

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved December 18, 2018

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER:

President, Jennifer Pettinelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a subsequent moment of silence.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

Jennifer Pettinelli read the following statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is either discussed or acted upon. The Board has fully complied with the notice requirements by advertising in The Express Times and The Star-Ledger posting publicly and by notifying the Municipal Clerk of the date, time and place of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present

President, Jennifer Pettinelli
Travis Conway
Carl Johnson
Christopher McGee
Patrick Smith

Absent

Vice-President, Robert Melick
Loretta Reed

Others Present

Seth Cohen, Chief School Administrator
Tim Mantz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Meditation

President Jennifer Pettinelli read the District Mission Statement:

The mission of the Alpha Public School is to provide every student with the opportunity to receive a high quality education, in a small, personal, caring, safe and positive environment in which all students at all grade levels achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. In partnership with the parents and the community, a competent and dedicated staff guides students to develop confidence and become productive and contributing members of a constantly changing society.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved December 18, 2018

II. PRESENTATION

Mr. Cohen and Robert Miller presented the first marking period honor roll certificates.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2018 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Carl Johnson, to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2018 work session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None

V. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen told the Board that he had been in touch with the Flemington School District regarding instituting an insurance program for students who bring their Chromebooks home. Flemington simply collects \$20 per student and uses that money for replacement parts when necessary.

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Carl Johnson, to approve, on the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator, the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of **October 2018** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of **October 31, 2018**, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(a)1 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

VII. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the October 17, 2018 through November 20, 2018 current expense bill list for check numbers 18464 to 18501 totaling \$482,534.43.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved December 18, 2018

VIII. PUBLIC INPUT

None

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Carl Johnson, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:13 p.m. This executive session is expected to last about 15 minutes. The general nature of the subject matter to be discussed is Personnel, Negotiations, Student Issues, and/or Legal Matters.

It is anticipated that action pursuant to this executive session will not be taken.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alpha Borough Board of Education, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon the specified subject matter.
2. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matter will be made public upon resolution of all information discussed.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

X. RECONVENE

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Patrick Smith, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 7:16 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

XII. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cohen told the Board that the district was in the middle of parent/teacher conferences and the new schedule was working well.

Mr. Cohen provided the rationale behind motion 1.4 which was necessitated by QSAC.

Mr. Cohen said that the school did not meet the PARCC participation standard of 95% last year. He will appeal this decision as the school was at 94.8%.

ACTION ITEMS: Chief School Administrator's Recommendations

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved December 18, 2018

CONSENT AGENDA: Matters listed within the consent agenda have been referred to members of the Board of Education and/or its standing committees, for reading and study, are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion.

Consent Agenda Motion: BOARD AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the following board affairs agenda items **1.1** through **1.4**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 1.1** To approve the food service biosecurity management plan.
- 1.2** To approve the Superintendent evaluation model.
- 1.3** To approve the Nursing Services Plan.
- 1.4** To approve the modifications to all existing school curricula.

Consent Agenda Motion: BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Motion made by Christopher McGee, seconded by Carl Johnson, to approve the following business affairs agenda item **2.1**.

Motion carried by roll call vote. All members voted in the affirmative with Travis Conway abstaining.

- 2.1** To enter into a joint transportation agreement with the Pohatcong Township School District for the 2018-19 school year at a total annual cost of \$67,545.11 with terms as presented.

Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Carl Johnson, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.5**

Motion carried by roll call vote. All members voted in the affirmative with Travis Conway abstaining.

- 3.1** To approve Devon Scheier as a part-time aide for the 2018-19 school year, effective November 5, 2018, at an annual salary of \$13,671, prorated for time worked.
- 3.2** To approve Barbara Mielnick as a part-time aide for the 2018-19 school year, effective November 21, 2018, at an annual salary of \$9,114, prorated for time worked.
- 3.3** To retroactively approve Patricia Cote to perform seven hours of summer curriculum work to be paid at the contract hourly rate.
- 3.4** To approve Security Benefit as an authorized provider to offer 403(b) and 457 plans to eligible employees.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved December 18, 2018

- 3.5** To approve an increase in the substitute teacher/aide per diem to \$100, effective September 1, 2018, when any individual has exceeded 20 days in the district as a substitute teacher/aide for the school year.

Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.3**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1** To approve the following building use requests:

- 8th grade on 11/2/18 beginning at 7:00 pm in the gym for a K-4 movie night.
- Scholastic Book Fair on 12/4/18 & 12/5/18 as well as 5/14/18 & 5/15/18 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm as well as from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm on the second night in room 3.

- 4.2** To approve the following fundraiser requests:

- 8th grade to sell candy bars on 11/2/18 at movie night.
- PTO garner sponsors from 10/26/18 to 11/19/18 for a “Fun Run” each student will participate in during their gym class on November 5th & 6th.
- 8th Grade to run a “Guess the Number of Cheese Balls” in a container, for \$1 a guess, at the October 26th dance.

- 4.3** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District’s self-contained behavioral disabilities program for the 2018-19 school year at an annual tuition of \$19,520.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen told the Board he did not intend to wait until 6:00 am last Friday morning to close school and that, going forward, will make the call earlier.

Patrick Smith asked for an update regarding the architect and the school’s security upgrades. Mr. Cohen met with the architect the Friday of teacher’s convention and the firm was beginning to construct design plans.

Travis Conway said that was going to attend “Foundations for Success” on December 4th.

XIV. PUBLIC INPUT

None

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-November 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved December 18, 2018

XV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m. on a motion by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary