

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**SPECIAL PUBLIC ACTION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 26, 2012
6:10 P.M.**

A Special Public Action Meeting of the Board of School Directors 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, with the following members of the Board of School Directors in attendance:

Ms. Wanda Mann, President
Mr. Baltazar Rubio, Esq., Vice President
Ms. Lakisha Blackwell, Secretary
Ms. Virginia Pilkington, Treasurer
Ms. Donna Davis, Member
Mr. Cephus Richardson, Member
Mr. Anthony Johnson, Member
Ms. Bettie McClairen, Member
Mr. Charlie L. Warren II, Member

Executive Staff Present: Dr. Thomas Persing, Acting Superintendent
Dr. Tony Watson, Acting Deputy Superintendent
Mr. Brian Feick, Acting Chief Financial Officer

Solicitor: Leo A. Hackett, Esquire

Special Counsel: George B. Dawson, Esquire

The meeting of the Board of School Directors opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

NOTICE OF ADVERTISED MEETING

The meeting of the Board of School Directors opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

(COPY OF ADVERTISED NOTICE ATTACHED)

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken. Present were Ms. Wanda Mann, Mr. Baltazar Rubio, Esq., Ms. LaKisha Blackwell, Ms. Donna Davis, Ms. Virginia Pilkington, Mr. Cephus Richardson, Mr. Anthony Johnson, Ms. Bettie McClairen, and Mr. Charlie L. Warren II. Absent-None.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Leo A. Hackett, Esq., Solicitor, announced topics discussed in the Executive Session prior to the Special Action Meeting:

- Met with Joe Watkins regarding the Financial Recovery Plan

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Dennis Martinelli – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

Livia Smith – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

Leo Hackett, Esq., responded.

Charlie L. Warren II responded.

Rev. Purnell – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

President Wanda Mann responded.

Ben Wilson – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

Rev. Bernice Warren – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

Bettie McClairen responded.

John Shelton, Jr. – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

State Rep. Thaddeus Kirkland – Spoke on the Financial Recovery Plan and encouraged the Board to accept it.

*BettieMcClair*en made a Motion that would allow Dean from Public Financial Management to speak to the community on behalf of Joe Watkins, who was absent from the meeting. Seconded by Cephus Richardson.

*VOTE-Cephus Richardson, Anthony Johnson, Bettie McClair*en and *Charlie L. Warren II-Aye. Baltazar Rubio, Esq., Wanda Mann, Donna Davis, LaKisha Blackwell and Virginia Pilkington-Nay.*

BY A VOTE OF FIVE(5) “OPPOSED” TO FOUR(4) “IN FAVOR”, THE MOTION MADE TO ALLOW DEAN FROM PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT TO SPEAK TO THE COMMUNITY ON BEHALF OF JOE WATKINS, WHO WAS ABSENT FROM THE MEETING FAILED DUE TO LACK OF THE MAJORITY.

BUSINESS AGENDA

C-1 Financial Recovery Plan

WHEREAS, the Chester Upland School District was declared a Severe Financial Recovery District under Act 141 of 2012 on August 14, 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Joseph Watkins was appointed Chief Recovery Officer by the Secretary of Education pursuant to Act 141 of 2012; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Act 141 of 2012 the Chief Recovery Officer issued a Recovery Plan on November 13, 2012 and a Revised Recovery Plan on November 14, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors of the Chester Upland School District are required by the provisions of Act 141 of 2012 to vote to approve or disapprove the Recovery Plan within ten (10) days of the date of the issuance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Recovery Plan (Revised) dated November 13, 2012 and revised November 14, 2012 issued by the Chief Recovery Officer pursuant to Act 141 of 2012 is hereby:

APPROVED (votes _____ 4 _____)

DISAPPROVED (votes _____ 5 _____).

Executive Sponsor: Brian D. Feick

C-1

Wanda Mann called for a Motion. Motion to approve by Baltazar Rubio, Esq., Seconded by Virginia Pilkington.

VOTE-Cephus Richardson, Anthony Johnson, Bettie McClairen and Charlie L. Warren II-Aye. Baltazar Rubio, Esq., Wanda Mann, Donna Davis, LaKisha Blackwell and Virginia Pilkington-Nay.

BY A MAJORITY VOTE OF FIVE (5) “OPPOSED” TO FOUR (4) “IN FAVOR”, BUSINESS AGENDA ITEM #C-1 WAS DISAPPROVED DUE TO LACK OF THE MAJORITY.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Wanda Mann, President, at 7:15pm.

**CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

LaKisha E.S. Blackwell, Secretary