

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
FOR THE PURPOSE OF A BOARD RETREAT HELD
December 14, 2023**

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 January 10, 2023, and December 8, 2023 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 Juliana at 6:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room at the District Administration Building. The following Board members were present:

Ms. Pooja Bansal	Ms. Rachel Juliana	Ms. Loi Moliga
Ms. George-Cheniara	Ms. Dana Krug	Ms. Shwetha Shetty
Ms. Louisa Ho	Ms. Graelynn McKeown	Ms. Robin Zovich

No Board members were absent. Present also were: Dr. David Aderhold, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Lee McDonald, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Christopher Russo, Assistant Superintendent for Finance/Board Secretary; Dr. Barbara Gould, Chief Academic Officer; Ms. Susan Totaro, Chief Equity Officer; and Mr. Derek Mead, Assistant Business Administrator. Ms. Ashley Warren, Supervisor of World Languages and Dual Language Immersion, attended as a guest. No members of the public were present.

Call to Order and Board President Comments

Ms. Juliana 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 2024-2025 Budget and reviewed the topics for this evening’s discussion. Following the superintendent’s review of the West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District Strategic Goals, Ms. Susan Totaro led a think-pair-share discussion regarding classroom needs.

Dual Language Immersion Discussion

Ms. Juliana introduced Ms. Ashley Warren, Supervisor of World Languages and Dual Language Immersion (DLI), and Dr. Barbara Gould, Chief Academic Officer, to present information on West Windsor-Plainsboro’s Dual Language Immersion program. Ms. Warren and Dr. Gould provided an overview of the K-5 Mandarin and Spanish DLI programs at Dutch Neck, Maurice Hawk, and Village elementary schools. They reviewed the structure, schedule, goals, and results of the program. The team outlined what a DLI continuation program model would look like for grades 6 through 8. Ms. Warren and Dr. Gould closed out their presentation by providing a planning timeline, sample student schedule, proposed hiring schedule, professional development guidance, and proposed launch date for Board consideration. Board President Juliana thanked Ms. Warren and Dr. Gould for their presentation.

The Board and all administrators present engaged in a discussion regarding the possibility of a DLI continuation program.

Presentation – District Financial Overview

Dr. David Aderhold, Dr. Lee McDonald, Dr. Christopher Russo, and Mr. Derek Mead provided information on the 2024-2025 District budget. Dr. McDonald 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. He shared the sources of the various revenue streams the District receives, including local taxes, state aid, and grants. He then reviewed the main categories of expenses for the District, including salaries, out of district tuition, transportation, health care, and capital projects. The Deputy Superintendent explained the Budget Cap of 2% and the additional allowable increases through Banked Cap and Spending Growth Limitations (SGLA). Dr. Aderhold reviewed the budget process and timelines. The preliminary budget is scheduled for adoption on March 19, and the public hearing on the budget is scheduled for April 30. Mr. Mead presented estimated budget stressors, including increases in the costs for health care, transportation, custodial services, food services, and insurance. Dr. Russo reviewed the proposed capital projects to be funded in 2024-2025, including the roof at Town Center, tennis courts, theater lighting, and bleachers at High School North, gym replacement at Wicoff, and a radio repeater at Community Middle School. Dr. McDonald reviewed necessary special education staff increases for several programs and proposed increases for funding some student activities. Dr. Aderhold outlined instructional considerations for the 2024-2025 budget, including technology platforms, curriculum revisions, and professional development. He provided an overview of possible revenues from the various funding sources and the potential allocation of expenses by category. Dr. Aderhold ended the presentation by providing guidance on several options the Board may consider when discussing budget parameters.

The Board and administration discussed the 2024-2025 budget.

Closing

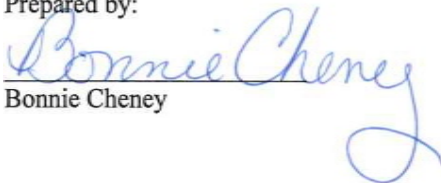
At approximately 11:30 p.m., a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Ho and seconded by Ms. Krug. All Board members that were present voted in favor of adjourning the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 p.m.



Christopher Russo, Board Secretary

Prepared by:



Bonnie Cheney

WEST WINDSOR-PLAINSBORO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING DATE: December 14, 2023
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