

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

**JANUARY 17, 2013  
6:00 P.M.**

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A Public Meeting of the Receiver of the Chester Upland School District was held this evening 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. George Crawford, Chief Financial Officer  
   Mr. Brian Feick, Chief Business Administrator

Solicitor:                                Leo A. Hackett, Esquire

Special Counsel:                      George B. Dawson, Esquire

Absent:                                    Dr. Thomas Persing, Acting Superintendent

**NOTICE OF ADVERTISED MEETING**

(COPY OF ADVERTISED NOTICE ATTACHED)

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

**Arresha Bush** – declined to comment.

**Livia Smith** – Regarding Personnel Agenda Item #B-1, questioned the lateral position moves with salary increases? Inquired as to why there are so many acting positions within the district?

**Receiver Joseph Watkins** responded.

**Tyra Quail** – Questioned whether parents were notified when school leadership changed? Addressed communication issues within the district.

**Receiver Joseph Watkins** responded.

**State Representative Thaddeus Kirkland** – Inquired as to the racial make-up of the students in the district compared to the racial make-up of the leadership/principals in the district? Regarding Personnel Agenda Item #B-1, questioned the hiring and salary of english teacher, Thomas Persing, on last month's agenda?

**Leo Hackett, Esq.**, responded.

**Receiver Joseph Watkins** responded.

**Brian Feick** responded.

**Debbie Burke** – Expressed concerns regard climate management, particularly at Chester High School.

**Dr. Tony Watson** responded.

*Receiver Joseph Watkins introduced Consultant Michael Graves, to the public.*

**Anthony Johnson, School Board Member** – Regarding Personnel Agenda Items and Business Agenda Items, questioned where the money for all of the salary increases has come from? Inquired as to if positions are being filled with qualified employees? Questioned the relocating of students from school buildings mid-year as well as re-assigning principals? Questioned what type of effect these changes are having on the district students?

**Receiver Joseph Watkins** responded.

**John Shelton, Jr.** – Regarding Personnel Agenda Items #B-1, questioned why positions were not advertised as per union contact?

**Receiver Joseph Watkins** responded.

*Receiver Joseph Watkins stated that the District has created the “CUSD Fund For Excellence”, which is a 501C3 that will provide financial opportunities for the district’s students, teachers and community.*

**Will Richan** – Questioned Charter School accountability?

**Receiver Joseph Watkins** responded.

**Charlie L. Warren II** responded.

**EDUCATION AGENDA**

**A-1 2012-2013 General Fund Budget: Approval to enter into a Special Education Agreement.**

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, is authorized to enter into a Special Education Settlement Agreement with Student #079378 which includes attorneys’ fees to McAndrews Law Offices, P.C. not to exceed Eleven Thousand Dollars (\$11,000.00).

**Payable from:** 2012-2013 General Fund Budget  
**Executive Sponsor:** Mary Payne

**A-2 2012-2013 General Fund Budget: Approval to enter into a Special Education Agreement.**

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, is authorized to enter into a Special Education Settlement Agreement with Student #071311 which includes attorneys’ fees to Wendy C. Reed, Esquire not to exceed One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$1,450.00).

**Payable from:** 2012-2013 General Fund Budget  
**Executive Sponsor:** Mary Payne

**A-3 2012-2013 General Fund Budget: Approval to enter into a Special Education Agreement.**

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, is authorized to enter into a Special Education Settlement Agreement with Student #074885 which includes attorneys’ fees to Wendy C. Reed not to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00).

**Payable from:** 2012-2013 General Fund Budget  
**Executive Sponsor:** Mary Payne

**A-4 IDEA and ACCESS Funds: Approval of a contractual agreement with Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide a Bilingual Speech and Language Therapist.**

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, authorizes a contractual agreement with Montgomery County Intermediate Unit to provide a Bilingual Speech and Language Therapist to provide speech evaluations for the period beginning January 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2013. The billing rate for each evaluation is \$193.00 per evaluation.

**Payable from:** IDEA and ACCESS Funds  
**Executive Sponsor:** Dr. Tony Watson

**EDUCATION AGENDA ITEMS #A-1 THRU #A-4 WERE APPROVED BY JOSEPH P. WATKINS, RECEIVER.**

**PERSONNEL AGENDA**

**B-1 General/Categorical Funds. Approval of appointments, correction of appointment, leave of absence, extension of leave of absence, retirements, resignation, termination, reassignments, transfers, completion of probation, extension of probation, and recall from furlough.**

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

(a) Professional

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Salary</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>	<b><u>New Position or Replacement</u></b>
Alexander, Joshua	Teacher, Special Education Chester High School	\$49,316 (B+24/3 + \$200) 10 months	01/22/13	New Position 2012-2013 G.F.B.
Falconieri, Donna	Teacher, Special Education Chester High School	\$60,173 (M/3 + \$200) 10 months	01/28/13	New Position 2012-2013 G.F.B.
Matthews, Christian	Long-Term Substitute STEM Magnet High School	\$100/day	01/22/13	New Position 2012-2013 G.F.B.

(b) Non Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>New Position or Replacement</u>
Brock, Norman	Bus Driver Transportation Department	\$18.17/hour 10 months	02/04/13	New Position 2012-2013 G.F.B.
Johnson-Shelton, Royce	Sub. Personal Care Aide Showalter Intermediate School	\$65/day 10 months	01/14/13	New Position 2012-2013 G.F.B.

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

(a) Non Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Coleman, Christina	Executive Assistant to Receiver, Chief Recovery Officer, & Chief Financial Officer Administration Building	\$65,000.00 12 months	01/01/13

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

(a) Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Paulick, Michele	Teacher, English STEM Magnet High School	01/24/13-03/15/13 (FMLA)

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

(a) Non Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Bonner, Donna	Receptionist/Secretary Administration Building	01/17/13– 03/04/13 (Medical)

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

(a) Non Professional

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Gilbert, James	Bus Driver Transportation Department	01/07/13
Green, Arcina	Teacher Aide Chester Upland School of the Arts	06/16/13

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

(a) Professional

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Georeno, Anthony	Acting Director of Special Education Administration Building	01/16/13

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

(a) Non Professional

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Position/Location</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Whitted, Natasha	Special Education Assistant Administration Building	01/04/13

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

(a) Professional

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>From</u></b>	<b><u>To</u></b>	<b><u>Effective Date</u></b>
Ferguson, Sara	Assistant Principal Chester Upland School of the Arts \$87,517.00 12 months	Principal Chester Upland School of the Arts \$95,000.00 12 months	01/21/13

Towson, Will	Acting Principal Chester High School \$99,000.00 12 months	Principal Chester High School \$110,000.00 12 months	01/21/13
Womack, Anthony	Principal Showalter Intermediate School	Assistant Principal Columbus Elementary School	01/08/13

(b) Non Professional

<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>From</b></u>	<u><b>To</b></u>	<u><b>Effective Date</b></u>
Espanol, Mirtha	Secretary Administration Building \$29,765.76 12 months	Assistant to Director of Federal Programs Administration Building \$44,990.00 12 months	01/21/13
Jackson, Patrice	Secretary Administration Building \$25,087.80 12 months	Special Education Assistant Administration Building \$40,000.00 12 months	01/21/13

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

(a) Professional

<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>From</b></u>	<u><b>To</b></u>	<u><b>Effective Date</b></u>
Smith, Catherine	Principal Columbus Elementary School \$95,000.00 12 months	Principal Showalter Intermediate School \$107,625.00 12 months	01/08/13

(b) Non Professional

<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>From</b></u>	<u><b>To</b></u>	<u><b>Effective Date</b></u>
Brown, Margaret	Principal's Secretary Showalter Intermediate School	Principal's Secretary Columbus Elementary School	01/08/13
Masturzo, Kevin	Climate Manager Showalter Intermediate School	Climate Manager Columbus Elementary School	01/08/13
Mills, Angela	Principal's Secretary Columbus Elementary School	Principal's Secretary Showalter Intermediate School	01/08/13
Taylor, Keith	Climate Manager Columbus Elementary School	Climate Manager Showalter Intermediate School	01/08/13

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

(a) Non Professional

<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>Position/Location</b></u>	<u><b>Effective Date</b></u>
Butler, Joala	Bus Driver Transportation Department	01/14/13
Muhammed, Fatimah	Bus Driver Transportation Department	12/21/12
Riggs, Floyd	Bus Driver Transportation Department	01/07/13

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

(a) Non Professional

<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>Position/Location</b></u>	<u><b>Effective Date</b></u>
Nixon, Safiya	Bus Aide Transportation Department	01/30/13



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>
Buecheler, Jeanine	Teacher, Elementary Chester Upland School of the Arts	01/18/13

**Executive Sponsor:** Michelle R. Chapman

***PERSONNEL AGENDA ITEMS #B-1 WERE APPROVED BY JOSEPH P. WATKINS, RECEIVER.***

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

**C-1 Reports of the tax collectors.**

RESOLVED, that the reports of the City of Chester, Borough of Upland, and Chester Township for the period December 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 in the amount of \$255,207.86 be received, be noted upon the Minutes and filed.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-2 Approval of the Treasurer's Report/Budget Report**

RESOLVED, that the attached Treasurer's Report/Budget Report for the fiscal month ended December 31, 2012 be APPROVED by the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-3 General Fund Budget: \$5,625,014.27. Approval of list of payments.**

RESOLVED, that the attached list of payments dated December 20, 2012, through January 17, 2013 checks numbering 00031658 through 00031894, of the various accounts totaling for all accounts the grand sum of \$5,625,014.27, a copy of which has been given to the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, and a copy of which is now before the Receiver, be APPROVED, and that said list of payments be incorporated into the January 17, 2013 Minutes.

(LIST OF PAYMENTS ATTACHED)

**General Fund Budget: \$1,980,413.73. Approval of payrolls.**

RESOLVED, that the payrolls dated December 5, 2012, and December 19, 2012 of the various accounts totaling for all accounts the grand sum of \$1,980,413.73 be approved by the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors.

**Payable from:** General Fund Budget  
**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-4 Approval of Consultant Contract – Michael Graves**

RESOLVED, that a Contract with the Consultant Michael Graves is approved for the period January 1, 2013 and concluding December 31, 2013 at a fee not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred (\$7,500.00) Dollars per month. Contract includes administrative review and implementation of policy and procedures in accordance with the Financial Recovery Plan as directed by the Receiver.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-5 Approval of Appointment – George Crawford**

RESOLVED, that George Crawford is hereby appointed Chief Financial Officer under terms and conditions of contract dated January 7, 2013 for the term commencing on January 7, 2013 and ending on December 12, 2015 at a starting salary of One Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$167,800.00) per year.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-6 Approval of Appointment – Brian Feick**

RESOLVED, that Brian Feick is hereby appointed Chief Business Administrator under terms and conditions of contract dated January 17, 2013 for the term commencing on January 17, 2013 and ending on December 12, 2015 at a starting salary of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) per year.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-7 Act I Resolution**

RESOLVED, that the Resolution certifying the Receiver will not increase any school district tax for the 2013-2014 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

**C-8 Signature Authority**

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, Mr. Joe Watkins, and the Chief Financial Officer, Mr. George Crawford, are hereby authorized to sign all checks, and make disbursements and payments by or on behalf of Chester Upland School District, both to sign, and for the use of facsimiles signature of such persons by the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Business Administrator.

Further that the Receiver and Chief Financial Officer are authorized to open and maintain bank accounts on behalf of the School District including accounts at Wells Fargo bank.

**Executive Sponsor:** Brian Feick

***BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS #C-1 THRU #C-8 WERE APPROVED BY JOSEPH P. WATKINS, RECEIVER.***

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business *Receiver Joseph P. Watkins* adjourned the meeting at 6:40 pm.

**CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT  
FINANCIAL RECOVERY RECEIVER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Joseph P. Watkins**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**