

**Alpha Borough Public School Board of Education**  
**SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION MEETING**

**March 5, 2024 7:00 p.m.**

**Approved March 19, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER - 7:00pm**

**II. OPENING STATEMENTS**

A. Reading of the Notice of Public Meeting-

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

Vice-President, Christopher McGee

Travis Conway

Jennifer Pettinelli

Loretta Reed

Absent

President, Patrick Smith

Louis Hardy

Others Present

Seth Cohen, Chief School Administrator

Tim Mantz, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Robert Merryman, Board Attorney

Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Meditation

**III. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD** – Mr. Cohen referred to an email received regarding a confidential matter that would be discussed in executive session.

**IV. PRESENTATION** – None

**V. OLD BUSINESS** – Mr. Cohen provided an update on the camera record retention project and reviewed the lighting grant estimate.

**VI. PUBLIC INPUT** – None

**VII. WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS** – Chief School Administrator, Seth Cohen

- **OPERATIONS** – Mr. Cohen told the Board that he has been attending School Specialist Safety Training sessions, he congratulated Dylan Conway on winning a student award,

reported two out of school suspensions for the week and that he was working with the staff preparing for Parent/Grandparent Day.

- **BUDGET** – Mr. Cohen and Mr. Mantz reviewed the preliminary FY25 budget.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS** – Jennifer Pettinelli said that she heard that the district had not had consistent nurse coverage in the building for a prior week. Mr. Cohen said that it was for 1.5 days and he reviewed the building procedure should the nurse be out. He told the Board he has looked into a nursing services provider however they can run up to \$500 a day and cannot guarantee coverage whenever necessary.

Jennifer Pettinelli asked how often staff members take days off without pay and should it be Board approved. Mr. Cohen said one paraprofessional has done this and, as they are a non-teaching staff member, the Board does not need to approve that. Teachers would have to have such requests approved at the Board level.

**IX. PUBLIC INPUT** – None

## **X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Loretta Reed, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:26 p.m. This executive session is expected to last about 30 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.

## **XI. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Travis Conway, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 7:49 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

### **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Loretta Reed, to adjourn at 7:50 PM

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary