



AGENDA

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 12, 2021 - 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDERThe April 12, 2021 Board Workshop Meeting was held virtually via ZOOM, the District website (www.pasd.com), and on Channel 28. Presiding Board President, Ms. Blake Emmanuel, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Blake Emmanuel, Board President

Ms. Michelle Schamis, Vice President

Ms. Laura Reed, Board Secretary

Mr. Christopher Caltagirone

Mr. David Golberg

Dr. Ayisha Sereni

Ms. Jeeseley Soto

Ms. Susan Turner

Mr. Jerome Weiss (arrived 7:05 PM)

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT

Gavin Perillo, Senior Board Representative

Aubrey Wright, Junior Board Representative

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

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

Mr. David Ramsey, Director of Specialized Program & Services

Dr. Jessica Kilmetz, Director of Curriculum

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Board Executive Session – March 15, 2021, 6:45 PM (re: Legal)
- Board Meeting (Virtual) – March 15, 2021, 7:01 PM
- Board Negotiations Session (Virtual) – March 22, 2021, 5:00 PM
- Board Negotiations Session (Virtual) – March 23, 2021, 5:00 PM
- Budget Town Hall Meeting (Virtual) – March 24, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Executive Session (Virtual) – March 24, 2021, 8:30 PM (re: Legal)
- Board Policy Committee (Virtual) – April 6, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee (Virtual) – April 6, 2021, 6:45 PM
- Board Executive Session (Virtual) – April 6, 2021, 8:30 PM (re: Confidential Student Matters)
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee (Virtual) – April 7, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee (Virtual) – April 7, 2021, 7:00 P
- Board Executive Session (Virtual) – April 12, 2021 6:30 PM (re: Legal, Confidential Student Matters and Negotiations)

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Board Executive Session – April 19, 2021, 6:15 PM (Re: Legal)
- Board Meeting – April 19, 2021, 7:00 PM
- Board Policy Committee – May 4, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee – May 4, 2021, 6:30 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee – May 5, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee – May 5, 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 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, and 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.

- Kersten Appler, PAELC parent, wrote regarding 5 day/week instruction for PAELC students.
- Nigeria & Jeff Bloczynski, PAELC parents, wrote regarding the CDC thresholds and what information does the district review when determining in-person or virtual learning options.

President Emmanuel responded to both comments.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Gavin Perillo, Senior Student Representative, shared updates from the high school which included the PSAT's and SAT's. There is a Parent/Principal forum on April 14th at 6:30PM. The deadline to order yearbooks is April 15th, with minimal copies available. The Grade 2 – 5 Science Fair is on May 11th. PASD was named one of the Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation.

Aubrey Wright, Junior Student Representative spoke about the outdoor event for diversity for PAHS community with the theme *"Where I'm From"*, on Thursday, May 27th, from periods 3 through 6. The event is for attendees to share unique cultures, dancing, food, art, etc. Food bundles are still available for pick up. Peer tutoring and NHS students will be on site to help with the distribution. Pick up areas are: High School parent drop off circle across from the football stadium as well as Bethel Baptist Church.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS***Board Buildings and Grounds Committee—Jerry Weiss, Chair***

Mr. Weiss reported that there were no voting items. Items discussed at the committee meeting included, the farmhouse, the PA Historical Society, and local ordinances. He noted the Board and Administration are working with Schuylkill Township. Mr. Gibson reported having a letter of intent for the old Kindergarten Center. There was a brief discussion on the need for a policy revision on camera usage. There was a brief discussion about the Energy Systems Manager position. Finally, community member David Lutzker spoke at the B&G meeting regarding the Phoenixville Green Team and their initiatives.

Board Curriculum Committee—Michelle Schamis, Chair

Ms. Schamis reported that the following discussion took place at the Curriculum meeting with presentations including:

Summer reading presentation was given by Dr. Kilmetz, a discussion regarding looping, as well as a presentation on the COVID-19 compensatory services update by Mr. Ramsey. Items for approval included:

BUDGETED

1. Approval of a Renewal Contract with Naviance by Hobson's for College and Career/Succession Planning for term of June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2022 at a Cost not to exceed \$9010.01. (Budgeted)
2. Approval of a Contract with Instructure for Canvas Cloud Subscription for a three-year term from July 1, 2021 through of June 30, 2024 at a Total Cost not to exceed \$98,397. (Budgeted / Federal Grant)
3. Approval of a Contract with District Management Group for the Accelerating Learning Institute Program through June 30, 2021 at a Cost not to Exceed \$26,100 (Budgeted / Federal Grant)

FEDERAL GRANT

4. Approval of an Expansion of Current Contract with Edmentum for Additional Coursework and Program Licensing at a Cost not to exceed \$16,360. (Federal Grant)
5. Approval of Agreement with Class Technologies, Inc. for Zoom Classroom Services for a Pilot Term of March 31, 2021 through August 31, 2021 and a three (3) year term of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2024 at a Total Cost not to exceed of \$52545.30. (Federal Grant)

OTHER

6. Approval of Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Library Materials – Phoenixville Area High School Library
7. Approval of an Agreement with Ginkgo Bioworks, Inc. for COVID-19 Testing for Phoenixville Area School District Employees, Staff, and Students (no cost at this time)
8. Approval of Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement with Student 2017-2018A
9. Approval of the Adoption of Approved LEA Policies, Procedures and use of School Funds for the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year
10. Approval of Summer Reading Lists for the 2021-2022 School Year
 - i. Elementary Summer Reading
 - ii. Middle School Summer Reading List
 - iii. High School Summer Reading List

There was a request for an update on the Superintendent goals that include foreign language programs. The addition of Budget, Grant-Funded or Other program notations have been added to the agenda to allow for more transparency regarding funding and budgeting.

Board Finance/Personnel Committee—Laura Reed, Chair

Ms. Reed shared a few items on the personnel report. They included staffing for Extended School Year (ESY) as well as the Stepping Up Program. There are the normal resignations, retirements and leave requests.

PERSONNEL**A. Personnel Items**

1. Approval of Personnel Report – April 2021
 - a. Resignation
 - b. Appointments
 - c. Leave Requests
 - d. Informational Items
 - Conference Requests
 - Family and Medical Leaves

Ms. Reed then shared the Business Office Report approval items. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the potential for employees to attend court hearings with the new BUSPatrol agreement.

FINANCE**B. Business Office Report**

1. Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds – March 2021
 - Check # 1351 (3/5/2021) - # 1451 (3/26/2021)
 - ACH # 202102352 (3/2/2021) - # 202102504 (3/26/2021)

Business Office Report continued

2. Acknowledge Receipt of the District Financial Reports – February 2021

C. Business Office Items**BUDGETED**

1. Approval of an Agreement with Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams for Special Education Legal Services for the 2021-2022 School Year at a Cost of \$13,000. (Budgeted)
2. Approval of the Professional Services Contract with Valbridge Property Advisors at a Cost not to Exceed \$4,000. (Budgeted)

OTHER

3. Approval of the Chester County Intermediate Unit's 2021-2022 Core Services Budget in the amount of \$31,006,260.00.
4. Approval of the Chester County Intermediate Unit's 2021-2022 Occupational Education Budget in the amount of \$29,460,271.00.
5. Approval of an Agreement with BusPatrol America, LLC for a School Bus Stop Arm Enforcement Program for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026.
6. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for a Stop Arm Signal Enforcement System with BusPatrol America, LLC, Phoenixville Borough Police Department, East Pikeland Police Department and Schuylkill Township Police Department
7. Approval to Exonerate Real Estate Parcels in Delinquency that are uncollectable due to the Removal of Mobile Homes
8. Approval of an Intent to Award the Food Services Contract with Aramark to Provide Food Services for the 2021-2022 School Year

Transportation Contracts

9. Approval of an Agreement with Krise Transportation to provide Transportation Services to PASD for a Seven Year Term beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2028 (pending solicitor approval)

Ms. Turner summarized the changes to the policies under 1st reading.

Board Policy Report—Susan Turner, Chair

1. Policy 103.1—Programs—Nondiscrimination—Qualified Students with Disabilities
2. Policy 113.1—Programs--Discipline of Students with Disabilities
3. Policy 113.2—Programs—Behavior Support
4. Policy 121—Programs—Field Trips
5. Policy 218.3—Pupils—Terroristic Threats
6. Policy 310—Employees—Abolishing a Position
7. Policy 322—Employees—Gifts *
8. Policy 325—Employee—Dressing and Grooming
9. Policy 607—Finances—Tuition Income
10. Policy 810.3—Operations—School Vehicle Drivers
11. Policy 828—Operations—Fraud *
12. Policy 915—Community—Booster Clubs *

***Additional Discussion Required**

Board Secretary's Report—Laura Reed, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) March 8, 2021 Board Workshop Meeting
 - b) March 15, 2021 Board Meeting

Ms. Reed stated that the minutes are available for review and revision. Any board member can send feedback.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- **Phoenixville Community Education Foundation**, Representative – Jerry Weiss
No report
- **Board Representative to the Chester County Intermediate Unit Board**, Representative – Michelle Schamis
Ms. Schamis reported that the CCIU board of directors held their meeting on Wednesday, March 17th via ZOOM. They reviewed a Draft of the 2021-2022 Marketplace budget. Updates were given on the school employee vaccine clinic.
- **Board Representative to the Phoenixville Public Library Board**, Representative(s) – Jeesely Soto
Ms. Soto reported that the Phoenixville Library board meet on April 5th. The board discussed the need for a diversity, equity, and inclusion committee. This committee will include community members who will work in collaboration to create a Strategic Plan. The mask policy was discussed, and appropriate mask coverings were established. It was noted that there are extra masks available at the library if one is needed to enter.

The Library Trustee vacancies were discussed. It was noted that there are two candidates for the two positions. There was a brief discussion regarding the interview process.

- **Superintendent's Report—** LeRoy G. Whitehead, Ed.D.
 - Discussion
 - Return to In-Person Board Meeting
 - Library Trustee Update
 - Approval / Appointment of Two (2) Phoenixville Public Library Board of Trustees for the Term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.
 - Enrollment Reports — Grades K-12
April 2021
Current numbers are around 3,985 which is similar to last month

There was a very lengthy discussion regarding the return to in-person board and committee meetings. President Emmanuel shared the recommendations from the solicitor on this topic.

Currently the numbers of students in each modality are:

2700 – in person

1100 – virtual

100 – hybrid format

Expenses for hosting in-person meetings at a social distance were discussed.

President Emmanuel made a **MOTION** to resume in-person School Board and Committee meetings, beginning with the workshop meeting in June, which had been temporarily suspended by a School Board vote on November 16, 2020 and in compliance with safety guidance, with the option for Board members and the public to attend either in-person or remotely, in compliance with rules under the Sunshine Act allowing opportunity for remote public participation, with such options to remain in effect until further public action by the School Board.

Mr. Weiss seconded the motion.

Mr. Golberg made a **MOTION to AMEND** requesting that the in-person meetings be limited to the May Workshop and May Board Meeting. They are not hybrid but face to face. The committee meetings would remain virtual. Dr. Sereni seconded the motion.

President Emmanuel made a **MOTION** to call the vote on the motion to amend.

MOTION FAILS 4-5

Original motion is to begin in person meetings in June (Workshop and Board only). Committee meetings will remain virtual due to spacing issues.

MOTION to table discussion and move to the May meeting with more information to make a decision for June at that time.

Ms. Turner called the vote. Golberg seconded.

Vote is to vote on vote for June beginning after a reassessment of changes in May.

Roll call

Weiss – YES

Turner – YES

Soto – No

Sereni – YES

Schamis – YES

Reed – NO

Golberg – YES

Caltagirone – NO

Emmanuel – YES

MOTION Carries 6-3

Administration will review the ability for community to speak comments with the virtual format.

DISCUSSION

Dr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Finance/Treasurer

- Proposed 2021-2022 Final Budget

President Emmanuel called for a 5-minute recess at 8:50 PM

Meeting returned at 8:57 PM.

Dr. Melber presented updated figures on the 2021-2022 Proposed General Fund Budget.

The current proposed tax increase would be 1.57% with a millage of 32.32. This is based off a median assessed value of \$138,970 which is a fair market valued home of \$296,000. The tax increase would be \$69.49 for a house of that value.

Once this is approved the budget cannot go any higher – it can only go lower.

PUBLIC COMMENT – New Business

There was not public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Authorization for Administration to Display the 2021-2022 Proposed Final Budget, Per Capita Tax, and Occupation Tax in a newspaper of General Circulation at least 10 days before the date scheduled for Final Budget Adoption.

President Emanuel requested a motion to approve the display and advertisement of the proposed 2021-2022 General Fund Operating Budget. Mr. Weiss made the **MOTION** with Ms. Reed seconding. There was no board discussion.

Voice vote:

Turner – YES

Soto – YES

Sereni – YES

Schamis – YES

Reed – YES

Golberg – NO

Caltagirone – YES

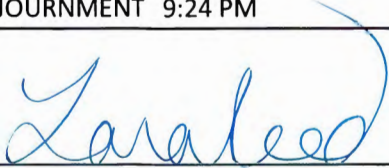
Weiss – YES

Emmanuel – YES

MOTION CARRIES

8-1

ADJOURNMENT 9:24 PM



Laura Reed
Board Secretary

PLEASE NOTE: This agenda is subject to change. The Board requests that they be made aware of anyone taping the proceedings of this meeting. ADF/ldf