

**OCEAN GATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**January 16, 2024**

**AGENDA**

The Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Ocean Gate Board of Education will take place in the Ocean Gate School Multipurpose Room and via live stream video using Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Roll Call Attendance**

**Present**

**Absent**

**Richard J. Casey**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Daniel Fleming**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Michael T. Passeri**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Aaron Gottesman**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Kerrie McGinley-McDonnell**

\_\_\_\_\_

In attendance are Melanie Patterson, Superintendent, and John Failla, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

**3. Flag Salute**

**4. Adequate Notice of Meeting**

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting of the Ocean Gate Board of Education was provided in the following manner: Asbury Park Press and District Website.

**5. Administration of Oath**

At this time the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, John Failla, will administer the Oath of Office to the following newly elected member of the Ocean Gate Board of Education.

**Board Member: Kerrie McGinley-McDonnell (Elected to a 3 year term)**

**6. Public Comments**

During the Board meeting the Ocean Gate School District Board of Education offers members of the public an opportunity to address issues regarding the operation of the Ocean Gate School District. The Board reminds those individuals who take this opportunity to identify themselves by name and Ocean Gate address and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda and/or items directly related to the operation of the School district. Questions raised by members of the public may or may not be responded to by the Board. All comments will be considered, and a response will be forthcoming when

appropriate. The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of the individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding students and employees of the Board are discouraged and will not be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded to them by the laws of New Jersey. There will be a two-minute limit for public participation.

**7. Ocean Gate School Board of Education Recognition of January 2024 as School Board Recognition Month in Accordance With NJSBA**

**Ocean Gate Board of Education**

- WHEREAS,** The New Jersey School Boards Association has declared January 2024 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 Ocean Gate Board of Education is one of 581 local school boards in New Jersey, which sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and
- WHEREAS,** The Ocean Gate 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Ocean Gate Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2024 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the Ocean Gate Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staff toward the advancement of our children’s education.



# of reports/ investigations	# of investigations resulting in HIB founded	Nature of the alleged or founded HIB & Location	Investigator	Type/Nature of Discipline Imposed	Other Measures Imposed
0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

# of reports/ investigations YTD	# of investigations where HIB was founded YTD	Training Conducted (this time period)	Programs Implemented (this time period)
3	2	N/A	Whole school PBIS #gatorgoals Social Skills group Daily Wellness Check-ins

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

- b. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education accept the following drill report for December 21, 2023 – January 16, 2024:

Date	Drill Type	Participants
January 12, 2024	Evacuation (real)	Whole school

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

- c. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education accept the following enrollment report for January 16, 2024: 137

PK3	PK4	Kinder-garten	1 <sup>st</sup> grade	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	6 <sup>th</sup> grade	Out of District	Total
11	14	19	15	15	14	15	18	15	1	137

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

## **11. Resolution for Feasibility Study**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the following resolution for the commencement of a feasibility study:**

WHEREAS, the Ocean Gate School District and Central Regional School District are two neighboring school districts in Ocean County, New Jersey, that serve students in seventh through twelfth grade and pre-kindergarten through sixth grade, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean Gate School District and Central Regional School District share a common sending-receiving relationship, as the Ocean Gate School District sends its students to the Central Regional School District for secondary education; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean Gate School District and Central Regional School District are interested in exploring the potential benefits and challenges of unifying their school districts into a single pre-K-12 regional school district; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services has established a grant program, known as the School Regionalization Efficiency Program, that provides reimbursement of costs associated with feasibility studies that look at school district regionalization or consolidation; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean Gate School District and Central Regional School District wish to apply for this grant funding to conduct a feasibility study that will examine the educational, financial, and operational implications of creating a unified school district; and

WHEREAS, the feasibility study will be conducted by an independent consultant with expertise in school district regionalization, who will solicit input from various stakeholders, including school administrators, staff, parents, students, and community members; and

WHEREAS, the feasibility study will result in a comprehensive report that will outline the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed unification, as well as the steps and requirements for implementing such a change; and

WHEREAS, the feasibility study will not commit the Ocean Gate School District and Central Regional School District to any course of action, but will provide them with valuable information and guidance for making an informed decision; and

WHEREAS, the final decision to pursue regionalization will be subject to voter approval in each of the affected school districts, in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Ocean Gate School District, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

The Board of Education hereby authorizes the commencement of a feasibility study for a possible unification of the Ocean Gate School District and Central Regional School District into a single pre-K-12 regional school district. The Board of Education hereby authorizes the submission of a grant application to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government

Services for reimbursement of the costs associated with the feasibility study, in accordance with the School Regionalization Efficiency Program.

The Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to take all necessary and appropriate actions to implement this resolution, including, but not limited to, selecting and contracting with a qualified consultant to conduct the feasibility study, collaborating and communicating with the Central Regional School District, and providing periodic updates to the Board of Education and the public on the progress and outcomes of the feasibility study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Central Regional School District, the Ocean County Superintendent of Schools, the New Jersey Department of Education, and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Division of Local Government Services. This resolution was adopted by the Board of Education of the Ocean Gate School District at a regular meeting held on January 16, 2024.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**  
**Nays:**  
**Abstain:**

**12. Personnel**

**a. Paraprofessional Hourly Pay Rate Guide**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the following revised Paraprofessional Hourly Pay Rate Guide, effective March 1, 2024-June 30, 2024:**

**Paraprofessional Hourly Rate**

<b>Non-Degree/ParaPro Assessment/Entry Level</b>	<b>College Degree + Other Ed. Related Certifications or Experience</b>	<b>Education Degree/Teaching Cert.</b>	<b>Education Degree/Cert. +/-or Other Ed. Related Certifications or Experience (ABA, ABLES, etc.)</b>
<b>\$18-19.00/hour</b>	<b>\$20-21.00/hour</b>	<b>\$22-23.00/hour</b>	<b>\$24-25.00/hour</b>

**\*Hourly rate commensurate with experience and qualifications.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**  
**Nays:**  
**Abstain**

**b. Custodian Hourly Pay Rate Guide**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the following 2023-24 revised Custodian Hourly Pay Rate Guide, effective March 1, 2024-June 30, 2024:**

2023-24 PT Custodian Hourly Rate

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
\$17.00/hour	\$18.00/hour	\$19.00/hour	\$20.00/hour

\*Hourly rate/Level commensurate with experience and qualifications.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes:  
Nays:  
Abstain

**13. Professional Development**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the following Professional Development opportunities:

- a. **Wes Brown, Music Teacher**  
NJMEA 2024 State Conference  
February 22-23, 2024

Registration: \$195  
Mileage:  
Total:

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes:  
Nays:  
Abstain:

- b. **Melanie Patterson, Superintendent/Principal**  
NJASA Women in Leadership Conference  
March 18-19, 2024  
The Palace in Somerset, NJ  
Registration: \$419  
Total: \$419

**14. Play-Based Support and Limit-Setting Workshop**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve a Play-Based Support and Limit-Setting Workshop for Ocean Gate School Staff, presented by Christian Bellissimo, play therapist and consultant, on February 16, 2024 from 9:00am-1:00pm with a cost of \_\_\_\_\_, charged to the ARP grant.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**15. Before or After School Tutoring Program**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the facilitation of a before or after school tutoring program for students in grades K-6. Teachers will be paid a rate of \$45.00 per session. Tutoring sessions will be scheduled for 8:00-8:30am or 3:15-3:45pm. Each tutoring session will last 30 minutes plus 10 additional minutes are allocated for student arrival or dismissal time, for up to 4 sessions per week for 8 weeks, starting the week of February 5, 2024 and ending the week of March 25, 2024. Up to \$10,080.00 total cost, charged to ARP ESSER and the NJ High Impact Tutoring Grant.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**16. After School Board Games/Strategy Games Club**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve an after school Board Games/Strategy Games club for grades 3-6, to be facilitated by Melanie Patterson, Superintendent/Principal, on Wednesdays from 3:05-3:50pm in the Multi-Purpose Room or Library, starting Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. End date to be determined. There is no cost associated.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**17. “My Face” Wonder Assembly**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the “My Face” Wonder Assembly for grades 4-6 on January 19, 2024 from 12:45-1:45pm. There is no cost for the district.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**



**18. Field Trips**

- a. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade field trip to the Philadelphia Zoo, Philadelphia, PA, on March 14, 2024 from 8:30am to 3:30pm. The cost of admission is \$75 and the cost for transportation is to be determined from Central Regional Transportation or other transportation company.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

- b. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade field trip to the Grunin Center at Ocean County College for a STEM interactive mystery show on January 25, 2024 from 9:15am to 12:00pm. The cost of admission is free for students and adults, and the cost for transportation is \$471, determined by Central Regional Transportation.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**19. Central Regional High School Student Council Visit**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the visit of the Central Regional High School Student Council from 9-11:15am for the purpose of working with our Gator Groups on a kindness activity. There is no cost for the district.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**20. Facilities Usage**

**RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the following facilities usage requests:

- a. **Approve** the Ocean Gate Parks & Recreation to use the Multi-Purpose Room and adjacent bathrooms for their Basketball program for Ocean Gate students (grades 1-6), from 6:00-8:00pm on Fridays, from January 26-March 15, 2024.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

- b. **Approve the Ocean Gate PTO to use the Multi-Purpose Room and adjacent bathrooms for their Valentine’s Dance on February 9, 2024, from 5-9pm.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**  
**Nays:**  
**Abstain:**

**21. Projected Preschool Enrollment**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the submission of the 2024-25 Projected Preschool Enrollment Form.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**  
**Nays:**  
**Abstain:**

**22. High-Impact Tutoring Grant Submission**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the submission of the High-Impact Tutoring Grant by January 31, 2024.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**  
**Nays:**  
**Abstain:**

**23. Business Administrator’s Report**

**24. Financial**

- a. **RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the December 2023 Bills List.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

**Ayes:**  
**Nays:**  
**Abstain:**

- b. **RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the November and December 2022 Payrolls:**

December 15	\$110,860.23
December 30	\$119,729.70

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes:  
Nays:  
Abstain:

- c. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the Treasurer’s Reports for October 2023.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes:  
Nays:  
Abstain:

- d. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the Transfer Report for November 2023.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Ayes:  
Nays:  
Abstain:

- e. **RESOLVED**, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education approve the Board Secretary’s Report for November 2023.

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11© 3, I, John Failla, Board Secretary, certify that as of November 30, 2023, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contracted orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11©4. Further, through the adoption of this resolution, we the Ocean Gate Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b) certify that as of November 30, 2023, after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the Business Administrator and other appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C.6A:23.2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

**25. Old Business/Discussion**

**26. New Business/Discussion**

**27. Public Comment**

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**28. Executive Session**

**RESOLVED, that on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January, 2024 at \_\_\_\_\_ PM the Ocean Gate Board of Education will move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters excluded from public discussion/deliberation, including but not limited to confidential student information, personnel matters, contracts and litigation.**

**29. Open Session**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education re-enter into open session for at \_\_\_\_\_ PM for the purpose of continuing the meeting.**

**30. Adjournment**

**RESOLVED, that the Ocean Gate Board of Education adjourn their regular meeting at \_\_\_\_\_ PM.**

**The next Regular Meeting of the Ocean Gate Board of Education is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM.**