



PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Phoenixville, PA 19460

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 - 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting (TV Channel 28 and www.pasd.com)

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER The February 16, 2021 Board Meeting was held virtually via ZOOM, streamed through the district website (www.pasd.com), and broadcasted on local Channel 28. Presiding Board President, Ms. Blake Emmanuel, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

ROLL CALL

Dr. Whitehead called the Roll of the Board.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Blake Emmanuel, Board President
Ms. Michelle Schamis, Board Vice-President
Ms. Laura Reed, Board Secretary
Mr. Christopher Caltagirone

Mr. David Golberg (*arrived at 7:08 PM*)
Dr. Ayisha Sereni
Ms. Susan Turner
Mr. Jerome Weiss (*arrived at 7:30 PM*)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Jeeseley Soto

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. Alan D. Fegley, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. LeRoy Whitehead, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Jeremy Melber, Business Manager and Board Treasurer
Mr. Ken Gibson, Director of Operations and Technology
Mrs. Sandra Claus, Community Relations Coordinator

Mrs. Sylvia Rockwood, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Jessica Kilmetz, Director of Curriculum
Mr. David Ramsey, Director of Specialized Programs and Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Mrs. Lenore Filipovic, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Cabinet
Phantom TV Crew

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Board Workshop Meeting (Virtual) - February 8, 2021, 7:00 PM
- Board Executive Session (Virtual) – February 16, 2021, 6:15 PM, re: Negotiations

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Board Policy Committee (Virtual) – March 2, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee (Virtual) – March 2, 2021, 6:30 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee (Virtual) – March 3, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee (Virtual) – March 3, 2021, 7:00 PM

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

Open Public Comment – Comments on Any School Subject

At this time, the Board welcomes public comments on Any School Subject Items from residents of PASD or others who have a business or group affiliation with PASD. Comments may be emailed to boardmeeting@pasd.com. At the beginning of the comment please include the individual's name, municipality, topic to be addressed, and group affiliation, if applicable. Comments including this information will be read aloud. The reading of comments will be limited to **one** (1) - three (3) minute opportunity per individual.

Tracy Tackett, Phoenixville Borough resident, wrote regarding full time, in-person learning.

Kelly Caltagirone, East Pikeland Township resident, wrote regarding the 2020-21 proposal for in-person and virtual students.

Lisa Longo, Phoenixville Borough resident, wrote regarding mitigation strategies and returning students to in-person learning.

Kristy Schaegle, Schuylkill Township resident, wrote regarding opening schools for full-time, in-person instruction.

John Mraz, Schuylkill Township resident, wrote regarding bond re-financing, the 2019-20 financial audit, the PAEA bargaining agreement, and the forensic audit.

President Emmanuel responded to the statements and/or questions where possible. She noted that the board and administration are working to increase the amount of in-person learning where possible. Information and data are being reviewed at every level based on meeting the recommended mitigation strategies.

Dr. Fegley also responded to questions posed during open public comment.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- Board Representative to the Phoenixville Public Library Board, Ms. Soto, was not present. The Library Board report will be postponed until the March workshop.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Emmanuel requested a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Reed made the **MOTION** with Ms. Schamis seconding.

Voice vote:

Emmanuel – Yes

Caltagirone – Yes

Golberg – Yes

Reed – Yes

Schamis – Yes

Sereni – yes

Soto – not present

Turner – Yes

Weiss – Yes

MOTION carries 8-0

Board Buildings and Grounds Committee—Jerry Weiss, Chair

1. Approval of a Contract with BQ Basement Systems, Inc. to Repair Sidewalk at Phoenixville Area High School at a Cost of \$8,567.20
2. Approval of Contract with Schrader Group to Provide a Feasibility Study for Hares Hill Rd not to exceed \$19,512.

Board Curriculum Committee—Michelle Schamis, Chair

1. Approval of Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Library Materials – Phoenixville Area High School

Board Finance/Personnel Committee—Laura Reed, Chair**PERSONNEL****A. Personnel Items**

1. Approval of Personnel Report – February 2021
 - a. Resignations
 1. Retirement
 - a. Robin Bieler
 - b. Mary Dehnert
 - c. Carmela Mattison
 - d. Susan Shirk
 - e. Deborah Wallingford
 2. Professional Contract
 3. Approval of Contract
 4. Appointments
 5. Leave Requests
 6. Informational Items
 - a. Conferences
 - b. FMLA – Family Medical Leave Act
 - c. Transfer
2. Approval of Extending Frontline Software Contract to Include Recruiting and Hiring and Frontline Central at a Cost Not to Exceed \$26,368

FINANCE**B. Business Office Report**

1. Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds
January 2021
Check # 1120 (1/8/2021) - # 1238 (1/29/2021)
ACH # 202102127 (1/5/2021) - #202102246 (1/29/2021)
2. Acknowledge Receipt of the District Financial Reports – December 2020

C. Business Office Items

3. Approval of an Agreement with Gator Networking Services, Inc. for an E-Rate Contract (Internal Connections Equipment and Installation) in the amount of \$155,797 for services April 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022
4. Approval of Refunding and Restructuring of General Obligation Bond Series 2016 as Series of 2021
5. Approval of Refunding and Restructuring of General Obligation Bond Series 2016A as Series of 2021

Board Policy Report—Susan Turner, Chair

1. Policy 103—Programs—Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students
2. Policy 130—Programs—Homework
3. Policy 218.4—Pupils—Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault (NEW POLICY Required)
4. Policy 252—Pupils—Dating Violence
5. Policy 317—Employees—Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
6. Policy 709.1—Pupils—Law Enforcement Personnel on Campus
7. Policy 818.1—Operations—Legal Services
8. Policy 914—Community—Relationship with Intermediate Unit

Board Secretary's Report—Laura Reed, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Donation of Equipment to the Phantom TV Studio – Phillip & Kelsey D'Annibale
2. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) January 11, 2021 Board Workshop Meeting
 - b) January 19, 2021 Board Meeting

President Emmanuel read the retirement resolutions for Robin Bieler, Mary Dehnert, Carmela Mattison, Susan Shirk and Deborah Wallingford.

WHEREAS, Ms. Robin L. Bieler has served 37 years in education in with 31 years in Phoenixville and Mrs. Mary S. Dehnert has served 42 years in education with 32 years in Phoenixville and Mrs. Susan C. Shirk has served 22 years in education in Phoenixville and Ms. Deborah L. Wallingford has served 28 years in education with 27 years in Phoenixville as a dedicated members of the professional staff of the Phoenixville Area School District; and Mrs. Carmela Mattison, has served 24 years as a dedicated member of the support staff at Phoenixville Area School District;

WHEREAS Ms. Robin L. Bieler, Mrs. Mary S. Dehnert, Mrs. Susan C. Shirk, Ms. Deborah L. Wallingford and Mrs. Mattison have tendered their resignations from the District for the purpose of retirement.

WHEREAS The Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District wishes to recognize them for their valued service and officially record its appreciation; be it hereby,

RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District observes with regret the resignations of Ms. Robin L. Bieler, Mrs. Mary S. Dehnert, Mrs. Susan C. Shirk, Ms. Deborah L. Wallingford and Mrs. Carmela Mattison from its staff and expresses its deep appreciation for their service and dedication; and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District held on February 16, 2021, and that a copy of this resolution be presented to Ms. Robin L. Bieler, Mrs. Mary S. Dehnert, Mrs. Susan C. Shirk, Ms. Deborah L. Wallingford and Mrs. Carmela Mattison.

DISCUSSION**Dr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Finance/Treasurer**

- 2021-2022 Budget

Dr. Melber provided a brief timeline for the rest of the budget approval process. He reminded the board that at the January meeting they approved the Act 1 Resolution. The admin will present the Preliminary Budget and host a town hall meeting at the march meetings. In April the Proposed Final Budget will be up for approval and in May the board will approve the final budget.

Governor wolf recently released his proposed budget for the Commonwealth. In that budget the following was shared.

- Distribute all Basic Education Funding through student-weighted formula (Fair Funding Formula)
 - Enacted in 2016, only NEW funding flows through (Roughly 11% State-wide, 17% Phoenixville)
 - 2020-21 BEF = \$5,117,699
- Under Proposed BEF Plan
 - Distribution of Existing Funds = \$8,130,936
 - 2021-22 Increase = \$259,979
 - Total BEF = \$8,390,915 (\$3,273,246 increase)
- Special Education Funding
 - Increase of \$151,570 to \$1,778,967

He reported that Charter School Reform and Funding would create fair, predictable, and equitable funding for school district, including areas of special education and cyber charter tuition payments

- He noted that currently the Tuition Rate is flat for all special education students
- Cap student enrollment in low performing cyber charter schools

- Moratorium on new cyber charter schools
- Current Charter School Budget = \$5,296,154
 - Estimated Savings under reform = \$532,384

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

Open Public Comment – Comments on Discussion Items

At this time, the Board welcomes public comments on Discussion Items from residents of PASD or others who have a business or group affiliation with PASD. Comments may be emailed to boardmeeting@pasd.com. At the beginning of the comment please include the individual's name, municipality, topic to be addressed, and group affiliation, if applicable. Comments including this information will be read aloud. The reading of comments will be limited to one (1) - three (3) minute opportunity per individual.

No board or public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

President Emmanuel adjourned the meeting at 7:31 PM



Laura Reed
Board Secretary