

**Board of Education  
Upper Saddle River, New Jersey  
Board Retreat - Special Meeting  
Thursday, February 27, 2025, 8:35 a.m.**

**Minutes**

This Board Retreat-Special Meeting of the Upper Saddle River Board of Education was held in the Media Center of Cavallini Middle School of the Upper Saddle River Schools beginning at 8:35 a.m. Mrs. Gandara opened the meeting and stated that the meeting was being held in compliance with PL 1975, Chapter 232 and appropriate notice had been provided to the designated newspapers, the Borough Clerk and all interested parties requesting such notification.

Members present: Mrs. Gandara, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Ginsberg, Mr. Mehegan, Mr. Quagliani, Dr. Verducci, Mrs. Wenberg

Members absent: None

Also present: Dr. Schoen, Mrs. Imbasciani, Mr. Kaplan

Mrs. Gray made a motion, seconded by Dr. Verducci to begin the meeting at 8:35 a.m..

**Opening statement by Presiding Officer**

Mrs. Gandara

Mrs. Gandara welcomed the Board to the meeting.

**CONFIDENTIAL SESSION**

Board Members Only

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Upper Saddle River Board of Education deem it necessary to discuss legal matters, and

**WHEREAS**, the topics to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in confidential session pursuant to PL 1975, Chapter 231,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the Upper Saddle River Board of Education deem it necessary to exclude the public from the discussion, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting will be made public when the need for privacy no longer exists. Action will not be taken.

Mrs. Gray made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Mehegan to go into Executive Session at 8:36 a.m.

Mrs. Gray made a motion which was seconded by Dr. Verducci to return to the Board Retreat 8:47 a.m.

**PRESENTATION**

1. Internet Safety and Communication
  - Mr. Cazes' presentation covered essential internet safety practices, including protecting personal information, recognizing online threats and fostering responsible digital citizenship.
  - Additionally, the presentation showcased the new website and smartphone application designed to enhance communication between educators, students and parents.
  - Demonstrations highlighted key features, usability and their potential impact on improving engagement and efficiency within our community.

Mr. Cazes

**PERSONNEL**

Dr. Schoen

**A motion was made by Mrs. Gray and seconded by Mr. Mehegan to approve Personnel Consent Agenda Item A and was approved by all in attendance.**

## A. Appointments:

1. Appoint Julia Misko to the position of long term, per diem leave replacement Mathematics Teacher at Cavallini Middle School, effective on or about March 6, 2025 through June 20, 2025, subject to the criminal history records check required by law.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Dr. Schoen

- Update on goal progress and implemented changes
  - Dr. Schoen provided an update on the District's SEL goal progress and implemented changes
- Board Goals and Operations
  - The Board discussed the following topics:
    - The results of the annual Board Self-Evaluation survey
    - Traits of a high-functioning board
    - Ways to improve communication with both one another and with the community
    - Succession planning and identifying new members
    - Development and training
    - Orienting new board members
    - Setting direction/long-term planning
    - Community leadership
      - Define the role of a board member
      - Local/State/Federal
      - Religious groups
      - Quad. Town, Police, etc...

**PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE****ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Gandara

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Mehegan and seconded by Dr. Verducci at 11:18 a.m.

Dana Imbasciani, Board Secretary