

# ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.  
Approved August 20, 2024

## I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

### CALL TO ORDER:

President, Patrick Smith 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:

Patrick Smith 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, Patrick Smith  
Vice-President, Christopher McGee  
Travis Conway  
Louis Hardy  
Jennifer Pettinelli  
Brian Williams

#### Absent

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, Patrick Smith 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-July 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Approved August 20, 2024**

**II. PRESENTATION**

None

**III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2024 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Christopher McGee, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2024 work session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

None

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Cohen said that Cooper Electric would be coming to look at the art room to gauge the feasibility of setting up a system to adequately record BOE meetings.

**VI. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, approve the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of **June 2024** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **June 30, 2024**, after review of the secretary's monthly financial report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials no major account has been over expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c4 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 Christopher McGee, seconded by Travis Conway, to approve the June 19, 2024 through June 30, 2024 current expense bill list for check numbers 21444 to 21469 totaling \$122,765.39.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes-July 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Approved August 20, 2024**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the July 1, 2024 through July 16, 2024 current expense bill list for check numbers 21470 to 21498 totaling \$209,128.32.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$15,114.54 as presented for the period June 19, 2024 through June 30, 2024 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.

**VIII. PUBLIC INPUT**

Lindsey Culcasi asked if the Board would be able to broadcast its meeting schedule through its website and social media in addition to the traditional outlets.

**IX. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Cohen was pleased to inform the Board that all five teaching vacancies have been filled. The district is still looking for another paraprofessional and a permanent substitute.

**X. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

None

**ACTION ITEMS:** Upon the recommendation of the Chief School Administrator

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 Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following board affairs agenda items **1.1** through **1.3**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**1.1** To approve the submission and acceptance of the application for “Individuals with Disabilities Education Act” (IDEA) fiscal year 2025 in the following amounts:

Basic:	\$ 71,913
Preschool:	\$ 1,902
Total Allocation:	\$ 73,815

**ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes-July 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Approved August 20, 2024**

**1.2** To approve the submission and acceptance of the application for “Elementary and Secondary Education Act” (ESEA) fiscal year 2025 in the following amounts:

Title I:	\$ 62,232
Title IIA:	\$ 7,879
Title IV:	\$ 10,000
Total Allocation:	\$ 80,111

**1.3** To approve the first reading of the following policies and regulations:

P 0141	Board Member Number and Term
P 0141.1	Board Member Number and Term-Sending District
P 1140	Educational Equity Policies
P 1523	Comprehensive Equity Plan
P 1530	Equal Employment Opportunities
P 1550	Equal Employment/Anti-Discrimination Practices
P 2200	Curriculum Content
P 2260	Equity in School and Classroom Practices
P 2411	Guidance Counseling
P 2423	Bilingual Education
R 2431.4	Prevention & Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions & Head Injuries
P&R 3160	Physical Examination
P 3211	Code of Ethics
P&R 4160	Physical Examination
P&R 5200	Attendance
P 5337	Service Animals
P 5350	Student Suicide Prevention
P 5570	Sportsmanship
P 5750	Equitable Educational Opportunity
P 5841	Secret Societies
P 5842	Equal Access of Student Organizations
P 7610	Vandalism
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations
P 8467	Firearms & Weapons
P 9181	Volunteer Athletic Coaches & Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assts
P 9323	Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition

**Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda item **3.1** through **3.6**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**3.1** To approve the support staff using 2023-24 vacation days up until August 31, 2024.

**3.2** To hire Yuney Lio-Gonzalez as a PreK teacher for the 2024-25 school year at step E, BA.

**3.3** To hire Ariana Camillo as a special education teacher for the 2024-25 school year at step E, BA pending receipt of certification.

**ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes-July 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Approved August 20, 2024**

- 3.4 To hire Bruce Lampman-Perlman as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year at step E, MA+30.
- 3.5 To hire Candy Enste as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year at step E, BA.
- 3.6 To hire Mary Richardson as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year at step E, MA.

**Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Christopher McGee, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.5**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1 To approve Ed Sorge to attend the North Facilities Training on 7/16/24 in Flanders, NJ. Cost is mileage.
- 4.2 To approve the district's 2024-25 Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan.
- 4.3 To approve the 2024-25 Nursing Services Plan.
- 4.4 To approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan SOA for 2024-25.
- 4.5 To approve the NJQSAC District Improvement Plan.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

Christopher McGee stated that the teacher's contract expires at the conclusion of the 2024-25 school year. The Board established a Negotiation Committee.

**XII. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion made by Travis Conway, seconded by Jennifer Pettinelli, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:32 p.m. This executive session is expected to last about 60 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.

**ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes-July 16, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Approved August 20, 2024**

3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

**XIV. RECONVENE**

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Brian Williams, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 8:24 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. on a motion by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Travis Conway.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz  
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary