



PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Phoenixville, PA 19460

SCHOOL BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING

Monday, October 11, 2021, 7:00 PM
Phoenixville Area High School
(TV Channel 28 and www.pasd.com)

CALL TO ORDER The October 11, 2021 Board Workshop Meeting was held in the cafeteria of the Phoenixville Area High School, on 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
Mr. Christopher Caltagirone

Dr. Ayisha Sereni
Ms. Jeeseley Soto (via zoom)
Ms. Susan Turner
Mr. Jerome Weiss

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. David Golberg
Ms. Laura Reed, Board Secretary

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

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

Mr. Frank Garritano, Executive Director of DEI and Schools
Mr. David Ramsey, Director of Specialized Program & Services
Dr. Jessica Kilmetz, Executive Director of Curriculum and Specialized Programs and Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Lenore Filipovic

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Board Meeting—September 20, 2021, 7:06 PM
- Board Policy Committee—October 5, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee— October 5, 2021, 6:55 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee— October 6, 2021, 6:04 PM

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Board Meeting—October 18, 2021, 7:00 PM
- Board Policy Committee – November 9, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee – November 9, 2021, 6:50 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee—November 10, 2021, 6:00 PM
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee—November 10, 2021, 7:00 PM

MOTION TO ALLOW REMOTE DELIBERATION AND VOTING:

1. Approval to Allow Board Members to Deliberate and Vote while Attending Meetings Virtually and/or remotely as Stated in Board Policy 006.1

Mr. Caltagirone made the **MOTION** to allow Board Members to deliberate and vote while attending meetings virtually and/or remotely as stated in Board Policy 006.1. Ms. Schamis seconded.

Voice vote

Caltagirone – YES

Emmanuel – YES

Golberg – absent

Schamis – YES

Sereni – YES

Soto – virtual

Turner – YES

Weiss – YES

Reed – absent

7-0 MOTION CARRIES**Open Public Comment – Comments on Any School Subject including Agenda Items**

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. At the beginning of the comment please include your name, municipality, topic to be addressed, and group affiliation, if applicable. Additionally, comments which pertain to personnel matters, individual student matters, or specifically name individuals, will not be permitted. The reading of comments will be limited to one (1) - three (3) minute opportunity per individual.

- Lisa Longo, Phoenixville Borough resident, spoke about the former Kindergarten Center at 100 School Lane, Phoenixville, and the timing of a potential vote to sell next week. She also voiced concerns about the time limit in public comments at the last B&G committee meeting.
- John Mraz, Schuylkill Twp resident, spoke about the new limitations to the public comment period for residents at committee meetings, as well as his concerns with what is not included in the minutes.
- Rachael Keim, 126 Carson Street resident, spoke about the potential sale of the Kindergarten Center and against the potential construction of townhomes at the property.
- Mark Connelly, Phoenixville resident here to represent Phoenixville Green Team, advocate for Phoenixville greenway. He requested the board slow the sale of the kindergarten center property process.
- Mary Jane Jacketti, parent of two PAHS students, spoke about the overall discussion this evening about the kindergarten center property.
- Doug Trainor, Phoenixville resident, quoted PA School Code as he requested the ability to inspect the confidential settlement agreement with Davis 2124 Kimberton Road, LLC. Also requested to inspect expenditures on athletics from fiscal year 2021.
 - Response from Solicitor Fitzgerald 4408 of the code addresses open records law -any requests for documentation as an open records request.
- Colleen McCoy – Schuylkill Township and High School/Middle School – spoke about the discussion of the sale of the 100 School Lane property.
- Dan Wiser??? (didn't say a last name) resident spoke about the Somax and the possible STEM partnership. He requested that there be a discussion regarding the kindergarten center property
- Jim Coggins, 2nd Avenue resident, spoke about the traffic issues in the neighboring streets and wants more information shared with the community.
- Chris Bowen, High School parent, spoke about the concerns of the community regarding the sale of the Kindergarten Center.

President Emmanuel clarified that the 100 School Lane agenda item is not being voted on at this time. As for the minutes, they are written per Roberts Rules. There has been board discussion in the past as to how they appear. She also noted that there are two versions of emails; group and individual emails to allow for dialogue and communication.

The parties will continue to negotiate. She noted that STEM offerings have been increased and are now offered at the Elementary level.

Regarding athletics spending, Dr. Fegley reported that there was \$171,000 spent on athletics during the 2020/2021 school year.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Buildings and Grounds Committee—Jerry Weiss, Chair

Mr. Weiss provided information on the approval and discussion items from the B&G meeting held on October 6, 2021. A recap of the discussion items at the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting included:

- First 4 items are going to be discussed next week, they were discussed at the committee meeting as well. They are being pulled from approval and will be discussion only. A full discussion for those items will be held at next week's Board meeting. Next time for potential vote in Nov 29th board meeting.
- Keystone Sports quote to replace the Washington turf field and track. They are including a 10- year warranty if they are hired to complete the annual maintenance.
- Lease agreement for 622 Hares Hill Road (annual renewal). It was reported that the lessee harvests hay and mows the property which is 16 acres from the approximate 29 acres.
- One-month extension for 10 Campbell Lane (Meadowbrook Farmhouse) and 33 W. Pothouse Road properties.

Items not for approval

- Project updates on the Barkley sidewalk project which is scheduled to be started in the next few weeks with a potential 6-day turnaround.
- Escrow account with the Phoenixville Borough has been completed and the last \$51,000 that was tied up has been received.

Mrs. Turner and Dr. Sereni requested a more public discussion which included the developers and the community so information can be shared.

Dr. Sereni made a motion to schedule a meeting to have a developers/community discussion/information session.

District Solicitor explained that the district cannot amend the agenda to include a voting item under the new revisions from the State.

There was a brief discussion regarding what type of public meeting to hold.

Dr. Sereni formally withdrew the motion for conversational purposes.

The administration was tasked with exploring a town hall discussion soon.

Mrs. Soto spoke about the current turf and questioned how long it has been in place. It was reported to have a 10-year life expectancy and it has been over 10 years (not including the COVID closure time). She was informed that money has been saved yearly in the SLEP fund to cover any future replacement or repairs. It was scheduled for replacement but was extended until this year due to the lack of use during COVID.

Mr. Caltagirone requested information on the expense to revert a turf field back to grass.

Included below are the agenda items for approval at next week's meeting. Items 1 through 4 have been pulled for future discussion.

- ~~1. Approval to Obtain an Agreement of Sale with Rockwell for the Sale of 100 School Lane Property (Kindergarten Center) at a Cost of \$3,775,000 or;~~
- ~~2. Approval to Obtain an Agreement of Sale with Toll Brothers for the sale of 100 School Lane Property (Kindergarten Center) at a Cost of \$3,900,000 or;~~
- ~~3. Approval to Obtain an Agreement of Sale with Phoenixville Borough for the sale of 100 School Lane Property (Kindergarten Center) at a Cost of \$1,800,000 or;~~
- ~~4. Approval to Obtain an Agreement of Sale with Erin Development for the sale of 100 School Lane Property (Kindergarten Center) at a Cost of 1,720,000.~~
5. Approval of an Agreement with Keystone Sports Construction for the Replacement of the Washington Field Turf and Track at a Cost not to Exceed \$702,384.02
6. Approval of a School District Farming Lease Agreement with Mark Martin (DBA M&M Farms) for the 622 Hares Hill Road Property
7. Approval of a Lease Extension for a One Month Extension for the Meadowbrook Farmhouse Property at 10 Campbell Lane
8. Approval of a Lease Extension for a One Month Extension for the 33 W. Pothouse Road Property

Board Curriculum Committee—Michelle Schamis, Chair

Ms. Schamis provided information on the items discussed at the meeting which included bullying, parent guardian awareness and mental health. Reporting for safe to say. AP reporting updates were given. Admin team has been meeting about field trips. Items for approval included:

Mr. Caltagirone reiterated the need for the reporting options for Bullying be shared with parents and students including the process and the access to these resources. Every website page will have a quick link for bullying and Safe 2 Say reporting.

1. Approval of an English Language Arts Curriculum beginning with the November 2021
 - a. Elementary
 - b. Middle School
 - c. High School
2. Approval to Hire Two (2) Additional English Language Development (ELD) teachers
3. Approval of Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Textbooks or Library Books
 - Manavon Elementary School
 - Phoenixville Area Middle School
4. Approval of an Agreement with Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health for Student Assistance Program Liaison Services for the Phoenixville Area High School and Phoenixville Area Middle School for the 2021-2022 School Year
5. Approval of the Sub-Grant Agreement for Implementation of Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) – Part B (Section 619) with the CCIU for the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.
6. Approval of the Sub-Grant Use of Funds Agreement for Implementation of Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) Part B (Section 611) between the CCIU and the Phoenixville Area School District for the Period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

Approval of Transportation/Field Trip Requests

Date	Destination	Group	Trip#
December 4, 2021	UCA Pocono Regional Pocono, PA	Phoenixville Area HS Competition Cheer Grades 9 – 12	2122055
December 12, 2021	UCA Empire Regionals Nassau Community College Garden City, NY	Phoenixville Area HS Competition Cheer Grades 9 – 12	2122056
January 16, 2022	PWCC Cheer Competition Plymouth Whitemarsh HS Plymouth Meeting PA	Phoenixville Area HS Competition Cheer Grades 9 – 12	2122059
January 28 – 29 2022	PIAA State Cheer Competition Giant Stadium Hershey, PA	Phoenixville Area HS Competition Cheer Grades 9 – 12	2122061
February 11 – 13, 2022	National Cheer Competition ESPN Zone Orlando, FL	Phoenixville Area HS Competition Cheer Grades 9 – 12	2122063

There was a brief discussion regarding Federal and Title Funds and if they are solely for PASD or if they are shared amongst charter or private schools. It was reported that per PA Code, certain funds are shared with both private schools and charter schools.

Board Finance/Personnel Committee—Laura Reed, Chair

There was no Finance meeting. The only items included on the Personnel agenda were the hiring of two new ELL positions which will be spread across four (4) buildings.

A. Personnel Items

- a. Approval of Personnel Report – September 2021
 1. Resignations
 2. Professional Contract
 3. Appointments
 4. Leave Request
 5. Volunteers
 6. Informational Items
 - a. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence
 - b. Conference Requests

Board Policy Report—Susan Turner, Chair

Ms. Turner reported that most revisions were to verbiage and that very few changes were not content based. It was agreed that the PSBA version of Policy 815 (Social Media) is much different from the one shared last meeting. It is what is being sent for board approval. This evening was 1st reading with the board meeting next week being 2nd reading.

1. Policy 002—Local Board Procedures—Authority and Powers

2. Policy 003—Local Board Procedures—Functions
3. Policy 004.1—Local Board Procedures—Ethics Act and Conflict of Interest
4. Policy 005-Local Board Procedures-Organization
5. Policy 007—Local Board Procedures—Distribution
6. Policy 012—Local board Procedures—Nepotism
7. Policy 105.2—Programs—Exemption from Instruction
8. Policy 109—Programs—Resource Materials
9. Policy 110—Programs—Instructional Supplies
10. Policy 111—Programs—Lesson Plans
11. Policy 112—Programs—School Counseling
12. Policy 815.1—Operations—Social Media (New Policy)

Board Secretary's Report—Laura Reed, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) September 13, 2021 Workshop Meeting (Draft)
 - b) September 20, 2021 Board Meeting (Draft)

2. Acceptance of a Donation of \$40,000 for a new Scholarship in memory of Norman Inferrera

Dr. Fegley provided information on the new high school scholarship which was submitted by parents a young PAHS student who was killed in a tragic boating accident. He presented the information on the new scholarship and thanked the family of Norman Inferrera and the community for making this possible. He also noted that there are resources available for those in need.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- Superintendent's Report— Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D.
- Enrollment – September 2021

Dr. Fegley reported that the enrollment numbers have gone up steadily but are still slightly lower than pre-pandemic. He does anticipate the numbers being higher by the end of the year.

Board Secretary's Report—Laura Reed, Board Secretary

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Sale of Kindergarten Center – 100 School Lane

President Emmanuel announced that the discussion period pertaining to the sale of the Kindergarten Center was being removed from the agenda for this evening.

Dr. Sereni questioned the Sunshine Law that was referenced earlier in the meeting. There was subsequent discussion regarding the legality of this decision and District Solicitor, Mr. Fitzgerald explained the new laws regarding adding/changing agendas without 24 hours' notice. He referenced the five (5) reasons to allow for such a change.

Open Public Comment – Comments on Discussion Items
Open Public Comment

At this time, the Board welcomes public comments on the Board Discussion Item – Sale of Kindergarten Center, 100 School Lane – from residents of PASD or others who have a business or group affiliation with PASD. At the beginning of the comment please include your name, municipality, and group affiliation, if applicable. Additionally, comments which pertain to personnel matters, individual student matters, or specifically name individuals, will not be permitted. The reading of comments will be limited to one (1) - three (3) minute opportunity per individual.

Doug Trainor, Phoenixville resident questioned the legal site Mr. Fitzgerald stated earlier in the meeting pertaining to a settlement agreement. There was a brief discussion regarding the Right to Know requests. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that all RTK requests must be on the appropriate form and Dr. Melber may provide documentation if appropriate.

John Mraz, Schuylkill Twp questioned when the board decided to have solicitors attend workshop and board meetings.

Lisa Longo, Phoenixville resident, commented about contacting individual board members when she was on the board

Jim Coggins, Phoenixville resident, noted that the decisions being made impact students and residents and they are not to be taken lightly.


Kimberly Wakefoose, Phoenixville resident, stated that she has emailed the board in the past and was told to attend a meeting. She noted that word of mouth is what is causing chaos.

Dr. Fegley reported that when district put out the RFP for district solicitor, it included counsel be present at two voting meetings and executive sessions.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Emmanuel adjourned the meeting at 8:17 PM.

ADF/Idf



Mr. Jerome Weiss
Board Secretary

