

# Alpha Borough Public School Board of Education

## REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

September 16, 2025 7:00 p.m.

# Agenda

### I. CALL TO ORDER

### 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.

#### B. Roll Call

Lindsey Culcasi	_____
Christopher McGee	_____
Jennifer Pettinelli	_____
Loretta Reed	_____
Patrick Smith	_____
Brian Williams	_____
Vacancy	_____

#### C. Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

#### D. Silent Meditation

#### E. 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.

### III. PRESENTATION

### IV. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2025 regular meeting.

VOICE VOTE

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**V. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

- Letter of interest for open Board of Education seat from Danielle Lopazanski.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

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

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of **August 2025** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **August 31, 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.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Culcasi	_____	Williams	_____
Reed	_____	Pettinelli	_____
Smith	_____	McGee	_____

**VIII. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS**

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the August 13, 2025 through September 16, 2025 current expense bill list for check numbers 22152 to 22190 totaling \$323,468.12.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Culcasi	_____	Williams	_____
Reed	_____	Pettinelli	_____
Smith	_____	McGee	_____

**IX. PUBLIC INPUT**

Public participation shall be governed by BOE Bylaw 0167 Public Participation in Board Meetings. Public comments are invited on matters pertaining only to the agenda at this time. All participants shall be given three (3) minutes to speak and shall state their name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate.

The Board uses the public comment period as an opportunity to listen to citizen concerns, but please be aware that not all issues brought to a board meeting will be resolved this evening; rather, the Board will, in appropriate cases, delegate the authority to investigate the matter to the Superintendent or his designee.

Please let the record reflect that the BOE does not endorse your comments nor will the BOE be held liable for comments you make about a staff member, or other person, which the staff member, or other person, may consider defamatory and/or libelous, as that individual retains all rights to pursue any legal remedies against you.

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**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL, NEGOTIATIONS, STUDENT ISSUES, AND/OR LEGAL MATTERS**

In – Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

VOICE VOTE

Out – Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

VOICE VOTE

**XI. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**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 \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the following board affairs agenda items **1.1** through **1.3**.

**1.1** To approve changing October's regular meeting from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>.

**1.2** To approve the first reading of policy P5410 – Promotion and Retention.

**1.3** To approve Memorandum of Agreement with Law Enforcement.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Williams	_____
Reed	_____	Pettinelli	_____
Smith	_____	McGee	_____

**Consent Agenda Motion: BUSINESS AFFAIRS**

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the following business affairs agenda items **2.1** through **2.2**.

**2.1** To approve Glen R. Koch and Associates to provide behavioral health services for the 2025-26 school year at a rate of \$105/hr for BCBA services and \$80/hr for LBS services.

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- 2.2** To approve a memorandum of agreement with the Warren County Special Services School District for social work services for the 2025-26 school year on an as needed basis at a cost of \$75/hr.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Culcasi	_____	Williams	_____
Reed	_____	Pettinelli	_____
Smith	_____	McGee	_____

**Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS**

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.15**.

- 3.1** To approve supplementing approximately 83% of the 2025-26 base salaries of Bernard Brotzman, Camie Colucci and Jodie Frankle with ESEA Title I funds.
- 3.2** To approve Sarah Payne as a mentor to Hale Amplo for the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.3** To approve Kristine McGrath as a mentor to Claire Haney for the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.4** To approve Sherry Cerami has a part-time aide for the 2025-26 school year at an annual salary of \$16,320.
- 3.5** To approve Kimberly Mavrelos has a part-time aide for the 2025-26 school year at an annual salary of \$16,320.
- 3.6** To approve Mindy Oleszek has a part-time aide for the 2025-26 school year at an annual salary of \$16,320.
- 3.7** To approve Cora Deemer to perform 20 hours of classroom observation during the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.8** To approve Samantha Smith to perform 20 hours of classroom observation during the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.9** To approve Lorraine Veal to attend the AENJ Fall Conference on 10/27/25 & 10/28/25 in Princeton, NJ. Cost is \$165 registration and mileage.
- 3.10** To approve Yuney Lio-Gonzalez FMLA leave of absence from 8/26/25 through 3/31/26.
- 3.11** To approve Jen Truby and Samantha Davis as homebound instructors for the 2025-26 school year to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.
- 3.12** To approve Jennifer Maher as a substitute teacher for the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.13** To approve Deborah Hubler as a substitute teacher for the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.14** To approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Alpha Board of Education and the Alpha Education Association.
- 3.15** To approve the following stipend positions to be paid at the contractual amount:
- Testing Coordinator- Sarah Payne
  - Student Council- Sarah Payne
  - Dance Club- Diane Laustsen
  - Safety Patrol- Diane Laustsen
  - 8th grade advisor- Diane Laustsen & Megan Mason

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Yearbook Advisor- Sarah Payne and Kristine McGrath  
Detention- Sarah Payne  
Drama club- Diane Laustsen  
Spring Musical- Diane Laustsen  
Set Designers- Diane Laustsen  
ESL Coordinator – Pam Curatelli  
NJHS – Jen Truby  
Homework Club – Samantha Davis  
Jumpstart – Mary Richardson, Jen Truby & Kristine McGrath

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Culcasi	_____	William	_____
Reed	_____	Pettinelli	_____
Smith	_____	McGee	_____

**Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS**

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.11**.

- 4.1** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf ESY'25 program at a tuition cost of \$4,200 and personal aide cost of \$1,785.
- 4.2** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District's multiple disabilities program for the 2025-26 school year at an annual tuition cost of \$26,010 and personal aide cost of \$35,154.
- 4.3** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District's multiple disabilities program for the 2025-26 school year at an annual tuition cost of \$26,010 and personal aide cost of \$54,486.
- 4.4** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District's multiple disabilities program for the 2025-26 school year at an annual tuition cost of \$26,010.
- 4.5** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District's autistic program for the 2025-26 school year with a personal aide cost of \$13,289.28.
- 4.6** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Phillipsburg School District's learning language disability program for the 2025-26 school year at an annual tuition cost of \$21,963 and personal aide cost of \$36,288.
- 4.7** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Bonnie Brae School District for the period of 9/3/25 through 9/30/25 during the 2025-26 school year at a tuition cost of \$7,961.
- 4.8** To approve the district's non-teaching principal waiver for the 2025-26 school year.
- 4.9** To approve the following building use requests:

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- i. PTO on 10/24/25 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the gym and cafeteria for the grades 5-8 Halloween Dance.
- ii. PTO on 9/10/25, 10/8/25, 11/12/25, 1/14/26, 2/11/26, 3/11/26, 4/8/26 and 5/13/26 beginning at 6:30 pm in the art room for meetings.

**4.10 To approve the following fundraiser requests:**

- PTO to conduct an “Opt Out” fundraiser throughout the school year to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct a membership fundraiser throughout the school year to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct a magnet calendar fundraiser throughout the school year to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct a Maddalenas fundraiser form 9/18/25 through 10/24/25 to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct a “Chipotle Dine Out” on 10/4/25 to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct a bake sale beginning on 10/11/25 to raise money for the general fund.

**4.11 To approve the following field trips:**

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade to Camp Ladore in Waymart, PA on 10/1/25.
- Kindergarten to the Alpha Firehouse in Alpha, NJ on 10/9/25.
- Kindergarten to Barnyard Days at the Phillipsburg High School in Phillipsburg, NJ on 5/7/26.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to the RVCC Planetarium in Branchburg, NJ on 5/8/26.
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade Safety Patrol to Hershey Park in Hershey, PA in May 2026.
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade to Sandy Hook and the NJ Sea Grant Consortium in Highlands, NJ on 5/20/26.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade to Broadway show in New York, NY on April/May 2026.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Culcasi	_____	William	_____
Reed	_____	Pettinelli	_____
Smith	_____	McGee	_____

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

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**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to adjourn at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

VOICE VOTE