

Special Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
April 3, 2024

A Special Public 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 April 3, 2024.

Board President Qawi Telesford called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Board Member Callahan, Board Member Duvall Wilson, Board Member Eckert, Board Member Gifford, Board Member Meyer, Board Member Sackett-Gable, Board President Telesford, Board Member Vadlamani, Board Member Wittleder

Absent: None

NINE VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Pledge of Allegiance

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

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

- A. That written notice was sent from the Office of the Secretary of the Board at 3:55 p.m. on March 27, 2024.
- 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.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

Thank you for coming in-person and dialing-in by phone this evening. The South Orange - Maplewood Board of Education certainly respects that you've taken the time out of your busy day to address the Board at tonight's meeting. We value public involvement in our school district, and we are eager to hear what you have to say. The board does have time limits by policy, and it will be enforcing those to enable as many people to speak as possible this evening. Each individual will be given two minutes to speak, please do your best to stay within the time afforded to you. The first public comment period is usually limited to one hour and the second public comment period may be limited to thirty minutes. All input shared with the Board of Education is taken very seriously, and will inform future deliberations and work by the Board of Education and its committees.

Community Member Jan Conrad spoke in favor of grass at Ritzer Field.

Community Member Victoria Bond spoke in support of Dr. Gilbert as the permanent Superintendent for SOMSD.

SOUTH ORANGE-MAPLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, while the "Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act" (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) requires all meetings of the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine (9) types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in "Executive Session," without the public being permitted to attend, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that one (1) issue is permitted by N.J.S.A 10:4 - 12 (b) to be discussed without the public in attendance and shall be discussed during an Executive Session to be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 6:00 PM, and

WHEREAS, the nine (9) exceptions to open the public meetings set forth in N.J.S.A 10:2-4(b) are listed below, and next to each exception is a box which will be marked when the issues to be privately discussed fall within that exception, and after each exception is a space where additional information that will disclose as much information about the discussion as possible without undermining the purpose of the exception shall be written: **attorney/client privilege and personnel matters**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Orange Maplewood Board of Education will go into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons only; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) will be made public at a time when the public's interest in disclosure is greater than any privacy or governmental interest being protected from disclosure.

Motion made by Board President Telesford, seconded by Board Member Eckertto adjourn to Executive Session. Motion unanimously approved at 6:16 p.m.

Eric Burnside, Business Administrator