



Ocean Gate Elementary School

126 W. Arverne Ave.
Ocean Gate, NJ 08740

DR. DOUG CORBETT
Superintendent

DR. CHRIS OTT
Principal

MR. KEVIN O'SHEA
Business Administrator

Main Office (732) 269-3023

Special Board of Education Meeting Announcement

Dates & Times

- Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 7:00PM
- Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:00PM

Location

- Ocean Gate Elementary School, Gym/All-Purpose Room

Purpose & Background

The Ocean Gate BOE intends to hold a public forum to gather input from parents and community members. Since the enactment of the "S2" legislation in 2018 by the State of NJ, the Ocean Gate School District has seen the amount of State Aid that it received to operate the school district decrease significantly. The district has seen its aid cut from \$951,425 in the 2019-20 school year down to \$367,362 for the current school year - a 61% decline. While there are a number of factors that go into the State formulas, the main reason for the decrease is due to the overall property value of Ocean Gate Borough increasing by over 85% during this period.

As a result of financial restraints beyond our controls, Ocean Gate faces an operational budget shortfall annually as costs continue to rise. The Board of Education has taken steps to attempt to compensate for the lost state funding which include staffing reductions, shared service agreements with other school districts for services, and utilizing surplus "rainy day" funds to balance the budget. Despite all of our best efforts, the district anticipates a large deficit for the 2026-27 school year budget.

The Board of Education continues to explore and consider options to continue educational services and avoid closure. Unfortunately, we do not have control over some foreseen and unforeseen challenges, including time restraints. Ocean Gate BOE intends to further discuss the option of having an election to ask the voters of Ocean Gate for a permanent increase to the tax levy to balance the budget during these two town hall meetings.

We look forward to sharing insights, listening to questions, and providing clarification. These meetings will be accessible via livestream, and the video will be posted afterward on our Youtube Channel. For all concerns and inquiries, please use the contact information provided below.

Mr. Richard Casey, Board President
Dr. Douglas M. Corbett, CSA
Mr. Kevin O'Shea, Board Secretary/BA

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