

Folsom Board of Education  
1357 Mays Landing Road  
Folsom NJ 08037

REORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
TUESDAY, January 2, 2024 – 6:00 PM

**MINUTES**

**MISSION  
STATEMENT**

Our mission is to create a learning environment that honors family values and serves the unique academic, physical, social, and emotional needs of all students in a safe and caring environment. We strive to foster our students' creativity and self-determination to develop a lifelong love of learning. We encourage students to approach learning as problem-solvers, designers, and creators by providing access to the technologies, tools and resources needed to achieve their goals. Folsom staff members are committed to working with parents and community partners to enable students to understand the world around them and the talents within them, so they can become fulfilled individuals and active, compassionate citizens.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

Mr. Veneziani, Business Administrator / Board Secretary of the Folsom Board of Education, called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

**OPEN PUBLIC  
MEETINGS ACT  
STATEMENT**

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 Folsom Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Municipal Building, Folsom Elementary School, the Press of Atlantic City and the Hammonton Gazette.

**ELECTION RESULTS**

The following are the results of the annual school board election held November 7, 2023.

Three Year Term	
Lisa O'Toole	276 votes
Karen Pratt	21 votes

<b><u>Members of Board of Education</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>
Daria DeStefano	2024
John Thomas	2024
Tiffani Dych	2024
Marisa Scibilia	2025

Andrea Way	2025
Lisa O'Toole	2026
Karen Pratt	2026

## **OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Kasi M. Gifford, Board Attorney for the Folsom Board of Education, will now give the Oath of Office for the newly elected members.

*(Attachment A)*

## **ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Daria DeStefano, Lisa O'Toole, Karen Pratt, Marisa Scibilia, John Thomas and Andrea Way; also, in attendance were the Superintendent, Kevin Fricke, the Business Administrator / Board Secretary, Christopher Veneziani, and Board Attorney Kasi M. Gifford. Tiffani Dych was absent.

## **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

## **COMMUNICATION**

## **FIRST OF TWO, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

1. Sign in at the room entrance.
2. Wait to be recognized before making your comment.
3. State your full name and address before commenting. Identify the agenda item that you wish to comment on.

Time limit for discussion is 5 (five) minutes. Total time limit for public discussion is 30 (thirty) minutes.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

1. The Business administrator now asks for Nominations for the President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Andrea Way to nominate John Thomas for the President of the Board of Education. No other nominations were made. All members present voted YES.

2. The Business administrator now asks for Nominations for the Vice President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Daria DeStefano to nominate Lisa O'Toole for the Vice President of the Board of Education. No other nominations were made. All members present voted YES.

## **APTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS**

3. A motion was made by Andrea Way, second by Marisa Scibilia, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to adopt the Code of Ethics for School Board Members in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1. Ms. Kasi Gifford led a discussion to summarize of the Code of Ethics

*(Attachment B)*

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

4. The Board President is to review the committee list and make appointments for the period January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024.

*(Attachment C)*

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Andrea Way, second by Lisa O'Toole, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to approve the following item(s):

### **5. Official Newspaper**

Motion to approve the designation of the Press of Atlantic City and Hammonton Gazette as the official newspapers for purposes of legal notices and advertisements.

### **6. Meeting Schedule**

Motion to establish the regular monthly meetings to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6 PM, as listed below with exceptions as noted with an “\*”. The 2025 Reorganization Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 7, 2025. All meetings will be held in the Library of Folsom School at 1357 Mays Landing Road, Folsom, NJ.

Tuesday, January 23, 2024	Tuesday, July 23, 2024
Tuesday, February 27, 2024	Tuesday, August 27, 2024
*Tuesday, March 19, 2024	Tuesday, September 24, 2024
*Tuesday, April 30, 2024	Tuesday, October 22, 2024
Tuesday, May 28, 2024	Tuesday, November 26, 2024
Tuesday, June 25, 2024	*Tuesday, December 17, 2024
Reorganization Meeting – Tuesday, January 7, 2025	

\*Annual Budget due date – March 20, 2024

\*\*Public Hearing on the Budget April 30, 2024

A copy of the meeting schedule as well as any changes to designated meetings will be sent to the following:

Official Newspapers  
Board Members  
Board Solicitor  
Treasurer of School Monies  
Borough of Folsom Municipal Clerk  
Folsom Home and School Association  
Folsom Education Association

7. **Policy Manual**  
Motion that all current written policies, by-laws and rules/regulations in the official Policy Manual of the Folsom School District be readopted for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 unless modified by the Board of Education in accordance with those applicable policies, by-laws and/or rules/regulations.
8. **Curriculum**  
Motion that all current written curriculum, courses, textbooks, workbooks, and ancillary materials of the District, be adopted for the period January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024, unless modified upon recommendation of the Superintendent.
9. **Handbook**  
Motion that all present handbooks be continued in effect until modified upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.
10. **Bills**  
Motion to approve the payment of bills between board meetings on a limited basis. All payments must be approved by the Superintendent and Business Administrator. All checks issued must include all required signatures, and the payment must be included in the bills list at the board meeting immediately following any such transactions.
11. **Transfer Authority**  
Motion to approve the authority of the Superintendent, or designee, to approve such line item budget transfers as are necessary between Board of Education meetings, and that such transfers shall be reported to the Board of Education, ratified and duly recorded in the minutes of the next regular meeting, as provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 amended.
12. **Official Bargaining Unit**  
Motion to approve recognizing the Folsom Education Association as the bargaining unit for certified and support staff at Folsom School.
- Recognized Organizations**
13. Motion to approve recognizing the Folsom Education Foundation as the official education foundation for Folsom School.
14. Motion to approve recognizing the Folsom Home and School Association as the official parent organization for students attending Folsom School.

#### **SEMI WAIVER**

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, a motion was made by Andrea Way, second by Daria DeStefano, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to approve the following item(s):

15. Motion to approve, by resolution, the request of a waiver from mandatory participation in the SEMI (Medicaid initiative) program, based on the low number of eligible students.

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicare Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2024-25 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Folsom Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Folsom Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Atlantic County an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2024-25 school year.

## FINANCIAL

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, a motion was made by Daria DeStefano, second by Lisa O'Toole, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to approve the following item(s):

16. **Bills List**  
Motion to approve the payroll, agency, and bills list of **\$814,788.36** for **December 2023**.

*(Attachment D)*

## FACILITY USE

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Andrea Way, second by Lisa O'Toole, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to approve the following item(s):

17. Motion to approve the following Applications for Use of School Facilities as listed below, for the 2023-2024 school year.

Date	Time	Facility	Event
1/16/24, 1/19/24, 2/20/24, 3/19/24	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Library	Folsom Athletic Association – Meetings
Thursdays 1/18/24 – 2/15/24	3:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Rms 125 & 130	CER Program – LEGO Club
Wednesday	3:15 pm – 4:15 pm	Rms 125 & 130	CER Program – LEGO Club

4/10/24 – 5/8/24			
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## **VOLUNTEERS**

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, a motion was made by Andrea Way, second by Daria DeStefano, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to approve the following item(s):

18.

### **Volunteers**

Motion to approve the following volunteers, subject to a 90-day grace period to complete the Sexual Misconduct / Child Abuse Disclosure requirements, P.L. 2018, c. 5:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Volunteer Area</b>	<b>Request for</b>
Madyson Longwith	Coach	Approval

## **FINAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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Glenn Smith, Mayor of Folsom, spoke to the Board offering a school representative to attend council meetings when there is important information to share with the community.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Andrea Way, second by Lisa O'Toole, ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED YES, to adjourn at 6:27 PM.