

**CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE RECEIVER'S
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PUBLIC**

**September 6, 2013
9:45 A.M.**

A Special Public Meeting of the Receiver of the Chester Upland School District was held this morning at the Administration Building of the Chester Upland School District, located at 1720 Melrose Avenue, Chester, Pennsylvania.

Executive Staff Present: Mr. Joseph P. Watkins, Receiver
 Mr. Gregory G. Shannon, Superintendent
 Mr. George Crawford, Chief Financial Officer
 Dr. Tamara Thomas Smith, Deputy Superintendent
 Ms. Claudia Averette, Chief of Staff

Solicitor: Leo A. Hackett, Esquire

Absent: Ms. Andria Saia, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services
 George B. Dawson, Esquire, Special Counsel

The Receiver's meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

NOTICE OF ADVERTISED MEETING

(COPY OF ADVERTISED NOTICE ATTACHED)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Anthony Johnson, School Board Member – Expressed his concerns regarding the scheduled time of this morning’s special Receiver’s meeting. Expressed his concerns regarding some of the classroom sizes for the elementary grades.

Joe Watkins responded.

Gregory Shannon responded.

Bettie McClairen, School Board Member – Expressed her concerns regarding the Auditor General’s report on the Chester Community Charter School. Requested an explanation of various new salaries?

Joe Watkins responded.

Alvina Jenkins responded.

Tyra Quail – Spoke on how fantastic the opening of school ceremonies were for the students. Commented positively on the STEM teachers and how they are raising the bar and letting the students know exactly what is expected of them this year. Expressed her concerns with page 76 of the Auditor General’s report where it states that the Chester Community Charter School is only chartered for grades K through 4. Expressed her concerns regarding the transportation department’s over crowded school buses.

Joe Watkins responded.

Jean Arnold – Commented positively on the Security Staff at Chester High School as well as the new atmosphere inside the school. Inquired as to why there are two(2) art teachers at Toby Farms? Questioned what plans the District has in order to provide the GED Program with the necessary equipment and supplies it will need to function? Expressed her concerns regarding the Project Grad Program. Inquired as to if there will be crossing guards at CUSA?

Alvina Jenkins responded.

Joe Watkins responded.

Gregory Shannon responded.

Superintendent Gregory Shannon publically thanked Josh Culbertson, Director of Technology, for seeing that all of the lap top computers were repaired, reimaged and redistributed throughout Chester High School.

PERSONNEL AGENDA

A-1 General/Categorical Funds. Approval of appointments, leaves of absence, retirements, resignation, assignments, reassignments and recall from furlough.

RESOLVED, that the following **appointments** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>New Position or Replacement</u>
Carter, Christina	Teacher, Art Toby Farms School	\$43,704 (B/2) 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Cleaver, Katelyn Reilly	Teacher, Art Toby Farms School	\$41,706 (B/1) 10 months	08/28/13	New Position 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Durie, Lauren	Teacher, Mathematics Chester High School	\$48,863 (B+16/4) 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Jemeri, LaToya	Certified School Nurse Stetser Elementary School	\$60,540 (M+15/3) 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Levinson, David	Robotics Teacher S.T.E.M. Academy at Showalter	\$58,442 (M+15/2) 10 months	08/28/13	New Position 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Messinger, Jason	Music Teacher S.T.E.M. Academy at Showalter	\$43,704 (B/2) 10 months	08/28/13	New Position 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Wagner, Julie	English Teacher/Special Ed. Chester High School	\$59,009 (M+30/2)	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.

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Wood, James	HE/PE Teacher Stetser Elementary School	\$41,607 (B/1) 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
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(b) Non Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>New Position or Replacement</u>
Brittingham, William	School Safety Officer School Safety Department	\$17,277 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Busch, Kenneth	Teacher Assistant Chester High School	\$22,356 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Crosby, Shenice	L.P.N.-Health Room Assistant Stetser Elementary School	\$32,000 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Hodges, Angell	Teacher Assistant Toby Farms School	\$22,356 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Robinson, Raymond	School Safety Officer School Safety Department	\$17,277 10 months	09/12/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Scott, William	School Safety Officer School Safety Department	\$17,277 10 months	08/28/13	Replacement 2013-2014 G.F.B.
Stevenson, Keira	Human Resources Assistant Human Resources Department	\$12/hour	09/16/13- 01/27/14	Temporary Position 2013-2014 G.F.B.
White, Ricardo	School Safety Officer School Safety Department	\$17,277 10 months	08/28/13	New Position 2013-2014 G.F.B.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following **leaves of absence** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Alston, Cheryl	Teacher, Elementary Toby Farms School	08/28/13-10/28/13 (FMLA)
Donofry, Stephanie	Teacher, English S.T.E.M. Academy at Showalter	08/28/13-01/2014 (LOA)
Thornton, Colleen	Teacher, Special Education Chester High School	08/28/13-09/25/13 (FMLA)

(b) Non Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Johnson, Mekeisha	Custodian Maintenance Department	07/17/13-08/15/13 (FMLA)

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following **retirements** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Groom, Debra	Teacher, Special Education Chester High School	06/30/13
MacDonald, Rhonda	Reading Specialist Chester High School	06/17/13

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following **resignation** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Meyers, Mark	Teacher, Health & Physical Education S.T.E.M. Academy at Showalter	08/18/13

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following **assignments** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Clark, Kenneth	Long-Term Substitute Teacher Floater	\$100/day	09/03/13
Hyman, Amos	Long-Term Substitute Teacher Floater	\$100/day	09/03/13
Ojo, Adeshola	Long-Term Substitute Teacher Floater	\$100/day	09/03/13
Thomas, Leslie Ann	Long-Term Substitute Teacher Floater	\$100/day	09/03/13
Wilson, Sean	Climate Manager Main Street Elementary School	\$61,835 10 months	08/28/13

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following **reassignments** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Brown, April	Assistant Principal S.T.E.M. Academy at Showalter	Assistant Principal Toby Farms School	08/28/13
Brown, Tara	Assistant Principal Toby Farms School	Assistant Principal S.T.E.M. Academy at Showalter	08/28/13
Stephenson, Larry	Climate Manager Chester High School \$61,835.87 10 months	Guidance Counselor Chester High School \$67,266.67 +\$800 (M+15/3) 10 months + 18 days	08/28/13

(b) Non Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Hull, Karen	Bus Aide Transportation Department \$10.99/hour 10 months	Van Driver Transportation Department \$16.37/hour 10 months	09/03/13

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following **recall from furlough** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Bogen, Cheryl	Teacher, Elementary Main Street Elementary School	08/28/13
Bey, Marie	Teacher, Elementary	08/28/13

Brown, Richard	Toby Farms School Teacher, Music Chester High School	08/28/13
Camano, Denise	Teacher, Elementary Chester Upland School of the Arts	08/28/13
DeMagnus, Deserie	Teacher, Elementary Toby Farms School	08/28/13
DiFurio, Margaret	Teacher, Elementary Main Street Elementary School	08/28/13
Fitzmier, Janet	Teacher, Art Main Street Elementary School	08/28/13
Hudnell, Sheena	Teacher, Pre-Kindergarten Main Street Elementary School	08/28/13
Jones, Roslyn	Teacher, Art Chester Upland School of the Arts	08/28/13
Kirkwood, Jason	Teacher, Elementary Chester Upland School of the Arts	08/28/13
Mangini, Lisa	Teacher, Elementary Chester Upland School of the Arts	08/28/13
Wellstein, Colleen	Teacher, Elementary Chester Upland School of the Arts	08/28/13

(b) Non-Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Jones, Tiffany	Principal's Secretary Stetser Elementary School	08/13/13
Roberts, Marta	Lunch Aide Toby Farms School	09/16/13

Executive Sponsor: Alvina Jenkins

A-2 Approval of GED Program appointments.

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, approve the appointment of Gwendolyn Cottman as the GED Program Supervisor effective July 1, 2013 until December 31, 2013. Classes will be held during the day and evening, both in the summer and during the school year. Pay rate of \$25.00 per hour, maximum of 40 hours per week. This expenditure item is included in the 2013-2014 budget.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Receiver approve the appointment of Patricia Lewis-West as Chief GED Examiner effective July 1, 2013 until December 31, 2013. Mrs. Lewis-West will administer the five-part GED test to an estimated 100 individuals per year. GED examinations are typically administered once per month, both in the summer and during the school year. Pay rate of \$25.00 per hour, maximum of 45-60 hours per month. This expenditure item is included in the 2013-2014 budget.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the GED test fee be set at \$20.00 per test. The GED Examination consists of five tests, making the total cost of the complete test battery \$100.00.

Payable from: General Fund Budget
Executive Sponsor: Mr. Gregory Shannon

The executive sponsors briefly summarized their personnel agenda items to those in attendance.

PERSONNEL AGENDA ITEMS #A-1 AND #A-2 WERE APPROVED BY JOSEPH P. WATKINS, RECEIVER.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business *Receiver Joseph P. Watkins* adjourned the meeting at 10:30 am.

**CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCIAL RECOVERY RECEIVER**

Joseph P. Watkins

Date