

Alpha Borough Public School Board of Education

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

May 19, 2026 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 _____
Craig Dunwell _____
Danielle Lopazanski _____
Christopher McGee _____
Jennifer Pettinelli _____
Loretta Reed _____
Brian Williams _____

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. REORGANIZATION

RULES FOR BOARD GOVERNANCE

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to adopt the following as they apply to the rules for board governance, for the ensuing school year 2026-2027:

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Existing policies/regulations and revisions thereto, and existing by-laws and amendments thereto.

Continuing contracts and agreements

Services of a Child Study Team: LDT/C, School Social Worker, and School Psychologist.

Section 504 grievance procedures.

District Curriculum Guides and Textbooks.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the following appointments for the 2026-2027 school year.

Board Secretary	Tim Mantz
School Treasurer	Lorraine England
Auditor	Ardito & Co., LLP.;
Board Attorney-General Counsel	Robert Merryman, Esq.;
	Apruzzese, McDermott, Mastro
	& Murphy
Insurance Agency of Record- Commercial & Liability Insurance	Brown & Brown of NJ
Insurance Agency of Record- Employee Dental Benefits	Integrity Consulting Group
Student Insurance Carrier	Bollinger Insurance, Inc.
ADA Coordinator	Tim Mantz
Custodian of Public Records	Tim Mantz
Investment Officer	Tim Mantz
District Testing Coordinator	Seth Cohen
Public Agency Compliance Officer	Seth Cohen
Attendance Officer	Seth Cohen
Right to Know Compliance Officer	Ed Sorge
Asbestos Management	R.K. Environmental

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Architect

Parette Somjen Architects

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

PERMITTED PUPIL RECORDS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the collection of mandated and permitted pupil records in order to promote the educational welfare of the pupil, pursuant to NJAC 6:3-6.3.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to designate The Express-Times as the official publication for the Alpha School District and The Star-Ledger as the official alternate newspaper in the 2026-2027 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS TRANSFERS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, and in his absence the Chief School Administrator, to transfer funds from the General Account to the Cafeteria, Payroll Salary, and Payroll Agency accounts, as needed, in the 2026-2027 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

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FINANCIAL DEPOSITORY AND CHECK SIGNATURES

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to designate PNC Bank as the official depository for school funds, in the 2026-2027 school year.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi _____	Reed _____	McGee _____
Dunwell _____	Williams _____	
Lopazanski _____	Pettinelli _____	

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the following check signatories:

<u>Account</u>	<u># of Signatures</u>	<u>Authorized Signatures</u>
General	3	Board President or Vice President; Board Secretary & Treasurer
Payroll Salary	2	Board Secretary and Treasurer
Payroll Agency	2	Board Secretary and Treasurer
Cafeteria	2	Board Secretary and Treasurer
Student Activities	2	Chief School Administrator or Principal and School Secretary

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi _____	Reed _____	McGee _____
Dunwell _____	Williams _____	
Lopazanski _____	Pettinelli _____	

PETTY CASH FUNDS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to establish the petty cash fund for the 2026-2027 school year, in the amount of \$200; to set the maximum expenditure that may be made from the funds at \$25, and, amounts in excess of \$25 must be approved by the Chief School Administrator or the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; to designate the Executive Secretary, responsible for the proper disposition of the fund; to establish the minimum time period of three (3) months in which the designated person shall report to the Alpha Board of Education the amounts disbursed from the fund, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23-2.9; and, to authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to replenish the petty cash fund if the amount falls below \$50 between board meetings.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi _____	Reed _____	McGee _____
Dunwell _____	Williams _____	
Lopazanski _____	Pettinelli _____	

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ADOPTION OF 2026-2027 SCHOOL BUDGET

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to adopt the 2026-2027 school budget, in the amount of \$8,003,255, local levy in the amount of \$4,414,540, approved by the Alpha Board of Education, on April 28, 2026; and, to empower the Chief School Administrator and Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to implement the 2026-2027 school budget pursuant to the policies and regulations of the Alpha Board of Education and the State Department of Education.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

REQUISITION OF TAXES (2026-2027 Local Levy)

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to authorize the Board Secretary to request from the Borough of Alpha the 2026-2027 certified school taxes, in the amount of \$4,414,540, to be paid to the Alpha Board of Education, pursuant to NJSA 54:4-75, as follows:

August 3, 2026	\$882,908.00
September 1, 2026	441,454.00
October 1, 2026	441,454.00
November 2, 2026	441,454.00
January 4, 2027	441,454.00
February 1, 2027	441,454.00
March 1, 2027	441,454.00
April 1, 2027	441,454.00
May 3, 2027	441,454.00
	\$4,414,540.00

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

V. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2026 regular meeting.

VOICE VOTE

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Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2026 executive session.

VOICE VOTE

VI. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. 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 **April 2026** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **April 30, 2026**, 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	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

IX. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the April 29, 2026 through May 19, 2026 current expense bill list for check numbers 22533 to 22570 totaling \$665,169.78.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve budget transfers in the amount of \$10,312.40 as presented for the period April 29, 2026 through May 19, 2026 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.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

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X. 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.

XI. 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

XII. 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: BUSINESS AFFAIRS

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

2.1 To approve a Bond Counsel Services Agreement with Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. per the fee schedule as presented.

2.2 To approve an agreement with Maschio’s Food Service, Inc. to provide operation and management of the district’s food service program for the 2026-27 school year, at a total cost of contract of \$95,503.67, for a management fee of \$10,161.79 with no guarantee

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ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

Consent Agenda Motion: PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the following personnel affairs agenda items **3.1** through **3.2**.

- 3.1** To accept the letter of resignation from Erin Lowry effective 4/28/26.
- 3.2** To approve Diane Laustsen, Melissa Bickert, Kristine McGrath and Nicholas Scaturro for summer IEP meetings, as needed, to be paid at the contractually hourly rate.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.4**.

- 4.1** To approve the placement of the identified student in the Rutgers Day School for the 2026-27 school year at an annual tuition cost of \$108,648.
- 4.2** To approve Ed Sorge to attend the 2026 ESCNJ Vendor Expo on 5/20/26 in Edison, NJ. Cost is mileage reimbursement.
- 4.3** To approve the revised 2026-2027 school calendar.
- 4.4** To approve the placement of the identified students in the Warren Glen Academy for the 2026-27 school year at an annual tuition rate of \$70,297.50 per student.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Culcasi	_____	Reed	_____	McGee	_____
Dunwell	_____	Williams	_____		
Lopazanski	_____	Pettinelli	_____		

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

XIV. PUBLIC INPUT

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XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by _____, seconded by _____, to adjourn at _____ p.m.

VOICE VOTE