

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 16, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Secretary, Tim Mantz 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.

II. OPENING STATEMENTS

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

Tim Mantz 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.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mr. Mantz administered the oath of office to the newly elected school board members and distributed the Code of Ethics.

ROLL CALL

Present

Travis Conway

Christopher McGee

Jennifer Pettinelli

Loretta Reed

Patrick Smith

Absent

Others Present

Seth Cohen, Chief School Administrator

Tim Mantz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Bob Merryman, Board Attorney

Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Meditation

OFFICIAL RESULTS OF ELECTION – November 7, 2023

The Board Secretary announced the results of the annual school election.

Election for Membership to the Board of Education:

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting Minutes-January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 16, 2024

Three-year Terms 2024-2026
Christopher McGee
Loretta Reed

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, to accept the official Election Results as presented.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Mantz invited nominations from the floor for the office of School Board President.

Christopher McGee nominated Patrick Smith to serve as Board President.

In the absence of further nominations, Mr. Mantz declared the nominations closed.

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, to elect Patrick Smith President of the Alpha Board President

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Mantz invited nominations from the floor for the office of School Board Vice-President.

Patrick Smith nominated Christopher McGee to serve as Board Vice-President.

In the absence of further nominations, Mr. Mantz declared the nominations closed.

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Travis Conway, to elect Christopher McGee Vice-President of the Alpha Board President

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ANNUAL MEETING CALENDAR

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, that the regular meetings of the Alpha Board of Education, will be held on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:00pm, in the Alpha Public School as follows:

January 16, 2024	May 21, 2024	September 17, 2024
February 20, 2024	June 18, 2024	October 15, 2024
March 19, 2024	July 16, 2024	November 19, 2024
April 16, 2024	August 20, 2024	December 17, 2024

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting Minutes-January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 16, 2024

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, that the public work session meetings of the Alpha Board of Education, will be held on the first Tuesday of each month, at 7:00pm, in the Alpha Public School as follows:

February 6, 2024	June 4, 2024	October 1, 2024
March 5, 2024	July 2, 2024	November 5, 2024
April 2, 2024	August 6, 2024	December 3, 2024
May 7, 2024	September 3, 2024	

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

III. PRESENTATION

None

IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2023 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2023 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Christopher McGee, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2023 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

V. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None

VII. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, 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 **November 2023** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23-2.11(c)4, the Board of Education certifies that as of **November 30, 2023**, 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.

VIII. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the November 29, 2023 through January 2, 2024 current expense bill list for check numbers 21106 to 21161 totaling \$890,867.95.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$19,452.84 as presented for the period November 29, 2023 through January 2, 2023 noting that Commissioner approval was not required as the year to date transfers on a cumulative basis do exceed 10% pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

IX. PUBLIC INPUT

None

X. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cohen said that the SRO was unable to start today but will begin shortly.

Mr. Cohen told the Board that the bleacher installation in the gym began today and should be finished by the end of the week.

Mr. Cohen stated that the phones were repaired and working.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting Minutes-January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 16, 2024

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 Christopher McGee, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the following board affairs agenda item **1.1**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

1.1 To approve the HIB Self-Assessment.

Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Christopher McGee, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.2**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

3.1 To accept Holly Thomas's letter of resignation effective 11/20/23.

3.2 To approve Jodie Frankle as a full-time aide for the 2023-24 school year, beginning on November 22, 2023, at a salary of \$24,990 prorated for time worked.

Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.6**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

4.1 To approve a contract with the Greenwich Township School District to provide a full-time personal aide for the identified student beginning January 2, 2024 through June 30, 2024 at a total cost of \$20,678.

4.2 To approve Jessyka Penarete to be in the district to provide therapeutic services for the identified student for the 2023-24 school year, beginning on January 3rd, at no cost to the district.

4.3 To approve the revised 2023-24 school calendar.

4.4 To approve the following fundraiser requests:

- 8th grade to conduct a bake and candy greens fundraiser on 12/1/23 to raise money for graduation.
- 8th grade to conduct a candy cane gram fundraiser from 12/11/23 through 12/20/23 to raise money for graduation.
- 8th grade class to sell root beer floats on 11/20/23 to raise money for the class.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting Minutes-January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 16, 2024

- PTO to sell cheesecakes from 11/17/23 through 11/27/23 to raise money for the general fund.
- 8th grade to conduct a bake sale/raffle basket fundraiser on 11/30/23 to raise money for the class.

4.5 To approve the following building use requests:

- NJHS on 12/6/23 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the gym for National Honor Society ceremony.
- PTO on 12/14/23, 12/15/23 and 12/19/23 during school hours in the school basement for the Holiday Shoppe.
- Spring Musical per the attached schedule.
- PTO on 12/11/23 from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm in the lobby for a fundraiser.
- PTO on 1/12/24 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the gym and cafeteria for the Winter Dance.
- AYAA from 2/19/24 through 3/28/24 Monday through Thursday from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the gym for basketball practice and games.
- AYAA on Saturdays from 2/10/24 through 3/30/24 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm in the gym for basketball games

XII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XIII. PUBLIC INPUT

Town Councilwoman Jodie Smith, on behalf of the Mayor, proposed an initiative to get Alpha students more involved with the inner workings of the Town Council to gain a perspective as to how local government functions. The concept involves having the students form their own mock council and tackle hypothetical issues that the Town Council's various departments might face.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Christopher McGee, seconded by Travis Conway, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:21 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:

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting Minutes-January 2, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved January 16, 2024

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.

XV. RECONVENE

Motion made by Christopher McGee, seconded by Travis Conway, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 7:37 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. on a motion by Christopher McGee, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary