

**ALPHA BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

**Work Session Meeting Minutes – May 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
Approved June 16, 2026**

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
Craig Dunwell
Danielle Lopazanski
Loretta Reed
Brian Williams

Absent

Others Present

Seth Cohen, Chief School Administrator

Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Meditation

II. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

The AEA has requested that the BOE reconsider the school calendar for 26-27 school year to make September 4, 2026 a non-school day to make Labor Day a four day weekend.

III. PRESENTATION

None

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IV. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Cohen said there is a meeting with all of the Warren County Superintendents and the County Prosecutor on June 1st to discuss strategy to combat truancy.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Kaminski and Mr. Davis spoke on behalf of the AEA to discuss the request to make September 4, 2026 a non-school day. The Board President thanked them for coming and advised that the BOE would further discuss the matter but if any change was to be made it would be at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Kaminski then expressed the gratitude of the AEA toward the BOE for friendly and affective contract negotiations and always maintaining a good working relationship between the board and the AEA.

VI. WORKSHOP DISCUSSION ITEMS

Operations: Mr. Cohen said that state testing has started and has gone well. There is no opt-out option for students.

Facilities: It was determined that a facilities tour would be taken at the beginning of the next regular meeting which would be moved to a 6:30 start to accommodate the tour. The Bond committee advised that they have met and began discussing the bond issues but have no real updates at this time.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McGee and Mrs. Pettinelli gave a brief review of the recent Warren County NJSBA meeting and advised that many of the issues we are facing are the same being reported by other schools in the county.

Mr. McGee advised that PTO would be recognizing the teachers and staff next week and that on Monday the BOE would provide a treat for them.

A date for an official “ribbon cutting” for our new playground was discussed and an agreement to do it on field day was reached.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Jennifer Pettinelli, seconded by Brian Williams, to adopt the following resolution to enter into executive session at 7:40 p.m. This executive session is expected to last about 90 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.

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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.

X. RECONVENE

Motion made by Brian Williams, seconded by Danielle Lopazanski, to reconvene the meeting to public session at 9:12 p.m.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m. on a motion by Brian Williams, seconded by Danielle Lopazanski.

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher McGee
Board President