



**WALL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education**  
**P.O. Box 1199 • 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Wall, NJ 07719**

April 23, 2023

Dear Wall Township Public Schools Community:

Happy Spring! The Board of Education wishes our students, staff, and families all the best as we enjoy the arrival of Spring...the season of new beginnings, renewal, transition, graduations, and celebrations. In the spirit of "new beginnings," we would like to share that our Board of Education meetings now have a fresh look.

The Board of Education is committed to holding meetings that reflect a sincere appreciation for the achievements being made by members of our District who shine academically, professionally, artistically, athletically, and civically, both as individuals and through group efforts. We have introduced different initiatives taking place across the District by sharing video montages, hosting live performances, and featuring installations presented by administrators who share the positive and innovative accomplishments occurring throughout the District every day! We hope this consistent, monthly practice at Board meetings has given our community a chance to enjoy and honor our students and staff as they demonstrate their unique talents and projects.

Starting April 25th, Board business meetings will be conducted in a new format, designed to foster the climate and culture we promote in our classrooms. The Board hopes our community will find meetings more streamlined and efficient, and the format more convenient for stakeholders to attend meetings and participate through public comment. In the past, members of the community have had an opportunity to speak and share thoughts and concerns during two public comment sections; however, those opportunities were placed mid-meeting and at the very end of the meeting. The first opportunity was limited to agenda action items only, meaning comments must only be related to issues the Board was voting on that evening. The second opportunity to speak – on any school-related matter – was at the very end of the meeting, which meant community members had to wait until the end of the meeting with no projected timeline for comment. The Board, as a whole, voted to change the conduct of the meeting to allow for public comment on any school-related matter after roll call at the beginning of the meeting. We hope this will encourage members of our community who have been unable to spend an entire evening waiting to speak to do so in a more predictable timeframe at the beginning of the meeting. We will continue to have a second public comment session on agenda action items prior to voting. Additionally, we will continue to allow for additional public comment sessions at the discretion of the Board following special presentations.

There are so many wonderful things happening in Wall schools each and every day. We hope our stakeholders embrace the efforts being made to achieve productive business meetings that reflect the pride we have for our district and our community. The Board wishes all of our students and staff the best as they head into the final part of the 2023 school year...you've got this!

All the best,

*Christine Steitz*

WTPS Board President

*Tracy Handerhan, D.Litt.*

Superintendent of Schools