

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 15, 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
Louis Hardy
Christopher McGee
Linda Sutch

Absent

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.

II. PRESENTATION

Mr. Cohen presented the NJSLS testing score results.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 15, 2022

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2022 work session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2022 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Jennifer Pettinelli said that Kathy Helewa contacted her saying she would be able to attend the January 17, 2023 meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen said that the district's laser cutter is now working and that the new phone installation was completed.

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER

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

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 15, 2022

VII. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the September 21, 2022 through October 18, 2022 current expense bill list for check numbers 20443 to 20493 totaling \$837,705.88.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$110,754.67 as presented for the period September 21, 2022 through October 18, 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. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cohen said that there was one HIB incident that was deemed to be unfounded.

Mr. Cohen told the Board that the NJHS induction ceremony was tomorrow, the district was having trouble finding substitute teachers and that Lori Walker did a great job covering during his week away.

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: BOARD AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the following board affairs agenda items **1.1** through **1.6**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

1.1 To approve the second reading and adoption of the revised policy & regulation 7510 "Use of School Facilities".

1.2 To approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (CMP).

1.3 To approve the Annual Maintenance Budget Amount Worksheet (M-1).

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 15, 2022

- 1.4 To approve the HIB Self-Assessment.
- 1.5 To approve the first reading of Policy 5512 “Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying”.
- 1.6 To approve the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement with law enforcement officials.

Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.3**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 3.1 To approve supplementing approximately 75% of the 2022-23 base salaries of Melissa Pecchia, Devon Scheier and Kelley Welch with ESEA Title I funds.
- 3.2 To approve J&B Therapy to provide extraordinary services for the 2022-23 school year at the hourly rate schedule outlined in the contract.
- 3.3 To approve Samantha Davis as a detention monitor for the 2022-23 to be paid at the contractual rate.

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 **4.7**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1 To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District’s behavioral disabilities program for the 2022-23 school year at an annual tuition of \$29,575.
- 4.2 To approve the placement of the identified student in the Burlington County Special Services School District’s alternative high school program for the 2022-23 school year at an annual tuition of \$27,236.
- 4.3 To approve the placement of the identified student in the Cambridge School for the 2022-23 school year at an annual tuition of \$57,200 per student.
- 4.4 To approve the completion of the bus evacuation drill on October 12, 2022.
- 4.5 To approve the following fundraiser requests:
 - PTO to conduct a popcorn fundraiser from 10/3/22 through 10/14/22 to raise money for the PTO general fund.
- 4.6 To approve the following field trips:
 - Grade 3 to the DaVinci Science Center in Allentown, PA on 5/31/23.
- 4.7 To approve the following building use requests:
 - i. PTO on 10/28/22 from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the gym and cafeteria for a Halloween Dance.
 - ii. Phillipsburg Little Liners Cheer on Mondays & Tuesdays from 10/17/22 through 11/22/22 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the cafeteria for cheer practice.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 15, 2022

- iii. AYAA on Mondays through Thursdays from 10/24/22 through 12/15/22 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the gym for practices and on 12/3/22 & 12/10/22 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm in the gym for games.

X. NEW BUSINESS

None

XI. PUBLIC INPUT

None

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:25 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 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.

XIII. RECONVENE

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Christopher McGee, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 7:39 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 15, 2022

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. on a motion by Christopher McGee, seconded by Patrick Smith.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary