

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved November 18, 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

Vice-President, Jennifer Pettinelli

Lindsey Culcasi

Loretta Reed

Brian Williams

Absent

Patrick Smith

Others Present

Seth Cohen, Chief School Administrator

Robert Merryman, Board Attorney

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

Mr. Cohen presented on the NJSLA test scores.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 18, 2025

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 regular meeting.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2025 executive session.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None

V. OLD BUSINESS

None

VI. MONTHLY REPORTS OF BOARD SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the acceptance of the monthly financial reports of the Board Secretary and the Treasurer for the month of **September 2025** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **September 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 Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the September 17, 2025 through October 14, 2025 current expense bill list for check numbers 22191 to 22240 totaling \$728,000.37.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

VIII. PUBLIC INPUT

Paula Lopez said she is concerned with level in which the federal government will fund education and how it will affect the Alpha School and special education programs.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 18, 2025

IX. CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Cohen reviewed the district's special education costs and said that chromebooks will no longer leave the building come November.

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 Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following board affairs agenda items **1.1** through **1.5**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 1.1** To approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan (CMP).
- 1.2** To approve the Annual Maintenance Budget Amount Worksheet (M-1).
- 1.3** To approve the HIB Self-Assessment.
- 1.4** To approve the second reading and adoption of policy P5410 – Promotion and Retention.
- 1.5** To approve the attendance of Christopher McGee and Jennifer Pettinelli at the NJ School Boards Fall Workshop on 10/20/25 – 10/23/25 in Atlantic City, NJ. The cost is \$1,100 registration fee plus lodging, mileage reimbursement, meals and incidental expenses per federal rates.

Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.4**.

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

- 3.1** To approve Brianna McAleer as Jumpstart instructor for the 2025-26 school year to be paid at the contractual rate.
- 3.2** To approve Will Santowasso to perform 20 hours of classroom observation during the 2025-26 school year.
- 3.3** To accept Kim Mavrelos' letter of resignation effective 9/30/25.
- 3.4** To approve Nehmat Mcheileh as a part-time aide for the 2025-26 school year, beginning on 9/29/25, at an annual salary of \$16,320 prorate for time worked.

Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.5**.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 18, 2025

Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

4.1 To approve the placement of the identified student in the Bonnie Brae School District for the period of 10/1/25 through 10/31/25 during the 2025-26 school year at a tuition cost of \$9,637.

4.2 To approve the middle school science curriculum revision.

4.3 To approve the following building use requests:

- i. PTO on 4/17/26 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the gym and cafeteria for a PK-4 dance.
- ii. PTO on 3/20/26 during the school day in the cafeteria to provide refreshments and PTO information during Parent/Grandparent Day.
- iii. PTO on 2/17/26 from 2:45 pm to 3:15 pm, 3/3/26 from 6:45 pm to 7:45 pm, 3/10/26 from 6:45 pm to 7:45 pm and 3/13/26 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the gym and cafeteria for Eagle Escapades.
- iv. PTO on 2/20/26 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the gym and cafeteria for the “Someone Special” dance.
- v. PTO on 1/9/26 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the gym and cafeteria for the Winter Ball dance.
- vi. PTO on 12/1/25, 12/2/25 and 12/3/25 during the school day in the basement to run the Holiday Shoppe.
- vii. APS music on 12/9/25 during the school day for rehearsal and at 7:00 pm in the gym for the K-4 Winter Concert.
- viii. APS music on 12/17/25 during the school day for rehearsal and at 7:00 pm in the gym for the grades 5-8 Winter Concert.
- ix. APS music on 3/18/26 or 3/29/26 during the school day for rehearsal for the grade K-4 Spring Concert.
- x. APS music on 4/28/26 during the school day for rehearsal and at 7:00 pm in the gym for the grades 5-8 band and choir concert.
- xi. APS on 11/24/25 from 8:15 am to 12:30 pm & 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, 11/25/25 from 8:15 am to 12:30 pm & 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and 11/26/25 from 8:15 am to 11:00 am in the cafeteria for the Book Fair.
- xii. Drama Club on 10/2/25 from 2:50 pm to 3:30 pm; 10/9/25, 10/16/25, 10/23/25, & 10/30/25 from 2:50 pm to 3:30 pm; 11/13/25, 11/14/25, 11/7/25 & 11/18/25 from 2:50 pm to 4:00 pm; 11/16/25 from 2:50 to 4:00 pm and 11/20/25 beginning at 6:15 pm in the gym for rehearsals and performance.
- xiii. Dance Club on the specified dates and times from 9/25/25 through 2/5/26 in the gym for rehearsals and performance.

4.4 To approve the following fundraiser requests:

- PTO to conduct a “Panera Dine Out” fundraiser on 12/8/25 to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct the Holiday Shoppe on 12/1/25, 12/2/25 and 12/3/25 to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to conduct a “Spiritwear” fundraiser on 9/18/25 through 10/3/25 to raise money for the general fund.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting Minutes-October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Approved November 18, 2025

- PTO to sell “Boo Grams” from 10/8/25 through 10/24/25 to raise money for the general fund.

4.5 To approve the following field trips:

- PreK to the Alpha Firehouse in Alpha, NJ on 10/9/25.
- Grades 5-8 choir to the Alpha Park in Alpha, NJ on 12/5/25.
- 6th grade band to the Warren County 6th Grade All-Star Band performance at Warren Hills High School in Washington, NJ on 2/18/26.
- 5th – 8th grade choir to Songfest at Phillipsburg High School in Phillipsburg, NJ on 2/27/26.
- 5th – 8th grade band and choir to Dorney Park in Allentown, PA on 5/8/26.
- 5th – 8th grade band and choir to Alpha Park in Alpha, NJ on 5/17/26.
- 4th grade to the National Canal Museum in Easton, PA on 4/28/26.
- 5th grade to the Sterling Hill Mining Museum in Ogdensburg, NJ on 5/15/26.
- 3rd grade to the Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm in Stroudsburg, PA on 4/29/26.

X. NEW BUSINESS

None

XI. PUBLIC INPUT

None

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:44 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.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Meeting Minutes-October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved November 18, 2025

XIII. RECONVENE

Motion made by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 8:43 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m. on a motion by Loretta Reed, seconded by Brian Williams.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Mantz
Business Administrator/ Board Secretary