

**WOOD-RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING  
JANUARY 2, 2019**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Call to Order**

**Ms. Jenine M. Murray, Board Secretary-Presiding Officer**

**Announcement of Notice of Meeting**

The Wood-Ridge Board of Education of the Borough of Wood-Ridge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, convened for the annual Reorganization Meeting on January 2, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. in the Wood-Ridge High School Auditorium.

This is the annual reorganization meeting of the Wood-Ridge Board of Education, and is in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, also known as the Sunshine Law. Notification has been sent to the Record. Notice has also been posted in the Wood-Ridge Borough Hall, the Wood-Ridge Memorial Library, and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education's website.

**Announce Results of the School Budget/Election**

Jenine M. Murray, Business Administrator/Board Secretary to read the election results, and give the Oath of Office to the following newly elected Members:

Candidates:	Albert C. Nieves	1,169 votes
	Richard Fallon	1,012 votes
	Thomas Schmidt	929 votes

## Administer Oath to Elected Board Members

Jenine M. Murray, Business Administrator/Board Secretary to administer the Oath of Office to Mr. Nieves and Mr. Fallon.

## Statement of Board Composition for Wood-Ridge Board of Education 2019

<u>5 Wood-Ridge: Board Members</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
	January
Mr. Patrick A. Ambrosio	2021
Mr. Joseph E. Biamonte Jr.	2020
Mr. Richard Fallon	2022
Mr. Christopher D. Garvin	2020
Mr. Albert C. Nieves	2022

1- Moonachie : Mr. Edmond Monti

### Roll Call for Attendance:

**Present:** Mr. Ambrosio, Mr. Biamonte, Mr. Garvin, & Mr. Nieves

**Absent:** Mr. Monti

**Also Present:** Superintendent Cipriano, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Jenine M. Murray and Mr. Richard Fallon

Ms. Murray read the following statement: The Wood-Ridge Board of Education now has to discuss issues regarding the following topic areas: Policy, and Personnel matters all of which fall within an exception to our policy entitled "Public and Executive Sessions", which permits this board of education to have private or closed discussions on topic areas which are exceptions contained in the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b.

I will entertain a motion to enter into closed session. On motion of Mr. Nieves seconded by Mr. Biamonte the meeting will be adjourned into closed session. The motion was passed unanimously. It is hereby resolved that the Board will now go into private or closed session to discuss: Cover page of Committees and Liaison Positions of the Whole/ Regular Meetings.

Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practicable. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene the public meeting at the conclusion of the closed session.

At 7:30 p.m., upon the motion of Mr. Nieves seconded by Mr. Biamontè, the Board voted unanimously to reopen the public meeting. The public meeting reconvened at 7:35 p.m. and Mrs. Murray read the following statement:

This is a Reorganization Meeting of the Wood-Ridge Board of Education and is in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Laws of 1975, also know as the Sunshine Law. Notification has been sent to The Record. Notification has also been posted in the Wood-Ridge Borough Hall, the Wood-Ridge Memorial Library and the Wood-Ridge Board of Education's website.

**Roll Call for Attendance:**

**Present:** Mr. Ambrosio, Mr. Biamonte, Mr. Garvin, Mr. Nieves, Mr. Schmidt

**Absent:** Mr. Monti

**Also Present:** Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Jenine Murray & Superintendent  
Nicholas Cipriano

**RESOLUTIONS FOR ACTON**

**1. Nominations and Election of President**

Ms. Jenine M. Murray asked for nominations for Board President.

Mr. Biamonte nominates Mr. Nieves President of the Board of Education.

Introduced by: Mr. Biamonte

Seconded by: Mr. Ambrosio

ROLL CALL

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Nieves was elected President of the Board of Education.

2. **Nominations and Election of Vice-President**

The President will call for nomination of Vice-President.

Mr. Garvin nominates Mr. Biamonte for Vice President of the Board of Education.

Introduced by: Mr. Garvin

Seconded by: Mr. Nieves

ROLL CALL

In Favor: 5

Opposed:0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Biamonte was elected Vice -President of the Board of Education.

3. **Code of Ethics - Pursuant to 18A:12-24.1**

The Board approved the following item:

The Board of Education Members had the required Board of Ethics Training session as required under N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.3 AND N.J.A.C.6A:30.

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey School Boards Association "Code of Ethics" shall be Considered the official Code of Ethics of the Wood-Ridge Board of Education:

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
- c. 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.
- d. 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.

3. **Code of Ethics - Pursuant to 18A:12-24.1 - con't**

- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
- f. 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.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matter, I will provide accurate information and, I concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In Favor: 5

Opposed:0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

4. **Open Public Meeting Act**

The Board approved the following item:

Open Public Meeting Act – Establish Meeting Dates, Times and Place

RESOLVED that the Wood-Ridge Board of Education, pursuant to Chapter 231, PAL. (Open Public Meeting Act) does hereby proclaim the public meetings of the Board of Education will be held in the Wood-Ridge High School Auditorium, 258 Hackensack Street, Wood-Ridge, NJ, at 6:30 p.m. as set forth below unless indicated otherwise:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the Regular Meetings shall be the normal conduct of business of the Board of Education and any other items brought to the Board's attention by the Board Members, Board Attorney, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent and Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education does hereby designate the Bergen Record as official newspaper to receive notices of meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that notices of meetings of the Board of Education will be posted in the Wood-Ridge Board of Education's website, the Wood-Ridge Memorial Library and the Wood-Ridge Borough Hall.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education reserves the right to adjourn or recess a meeting at any time to discuss such matters that may be considered in closed session. However, the Board will first adopt a resolution stating the general nature of the subject to be discussed, and, as precisely as possible, the time and circumstances under which disclosure to the public will be made; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to conduct its meetings properly and efficiently, the Board shall require the following procedures pertaining to public participation at Board meetings:

any individual desiring to speak shall give his or her name, address, and the group, if any, that is represented.

The presentation shall be as brief as possible but no more than three (3) minutes per individual.

The Board vests in its president, or other presiding officer, authority to terminate the remarks of any individual if he/she deems it in the best interest of those present to do so.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will meet of the following dates:

**WOOD-RIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCHEDULE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS - 2019**

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>
Regular Public Session	Monday	January 14, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	February 25, 2019
Work Session *	Monday	March 11, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	March 25, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	April 15, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	April 29, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	May 6, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	May 20, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	June 17, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	July 22, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	August 26, 2019
Work Session*	Monday	September 9, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	September 23, 2019
Work Session*	Monday	October 7, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	October 28, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	November 25, 2019
Regular Public Session	Monday	December 16, 2019
Reorganization Session	Thursday	January 2, 2020

\*Action may be taken at meeting

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In Favor: 5

Opposed:0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

5. **Establish Length of Board Meetings**

The Board approved the following items:

Previous Board members have expressed a desire to adjourn all meetings at a designated hour to avoid losing members who must leave the meeting or to avoid reaching a point of diminishing returns. Therefore, it is recommended that the following resolution be passed as a guide for future board meetings to adhere to during the ensuing year.

Upon the recommendation of the CSA, the Board establishes that all Board of Education meetings will end no later than 10:00 PM, including both public, and executive sessions, and further, the Board establish the practice that continuation of Board meetings beyond 10:00 PM will require a majority vote approval of the members present for each 30 minute period.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

6. **Designation of Regular Business Meeting Day**

The Board approved the following items:

Commencing at 6:30 PM unless otherwise specified.

Public Meetings - As per the attached schedule

Special Meeting – As called for by the Board President

Committee of the Whole – As called for by the Board President

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED



7. **Order of Business at Regular Meetings**

The Board approved the following items:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Open Public Meeting Statement
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Resolution for Executive Session
- V. Call to Order (reopen of public meeting at 7:30 PM)
- VI. Pledge of Allegiance
- VII. Open Public Meeting Statement
- VIII. Roll Call
- IX. Recognition and Award Presentation
- X. Superintendent's Report
- XI. Approval of Minutes
- XII. Committee Reports
- XIII. Student Report
- XIV. New Business
- XV. Hearing of Citizens on Resolutions
- XVI. Consent Agenda
- XVII. Communications
- XVIII. Unfinished Business
- XIX. Hearing of Citizens
- XX. Adjournment

and further, be it resolved that said order shall be followed unless a majority of the Board of Education shall consent to change same.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

8. **Appointment of Delegate and Alternate Delegate for State and Bergen County School Boards Associations** - Recommend the Board approve the following items:

The Board appoints Mr. Nieves, as delegate and Mr. Biamonte, as alternate delegate to represent this Board in the State and Bergen County School Boards Associations.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

9. **Cover Page of Committee of the Whole/Regular Meetings**

The Board approved the following items: Cover page for the Committee of the Whole/Regular meetings.

**Committees**

FINANCE: Chair - Christopher Garvin	Co-Chair - Albert Nieves
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: Chair – Patrick Ambrosio	Co-Chair – Joseph Biamonte
PERSONNEL: Chair - Joseph Biamonte	Co-Chair – Albert Nieves
CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION: Chair - Chris Garvin	Co-Chair – Patrick Ambrosio
POLICY: Chair – Richard Fallon	Co-Chair - Albert Nieves

**Liaison Positions**

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Chair - Albert Nieves	Co-Chair – Joseph Biamonte
MAYOR & COUNCIL: Chair - Albert Nieves	Co-Chair – Patrick Ambrosio
PTA: Chair – Joseph Biamonte	Co-Chair - Albert Nieves
POLICE: Chair – Joseph Biamonte	Co-Chair – Patrick Ambrosio
BAND PARENTS: Chair – Richard Fallon	Co-Chair – Christopher Garvin
DRUG/ALCOHOL COMMITTEE: Chair – J. Biamonte	Co-Chair – Albert Nieves
LIBRARY BOARD: Chair – Richard Fallon	Co-Chair - Albert Nieves
CLUB/FUND RAISING: Chair – Richard Fallon	Co-Chair – Albert Nieves
TECHNOLOGY: Chair – Richard Fallon	Co-Chair - Albert Nieves
ARTICULATION/MOONACHIE: Chair – C. Garvin	Co-Chair – Patrick Ambrosio
RECREATION: Chair – Patrick Ambrosio	Co-Chair - Albert Nieves
PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Patrick Ambrosio	Co-Chair – Richard Fallon
WR DISTRICT ATHLETICS – Albert Nieves	Co-Chair – Joseph Biamonte

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio  
Seconded by: Mr. Garvin  
ROLL CALL  
In favor: 5  
Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent  
MOTION CARRIED

10. **Adoption of Official Newspaper**

The Board approved the following item:

To authorize the Bergen Record be adopted as the official newspaper to be used for the advertisement of meetings, legal ads and all other necessary public notifications for the 2018-2019 school year.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio  
Seconded by: Mr. Garvin  
ROLL CALL  
In favor: 5  
Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent  
MOTION CARRIED

11. **Parliamentary Procedures**

The Board approved the following item:

To adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings and appoint the board secretary and board attorney to act as the parliamentarians for the 2018-2019 school year.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio  
Seconded by: Mr. Garvin  
ROLL CALL  
In favor: 5  
Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent  
MOTION CARRIED

12. **Board Policies/Regulations**

The Board approved the following item:

The adoption of all existing Board Policies and Regulations.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

13. **Doctrine of Necessity**

The Board approved the following item:

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Act, N.J.S.A. 18AA:12-21 et seq. was enacted by the New Jersey State Legislature to ensure and preserve public confidence in school board members and school administrators and to provide specific ethical standards to guide their conduct; and

WHEREAS, questions have arisen regarding how a Board should invoke the Doctrine of Necessity when a quorum of a board of education has conflicts of interest on a matter required to be voted upon; and

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission has provided some guidance in Public Advisory Opinion A3-98 (April 1, 1998) but finds that there is a need to repeat and clarify its opinion; and

WHEREAS, the opinion set forth that, when it is necessary for a Board to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity, the Board should state publicly that it is doing so, the reason that such action is necessary and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, the opinion further provided that if the Board must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity not just to vote, but also to form a negotiations committee because it is without even three members to serve as a committee, then the Board must determine whether to act as a committee of the whole or to choose a smaller negotiations committee from among its members after stating publicly its reason for doing so as set forth above; and

13. **Doctrine of Necessity – con't**

WHEREAS, in keeping with the Legislative purpose as set for the in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-22(a) the School Ethics Commission views public disclosure of conflicts of interest to be paramount when it is necessary to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the School Ethics Commission hereby requires Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity to adopt a resolution setting forth that they are invoking the Doctrine, the reason for doing so and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that invoke the Doctrine are directed to read the resolution at a regularly scheduled public meeting, post it where it posts public notices for 30 days and provide the Commission with a copy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission shall distribute this Resolution to the county superintendents for distribution to the school districts and charter schools, the New Jersey School Boards Association, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials and the New Jersey Education Association.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

14. **Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2018-2019**

The Board approved the following item:

WHEREAS, the Wood-Ridge Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

14. **Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement 2018-2019 – con't**

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$1,500 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C.6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C.:23-7.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C.6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$1,500 for all staff and board members.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

15. **Readopt Written Board Bylaws and Policies**

The Board approved the following item:

It has been the recommendation of our Attorney: Kenny, Gross, Kovats and Parton, that we readopt the Bylaws and Policies that are in effect now in order to have them remain in force. This adoption does not preclude the newly organized Board from amending old or adopting new policies should the need arise.

The Board approve the Wood-Ridge Board of Education, recognizing that it is responsible for providing a thorough and efficient free public education for the children of this school district, and recognizing that this Board is a non-continuous body subject to annual renewal, adopt the written Bylaws and Policies of the predecessor Board for its operation and the operation of the school district. It is understood that this Board, during its own life, may amend or repeal such Bylaws and Policies and adopt new Policies as it deems necessary.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

16. **Report on Authorized "Permitted: Pupil Records**

Our attorney specified that the Board must report annually at a public meeting exactly what types of permitted pupil records have been authorized in the Wood-Ridge School District as noted in Policy #8330.

Upon the recommendation of the CSA, the Board approves the following "permitted" pupil records to be maintained in files:

1. Information obtained from professionally acceptable standard instruments of measurement such as intelligence, aptitude and achievement tests, State Assessment Profiles, etc.
2. Data relevant to sequential acquisition of basic skill such as cumulative reading records, math flow charts, etc.
3. Data relevant to sequential acquisition of skills in specialized areas such as speech treatment, instrumental music, summer school reports, etc.

16. **Report on Authorized “Permitted: Pupil Records – con’t**

4. Records from other schools.
5. Duplicate report cards.
6. Additional personal data on cumulative record card not mandated or prohibited, provided however, that such data shall be based upon the personal observation or knowledge of the author thereof.
7. Check list of personality profile presently provided for on cumulative record cards.
8. Notation of special interests, aptitudes and activities of pupils provided for on cumulative record cards.
9. Child Study Team Reports - LDT/C, social worker, psychologist, supplementary teaching, other concerned professionals and/or agencies within or out of the school system.

Introduced by: Mr. Ambrosio

Seconded by: Mr. Garvin

ROLL CALL

In favor: 5

Opposed: 0 Mr. Monti was absent

MOTION CARRIED

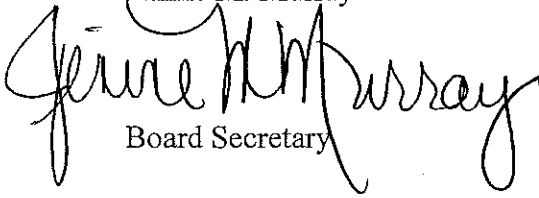
**Hearing of Citizens** – Ms. Bonnie Taylor congratulated Mr. Fallon on his new appointment to the Board, stating he is deserving of the appointment. Ms. Taylor asked about the policy approved regarding student records. Ms. Taylor was informed that Ms. Murray will address this matter with her at a later date. Ms. Taylor also asked about PAN network liason and the Boards last meeting “on record” Ms. Taylor requested the Board switch the newly assigned Parent Advisory Committee Chair and Co-Chair to Mr. Ambrosio and Mr. Fallon. The Board granted Ms. Taylor’s request and made the change.



**Adjournment**

At 7:56 p.m. upon the motion of Mr. Garvin, second by Mr. Fallon, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting.

Jenine M. Murray

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenine M. Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Board Secretary