

Board of Education Special Meeting

February 8, 2021

7:30 Proposed Executive Session to discuss matters relating to a particular officer of the District with legal counsel

8:30 p.m. Return to Open Session

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. President's Opening Remarks
4. Action Item:
 - a. Adoption of Official Misconduct Charges and Appointment of Hearing Officer
5. Adjournment

Welcome to our Meeting

This is a meeting of the Board being held in public. As a courtesy we provide individuals with the opportunity to participate by providing commentary.

Should you have questions or additional comments, please submit them to the Board clerk, Mrs. Maggi, seated to my left. Rest assured that we will read and consider all submissions.

We endeavor to respond to all comments and may use a number of mechanisms including contacting someone individually, commenting later at this meeting, or commenting at a future board meeting. If you have a concern regarding your child, we encourage you to contact your child's teacher and school principal directly and as soon as possible.

Note that responses concerning personnel matters are not made in public. Note also that the Board of Education will conduct business in a manner that models respect and civility. We require members of the public to conduct business before the Board in like manner.

Before you speak, please state your name and state the school district in which you are a resident. All comments are to be addressed only to the Board of Education President. Comments should be kept as brief as possible and relate to school matters. Each speaker is allotted up to three minutes.

Meeting Schedule

Our regular meetings are held in the auditorium of Port Chester Middle School and are open to the public beginning at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Meeting locations are announced in advance in the local news media and on the educational access channels. Additional and Special Meetings may be added as needed.

Wednesday, July 8, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)	Thursday, October 15, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)	Thursday, April 15, 2021 – Line-by-Line (5:00 p.m.)
Thursday, July 30, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)	Thursday, November 19, 2020	Thursday, April 29, 2021
Tuesday, August 18, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)	Thursday, December 17, 2020	Thursday, May 6, 2021
Tuesday, August 25, 2020 (Retreat)	Thursday, January 21, 2021	Tuesday, May 18, 2021 – Annual Election
Wednesday, August 26, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)	Wednesday, February 10, 2021	Thursday, May 27, 2021
Thursday, September 17, 2020 (5:00 p.m.)	Thursday, March 18, 2021	Thursday, June 17, 2021

Responsibilities of the Board of Education

The School Board is responsible for the following:

- establish, monitor, and evaluate goals and objectives of the schools
- establish policies for operation of the schools
- select the Superintendent of Schools
- appoint personnel upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools
- develop and present an annual budget for consideration by district residents
- communicate the needs and progress of the schools to the community

Your Questions

Start with the person(s) closest to the matter: teacher, principal, transportation office, or district-wide administrator. If unresolved, contact the superintendent of schools. If still not resolved, contact the School Board President for possible review by the School Board.

School Board Members

Thomas Corbia, President
365 Putnam Avenue
Port Chester, NY 10573
914-939-7869
3rd Term – Expires 6/30/23

Chrissie Onofrio, Vice President
13 Tower Hill Drive
Port Chester, NY 10573
845-729-0892
1st Term – Expires 6/30/22

Anne Capecci, Trustee
22 Ridge Boulevard
Port Chester, NY 10573
914-937-3191
10th Term – Expires 6/30/23

Luigi Russo, Trustee
38 Hobart Avenue
Port Chester, NY 10573
914-939-3208
1st Term – Expires 6/30/21

Christopher Wolff, Trustee
33 Lafayette Drive
Port Chester, NY 10573
914-419-8556
2nd Term – Expires 6/30/21

District Personnel

Dr. Edward A. Kliszus, 934-7901
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Mitchell A. Combs, 934-2442
Deputy Superintendent, Curriculum Office

Philip Silano, 934-7906
Asst. Superintendent, Business Office

James Ryan, 934-7913
Director of Health & Safety,
Physical Education and Athletics

Dr. Colleen Carroll, 934-2043
Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Felipe Orozco, 934-8152
Director of ELL and Bilingual Programs

Tatiana Memoli, 934-7925
Director of Special Education

Ray Renda, 934-7983
Director of Facilities

School District Office

Cathy A. Maggi
School District Clerk

Keane & Beane
School District Attorney

Beata Grabowski
School District Treasurer

Building Principals

Thomas A. Edison School
Ivan Tolentino, 934-7980

John F. Kennedy School
Judy Diaz, 934-7990

King Street School
Samuel Ortiz, 934-7995

Park Avenue School
Rosa Taylor, 934-7895

Port Chester Middle School
Patrick Swift, 934-7930

Port Chester High School
Luke Sotherden, 934-7950

*"The Board of Education will conduct business in a manner that models respect and civility.
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**Port Chester – Rye Union Free School District
Special Meeting - Resolution
February 8, 2021**

Action Item:

- A. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Port Chester-Rye Union Free School District hereby appoints Kenneth M. Bernstein to serve as Hearing Officer on behalf of the Board in the matter of the proceeding against a Board of Education member seeking the Board member's removal from the Board for official misconduct pursuant to Section 1709 of the Education Law of the State of New York and/or Board of Education Policy Number 2140; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mr. Bernstein shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed \$185.00 per hour for services rendered in connection with said proceeding and shall cause a record to be made of such proceeding, which will be referred to the Board, along with his findings and recommendations for review and final decision by the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in serving as the Hearing Officer Mr. Bernstein is deemed to be carrying out a function for the School District that is required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board shall indemnify and hold Mr. Bernstein harmless from any claims arising out of his appointment and service as Hearing Officer and shall provide Mr. Bernstein legal representation and assume all costs with respect to any such claims provided that Mr. Bernstein provides notice of any such claims in writing to the District Clerk within ten (10) days of receipt of same and cooperates fully with the District in the defense thereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education herewith authorizes and approves the annexed confidential Statement of Charges in connection with said proceeding which shall be conducted in accordance with Section 1709 of the Education Law of the State of New York and/or Board of Education Policy Number 2140; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that special counsel, Ingerman Smith LLP, is herewith appointed to prosecute the annexed confidential Statement of Charges on behalf of the Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above-referenced Board member shall be afforded a full and fair opportunity to refute the annexed confidential Statement of Charges prior to removal in accordance with Section 1709 of the Education Law of the State of New York.