

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes – July 19, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approve August 16, 2022

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
Vice-President, Patrick Smith
Travis Conway
Christopher McGee
Linda Sutch

Absent

Louis Hardy
Loretta Reed

Others Present

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

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.

II. PRESENTATION

None

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III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Linda Sutch, to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2022 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Linda Sutch, to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2022 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Linda Sutch, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2022 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Jennifer Pettinelli told the Board that she received an email from a parent that had just moved out of town. The email requested that the Board allow this parent's student, who will be an 8th grader in 2022-23, to remain and finish in Alpha. Mrs. Pettinelli told the parent that Board policy would not accommodate this request.

V. OLD BUSINESS

None

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, 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 **June 2022** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of **June 30, 2022**, 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:23-2.11(b) 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.

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VII. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the June 22, 2022 through June 30, 2022 current expense bill list for check numbers 20309 to 20328 totaling \$71,239.47.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the July 1, 2022 through July 19, 2022 current expense bill list for check numbers 20329 to 20354 totaling \$206,006.96.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$44,971.93 as presented for the period June 22, 2022 through June 30, 2022 noting that Commissioner approval was not required as the year to date transfers on a cumulative basis do not exceed 10% pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

VIII. PUBLIC INPUT

None

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:05 p.m. This executive session is expected to last about 20 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

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- 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 Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 7:22 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

XI. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cohen reported that he has six applicants for the Physical Education job opening and hopes to have a candidate for hire on the August agenda.

Mr. Cohen told the Board that the CST is now complete.

ACTION ITEMS: Chief School Administrator's Recommendations

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: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.5**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 3.1** To approve the contract between the Alpha Board of Education and the Alpha Education Association setting for the terms for a new collective negotiation agreement between the parties with a term from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2025 and authorizes the Board President and Board Secretary to execute a final written collective negotiations agreement between the parties that incorporate all of the agreed upon terms.
- 3.2** To approve Susan Flanagan to perform student evaluations for the 2022-23 school year at a rate of \$300 per evaluation.
- 3.3** To approve Susan Pensack to perform LDTC services for the 2022-23 school year at an hourly rate of \$70 for services rendered, \$475 per evaluation, \$50/hr for 60 minute meetings and \$35/hr for 30 minute meetings.
- 3.4** To approve Christine Ritz to provide speech and language therapy services for the 2022-23 school year at an hourly rate of \$42 and \$400 per evaluation.
- 3.5** To approve Laura Dana to provide clinical mental health counseling for the 2022-23 school year at an hourly rate of \$75 not to exceed four hours a week.

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Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Linda Sutch, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.4**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1** To approve the placement of the identified students in the Cambridge School for the 2022-23 school year at an annual tuition of \$53,950 per student.
- 4.2** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Cambridge School for the 2022 extended school year at a tuition of \$2,810.
- 4.3** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Warren Glen Academy for the 2022-23 school year at an annual tuition rate of \$64,900.50.
- 4.4** To approve the district's non-teaching principal waiver for the 2022-23 school year.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed the parent request as described by Jennifer Pettinelli and agreed to follow policy.

XIII. PUBLIC INPUT

None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT-

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. on a motion by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary