



**Regional School District #4**  
**Chester – Deep River – Essex – Region 4**  
**JOINT BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA**

**Public – please note:**

We anticipate being able to provide a hybrid option for this meeting.

If desired, please use dial-in information to join the anticipated hybrid meeting.

To: Members of the Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 Boards of Education  
Subject: **Thursday, December 07, 2023 Joint Board Committee Meeting**  
Time: **7:00 p.m.**  
Place: **Valley Regional High School Media Center** or Dial (724) 491-2273 PIN: 496 752 823#

(We kindly ask that if participating remotely, you **please mute your phone immediately** upon connecting to the meeting as this will improve the audio quality for all participants)

**Mission Statement**

We, the communities of Chester, Deep River, Essex and Region 4, engage all students in a rigorous and collaborative educational program. We prepare our learners to be respectful citizens who are empowered to contribute in a globalized society.

**1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.**

- 1.1 The Appointed Chair of the Supervision District Committee acts as the Chair of the Joint Board of Education Committee meeting and calls the meeting to order. (The Vice-Chair of the Supervision District is the alternate in the absence of the Supervision District Chair).

**\* Chair of Supervision District rotates each Dec. – Region 4 BOE Chair is now the Supv. Dist. Chair**

- 1.2 The Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 Board of Education Chairs call their respective Boards to order and report a quorum (# of BOE members needed for a quorum)  
Chester (5 members), Deep River (5 members), Essex (4 members), Region 4 (5 members)

- 1.3 Regarding Action Items: the Chair of the Joint Board of Education meeting follows parliamentary procedure on items requiring a vote of the Joint Board of Education. All discussion shall be held with the Joint Board. The Chair of the Joint Board shall call for and record a vote by the respective Boards of Education in alphabetical order. Items are approved only with an affirmative majority vote of each respective Board of Education

**2. Consent agenda** – The following items are to be handled as combined and by single vote. Any Board member may request that an item be pulled out for further discussion.

- 2.1 Minutes of Regular Joint Board Meeting of October 05, 2023 (*encl #1*)

**3. Public comment**

The public is reminded to state name for the record. Comments should be kept to a maximum of three minutes. Public comment is not intended to be a question and answer period; rather it is an opportunity for the Committee to hear citizen comment related to educational matters

**4. Reports and Other Items:**

**4.1 Superintendent's Report** (*B. White*)

- a. District Update
- b. Information and Communication

**4.2 Assistant Superintendent's Report** (*S. Brzozowy*)

- a. General Update

**4.3 Finance Director's Report** (No reports - HOLD until next individual Board meetings) (*R. Grissom*)

#### 4.4 Other Items:

- a. Budget Themes and Overview – *B. White*

#### 4.5 Committee reports.

- a. Joint PK-12 Committees – (*Comm. Chair*) Policy – *L. Seidman*; Curriculum – *N. Johnston*; Finance – *R. Daniels*

Curriculum	Finance	Policy
Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ Noon	Oct. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ Noon	Oct. 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ Noon
Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ Noon	Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ Noon	Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 @ Noon
Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ Noon	Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ Noon	Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ Noon
Apr. 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ Noon	Apr. 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ Noon	Apr. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 @ Noon

- b. Policy committee report (8 members). (*Chair Seidman*)
- c. Finance committee report (8 members) (*R. Daniels*)
- d. Curriculum committee (9 members) (*N. Johnston*)
- e. Ad hoc committees (as needed).

#### 5. Public comment

The public is reminded to state name and town for the record. Comments should be kept to a maximum of three minutes. Public comment is not intended to be a question and answer period; rather it is an opportunity for the Boards to hear citizen comment related to educational matters.

#### 6. Future agenda items

- 6.1 Next Regular Joint BOE Meeting, February 22, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m. @ VRHS Media Center (until further notice)

#### 7. Adjournment



**Regional School District 4**  
**Chester – Deep River – Essex – Region 4**  
**Boards of Education Committees – School Year 2022-23 (Updates in Progress)**

<b><u>Joint BOE Standing Committees</u></b> (standing committees have regularly scheduled meetings)		
<b>*Joint PK-12 Policy Sub-Committee</b>	R4(Clark/Strauss) CH(Taigen/Scherber) DR(Maikowski/Grunko) ES (Seidman/TBD)	
<b>*Joint PK-12 Curriculum Sub-Comm.</b>	R4(Cavanaugh/Silva) CH(Bernardoni/Johnson) DR(McIntyre/Whelan) ES (Johnston/Russell)	
<b>*Joint PK-12 Finance Sub-Committee</b>	R4 (Clark/Daniels/Fearon) CH (Rice/Connelly) DR (Rioux/TBD) ES (Seidman/Watson)	
<b>Supervision District Committee</b> (2 yr terms end in Nov. of the year listed after each name)	R4 (Sandmann 25 / Cavanaugh 25 / Stack 25) CH (Fitzgibbons 25 / Bernardoni 25 / Greenberg-Ellis 25) DR (TBD 25 / Ferretti 25 / Maikowski 25) ES (Seidman 25 /Russell 25 / Johnston 25)	
<b><u>Joint Ad Hoc Committees</u></b> (ad hoc committees meet for a designated period or as needed)		
Personnel & Negotiations	<u>Contract duration</u>	<u>Initiate negotiations</u>
- Joint BOE Teacher negotiations	R4 (Daniels/Sandmann/Strauss) CH (Taigen) DR (TBD) ES (Watson) Expires 7/2025	6/2024
- Joint BOE Administrator negotiations	Same as ABOVE for Teacher negotiations 7/2026	Expires 9/2025
- Joint BOE Paraeducator negotiations	Same as BELOW for Net Techs et al. 7/2026	Expires 3/2026
- Joint BOE NetTechs et al negotiations (ElemSec/Elem Nurses/ElemNetTech/R4NetTEch/ElemCustodians) C - Cafeteria (all schools)	R4 (Daniels/Sandmann/Strauss) CH (Fitzgibbons) 7/2026 DR (Maikowski/Ferretti) ES (Watson) Expires 7/2025	Expires 3/2026 4/2025
Technology	R4(Seidman), CH(TBD), ES (Seidman), DR (TBD)	
School Calendar	R4(Sandmann/Daniels), CH (TBD), ES (TBD), DR (TBD)	
LEARN Joint BOE representative(s)	R4(Cavanaugh), CH(Bernardoni), ES(TBD), DR(TBD)	
School Safety Committee	R4(Cavanaugh, Daniels), CH(Greenberg-Ellis), DR(TBD), ES(TBD)	
Tuition Committee	R4(Cavanaugh/Sandmann/Daniels), CH (Johnson), DR (TBD), ES (Seidman Alt.)	
RFP Review	R4(Cavanaugh/Daniels), CH (Scherber), DR (TBD), ES (Seidman/Johnston)	
<b><u>Individual BOE Ad Hoc Committees</u></b> (ad hoc committees meet for a designated period or as needed)		
<b><u>Chester BOE</u></b>		
CATV Advisory Council (Cable TV)	For Discussion	
<b><u>Deep River BOE</u></b>		
Facilities	Ferretti	
CATV Advisory Council (Cable TV)	TBD	
<b><u>Essex BOE</u></b>		
Building	Seidman	
Essex Foundation	TBD	
CATV Advisory Council (Cable TV)	TBD	
<b><u>Region 4 BOE</u></b>		
Personnel & Negotiations	<u>Contract duration</u>	<u>Initiate negotiations</u>
▪ R4 Secretaries/Nurses	Daniels/Sandmann/Strauss Expires 7/2025	4/2025
▪ R4 Custodians	Daniels/Sandmann/Strauss Expires 7/2024	3/2024
R4 Grounds and Buildings Maintenance & Oversight Committee	Stack/Seidman (alt. Sandmann)	
JWMS Security Project Building Committee	Daniels/ Cavanaugh/ Sandmann / Stack	
R4 Educational Foundation	TBD	
Region 4 Extra compensation points committee	Clark/Daniels/Sandmann (only 1 rep needed)	
R4 Fields Renovation Advisory Committee	Strauss / Fearon / Stack / Sandmann	

**F.O.I. Compliance** – Subject to BOE approval at a future meeting

## **JOINT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**Date:** October 5, 2023

### **Regular Meeting – Valley Regional High School Media Center**

CHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION:	David Fitzgibbons, Maria Scherber, Dale Bernardoni, Jan Taigen,
DEEP RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Miriam Morrissey, Pat Maikowski, Bob Ferretti, Betsy Scholfield, Melissa McIntyre, Lenore Grunko, Alyson Whelan, Nick Rioux
ESSEX BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Lon Seidman, Mark Watson, Nancy Johnston, Cassandra Sweet
REGION 4 BOARD OF EDUCATION:	Kate Sandmann, Richard Strauss, Lon Seidman, John Stack, Alex Silva, Jennifer Clark, Lol Fearon, Jane Cavanaugh, Rick Daniels
OTHER ATTENDEES:	Brian White, Superintendent; Robert Grissom, Finance Director; Sarah Brzozowy, Assistant Superintendent; Kelley Frazier, Clerk

### **CALL TO ORDER and VERBAL ROLL CALL**

Mr. Seidman called the meeting to order at 7:12p.m

The Chairs of the Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 Boards called their respective Boards to order at 7:12pm. *Chester did not have a quorum therefore any votes taken this evening will need to be voted on by the Chester BOE at a future special meeting, date still to be determined.*

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion duly made and seconded the Deep River, Essex and Region 4 schools **VOTED** to accept the consent agenda consisting of the minutes from the regular meeting of June 1, 2023. *Chester did not have a quorum.* Abstentions: Rick Daniels

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Comment.

### **REPORTS AND OTHER ITEMS**

#### **Superintendent Update**

#### **District Update/Information and Communication**

It has been a great opening to the year. There are challenges for R4. The October 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment data will be shared at the next meeting.

#### **Assistant Superintendent Report**

#### **General Update**

Dr. Brzozowy did not have a report.

#### **Finance Director's Report**

Held until Individual Board Meetings.

## **Other Items**

### **SBAC Results Overview**

Dr. Brzozowy gave a high level overview of the SBAC results. She will go more in depth at the individual board meetings.

### **Summary of Key Provisions of the Net Techs et al. (elementary non-certified) Contract negotiated for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026.**

Mr. Seidman thanked the members of the Negotiations Committee for their hard work. Mr. White discussed the key provisions of this contract.

### **Possible VOTE to approve the Agreement Between Chester, Deep River, Essex and Regional School District No. 4 Boards of Education and Local 1303-421 AFSCME, Council 4, AFL-CIO (Net Techs et al. - Elem. Non-Certified)**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Essex, Deep River and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Agreement Between Chester, Deep River, Essex and Regional School District No. 4 Boards of Education and Local 1303-421 AFSCME, Council 4, AFL-CIO (Net Techs et al. - Elem. Non-Certified). *Chester did not have a quorum.*

### **Summary of Key Provisions of the Cafeteria (Food Workers) Contract negotiated for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2025.**

Mr. White discussed the provisions of the contract.

### **Possible VOTE to approve the Agreement Between Chester, Deep River, Essex and Regional School District No. 4 Boards of Education and Local 1303-098 Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (Cafeteria Employees)**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Essex, Deep River and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the Agreement Between Deep River, Essex and Regional School District No. 4 Boards of Education and Local 1303-098 Council 4, AFSCME, AFL-CIO (Cafeteria Employees) *Chester did not have a quorum.*

### **Discussion and possible VOTE approve the BOE Meeting calendar for Jan – Dec 2024.**

It was suggested that BOE Retreats be added to the calendar. They will be added to the calendar after dates are confirmed.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Essex, Deep River and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve the BOE Meeting calendar for Jan – December 2024 as presented. *Chester did not have a quorum.*

### **Discussion and possible VOTE to adopt the CSDE approved Flexibilities amendment to the Educator Evaluation and Support Plan (adopted by the Joint BOE on June 4, 2015) for the 2023-24 school year.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Essex, Deep River and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adopt the CSDE approved Flexibilities amendment to the Educator Evaluation and Support Plan (adopted by the Joint BOE on June 4, 2015) for the 2023-24 school year. *Chester did not have a quorum.*

## **Committee Reports**

### **Curriculum**

No Update.

### **Finance**

No Update.

## **Policy**

### **Second Reading and Possible VOTE to Adopt the following policies as recommended by the Joint BOE Policy Committee**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Deep River, Essex and Region 4 Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adopt policy #5141 and policy #3542.44 as recommended by the Joint BOE Policy Committee. *Chester did not have a quorum.*

### **Supervision District Committee Updates**

No update.

### **Ad Hoc Committees**

No update.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments made.

### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Next regular Joint BOE Meeting, December 7, 2023 @ 7:00pm @ VRHS Media Center

### **\*ADJOURNMENT:**

On motion duly made and seconded, the Essex and Deep River Boards of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:24pm. Region 4 remained in session for the following:

### **Region 4 BOE Business Only**

**Discussion and Possible VOTE to accept the donation of a Bosch router and table, and wood lathe valued in total at \$500 from Patrick Smith, to be used at the discretion of administration to benefit the VRHS Career and Technical Education students.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to accept the donation of a Bosch router and table, and wood lathe valued in total at \$500 from Patrick Smith, to be used at the discretion of administration to benefit the VRHS Career and Technical Education students.

**Discussion and Possible VOTE to approve a Unified Buddies trip to Disney World from Thursday, March 21, 2024 to March 26, 2024.**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to approve a Unified Buddies trip to Disney World from Thursday, March 21, 2024 to March 26, 2024.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION- PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-200(6)(D) OF THE GENERAL STATUTES – Contracts/negotiations re: possible sale of R4 owned property at Falls Landing/(review legal counsel's advice regarding contract questions and strategy)**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to go into Executive Session at 8:40pm re: possible sale of R4 owned property at Falls Landing/(review legal counsel's advice regarding contract questions and strategy). Mr. Grissom, Dr. Brzozowy and Superintendent White were invited in to Executive Session.

Executive Session ended at 8:50pm.

**Possible VOTE to authorize Superintendent and/or other designee (s) to draft a purchase and sale agreement related thereto to bring back to the Board at a future meeting for its review, discussion and possible vote to approve the purchase and sale agreement and send it to a Special District Meeting for final approval pursuant to Section 10-56**

No Action Taken.

**ADJOURNMENT OF REGION 4 BOE**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Region 4 Board of Education unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn at 8:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Clerk