



PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Phoenixville, PA 19460

**August 22, 2022  
Meeting  
MINUTES**

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
Monday, August 22, 2022, 7:00 PM  
Phoenixville Area School District  
Administration Office Board Room  
(TV Channel 28 and [www.pasd.com](http://www.pasd.com))

#### MINUTES

##### OPENING

Ms. Susan Turner, Board President, Presiding called the August 22, 2022, Board Meeting to Order at 7:20 PM. The meeting was held in the Phoenixville Area School District Administration Office Board Room and broadcasted on the website and local cable Channel 28.

##### ROLL CALL

Dr. Kilmetz called the Roll of the Board

##### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Susan Turner, Board President  
Mr. Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary  
Ms. Caitlyn Carminito  
Mr. David Golberg  
Mr. Scott Overland, Board Vice President  
Ms. Michelle Schamis  
Dr. Ayisha Sereni

##### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mrs. Betsy Ruch  
Ms. Victoria Walker

##### ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. Alan D. Fegley, Superintendent  
Dr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Finance  
Mr. David Ramsey, Director of Specialized Programs and Services  
Mrs. Sandra Claus, Community Relations Coordinator  
Dr. Jessica Kilmetz, Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. Kate Pacitto, Executive Director of Curriculum and Specialized Programs and Services  
Dr. Frank Garritano, Executive Director of Schools, and DEI

##### OTHERS PRESENT

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

President Turner announced the meetings held prior to this evening as well as the upcoming meetings. She reminded the community watching of the Building Forum on the new Hares Hill Building Project scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup>.

##### ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Board Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting—August 22, 2022, 5:30 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting—August 22, 2022, immediately following Finance
- Board Meeting—August 22, 2022, 7:00 PM

## UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Board Building Committee—August 25, 2022, 5:00 PM
- Board Forum-New Building—August 30, 2022, 6:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee—September 12, 2022, 5:30 PM
- Board Policy Committee—September 12, 2022, immediately following Curriculum
- Board Meeting—September 12, 2022, 7:00 PM
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting—September 26, 2022, 5:30 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting—September 26, 2022, 6:00 PM
- Board Meeting—September 26, 2022, 7:00 PM
- Board Building Committee Meeting—September 29, 2022, 6:00 PM

President Turner welcomed, Junior Student Board Representative Elizabeth Barbash to the board and welcomed back, Scout Woronko as the Senior Representative.

Ms. Barbash announced that student schedules were just released and noted that students should reach out to their school counselor if they have any questions or issues with the schedule. She also reported that the Fall Sports season opened for athletes. She reminded parents/guardians that the Middle School and Elementary School supply lists can be found on the district website.

Other upcoming events include a teacher in-service, the ninth-grade orientation and BBQ at the high school, sixth grade walk through at PAMS and the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school for all students is the 29<sup>th</sup> of August.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE VOTING ITEMS

*Board Finance/Personnel Committee— Mrs. Betsy Ruch, Chair*

## PERSONNEL

Potential voting item for August 22, 2022

1. \*Personnel Report – August 2022
  - a) Resignations
  - b) Appointments
  - c) Leave Request
  - d) Volunteers
  - e) Informational Items
    1. Conference Requests
    2. FMLA – Family Medical Leave of Absence

Mrs. Ruch was not present, therefore, Ms. Carminito reported on the Personnel and Finance Committee meeting. She noted the items for approval on the Personnel Report which included a contract with ESS for substitute services. The remaining Finance items are scheduled for approval at the September 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

She noted that there was a presentation by Dr. Melber and a Board discussion on the Occupation Tax including a potential schedule eliminating it, potential legislative changes and pros/cons of repealing it. .

1. Approval of the Annual Contract Renewal with ESS for Substitute Employee Services for the 2022-2023 School Year

FINANCE

Business Office Report

*\*Potential Voting Items at September 12, 2022 Meeting*

1. Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds – June 2022  
Check # 3286 (6/3/2022) – Check 3406 (6/24/2022)  
ACH # 212201977 (6/3/2022) – ACH # 212202154 (6/24/2022)
2. Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds – July 2022  
Check # 3407 (7/1/2022) – Check 3532 (7/29/2022)  
ACH # 222300001 (7/1/2022) – ACH # 212200188 (7/29/2022)

3. Acknowledge the Receipt of District Financial Reports – June 2022
4. Acknowledge the Receipt of District Financial Reports – July 2022

Business Office Items

*\*Potential Voting Items at September 12, 2022 Meeting*

1. Approval of Security Services Agreement with Titanium for the 2022-2023 School Year

*Board Buildings and Grounds Committee—Mr. Jerome Weiss, Chair*

Mr. Weiss detailed the items scheduled for approval at next week's meeting. He noted that the SLEP plan is also being prioritized and is ongoing. Discussion on the sewer grinder pump and potential alternatives being looked into by the Borough. The Schrader Group provided a Phase I Feasibility Closeout presentation. The Hearing for the Sale of the Kindergarten Center (100 School Lane property) is set for October 17<sup>th</sup>

1. Approval of the Purchase of Two (2) New Mowers in the amount of \$28,401.20
2. Approval of the Complete Saniglaze Work on Schuylkill Elementary Bathrooms in the amount of \$22,200.
  - Four (4) Girls Bathrooms - Four (4) Boys Bathrooms
3. Approval of District Tree Work by Beyond The Leaf in the amount of \$24,535.
  - Retention Pond work and Storm debris on old Golf course
4. Approval of High School Elevator – Finalizing Quote
5. Approval of Turf Maintenance 2 per year – Finalizing Quote

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- Chester County Intermediate Unit Board—Michelle Schamis, Board Representative  
Mrs. Schamis noted that the enrollment at TCHS is 14% higher than last year at 2569 student. Popular programs include Auto Service and Cosmetology. The Head Start program has also increased enrollment since last year. The CCIU board ended by acting on routine items for the start of the school year. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at the CCIU Learning Center on E Lincoln Highway in Coatesville.
- Legislative Committee—Scott Overland, Board Representative  
Mr. Overland reported that there is nothing to discuss as the Federal and State level legislators are in recess.
- Superintendent's Report—Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D.  
Dr. Fegley thanked all of the summer / year-round employees for getting the buildings ready for the start of school. He noted that Krise is still hiring, but there is a full complement of drivers. He detailed the "themes" used over the past few years and noted that this year is #PASDYouBelongHere
- PSBA Election—Jerry Weiss, Board Secretary  
Mr. Weiss noted that he sent an email out on Friday 19 August 2022 with the timeline and list of candidates for the open positions. The voting is open through October. The board came to a consensus to authorize Mr. Weiss to submit the board's selection.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

*Open Public Comment – Comments on Consent Agenda Items*

At this time, the Board welcomes public comments on consent agenda items from residents of PASD or others who have a business affiliation with PASD. The sign-in sheet to comment on the consent agenda is located along the back left-hand corner of the room. Please register if you wish to speak. The sign-in sheet will be pulled just prior to the opening of the public comment period. Please include your name, municipality, topic to be addressed, and business 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

President Turner noted that there were no one signed up to speak.

She requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.



Overland – YES

Schamis – YES

Golberg – NO on item 1 and YES on all others

Carminito – YES

Sereni – YES on Curriculum 12 (field trips) and NO on all other items

Weiss – YES

Turner- YES

VOTING ITEMS  
CONSENT AGENDA

*Board Curriculum Committee—Mrs. Michelle Schamis, Chair*

Potential voting items for August 22, 2022

1. Approval of the 2022-2023 District Health & Safety Plan
2. Approval of the Emergency Instructional Time Template (Section 520.1) for the 2022-2023 School Year
3. Approval of a Reciprocal Memorandum of Understanding with Grace Valley Fellowship/Calvary Bible Church for a Use and Occupancy of Facilities for Emergency Purposes for a Term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2024
4. Approval of a Standard Education Agreement with Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health for one Special Education student for a term of July 11, 2022 through August 26, 2022
5. Approval of a Standard Education Agreement with Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health for one Special Education student for a term of July 5, 2022 through August 18, 2022
6. Approval of an Agreement of Services with CCRES to provide Educational, Instructional Support and other similar services for a term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023
7. Approval of a Clinical Affiliation Agreement with Emerson College for a term of July 22, 2022 through July 21, 2023.
8. Approval of an Enrollment Contract with Camphill Special School for the 2022-2023 School Year.
9. Approval of a Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement with Student 2021-2022C
10. Approval of a Confidential Settlement and Release Agreement with Student 2022-2023B
11. Approval of Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Textbooks or Library Books
  - Phoenixville Area High School (Mathematics Textbooks)
  - Phoenixville Area High School (Science Textbooks)
12. Approval of Transportation and Field Trip Requests

Date	Destination	Group	Trip #	Comment
<u>November 17 – 20, 2022</u>	Model UN - Princeton East Brunswick NJ	High School Model UN Club Members Grades 9 - 12	22230029	Student Funded
<u>February 16 – 19, 2023</u>	Model UN – Georgetown Washington DC	High School Model UN Club Members Grades 9 – 12	22230030	Student Funded
<u>February 15 – 20, 2023</u>	Music Department Trip to Florida Orlando, FL	High School Music Department Grades 9 – 12	22230026	Student Funded
<u>March 29 – April 11, 2023</u>	Europe Trip 2023 Italy, Germany, Austria, Croatia, Slovenia, and Hungary	High School Grades 9 – 12	22230004	Student Funded

*Board Policy Committee— Mr. David Golberg, Chair*

Potential voting items for August 22, 2022

1. Policy 118—Programs—Independent Study
2. Policy 312—Employees—Performance Assessment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
3. Policy 333.1—Employees—Grant Writers Program
4. Policy 341—Employees—Benefits for Regularly Employed Part-Time Personnel
5. Policy 343—Employees—Paid Holidays
6. Policy 810—Operations—Transportation

*Board Finance/Personnel Committee— Mrs. Betsy Ruch, Chair*

PERSONNEL

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It was noted that the ESS Contract was listed under Discussion but not on the agenda for approval. It was agreed to allow it to be brought back on September 12<sup>th</sup> for board approval

ROLL CALL VOTING ITEM

1. Approval of Strategic Plan and Superintendent Goals for the 2022-2023 School Year

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

*Open Public Comment – Comments on Roll Call Voting Subject*

President Turner opened the floor for public comment on roll call voting items from residents of PASD or others who have a business affiliation with PASD.

There was no public comment. Mr. Overland made the motion to approve the roll call voting item with Mrs. Schamis seconding the motion.

There was a very lengthy Board discussion regarding the content of the Superintendent and District Goals for 2022-2023. Items discussed included the need for a more defined timeframe to make a proper assessment for graduation requirements. Dr. Fegley clarified that the law allows regular education students who do not graduate may continue in the district until the age of 21 to finish their diploma. The new verbiage will include Before they reach their 21<sup>st</sup> birthday or is consistent with state law. Other areas discussed were Keystone Testing and how often the Superintendent should share School Safety measures with the Board and Public.

Each board member shared their thoughts. In the end it was decided to not add any additional verbiage and to strike the goal, "Administration will report to the Board, in executive session, three times per year regarding school safety measures." from above from the Superintendent Goals-

President Turner requested a roll call vote from Dr. Kilmetz to approve the 2022-2023 Strategic Plan and Superintendent Goals as agreed upon

Roll call vote  
 Schamis - YES  
 Golberg - NO  
 Carminito - YES  
 Sereni - NO  
 Weiss – YES  
 Overland – YES  
 Turner – YES

Motion passes – 5-2

Discussion

- School Safety and Security

Drs. Garritano and Fegley presented to the board and community information on the School Safety and Security plan. Dr. Garritano shared the presentation from 2 weeks ago. Some of the items in the report shows what the district currently does the following items:

- Safety Audit
- General Security
- Collaborative planning with Local Law Enforcement for emergency drills (fire, lockdown and severe weather)
- Discussions in public meetings
- Mental Health First Aid training for staff

Dr. Garritano provided answers to items discussed at the community listening session as well as providing a list of questions the board can consider when reviewing the information

The administration recommends the use of a PCCD Safety and Security grant as shared in Executive Session. The administration also recommends that the Board consider approving the other infrastructure items discussed in executive session over the next two years. These items total approximately \$330,000.

Monitoring cameras live – cost \$80,000 per year personnel expense but recommend using outside agency. The agency is responsible for training and filling-in in case of an absence. This position is for school days only and will only be used during the school year and not off hours unless the board decides otherwise. This provides district-wide coverage at one location at one rate.

Mental Health Bi-lingual Psychologist – 2 years at \$165,000  
Parent trainings \$20,000

Board discussion included the need or want of an “officer” in each building, pros/cons of metal detectors, and mental health.

After a lengthy discussion, regarding the pros and cons of the administration’s recommendations and providing armed security, the consensus of the board is to move the discussion on a School Resource Officer, School Police Officer, Armed Security, and infrastructure improvements for approval at the September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

Open Public Comment – Comments on Any School Subject

John Mraz, Schuylkill Township resident, spoke about safety and security as well as questioned how the public who live near the school buildings/fields will be notified if an emergency occurred. What are the options, and have they been tested? Mr. Mraz also commented that podium speaker’s face is not visible on video recording.

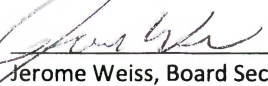
Dr. Fegley responded to the constituent’s concern with the same response the constituent had received several years ago. Informing the public is the responsibility of the police departments. Thus, they will provide all communication and notifications possibly through a reverse 911 call.

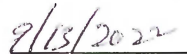
#### ADJOURNMENT

President Turner adjourned the meeting at 9:08 PM

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

  
Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary

  
Date