this meeting on October 6, 2021, and December 10, 2021 to the Home News Tribune and The Times, posted on the district website, placed in the Board Office and in each of the district schools, and sent to Plainsboro and West Windsor Public Libraries and Plainsboro and West Windsor township clerks.

The Special Meeting of the West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education was called to order by Board President Kaish at 6:15 p.m. in the multipurpose room at the District Administration Building. The following Board members were present:

Mr. Anthony Fleres	Ms. Michele Kaish	Ms. Loi Moliga
Ms. Louisa Ho	Ms. Dana Krug	Ms. Robin Zovich
Ms. Rachel Juliana	Ms. Graelynn McKeown	

No Board members were absent. Present also were: Dr. David Aderhold, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Christopher Russo, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/Board Secretary; Dr. Lee McDonald, Assistant Superintendent, Pupil Services/Planning; Dr. Pamela Nathan, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction; Ms. Barbara Gould, Director of Counseling, Health, and Wellness; and Mr. Derek Mead, Comptroller. Newly elected Board members Pooja Bansal and Elizabeth George-Cheniara also attended as guests. There were no other members of the public in attendance.

Call to Order and Board President Comments

Ms. Kaish read the call to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Welcome/Review Purpose and Outcomes

Dr. Aderhold welcomed everyone to the meeting to discuss the 2022-2023 Budget and reviewed the topics for this evening’s discussion.

Board Member Vacancy

The Board separated into groups to formulate interview questions for the Board member vacancy.

Review of Goals

Dr. Aderhold shared information regarding the District’s goals and how they relate to daily operations and the budget.

Referendum and Construction

Dr. Aderhold reviewed the referendum projects. He provided picture slides of completed and ongoing projects. He reviewed the need for a Capital Reserve transfer to complete the projects in the referendum.

District Financial Overview

Dr. Aderhold provided information on the District financial overview and other financial concepts. He explained that a school budget is a planning tool that considers contingencies, manages risk, considers safeguards and buffers, reflects district values, and is fiscally responsible. The Superintendent shared the meaning of a fixed cost in the budget and highlighted the budget drivers. He reviewed the budget process and timelines. There will be a Board retreat on February 24 to discuss the budget further. The preliminary budget is scheduled for adoption on March 8, and the public hearing on the budget is scheduled for April 26.

At approximately 9:55 p.m., by a motion by Mr. Fleres, seconded by Ms. Krug, and supported unanimously by all present, the Board of Education meeting was extended by one hour.

Budget Considerations & Parameters

Dr. Aderhold shared information regarding budget considerations. There will be increases to fixed cost, as there are every year, including increases in salaries (some from the minimum wage increase), benefits, transportation, special services, staffing, and tuition. Unknown budget contributors include state aid amounts, prescription and health care increases, and increases in special education services. The Board discussed the budget parameters and working within an increase of 2% plus banked cap.

Recess into Closed Session

The Superintendent and Ms. Kaish thanked everyone for their participation.

Board President Kaish expressed the need for the Board to go into executive session and read the following statement:

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act authorizes Boards of Education to meet in executive session under certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting to go into private session;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District Board of Education that it is necessary to meet in executive session to discuss the following:

Matters concerning negotiations, and specifically:	Potential Sidebar Agreement with the WWPEA
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as feasible. The minutes of the executive session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board will not return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of the executive session.

At approximately 10:40 p.m., upon motion by Ms. Zovich, seconded by Ms. McKeown, with a voice vote of all Board members present voting yes, the Board of Education adjourned into closed executive session. Ms. Bansal, Ms. George-Cheniara, and Mr. Mead immediately left the room.

Closing

At approximately 10:50 p.m., the Board returned to public session to close the meeting.

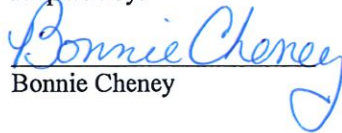
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Ho and seconded by Ms. Moliga. All Board members that were present voted in favor of adjourning the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:50 p.m.



Christopher Russo, Board Secretary

Prepared by:



Bonnie Cheney

WEST WINDSOR-PLAINSBORO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATE: December 16, 2021
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