

The virtual Reorganization / Regular Meeting of the Galloway Township Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 pm by School Business Administrator Joy N. Nixon.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order** by the School Business Administrator Joy N. Nixon.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Suzette Carmen.
3. **Statement of Public Notice:**

In accordance with Public Law 231, both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided to: The Press, the Galloway Township Municipal Building and the District Website on or before December 12, 2020.

4. **Report of Annual School Election of November 3, 2020.**
(Attachment A.1)

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Mr. Dase, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote to acknowledge receipt of the certified results from the County Board of Elections of the school board election held on November 3, 2020.

All those in favor of: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0 Absent: 1

5. **Board Solicitor, Amy Houck Elco, administered "Oath of Office" to:**

Dr. Ebenezer Bilewu - absent
Mrs. Susan Coll-Guedes
Dr. Sherri Parmenter

Dr. Bilewu did not log into the virtual meeting until 6:06 pm. Attorney Amy Houck Elco, had to read and initiate the Oath of Office separately to Dr. Bilewu.

6. **Roll Call:**

Mrs. Avery	Present
Dr. Beshara-Blauth	Present
Dr. Bilewu	Present
Mrs. Carmen	Present
Mrs. Chester	Present
Mrs. Coll-Guedes	Present
Mr. Dase	Present
Mr. Gentile	Present
Dr. Parmenter	Present

7. Board Secretary shall conduct election of President.

A motion was made by Mr. Dase, and seconded by Dr. Parmenter, and unanimously carried by a voice vote to nominate Suzette Carmen for President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Dr. Parmenter, and seconded by Dr. Bilewu, and unanimously carried by a voice vote, to close the nominations for President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Dr. Bilewu, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote, with Mrs. Carmen abstaining, to elect Suzette Carmen President of the Board of Education.

8. Newly elected President shall conduct election for Vice-President.

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Dr. Parmenter, and unanimously carried by a voice vote, to nominate Richard Dase for Vice-President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Dr. Beshara-Blauth, and unanimously carried by a voice vote, to close the nominations for Vice -President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Dr. Beshara-Blauth, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote, with Mr. Dase abstaining, to elect Richard Dase Vice-President of the Board of Education.

9. Establishment of Meetings: Discussion of meeting options - Board Institute (Attachment A.2)

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Dr. Parmenter, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote, to conduct Regular meeting of the Board of Education on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month or except as otherwise designated, at the Galloway Township Middle School Cafetorium at 7:00 pm

10. Parliamentary Procedures.

Resolution: Conduct Regular meetings by the Galloway Board of Education abiding by the rules and procedures as documented in Robert's Rules.

11. Fees to receive notice as per Board policy.

Resolution: Except as otherwise provided by law or regulation, the fee assessed for the duplication of a printed record shall be as per policy 3570.00 District Records and Reports. Request for

district records shall be submitted to the records custodian in writing on the appropriate form. Copies may be made at fees not to exceed those set by statute.

12. **Adoption of Bylaws and Policies.**

Resolution: Adopt all policies and bylaws as set forth in the manual entitled, Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Education of Galloway Township" dated September 1978, and subsequent amendments and revisions, as the sole policies in existence to direct the operations of the school system.

13. **Adoption of assets, obligations, and contractual agreements.**

Resolution: Adopt all assets, obligations, and contractual agreements of the previous Board of Education as required by law.

14. Resolution: Ratification of contracts and agreements.

Resolution: Ratify all contracts and agreements previously negotiated by the Board of Education in accordance with the provisions stated herein.

15. Resolution: **Adoption of "Code of Ethics"**.

Resolution: Adoption and discussion of the "Code of Ethics" as approved by the New Jersey School Boards Association as follows:

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will strive for public schools which can meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, sex, creed, or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy-making, planning and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

16. Committee appointments by Board President (Attachment A.3)

TBD – President Carmen decided to poll the board members to determine which committee would be suitable for them.

17. New Business:

A motion was made by Mr. Gentile, and seconded by Dr. Beshara-Blauth, and carried by a roll call vote, to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the following:

Resolution: School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey - January 2021

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2021 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time when all residents can acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Galloway Township Public Schools Board of Education is one of more than 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Galloway Township Public Schools Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine the educational goals for approximately 1.4 million children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 5,000 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in key achievement indicators such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, and the preparation for college through advanced placement offerings and SAT assessments; Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Galloway Township Public Schools Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2021 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Galloway Township Public Schools Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the advancement of our children's education.

At the completion of the Reorganization agenda the board will continue with the Regular Board agenda.

