

South Orange-Maplewood  
Board of Education  
January 6, 2020

A Reorganizational Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on January 6, 2020.

Board Secretary Paul Roth called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, The Star Ledger, the News Record and all schools.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Roth administered the oaths of office to the elected Board Members: Thair Joshua, Erin Siders, and Johanna Wright [The signed Oaths of Office are on file in the Board Secretary's Office.]

ROLL CALL: Present: Board Member E. Baker, Board Member R. Baker,  
Board Member Cuttle, Board Member Joshua  
Board Member Maini, Board Member Mazzocchi  
Board Member Siders, Board Member Wright

Absent: Board Member Farfan

*8 VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Roth called for nominations for President of the Board.

Board Member R. Baker nominated Board Member Maini. There were no further nominations for President.

ROLL CALL for Board Member Maini as President: YES: E. Baker,  
R. Baker, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Mazzocchi, Siders, Wright NO: none

Board Member Maini was elected President and assumed the Chair as President.

Board President Maini made the following statement:

Thank you fellow Board Members for your support as I lead the Board for another year. I feel we are growing as a Board and our District is moving in the right direction under the leadership of Dr. Taylor

and his Administrative Team. I am really grateful to be a part of this work.

Before we proceed, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge that not all of our families have joyous holiday breaks and that returning to school can cause much anxiety for our young children and teachers. In addition, some families have suffered the loss of relatives some recent and some long ago that may still be painful. In particular long time District employee and Powerschool expert Ms. Roseann Voorhees passed away during the break. We will formally acknowledge Ms. Voorhees at our January 27 Board meeting, but we wanted to keep her in our thoughts today.

President Maini called for nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Board.

Board Member E. Baker nominated Board Member Cuttle, Board Member Wright nominated Board Member Mazzocchi and Board Member Mazzocchi nominated Board Member Wright.

ROLL CALL for Board Member Cuttle as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: YES: E. Baker, R. Baker, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Siders NO: Wright ABSTAIN: Mazzocchi

Board Member Cuttle was elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

President Maini called for nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the Board.

Board Member Wright nominated Board Member Mazzocchi, Board Member R. Baker nominated Board Member Siders.

ROLL CALL for Board Member Mazzocchi as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: YES: Mazzocchi, Wright NO: E. Baker, R. Baker, Joshua, Maini, Siders ABSTAIN: Cuttle

ROLL CALL for Board Member Siders as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: YES: E. Baker, R. Baker, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Siders, NO: Mazzocchi and Wright

Board Member Siders was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

**Board recessed at 7:02 pm**  
**Board reconvened at 7:11 pm**  
**Board Member Farfan arrived at 7:11 pm**  
**9 Voting Members present**

Board member Farfan requested to take the floor. Board member Farfan informed the Board of his decision to resign from the Board of Education as of today, January 6, 2020. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as a Board member and for all of their hard work on behalf of his family and all students in the District.

Board President Maini thanked Board Member Farfan for his service.

Motion made by President Maini, seconded by Board Member R. Baker to accept Board Member Farfan's resignation.

Board Members thanked Board member Farfan for his service and wished him well in his future endeavors.

ROLL CALL to accept Board Member Farfan's Resignation: YES: E. Baker, R. Baker, Cuttle, Farfan, Joshua, Maini, Mazzocchi, Siders, Wright NO: None

Board President Maini made a motion to direct the Board Secretary to publish notice in the Board's typical publications, the Board's website and social media platforms that a vacancy exists on the Board effective, January 6, 2020. The Board will be accepting written requests for consideration for candidacy, which may include submission of the applicants resume. The public can refer to bi-laws 0143. Board Member Maini provided the legal qualifications, application and process to elect a new Board member to fill this vacancy.

Motion made by Board President Maini, seconded by Board Member R. Baker to request that the Administration advertise for the Board Member vacancy, asking for written responses within 30 days from January 7, 2020. Motion unanimously approved.

#### ITEM FOR ACTION - REORGANIZATIONAL RESOLUTIONS

MOTION made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Board member Mazzocchi that the Board of Education approves the following reorganizational resolutions 1-9:

1. Paul Roth as Board Secretary and authorize him to sign checks, notes, drafts, bills of exchange, acceptance, undertakings or other orders for payment of money.
2. Appoint Paul Roth as the Qualified Purchasing Agent and authorize Mr. Roth to negotiate and award contracts pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-3.
3. Appoint Paul Roth as Custodian of Records for the school district.
4. Appoint Andrea Del Guercio as Assistant Board Secretary and authorize her to sign checks, notes, drafts, bills of exchange, acceptance, undertakings or other orders for the payment of money in the absence of the Board Secretary.
5. Accept the By-Laws, Policies, Rules and Regulations.
6. Adopt the Public Meeting Calendar for 2020-2021 per attached.
7. Adopt Code of Ethics
8. Adopt the following newspapers and electronic news media for legal advertisements and the publication of Board meetings for

the 2019-2020 school year: The Star Ledger, News Record, TAPintoSOMA.net, villagegreennj.com or the New York Times.

9. Approve the following depositories for school monies:

- Bank of America
- PNC Bank
- Chase Manhattan Bank
- Wells Fargo Bank

ROLL CALL: Organizational Resolutions 1-9 passed. YES: E. Baker, R. Baker, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Mazzocchi, Siders, Wright NO: none

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Dr. Khadijah White SOMA Justice	Welcomed new Board Members on behalf of SOMA Justice. Provided information regarding the organization.
Rocio Lopez SOMEA	Happy New Year and Congratulations to new new and returning Board members. I hope you have a very good year.

Dr. Taylor responded to comments made during the Hearing of Individuals and Delegations with the following remarks:

Thank you Dr. White, for welcoming our new Board Members. I appreciate your advocacy and the passion that your organization has not just for your issues, but for our children. I look forward to another great year.

Thank you Ms. Lopez, for the warm welcome to the new year. I hope to see you at our scheduled meeting and our Symposium on Intentional Integration.

Board President Maini reviewed the committee assignments with the Board.

MOTION made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Board Member Cuttle, that the Board of Education approves the following:

3966. Approve the Board of Education Committee Liasons for the 2020 Calendar Year as presented.

3967. Approve the Board of Education Committees and officers for the 2020 Calendar Year as presented.

ROLL CALL: Motion 3966, 3967 passed. YES: E. Baker, R. Baker, Cuttle, Joshua, Maini, Mazzocchi, Siders, Wright NO: none

Charlene Peterson, Field Representative for New Jersey School Boards Association conducted the Ethics for School Officials and Board Governance Workshop.

The following topics were reviewed:

- School Ethics Act
- NJQSAC - Governance Indicator
- Required Training to be provided by NJSBA
- School Ethics Commission
- Code of Ethics
- SEC Commissioner Decisions
- Conflicts of Interest
  - When to Recuse Yourself
  - Who Qualifies as a Relative
  - Hiring/Personnel
  - Personnel Issues
  - Collective Bargaining
  - Conflicts Knowledge Check
  - Volunteerism
  - Interview Committees
  - Points to Consider

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

NONE.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board of Education will attend a Board Retreat on Wednesday, January 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. No action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Session on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 6:30 pm in the Superintendent's Office to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session at 7:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

Motion made by Board President Maini, seconded by Board Member R. Baker to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will reconvene in public session to close out the meeting. No action will be taken.  
Motion to adjourn passed 8 yes, 0 no.

***Board Adjourned to Executive Session at 8:55 p.m.***

***Board Reconvened at 9:42 p.m.***

MOTION made by Board Member Wright, seconded by Board Member Joshua, that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 9:43 p.m.

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Paul Roth, Board Secretary