

Saddle River Board of Education Minutes
Reorganization Meeting -Wandell School Cafeteria
Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 7:30pm

*Board Secretary presiding; through the election of the Board President
This meeting constitutes the 1st regular meeting of the
Saddle River Board of Education for the calendar year 2023*

- A. Call to Order *The meeting was called to order by Ms. Lawler, Board Secretary, at 7:30 PM.*

<u>Roll Call</u>	Present	Absent
Ms. Elshami	<u>X</u>	
Ms. Kaufman	<u>X</u>	
Ms. Nissirios	<u>X</u>	
Mr. Peros	<u>X</u>	
Ms. Salazer	<u>X</u>	

- B. Opening Statement

Statement is hereby made that adequate notice of this meeting was given by:

- Posting written notice prominently on the bulletin board in the vestibule of Wandell School, 97 E. Allendale Road, Saddle River, New Jersey
- The mailing and/or hand delivery of said notice to the designated newspapers, The Record, The Ridgewood News and The Town Journal
- Filing with the Clerk of Saddle River Borough

- C. Open Public Meetings Act

Meetings of the Board are open to the public and all members of the community should feel free to participate:

- There are two portions of the meeting reserved for comments from the public; the first at the beginning of the meeting for agenda items only and the second at the end of the meeting for other items.
- If you wish to address the board, please provide your name and address and please limit your comments to 3 minutes.
- Issues raised by the public may or may not be responded to by the board, but all comments will be considered. The board requests that all members of the public be mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Due to confidentiality and legal rights afforded by the state of New Jersey, members of the public are asked to not speak negatively or in a derogatory manner about any employee of the board or any student.

- D. Flag Salute

E. Election Results & Administration of Oath of Office

Board Members Elected:	Yasmin Elshami:	3-year term, expiring in 2025
	Elizabeth Salazer:	3-year term, expiring in 2025

Administration of Oath of Office of newly elected Board of Education members:

“I, (Yasmin Elshami), do solemnly swear that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of the board of education and that I will faithfully, justly, and impartially perform all of the duties of that office according to the best of my ability.

Further, I solemnly swear that I am not disqualified as a voter, nor disqualified as a Board of Education member due to a conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A 18A:12-1.

I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Government established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.”

“I, (Elizabeth Salazer), do solemnly swear that I possess the qualifications prescribed by law for the office of member of the board of education and that I will faithfully, justly, and impartially perform all of the duties of that office according to the best of my ability.

Further, I solemnly swear that I am not disqualified as a voter, nor disqualified as a Board of Education member due to a conviction of a crime or offense listed in N.J.S.A 18A:12-1.

I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same and to the Government established in the United States and this State, under the authority of the people. So help me God.”

F. Roll Call

	Present	Absent	Term Expires
Ms. Elshami	<u>X</u>		Dec. 2025
Ms. Kaufman	<u>X</u>		Dec. 2024
Ms. Nissirios	<u>X</u>		Dec. 2023
Mr. Peros	<u>X</u>		Dec. 2024
Ms. Salazer	<u>X</u>		Dec. 2025

G. Annual Organization Information and Action items**1. Nominations and election of President:**

Board Secretary calls for nominations for President

Mrs. Kaufman Nominated Mr. Peros for President of the Board of Education

Motion: EK Second: EN Discussion: N/A
Roll Call Vote YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Abstain ES: Y
Motion Passed 4-0

Mr. Peros elected President of the Board of Education

Newly elected President presides over the remainder of the meeting

2. Nominations and election of Vice President:

President calls for nominations for Vice President

Ms. Elshami Nominated Mrs. Kaufman for Vice President of the Board of Education

Motion: YE Second: EK Discussion: N/A
Roll Call Vote YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y ES: Y
Motion Passed 5-0

Mrs. Kaufman elected Vice President of the Board of Education

3. Motion to approve the following Code of Ethics:

Be it resolved, that the New Jersey School Boards Association “Code of Ethics” shall be considered the official Code of Ethics of the Saddle River Board of Education:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
- c. I will confine my Board action to policy-making, planning, and appraisal and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- d. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow Board members, to see that they are well run.
- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the Board.
- f. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow Board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

Each Board member read two of the above codes of ethics during the meeting.

<i>Motion:</i>	<i>EK</i>	<i>Second:</i>	<i>YE</i>	<i>Discussion:</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Roll Call Vote</i>		<i>YE:</i>	<i>Y</i>	<i>EK:</i>	<i>Y</i>
				<i>EN:</i>	<i>Y</i>
				<i>JP:</i>	<i>Y</i>
				<i>ES:</i>	<i>Y</i>

Motion Passed 5-0

4. Motion to:

- a. Re-adopt current policies, bylaws and regulations of the Saddle River School District
- b. Approve the appointment of Vice President and Board Member as the Saddle River Board of Education delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association
- c. Establish *The Ridgewood News* and/or *The Record* and/or *The Town Journal* as the newspaper of record for the Saddle River School District

- d. Adopt Robert's Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings

*Motion: EK Second: EN Discussion: Ms. Elshami & Mrs. Kaufman volunteered to be the NJSBA delegates.
Roll Call Vote YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y ES: Y
Motion Passed 5-0*

5. Motion to approve/discuss the following 2023 Committees/Liaisons & Board of Education meeting location/dates/times:

Committee Report(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Communications/Public Relations | 6. Negotiations |
| 2. Curriculum/Instruction | 7. Policy |
| 3. Facilities | 8. Technology |
| 4. Finance | 9. Transportation |
| 5. Human Resources | 10. Safety/ Wellness |

Liaison Report(s)

- | | |
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| 1. Mayor and Council | 5. PAWS |
| 2. NJ School Boards Association Representative | 6. Wandell School Education Foundation |
| 3. Northern Highlands Board of Education | |
| 4. Ramsey Board of Education | |

Board Public Meeting Dates:

Details: *Formal action may be taken by the Board of Education at all regular/special public meetings
If any dates need to be rescheduled, notification will be provided accordingly*

Location: Wandell School Cafeteria, 97 E. Allendale Rd., Saddle River, NJ 07458

Time: 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted

Dates: Wednesday, January 18, 2023
Wednesday, February 15, 2023
Wednesday, March 8, 2023 (*Ethics Training, 6:30pm*)
Wednesday, April 26, 2023
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
Wednesday, June 7, 2023 (*BOE Retreat & Goal Setting, 6:30pm*)
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
Wednesday, September 13, 2023
Wednesday, October 11, 2023
Wednesday, November 15, 2023
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Wednesday, January 3, 2024 (*Reorganization Meeting*)

*Motion: EN Second: EK Discussion: N/A
Roll Call Vote YE: Y EK: Y EN: Y JP: Y ES: Y
All Motions Passed 5-0*

H. Questions or Comments from the Public on Other Items

Opened at 7:43 PM, no comments from the Public at this time. Closed 7:44 PM.

I. Executive Session *No Executive Session.*

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975 provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of a meeting of which the public body discusses certain matters for which confidentiality is required as permitted in Section 7B of the act.

WHEREAS, the items that are permitted to be discussed in executive session are as follows:

1. a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
2. a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds
3. material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it
5. a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds
6. protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
7. pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
8. specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session
9. deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education will be discussing items _____.

Action may (or may not) take place on these items. The matters discussed in executive session shall be disclosed to the public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

J. Adjournment *Motion:* *YE* *Second:* *EK* *Vote:* *5-0* *Time:* *7:44 PM*