School Ethics Commission Meeting
Public Session Minutes

September 22, 2026

Chairperson Roberts called the regularly scheduled meeting of the School Ethics Commission (Commission or SEC) to order at 9:35 a.m.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the State House Press Corps and the Secretary of State and filed as required by the Open Public Meetings Act.

I. Roll Call

Roll Call	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Present	X[1]	X[2]	X[3]	X	X	X	6
Absent							0

Also, in attendance were Brigid Martens, Director; Dana Jones and Jeannine Pizzigoni, staff members for the Office of School Ethics and Amna Toor, Deputy Attorney General (DAG).

II. First Public Comment

There were not any members of the public present.

III. Executive Session

At 9:38 a.m., the following Resolution was read:

Whereas, the Open Public Meetings Act (*N.J.S.A.* 10:4-6 *et seq.*) authorizes the Commission, a public body, to meet in Executive Session under certain circumstances; and

Whereas, the Open Public Meetings Act requires that the Commission adopt a Resolution at a public meeting to go into Executive Session; and

Now therefore be it resolved that, consistent with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 10:4-12(b), the Commission will adjourn to Executive Session to discuss matters which, by statute, are regarded as confidential and also to discuss matters possibly involving

[1] Commissioner Carucci attended the meeting virtually.
[2] Commissioner Finkelstein attended the meeting virtually.
[3] Commissioner Gois attended the meeting virtually

litigation: C36-25; C37-26; C38-26; C39-26; C40-26; C41-26; C42-26; C44-26; C46-26; C48-26; C49-26; C50-26; C61-26; C93-22; C107-22; C54-24; C98-25 and C99-25 (Consolidated); C15-26; C28-26; C31-26; C32-26; C33-26; C34-26 and C35-26 (Consolidated); A16-26; C73-26; C81-26; Doctrines of Necessity submitted by the Monroe Township (x2) and the Washington Township Boards of Education; and

Now therefore be it further resolved that the Commission will return to open session to conduct business at the conclusion of Executive Session.

Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the matters set forth in the foregoing Resolution.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

IV. Return to Public

At **11:40 a.m.**, a motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to return to public session for the purpose of receiving public comment/testimony, and to vote on matters discussed in Executive Session (as appropriate).

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

V. Complaints to Review

C37-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C38-26 Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C39-26 Motion was made by Dennis Roberts, and seconded by Patricia Gois, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C40-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C41-26 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C42-26 Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C44-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C46-26 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Dennis Roberts, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C48-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C49-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C50-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C61-26 Motion was made by Richard Tomko, and seconded by Mark Finkelstein, to draft a decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

VI. Decisions to Adopt as Written[4]

C93-22 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes		X	X	X	X		4
No							0
Abstention	X[5]					X[6]	2

C107-22 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

[4] Director Martens briefed the Commission on each matter.
[5] Commissioner Carucci has a conflict, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion and/or vote related to this matter.
[6] Commissioner Tomko has a conflict, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion and/or vote related to this matter.

C54-24 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C36-25 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as discussed.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C98-25 and C99-25 (Consolidated) Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the supplemental decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C15-26 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X		5
No							0
Abstention						X[7]	1

C28-26 Motion was made by Paricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X		5
No							0
Abstention						X[8]	1

C31-26 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

[7] Commissioner Tomko has a conflict, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion and/or vote related to this matter.

[8] Commissioner Tomko has a conflict, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion and/or vote related to this matter.

C32-26 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C33-26 Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as amended.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

C34-26 and C35-26 (Consolidated) Motion was made by Patricia Gois, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the decision as written.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes		X	X	X	X		4
No							0
Abstention	X[9]					X[10]	2

[9] Commissioner Carucci has a conflict, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion and/or vote related to this matter.

[10] Commissioner Tomko has a conflict, and therefore, did not participate in the discussion and/or vote related to this matter.

VII. Advisory Opinions

A16-26 Motion was made by Mark Finkelstein, and seconded by Carol E. Sabo, to adopt the advisory opinion as written and to make public.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

VIII. Administrative Dismissals

C73-26 This matter was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

C81-26 This matter was on the agenda for informational purposes only.

IX. Other Business

Doctrine of Necessity: submitted by the Monroe Township (x2) and the Washington Township Boards of Education. These matters were on the agenda for informational purposes only.

X. Minutes

Motion was made by Carol E. Sabo, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to adopt the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting (public and executive) conducted on August 25, 2026.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

XI. Second Public Comment

There were not any members of the public present.

XII. Adjournment

At 11:47 a.m., a motion was made by Carol E. Sabo, and seconded by Richard Tomko, to adjourn.

Vote

Vote	Michael Carucci	Mark Finkelstein	Patricia Gois	Dennis Roberts	Carol E. Sabo	Richard Tomko	Total
Yes	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
No							0
Abstention							0

Submitted by:

_____
Jeannine Pizzigoni

Approved by:

_____
Brigid C. Martens, Director
School Ethics Commission