

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by the Board Secretary at 7:00 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Dori Alvich, Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Adam Layman, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

ATTORNEY PRESENT

Mr. Vito Gagliardi, Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC – 92

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gorski requested that the members of the Board of Education pause for a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Mayor Gerald Tamburro.

The Board Secretary read the following statement:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published and electronic notice provided by having the date, time, and place thereof posted December 18, 2020:

1. At all schools,
2. On the District website at <https://www.monroe.k12.nj.us/>,
3. Home News Tribune,
4. Cranbury Press, and
5. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

Instructions for making a public comment:

1. To make a public comment, please use the “raise hand” feature.
2. When you are called on to speak during public forum your microphone status will be set to UNMUTE. Please do not attempt to UNMUTE yourself as this may cause your microphone to stay MUTED.
3. When called upon, you will be given the option to share your device’s camera with the rest of the panelists and attendees during your speaking time. If you choose to do this simply click the “video camera” icon.
4. After you are unmuted, please state your name and address. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to four minutes’ duration, or less, in accordance with Board Bylaw 0167.
5. After you are finished speaking you will be muted and your permission to share your camera will be disabled.
6. Please turn off the “raise hand” feature.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ELECTION RESULTS

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Gorski stated that the Election Results have been certified by the County Clerk of Elections. Mr. Gorski announced that Ms. Christine Skurbe received 10,885 votes, Ms. Kathleen Belko received 10,386 votes and Ms. Karen Bierman received 9,323 votes. The Board was provided a copy of the election results and a copy has been placed in BoardDocs for the public to view. A copy of the election results will be attached to the official set of minutes.

STATUTORY OATH

Mr. Michael C. Gorski, Board Secretary/Business Administrator administered the statutory oath to the following elected Board of Education Members:

- Ms. Kathleen Belko
- Ms. Karen Bierman
- Ms. Christine Skurbe
- Mr. Paul Rutsky - Jamesburg Representative

Mr. Gorski requested that the oaths be signed and returned to him electronically this evening. A copy of the statutory oaths will be maintained with the official minutes.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

- Ms. Michele Arminio
- Ms. Kathleen Belko
- Ms. Karen Bierman
- Mr. Ken Chiarella
- Mr. Adi Nikitinsky
- Mr. Andy Paluri
- Ms. Rupa Siegel
- Ms. Chrissy Skurbe
- Mr. Peter Tufano

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE

- Mr. Paul Rutsky

ATTORNEY PRESENT

- Mr. Vito Gagliardi, Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C.

ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Mr. Gorski announced that nominations were in order for the election of Board President.

Mr. Chiarella nominated Ms. Arminio for the position of Board President. Ms. Skurbe seconded the nomination.

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

Mr. Gorski announced that since there were no other nominations, the nominations for the position of Board President were closed. Mr. Gorski proceeded with a roll call vote.

Ms. Arminio for Board President:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Ms. Michele Arminio	Yes
Ms. Kathleen Belko	Yes
Ms. Karen Bierman	Yes
Mr. Ken Chiarella	Yes
Mr. Adi Nikitinsky	Yes
Mr. Andy Paluri	Yes
Mr. Paul Rutsky	Yes
Ms. Rupa Siegel	Yes
Ms. Chrissy Skurbe	Yes

Mr. Peter Tufano Yes
Roll call 10-0-0-0-0

Mr. Gorski announced that Ms. Arminio was elected President of the Monroe Township Board of Education. As the elected President of the Monroe Township Board of Education, Ms. Arminio began her role as chair of the meeting.

Ms. Arminio welcomed the new members to the Board. Ms. Arminio stated that it is her expectation that all the members will bring new and innovative ideas to the district table, and that they are a team, and she believes they will all be able to lead by a good example. Ms. Arminio sent condolences to the Mayor's family and recognized the out-going board members, Ms. DeMaio, Ms. Kolupanowich and Mr. Riback for their service to the district.

ELECTION OF BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Ms. Arminio announced that nominations were now open for the election of Vice President of the Board of Education.

Mr. Chiarella nominated Mr. Nikitinsky for Vice President. Mr. Tufano seconded the nomination.

Mr. Paluri nominated Ms. Siegel for Vice President. Mr. Rutsky seconded the nomination.

A motion was made by Ms. Belko and seconded by Mr. Paluri to close the nominations for Vice President. Motion carried.

Mr. Paluri inquired if the candidates could be given an opportunity to present their qualifications.

Ms. Siegel presented her qualifications and reasons why she feels she would be an asset to serve as Board Vice President.

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

Mr. Gorski announced that since there were no other nominations, the nominations for the position of Board Vice President were closed. Mr. Gorski proceeded with a roll call vote.

Mr. Nikitinsky for Board Vice President:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Ms. Michele Arminio	Yes
Ms. Kathleen Belko	Yes
Ms. Karen Bierman	Yes
Mr. Ken Chiarella	Yes
Mr. Adi Nikitinsky	Yes
Mr. Andy Paluri	No
Mr. Paul Rutsky	No
Ms. Rupa Siegel	No
Ms. Chrissy Skurbe	Yes
Mr. Peter Tufano	Yes
Roll call 7-3-0-0-0	

Ms. Siegel for Board Vice President:

<u>Roll Call:</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Ms. Michele Arminio	No
Ms. Kathleen Belko	No
Ms. Karen Bierman	No
Mr. Ken Chiarella	No
Mr. Adi Nikitinsky	No
Mr. Andy Paluri	Yes
Mr. Paul Rutsky	Yes
Ms. Rupa Siegel	Yes
Ms. Chrissy Skurbe	No
Mr. Peter Tufano	No
Roll call 3-7-0-0-0	

Mr. Gorski announced that Mr. Nikitinsky was elected Vice President of the Monroe Township Board of Education.

Mr. Nikitinsky congratulated the new members and stated that for years the Board has been cluttered by personal and political agendas, mistrust, and a lack of transparency. Mr. Nikitinsky stated that tonight the Board will start a new chapter to restore the faith and trust in the Board of Education. Mr. Nikitinsky promised that the Board will have a mutual partnership in the pursuit of full transparency and accountability with the community and staff, with a mission to provide the highest quality of education for the students while being fiscally conservative.

CODE OF ETHICS

Ms. Arminio stated that all board members received the New Jersey School Board's Association (NJSBA) Code of School Ethics Commission and Code of Conduct for Remote Meetings handouts

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

to review. Ms. Arminio requested that the Acknowledgment of Review be signed and returned electronically to Mr. Gorski as soon as possible.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiarella and seconded by Mr. Tufano to approve the following resolution by consent roll call:

It is recommended that members of the Monroe Township Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and acceptance of the New Jersey School Boards Association Code of Ethics.

Ms. Belko stated that she finds the content for the Code of Conduct for Remote Meetings to be verbose and many items are duplicative of what should happen during meetings. Ms. Belko inquired if other board members felt if the policy should be sent back to the policy committee for further deliberation.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiarella and seconded by Mr. Tufano to table the Code of Conduct for Remote Meetings and send it back to the policy committee for further deliberation. 10-0-0-0-0. Motion carried.

Roll call to approve the NJSBA Code of School Ethics Commission 10-0-0-0-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM

Brian Fabiano 19 Patricia Place – congratulated the new members of the Board. Mr. Fabiano stated that he is looking forward to more transparency and challenged the Board for more inclusiveness, such as labeling portions of the town as north and south Monroe.

Tim Eosso 2 Allison Court – congratulated Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening. Mr. Eosso stated that it is now time for change, and he is expecting true transparency from this point on. Mr. Eosso indicated that would include how OPRA Requests and Ethics Charges are being handled, and that ethics charges are not swept under the rug. Mr. Eosso reminded the Board that all members should do what is best for all children not just their own.

Prakash Parab 33 Dayna Drive – congratulated the new members of the Board. Mr. Parab spoke on the overcrowding in the schools and the expansions that are needed to accommodate the students. Mr. Parab requested that those expansions not include temporary trailers. Mr. Parab requested that the Board improve the ranking of the school, increase STEM education, support our special education needs, and work with local officials and representatives to obtain more funding for the District.

Sajeev Ravindran 8 George Allen Court – congratulated the new members and stated that he is excited and hopeful with the change. Mr. Ravindran stated that he is looking forward to more transparency. Mr. Ravindran challenged the Board to come up with smart economical solutions and presented the Board with the following quote: “Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection, we might just catch excellence”.

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

Michael Olesky 50 Mayberry Avenue – inquired how many attendees were watching the meeting this evening. Mr. Olesky stated that democracy is certainly alive and well in Monroe Township. Next, Mr. Olesky stated that he has requested the write-in election results from the county twice and has not received them. Lastly, Mr. Olesky inquired if it would be possible for members of the public to submit comments in advance of the meeting. Mr. Gorski responded yes there is a district email address which is advertised solely for the purpose.

Gazala Bohra 1 Miko Drive – congratulated the new members, Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments and stated that she is hopeful for what lays ahead after seeing how Ms. Belko “hit the ground running” earlier. Ms. Bohra thanked Ms. DeMaio, Ms. Kolupanowich and Mr. Riback for their service to the Board. Ms. Bohra inquired if it would be possible to increase the length of the blocks for the middle and high school.

Betty Saborido 2 Barrymore Drive – congratulated the new board members and Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments. Ms. Saborido had difficulty with her audio therefore the Board was unable to hear the remainder of her comment.

Ashok Reddy 23 Harvestview Drive – congratulated the newly elected and appointed members and officials. Mr. Reddy stated that he is excited about the direction the new Board will be taken. Mr. Reddy requested an extension of time in the schedule blocks for middle school and high school or perhaps move to a full day for those students.

Samina Siddiqui 15 Del Mar Way - congratulated the new members and stated that she was glad to see the way the Board is working.

Maryam Lavan 15 Golfview Court – requested that the Board consider opening the schools and going back to full day schedules.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS:

A motion was made by Mr. Chiarella and seconded by Mr. Paluri that the members of the Board of Education accept and approve Organizational Items letters A-D and by consent roll call.

Ms. Belko inquired if consideration can be given with the March meeting date. Mr. Gorski stated that the date is most likely to change when the state releases the budget guidelines.

Regarding the advertisement of meetings, Ms. Belko requested that the meeting notice also be sent out electronically to residents. Ms. Belko suggested utilizing township resources such as Nixle. Roll Call 10-0-0-0-0 Motion carried.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Chiarella and seconded by Mr. Tufano that Board Action Item A be approved by consent roll call. Roll call 10-0-0-0-0. Motion carried. The vote included the Jamesburg Representative where appropriate. A copy of the Board Action section of the Business Administrator's Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

A motion was made by Mr. Rutsky and seconded by Mr. Tufano that Board Action Item B be approved by consent roll call. Mr. Gorski presented a brief explanation of the Emergency Breakfast Program and how it could generate revenue for the Cafeteria Fund. Mr. Chiarella inquired how many students they anticipate will participate in the program. Mr. Gorski responded 625 with a potential profit of \$66,206.00. Ms. Bierman inquired what was done to ascertain interest in the program. Mr. Gorski stated that the numbers were based off the students participating in the free lunch program. Ms. Bierman inquired how that program has been going and if the students that signed up for it are utilizing it. Mr. Gorski responded that he understands that 625 students are picking up the lunch and there is a possibility that breakfast could be picked up at the same time. Mr. Tufano inquired if the district will be covered for any food illness stemming from the program. Mr. Gorski responded yes. Mr. Paluri suggested re-evaluating the program in three months and decide based on the information to continue it or not. Mr. Rutsky reminded the Board that there is huge problem with food security right now and offering free breakfast and lunch to the families right now is a huge help to the community. Adding, that if the District can realize a 100% profit from it and do something good for the community it is a win-win situation. Roll call 10-0-0-0-0. Motion carried. The vote included the Jamesburg Representative where appropriate. A copy of the Board Action section of the Business Administrator's Report is attached to the official set of minutes.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Arminio stated that by the Board committing themselves by acting in the public's interest, she believes this Board can bring hope to all our community and can encourage our students to excellence.

OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

Mr. Chiarella expressed condolences to the Mayor Tamburro's family. Mr. Chiarella congratulated Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening and welcomed the new members to the Board. Lastly, Mr. Chiarella stated that even when all the members do not agree, he believes it is good to have open debates and healthy discussions if those discussions are not disrespectful to each other. Mr. Rutsky echoed that statement and added that for each organizational meeting he reviews the Code of Ethics which is a great reminder and leads the members to those healthy discussions.

Mr. Rutsky inquired about the agenda item Presentation of Plaques for the outgoing board members and inquired why it was removed. Ms. Arminio stated that she was wondering that herself and inquired if they were attendees of the meeting this evening. Dr. Alvich responded no and at the request of Ms. Arminio, Dr. Alvich read the plaque for Ms. Kolupanowich.

Mr. Paluri expressed displeasure with the reading of the plaques for the former members while they were not in attendance for the meeting and stated that he does not believe this is the proper

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

manner to thank them for their service. Dr. Alvich suggested that the Board recognize the former members along with the Teach of the Year and student recognitions at a future in-person board meeting. Ms. Bierman stated that due to the pandemic students have missed graduation and proms and unfortunate as it is, acknowledging the former members in this format tonight is what the Board has work with right now. Ms. Arminio added that unfortunately the last Board did not put the presentation on the agenda as customary. Ms. Belko added that the former members did have the opportunity to speak at the December meeting and they were thanked during that time. Unfortunately, we have to accept the difficult times that we are in. Ms. Siegel stated that the District came up with phenomenal ways to acknowledge the students, especially with the senior activities and believes Dr. Alvich's idea is the best way to honor the teachers, students, and former board members when it is safe to do so. Mr. Paluri echoed Ms. Siegel's comments. Ms. Arminio stated that in the future if the Board decides to acknowledge the former members they may do so, then requested Dr. Alvich read the plaques for Ms. DeMaio and Mr. Riback.

Mr. Nikitinsky inquired about the status of the advertisement for an in-house counsel. A motion was made by Mr. Nikitinsky and seconded by Ms. Belko that the members of the Board direct administration to advertise for the position of in-house counsel. Ms. Arminio recommended that the personnel committee revisit the current job description for in-house counsel prior to the next board of education meeting. Roll call 10-0-0-0-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Paluri congratulated the new members and congratulated Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening. Mr. Paluri stated that he is looking forward to working together as a Board for the students in this third year of his term.

Ms. Arminio announced that if there are any members of the public that did not get an opportunity to make a comment earlier and would like to do so, they may do so now.

PUBLIC FORUM

Beth Dipierro 404 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road - congratulated the new members. Ms. Dipierro stated that she does not recall ever seeing a presentation of plaques to former members in the past and asked that all members leaving the Board are treated the same.

Betty Saborido 2 Barrymore Drive - congratulated the new members and Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening. Ms. Saborido added that she is looking forward to the change this new board will bring. Next, Ms. Saborido stated that she hopes Ms. Arminio receives the respect that she deserves. Lastly, Ms. Saborido inquired if the Board would consider having a liaison for the Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG). Ms. Saborido stated that SEPAG would like to see what the District receives for special education and how much is spent on it.

Ram Ranganath 6 Owens Drive - congratulated the new members and Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening. Mr. Ranganath stated that he is looking forward to the Board working together to do the best for the students, staff, and the township.

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

Predeep Melam 4 Jake Place - suggested that the District consider a full day for middle and high school students while being remote. Next, Mr. Melam congratulated the new members and Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening.

Krishna Tekale 11 Jake Place - congratulated the new members and Ms. Arminio and Mr. Nikitinsky on their appointments this evening and thanked the outgoing board members. Mr. Tekale recommended better closed session meeting minutes, so board members do not have to rely on their recollection of events.

Rene Kokoska 231 Mounts Mill Road - inquired about the process in notifying a parent when a student fails a test. Dr. Alvich explained the process that should be followed and referred to the student handbook.

CLOSED SESSION MEETING

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe hereby moves to go into Closed Session, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975 (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 through 10:4-21), to discuss the following subject(s):

- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Following closed session, action may be taken. The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

A motion was made by Mr. Tufano and seconded by Ms. Skurbe that the members of the board of education convene into closed session. Motion carried with Ms. Arminio abstaining.

Adjourned to Closed Session at 9:20 p.m.

Returned to Public Meeting at 9:40 p.m.

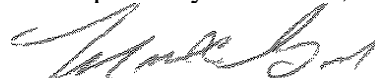
NEXT PUBLIC MEETING

Ms. Arminio stated that the next public meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education will convene at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Belko and seconded by Mr. Paluri that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The public meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael C. Gorski, CPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Minutes of the Virtual Public Organization Meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education held on January 04, 2021.

The video recording of this meeting of the Monroe Township Board of Education can be found on the district website or <https://monroetv.viebit.com/index.php?folder=Board+of+Education>



Monday, January 4, 2021

MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Virtual

7:00 P.M.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES DURING THE MEETING

Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

1. STATEMENT

Subject	A. STATEMENT
Meeting	Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	1. STATEMENT
Access	Public
Type	Information

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law, the Monroe Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published and electronic notice provided by having the date, time, and place thereof posted December 18, 2020:

1. At all schools,
2. On the District website at <https://www.monroe.k12.nj.us/>,
3. Home News Tribune,
4. Cranbury Press, and
5. Filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

Instructions for making a public comment:

1. To make a public comment, please use the "raise hand" feature.
2. When you are called on to speak during public forum your microphone status will be set to UNMUTE. Please do not attempt to UNMUTE yourself as this may cause your microphone to stay MUTED.
3. When called upon, you will be given the option to share your device's camera with the rest of the panelists and attendees during your speaking time. If you choose to do this simply click the "video camera" icon.
4. After you are unmuted, please state your name and address. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to four minutes' duration, or less, in accordance with Board Bylaw 0167.
5. After you are finished speaking you will be muted and your permission to share your camera will be disabled.
6. Please turn off the "raise hand" feature.

2. CALL TO ORDER**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****4. ELECTION RESULTS****Subject** **A. OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS**

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AGENDA

Category 4. ELECTION RESULTS

Access Public

Type

Official Election Results

File Attachments
Election Results 2020.pdf (35 KB)

5. STATUTORY OATH**Subject** **A. STATUTORY OATH**

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AGENDA

Category 5. STATUTORY OATH

Access Public

Type

STATUTORY OATH

Ms. Kathleen Belko

Ms. Karen Bierman

Ms. Christine Skurbe

Mr. Paul Rutsky - Jamesburg Representative

File Attachments
Oath 2021.pdf (10 KB)

6. ROLL CALL**Subject** **A. BOARD MEMBERS**

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AGENDA

Category 6. ROLL CALL

Access Public

Type Information

Ms. Michele Arminio

Ms. Kathleen Belko

Ms. Karen Bierman
 Mr. Ken Chiarella
 Mr. Adi Nikitinsky
 Mr. Andy Paluri
 Ms. Rupa Siegel
 Ms. Chrissy Skurbe
 Mr. Peter Tufano

JAMESBURG BOARD MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE (See Note 2)

Mr. Paul Rutsky

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Kayleigh Craver
 Ms. Samaara Jain

7. ELECTION OF BOARD PRESIDENT

8. ELECTION OF BOARD VICE-PRESIDENT

9. CODE OF ETHICS

Subject A. CODE OF ETHICS

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Category 9. CODE OF ETHICS

Access Public

Type

It is recommended that members of the Monroe Township Board of Education acknowledge receipt of and acceptance of the New Jersey School Boards Association Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct for Remote Meetings.

File Attachments

[Revised School Ethics Act 2021.pdf \(675 KB\)](#)

[Code of Conduct for Remote Meetings.pdf \(196 KB\)](#)

10. PUBLIC FORUM

Subject A. PUBLIC FORUM (See Note 3)

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Category 10. PUBLIC FORUM

Access Public

Type

11. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Subject A. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AGENDA

Category 11. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

Access Public

Type

It is recommended that the members of the Monroe Township Board of Education approve the Organizational Items A-D by consent roll call.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

A. MEETING DATES

Be It Resolved that the regular meetings of the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe shall be held as per the previously submitted schedule, at which time formal action may be taken.

B. POLICY

Be It Resolved by the Board of Education of the Township of Monroe that all policies of the previous Board are hereby adopted until such time as the Board decides to revise, or otherwise alter policies.

C. DESIGNATION OF BANKS OR DEPOSITORIES

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education designates the following banks or depositories for school district funds:

The Depository Trust Company
State of New Jersey Cash Management Fund
Provident Bank*
US Bank

*Provides most of the banking services.

Be it Further Resolved that the Business Administrator is authorized to establish accounts, and wire transfer funds among the accounts as needed, and approve the payment of bills between Board Meetings.

D. NEWSPAPERS FOR LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Be It Resolved that the Board of Education designates the Cranbury Press or the Home News Tribune, both of which circulate in the school district, as official newspapers for legal advertisement.

File Attachments

[2021 BOE Meeting Dates.pdf \(305 KB\)](#)

12. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Subject

A. BOARD ACTION

Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AGENDA

Category 12. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT/RECOMMENDATIONS

Access Public

Type Action

Recommended Action It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the following Board Action Items by roll call.

BOARD ACTION

A. SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

It is recommended that members of the Monroe Township Board of Education accept the Alyssa's Grant Award in the amount of \$387,668, as previously recommended by the Buildings, Grounds and Transportation Committee. In accordance with the grant, these funds will be utilized for the installation of a LENS system, which will provide an upgraded emergency notification system throughout the District. The Board hereby affirms and acknowledges:

1. The grant application has been submitted to the NJDOE and local funds are available in the event the total estimated costs of the proposed work exceed the school district's grant allowance; and
2. Upon termination of the lease by either party prior to June 30, 2024, the school district shall be required to return a pro rata share of the school security project grant to the NJDOE.

The Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary steps to implement this action by the Board of Education.

B. It is recommended that the Monroe Township Board of Education approve the previously submitted Emergency SSO Food Service Management Company Breakfast Cost Reimbursable Contract between the School Food Authority and the Monroe Township Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year. The Board President and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary steps to implement this action by the Board of Education.

The above action authorizes the Business Administrator to sign and administer contracts and/or purchase orders.

Michael C. Gorski, CPA
Prepared by

January 4, 2021
Meeting Date

File Attachments
Emergency SSO Breakfast Contract 20-21.pdf (1,392 KB)

13. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

14. OTHER BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS

15. CLOSED SESSION

Subject	A. CLOSED SESSION
Meeting	Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	15. CLOSED SESSION
Access	Public

Type

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- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Following closed session, action may be taken. The discussion conducted in closed session can be disclosed to the public at such time as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

16. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - JANUARY 20, 2021

Subject	A. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION JANUARY 20, 2021
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Meeting Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Category 16. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING - JANUARY 20, 2021

Access Public

Type

The next scheduled Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021 7:00 p.m. at the Monroe Township High School.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Subject	A. Notes
Meeting	Jan 4, 2021 - MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AGENDA
Category	17. ADJOURNMENT
Access	Public
Type	Action

NOTES

Note 1: Any member of the public may record the proceedings of a public meeting of the Board in a manner that does not interrupt the proceedings, inhibit the conduct of the meeting, or distract Board Members or other observers present at the meeting.

The Board will permit the use of tape recorders, still or movie cameras, or videotape cameras only when notice of such intended use has been given to the Board Secretary one day in advance of the meeting. Any video recording device must be located and operated from inconspicuous locations in the meeting room as determined by the presiding officer of the meeting. The presiding officer may also limit the number of video recording devices if he/she determines the number and position of the video recording devices will be an unnecessary intrusion to the meeting. In this event, preference will be given based on the order in which prior notice requesting to record the meeting was provided to the Board Secretary.

The presiding officer shall determine when any recording device interferes with the conduct of a Board meeting and may order that an interfering device be removed.

Note 2: The Jamesburg Representative shall be eligible to vote on only those matters specifically designated in N.J.S.A 18A:38-8.1, as follows:

1. Tuition to be charged the sending district by the receiving district and the bill lists or contracts for the purchase, operation or maintenance of facilities, equipment and instructional materials to be used in the education of the pupils of the sending district.
2. New capital construction to be utilized by sending district pupils.
3. Appointment, transfer or removal of teaching staff members providing services to pupils of the sending district, including any teaching staff member who is a member of the receiving district's central administrative staff.
4. Addition or deletion of curricular and extracurricular programs involving pupils of the sending district.
5. Any matter directly involving sending district students or programs and services used by them.
6. The annual receiving district budget.
7. Any collectively-negotiated agreement involving employees who provide services used by sending district students.
8. Any individual employee contracts not covered by a collectively-negotiated agreement, if those employees provide or oversee programs or services utilized by sending district students.

9. Any matter concerning governance of the receiving district board of education, including, but not limited to, the selection of board president and vice-president, approval of board bylaws, and the employment of professionals or consultants such as attorneys, architects, engineers, or others who provide services to the receiving district board of education.

To the extent the Jamesburg Representative inadvertently votes on any other matter, his vote shall not be counted.

Note 3: Public discussion is confined to this portion of the Agenda unless permission is granted by the Board President prior to the start of the meeting or when the Board is considering a Special Agenda Item that the Board deems appropriate for public participation. Anyone wishing to address the Board can do so by following the instructions below:

1. To make a public comment, please use the "raise hand" feature.
2. When you are called on to speak during public forum your microphone status will be set to UNMUTE. Please do not attempt to UNMUTE yourself as this may cause your microphone to stay MUTED.
3. When called upon, you will be given the option to share your device's camera with the rest of the panelists and attendees during your speaking time. If you choose to do this simply click the "video camera" icon.
4. After you are unmuted, please state your name and address. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to four minutes' duration, or less, in accordance with Board Bylaw 0167.
5. After you are finished speaking you will be muted and your permission to share your camera will be disabled.
6. Please turn off the "raise hand" feature.

Members of the public may submit comments to submit@monroe.k12.nj.us via electronic mail or by written letter addressed to the Board Secretary. Public comments can be submitted up to eight hours prior to the start of the scheduled meeting. All submitted comments will be limited to four minutes' duration, or less in accordance with Board Bylaw 0167. Residents submitting comments will not be provided an opportunity to comment during Public Forum 1 or 2, as applicable.