

Special Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
May 1, 2023

A Special 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, as well as utilizing the online video conference platform on May 1, 2023.

Board President Kaitlin Wittleder called the meeting to order at 6:30 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, TAPintoSOMA.net, villagegreennj.com and posted on the District website.

ROLL CALL

Present: Board Member Duvall Wilson, Board Member Eckert,
Board Member Gifford, Board Member Malespina,
Board Member Vadlamani, Board Member Winkfield,
Board President Wittleder, Board Member Wright

Absent: Board Member Telesford

EIGHT VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

Please take notice that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in the following manner:

- A. Written notice was sent from the Office of the Secretary of the Board at 11:00 p.m. on April 20, 2023.
- B. That said notice was sent via email to Maplewood and South Orange Township Clerks and the Editors of the News Record, Star Ledger, and the Village Green.

Tonight's meeting will begin with the Hearing of Individuals and Delegations. The Board will then adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the Chief School Administrator contract negotiations. Please note the Board will not be taking action this evening.

Pledge of Allegiance

BOARD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The school board meeting is a business meeting in public and not a meeting with the public. Oftentimes it may appear to members of our audience that the Board of Education takes action with very little comment and in many cases a unanimous vote. Before a matter is placed on the agenda at a public meeting, the Administration has thoroughly

reviewed the matter with the Superintendent of Schools/Chief School Administrator (CSA). If the Superintendent of Schools/Chief School Administrator is satisfied that the matter is ready to be presented to the Board of Education, it is then referred to the appropriate Board Committee. The Members of the Board Committee work with Administration and the Superintendent to assure that the members fully understand the matter. After the committee discusses the matter, it is then shared with the other Board members for consideration. Only then is it placed on the agenda for Board discussion and action at a public meeting.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

NONE.

Board President Wittleder made a motion, seconded by Board Member Malespina to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the Chief School Administrator contract negotiations. The length of the Executive Session is estimated to be 120 minutes, after which the public meeting of the Board of Education will reconvene only to immediately adjourn. No Action will be taken.

Motion to adjourn to Executive Session unanimously approved at 6:34 p.m.

***Board Members Reconvened at 7:51 p.m.
Board Member Gifford joined at 7:52 p.m.
Board Members Telesford and Winkfield absent
7 VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT***

FUTURE MEETINGS

Board President Wittleder made the following motions, seconded by Board Member Malespina:

A meeting of the Board of School Estimate will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 5:00 pm at the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood New Jersey; for the purpose of discussing transportation. Action may be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in a Public Session on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ and will immediately adjourn to go into Executive Session in person in the Superintendent's Office to interview candidates for the Board Attorney vacancy. Action may be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Public Session on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Mapelwood, NJ. Immediately following the opening of Public Session, the board will move to go into Closed Session in the Superintendent's Office, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ, as well as using an online video conference platform to discuss personnel, matters within the attorney-client privilege, legal, negotiations, and other matters that

may arise and require discussion, 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 for a Organizational/Staff Renewal Meeting in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ in person and utilizing an online video conference platform which will include Hearing of Individuals. The community can view the meeting by following the steps which will be listed on the agenda. If there are members of the community who would like to attend the meeting in person, please note that masks and social distancing are optional in accordance with the guidance received from the local DOH and the CDC. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Public Session on Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Immediately following the opening of Public Session, the board will move to go into a Closed Session in the Superintendent's Office, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ, as well as using an online video conference platform to discuss personnel, matters within the attorney-client privilege, legal, negotiations, and other matters that may arise and require discussion, to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session (estimated to be 7:30 pm) in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ in person, utilizing an online video conference platform which will include Hearing of Individuals. The community can view the meeting by following the steps which will be listed on the agenda. If there are members of the community who would like to attend the meeting in person, please note that masks and social distancing are optional in accordance with the guidance received from the local DOH and the CDC. Action will be taken.

Motions unanimously approved.

Motion made by Board President Wittleder, seconded by Board Member Wright to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 7:53 p.m.

Eric Burnside, Board Secretary