

Chesterfield Township Board of Education
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m.
Conducted via Live Video Stream
Thursday, August 6, 2020
MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Chesterfield Township Board of Education was opened at 6:04 p.m., by President Christina Hoggan, with a flag salute and moment of silence.

Welcome to this meeting of the Chesterfield Township Board of Education. If there is any agenda item, which you would like to discuss with the Board, please do so during that portion of the agenda entitled, "Public Comments-Agenda Items Only".

Should you have any other comments and/or questions once we have passed the "Public Comments-Agenda Items Only" portion in the agenda, please reserve those comments for "Other Public Comments" at the end of the meeting.

The public shall be reminded that they should attempt to resolve any problems and/or complaints through initial contact with the appropriate administrator. Such matters should only be brought to the Board after all avenues within the administrative chain of command have been exhausted. Policy #1312 Community Complaints and Inquiries, https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=chesterfield_township

When you do address the Board, please state your name and address and limit your comments to three minutes. The total length of time for public comment is unrestricted unless a time limit is imposed by the Board President. Please refrain from comments that are likely to invade an individual's privacy rights or are not related to matters before the Board. They will not be permitted.

1. Roll Call

Ms. Christina Hoggan, President
Mr. Matthew Litt, Vice President
Mrs. Jaclyn Halaw
Mrs. Andrea Katz
Mrs. Kerri Lynch

Also present were:

Mr. Scott Heino, Superintendent
Mary Merrick, Assistant to the Business Administrator

2. Open Public Meetings Act Notice

The Chesterfield Township Board of Education has given public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, in the following manner on August 4, 2020:

- 2A.a Posting written notice on the official bulletin board at the Chesterfield Township School.
- 2A.b Mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times and Trenton Times newspapers.
- 2A.c Filing written notice with the Clerk of Chesterfield Township.
- 2A.d Filing written notice with the Secretary of this body.
- 2A.e Mailing written notice to each person who has requested copies of the regular meeting schedule and who has prepaid any charge fixed for such service.

3. Adjourn to Executive Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Katz and seconded by Mrs. Halaw to approve the following resolution to move into executive session with a time limit of 30 minutes:

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq (Open Public Meetings Act) provides that the Board of Education of the Chesterfield School District may exclude the public from that portion of the meeting at which the Board of Education discusses certain matters as set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; and,

WHEREAS, the following subjects shall be discussed in the session of the Board of Education closed to the public:

Legal

RESOLVED, that the aforestated meeting is closed to the public for the reason set forth above in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the discussion in executive session will be available for disclosure to the public at such time as it is no longer necessary to maintain the confidential nature of the items discussed.

A call of the roll indicated an affirmative vote. All ayes. No nays. Motion carried.

Return to Public Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Katz and seconded by Mrs. Halaw to return to public session at 6:45 p.m.

4. Meeting Information/Important Dates

Board of Education Important Dates:

August 10, 2020	Special Meeting
August 26, 2020	Regular Monthly Meeting

5. Board Discussion – Reopening of School in September

The board discussed the reopening plan and the idea of a gradual reopening.

6. Public Comment – Agenda Items Only

The public shall be reminded that they should attempt to resolve any problems and/or complaints through initial contact with the appropriate administrator. Such matters should only be brought to the Board after all avenues within the administrative chain of command have been exhausted.

When you address the Board, please approach the podium, state your name and address and limit your comments to three minutes. Please refrain from comments that are likely to invade an individual's privacy rights or are not related to matters before the Board. They will not be permitted.

Jeff Kolowski stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

Mike LaTorre stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

Amanda Kenny stated her concerns with the reopening plan

Dr. Cleo Jacobs Johnson stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Joe Hammond stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

Andrew Rochester stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

Stacy D'Artagnan stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Mike Santoro stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

Christopher Lozaga stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

Tara McCreedy stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Coby Sikorski stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Nora Branconi stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Mallory Tamasi stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Stacy D'Artagnan asked when will you make a decision about special needs.

Cynthia Malison stated her concerns with the reopening plan.

Dr. Cleo Jacobs Johnson stated her concerns with virtual learning.

Sharon Grosso stated her concerns about Champions.

Michael Hope stated his concerns with the reopening plan.

James Rickey stated his concerns about Champions.

Laura Flynn CTEA Acting President and 4th grade teacher thanked the Board for considering their health and safety, and stated that they plan to work hard and provide a valuable education for your children.

Shamita Alwani stated her concerns for the reopening.

Melissa Midora, 4th grade teacher stated her concerns and fear to return to school, she thanked the Board for the decision they are making. She stated it is disheartening to hear parents say the things they are saying about us.

Carol Rigolizzo, Kindergarten teacher stated she echoes Melissa Midora. She stated to parents, we want to go back to school when it is safe.

The board continued to discuss the reopening plan and the idea of a gradual reopening.

At 8:13 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Litt and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to take a 5 minute recess.

A call of the roll indicated an affirmative vote. All ayes. No nays. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Litt and seconded by Mrs. Halaw to provide the all-remote educational model through Friday, October. 16, 2020 and to begin the hybrid instructional model option beginning Monday, October 19, 2020 with a carve-out for in-person instruction for students in academic need as determined by the Special Services Staff and availability of resources.

A call of the roll indicated an affirmative vote. Three ayes. Two nays. (Lynch & Hoggan) Motion carried.

Mr. Heino stated he would adjust the plan for Monday's meeting to go all remote and also continue with his other plan in case the all-remote plan is rejected by the state.

7. Other Business

8. Other Public Comments

Sharon Grosso commented on understanding the reopening plan.

Coby Sikorski commented on the frustration of child care, technology rules, and productive learning.

James Rickey commented on his frustration with the reopening plan.

Soumya Karumathy commented on her frustration with the reopening plan.

Michael Santoro commented on his frustration with the reopening plan.

Michael LaTorre commented on his frustration with the reopening plan and disappointment with the Board.

Stacy D'Artagnan commented on her frustration with the reopening plan and thanked two board members for voting no.

Vanessa Alfano commented that she liked the idea of a meet and gree. She commented that regarding the plan she realizes it's not an easy decision to make.

Sharon Grosso commented on needing child care options and asked if Champions can be brought in.

Andrew Rochester commented on his disappointment with the reopening plan.

Mary Neil Tabayoyong thanked two board members for voting no. She stated you took our choice away.

Amanda Kenny commented that the Board took her choice away and stated that she feels defeated.

Mary Neil Tabayoyong stated that she has had a great experience with Champions for the past 7 years.

Tom Wasaloski stated he is disappointed that the Board took the parents' choice away.

9. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Litt at 9:46 p.m. All agreed.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Merrick
Assistant to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary