Alpha Borough Public School Board of Education

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

September 15, 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. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2025 regular meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2025 executive session.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2025 work session meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025 work session meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025 executive session.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2026 work session meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2026 executive session.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2026 work session meeting.

VOICE VOTE

Motion made by _______________, seconded by ____________, to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2026 regular meeting.

VOICE VOTE

V. COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

VI. OLD BUSINESS

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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 **July 2026** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **July 31, 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	_____		

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 2026** and further that, in compliance with NJAC 6A:23A-16.10c3, the Board of Education certifies that as of **August 31, 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	_____		

VIII. APPROVAL OF TRANSFERS/LIST OF BILLS

Motion made by ______________, seconded by ______________, to approve the August 19, 2026 through September 15, 2026 current expense bill list for check numbers 22728 to 22771 totaling $547,835.32.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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.

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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.

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

<u>CONSENT AGENDA</u>: 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 item **1.1.**

1.1 To approve eliminating the October 6th work session and October 20th regular meeting and reschedule one regular meeting on October 13th.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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 the following resolution:

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WHEREAS, the **Alpha Borough Board of Education**, hereafter referred to as "**Educational Facility**" is a member of the School Alliance Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as "**Fund**"; and

WHEREAS, said renewal membership terminates as of July 1, 2026 at 12:01 a.m. standard time, unless earlier renewed by agreement between the Educational Facility and the Fund; and

WHEREAS, the **Educational Facility** is afforded the following types of coverages:

Workers' Compensation

Supplemental Indemnity - Workers' Compensation

Package - Property, Boiler & Machinery, General and Auto Liability, Crime, Cyber Liability, Environmental Impairment Liability

Excess Liability (AL/GL)

School Leaders Professional Liability Excess Liability (SLPL)

Excess Cyber Liability

WHEREAS, the **Educational Facility** desires to renew said membership;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The **Educational Facility** agrees to renew its membership in the **Fund** for a period of three years beginning July 1, 2026, and ending July 1, 2029 at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time, and to be subject to the coverages, operating procedures, bylaws, and other organizational and operational documents of the Fund presently existing or as from time to time amended by the Fund and/or the Department of Banking and Insurance.

2. The **Educational Facility's** Business Official, Tim Mantz, is hereby appointed as the **Educational Facility's** Fund Commissioner and is authorized to execute the renewal Indemnity and Trust Agreement thereby evidencing annexed hereto and made a part hereof and to deliver same to the **Fund** the **Educational Facility's** renewal of its membership.

2.2 To approve the following resolution:

THIS AGREEMENT, made this 15th day of September, 2026, in the County of **Warren**, State of New Jersey, by and between the School Alliance Insurance Fund, hereinafter referred to as "**Fund**", and the Governing Body of the **Alpha Borough Board of Education**, hereinafter referred to as "**Educational Facility**";

WHEREAS, the Fund seeks to provide its members with insurance coverage;

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WHEREAS, two or more educational facilities have collectively formed a joint insurance fund as is authorized and described in N.J.S.A. 18A:18B-1 *et. seq.* and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto; and

WHEREAS, the **Educational Facility** is currently a member of said **Fund**; and

WHEREAS, the **Educational Facility** has resolved to renew said membership;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is agreed as follows:

1. The **Educational Facility** hereby renews its membership in the **Fund** for a three (3) year period, beginning July 1, 2026, and ending July 1, 2029 at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard **time.**

2. The **Educational Facility** agrees to participate in the **Fund** with respect to the types of insurance stated in the Renewal of Membership Resolution.

3. The **Educational Facility** hereby ratifies and reaffirms the bylaws and other organizational and operational documents of the **Fund** and as from time to time amended by the **Fund** and/or Department of Banking and Insurance in accordance with the applicable statutes and regulations as if each and every one of said documents were re-executed contemporaneously herewith.

4. The **Educational Facility** agrees to be a participating member of the **Fund** for the period herein provided for and to comply with all of the rules and regulations and obligations associated with said membership.

5. In consideration of renewal of membership in the **Fund**, the **Educational Facility** agrees that for those types of insurance in which it participates, the **Educational Facility** shall jointly and severally assume and discharge the liability of each and every member of the **Fund** all of whom, as a condition of membership in the **Fund**, shall execute a verbatim counterpart to this Agreement. By execution hereof the full faith and credit of the **Educational Facility** is pledged to the punctual payment of any sums which shall become due to the Fund in accordance with the bylaws thereof, this Agreement or any applicable statute or regulation.

6. If the **Fund**, in the enforcement of any part of this Agreement, shall incur necessary expense or become obligated to pay attorney's fees and/or court costs, the **Education Facility** agrees to reimburse the **Fund** for all such reasonable expenses, fees and costs on demand.

7. The **Educational Facility** and the **Fund** agree that the **Fund** shall hold all monies paid by the **Educational Facility** to the **Fund** as fiduciaries for the benefit of **Fund** claimants all in accordance with applicable statutes and/or

regulations.

8. The **Fund** shall establish and maintain Trust Accounts in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18B-1 *et. seq.* and such other statutes and regulations as may be applicable.

9. The Business Official designated in the Resolution to Renew Membership is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement to renew membership.

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 **3.4.**

3.1 To approve supplementing approximately 75% of the 2026-27 base salaries of Bernard Brotzman, Jennifer Flores, Susan Lawson and Nehmat Mcheileh with ESEA Title I funds.

3.2 To approve the 2026-27 school year substitute list.

3.3 To approve Nehmat Mcheileh as a full-time paraprofessional for the 2026-27 school year at an annual salary of $26,920.

3.4 To approve the following stipend positions for the 2026-27 school year:

Testing Coordinator- Sarah Payne
Dance Club- Diane Laustsen
Safety Patrol- Diane Laustsen
8th grade Advisor- Diane Laustsen
Yearbook Advisor- Sarah Payne
Detention Monitor- Sarah Payne
Drama Club- Diane Laustsen
Spring Musical- Diane Laustsen
Set Designers- Diane Laustsen
ESL Coordinator – Pam Cutarelli
NJHS – Jen Truby
Jumpstart – Jessica Kelliher & Jen Truby
Student Council – Nick Scaturro

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

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Consent Agenda Motion: SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Motion made by _______________, seconded by _______________, to approve the following school affairs agenda items **4.1** through **4.6.**

4.1 To approve the 2026-2027 tuition contract with the Warren County Technical School District for 14 students at an annual tuition rate of $2,750 per student, plus prior year adjustments in the amount of ($23,220) for a total of $15,280.

4.2 To approve student ID: 2030311225 to be home schooled for the 2026-27 school year.

4.3 To approve Lorraine Veal to attend the "Art is Metamorphic" workshop on 10/26 & 10/27 in Princeton, NJ. Cost is $165 registration and mileage.

4.4 To accept the donation of student supplies by the Westbridge Community Church and the W.H. Walters Free Public Library.

4.5 To approve the following fundraiser requests:

- PTO to conduct a "Teacher Scoop Night" at Rita's in Stewartsville, NJ on 9/23/26 to raise money for the general fund.
- PTO to host a "Texas Roadhouse Dine to Donate Night" on 10/21/26 to raise money for the general fund.

4.6 To approve the following building use requests:

i. PTO on 9/25/26, 11/20/26, 1/29/27, 3/19/27 and 5/28/27 during lunch periods in the cafeteria for the school store.

ii. PTO on 9/18/26 from 5:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the gym and cafeteria for a Welcome Back dance.

iii. PTO on 9/17/26 throughout the day in the lobby to sell items and advertise for PTO membership.

iv. PTO on 9/9/26, 10/14/26, 11/11/26, 12/9/26, 1/13/27, 2/10/27, 3/10/27, 4/14/27 and 5/12/27 from 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm in the art room for meetings

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

XII. NEW BUSINESS

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XIII. PUBLIC INPUT

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XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by _____________, seconded by ______________, to adjourn at _____________ p.m.

VOICE VOTE