

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved August 12, 2025

I. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER:

President, Christopher McGee 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:

Christopher McGee 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, Christopher McGee
Lindsey Culcasi
Patrick Smith
Brian Williams

Absent

Vice-President, Jennifer Pettinelli
Loretta Reed

Others Present

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

Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Meditation

President, Christopher McGee 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

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved August 12, 2025

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2025 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2025 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2025 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Christopher McGee said the Board received a thank you letter from the AEA for the Board's contribution to teacher appreciation week.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen said he still waiting to hear the start date of the playground installation.

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of **June 2025** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **June 30, 2025**, 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 Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the June 18, 2025 through June 30, 2025 current expense bill list for check numbers 22049 to 22087 totaling \$100,837.65.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved August 12, 2025

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the July 1, 2025 through July 15, 2025 current expense bill list for check numbers 22088 to 22110 totaling \$187,954.93.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$9,564.94 as presented for the period June 18, 2025 through June 30, 2025 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.

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$59,017.91 as presented for the period July 1, 2025 through July 15, 2025 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

None

IX. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cohen said that the state returned the district's HIB self-grading assessment without changes.

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 Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following board affairs agenda item **1.1**.

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 2026 in the following amounts:

Basic:	\$ 72,397
Preschool:	\$ 1,915
Total Allocation:	\$ 74,312

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved August 12, 2025

Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.9**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 3.1** To approve Kristi Horan as an ESY'25 teacher from 7/7/25 through 7/24/25 to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.
- 3.2** To approve Samantha Davis as an ESY'25 teacher, as needed, from 7/7/25 through 7/24/25 to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.
- 3.3** To approve Jennifer Truby as an ESY'25 teacher from 7/7/25 through 7/24/25 to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.
- 3.4** To approve Jodie Frankle as an ESY'25 paraprofessional from 7/7/25 through 7/24/25 to be paid at an hourly rate of \$15.49.
- 3.5** To approve Laura Griffiths as the ESY'25 nurse from 7/7/25 through 7/24/25 to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.
- 3.6** To approve Sarah Payne to perform summer IT work, not to exceed 35 hours, to be paid at the contractual hourly rate.
- 3.7** To approve Jessica Verrelli to provide speech language services for ESY'25, from July 1, 2025 through July 25, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$69.
- 3.8** To approve Melissa Bickert, Samantha Davis, Jennifer Truby, and Sarah Payne for summer IEP meetings to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.
- 3.9** To approve Newman Associates to provide School Psychologist services for the 2025-26 school year at an annual cost of \$29,000 plus an hourly rate of \$80 for additional hours that might be required.

Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.3**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 4.1** To approve the district's 2025-26 Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan.
- 4.2** To approve the 2025-26 Nursing Services Plan.
- 4.3** To approve the 2025-2026 tuition contract with the Phillipsburg School District for 81 students at an annual tuition rate of \$17,325 per student, plus prior year adjustments in the amount of (\$55,859) for a total of \$1,347,466.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen lead a discussion regarding ideas for Board goals for the 2025-26 school year. A NJSBA representative will be attending the August 5th work session to review options with the Board.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved August 12, 2025

XI. PUBLIC INPUT

None

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:21 p.m. This executive session is expected to last about 15 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 Brian Williams, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 7:34 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

Upon returning to public session, the following motion was brought forward:

Motion made by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams, to offer employment to the listed Support Staff for the 2025-2026 school year:

<u>Operations</u>			
Sorge, Reinhard	Head Custodian	12	\$64,167
Hoernlein, Charles	Custodian	12	\$38,628

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved August 12, 2025

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on a motion by Patrick Smith, seconded by Brian Williams.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary