



**August 8, 2022
Meeting
MINUTES**

PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Phoenixville, PA 19460

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, August 8, 2022, 7:00 PM
Phoenixville Area School District
Administration office Board Room
(TV Channel 28 and www.pasd.com)

MINUTES

OPENING

Ms. Susan Turner, Board President, Presiding called the August 8, 2022, Board Meeting to Order at 7:15 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
Mrs. Betsy Ruch
Ms. Michelle Schamis
Dr. Ayisha Sereni
Ms. Victoria Walker

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Scott Overland, Board Vice President

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

Phantom TV Crew

President Turner announced the meetings held prior to this evening as well as the upcoming meetings in June

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Board Meeting—June 27, 2022, 7:00 PM
- Board Building Committee – June 29, 2022, 5:30 PM, District Administration Building
- Board Executive Session—August 3, 2022, 5:30 PM Re: School Safety & Security Procedures
- Board Curriculum Committee Meeting—August 8, 2022, 5:30 PM
- Board Policy Committee Meeting—August 8, 2022, immediately following Curriculum

UPCOMING PUBLIC 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
- Board Building Committee – August 25, 2022, 5:30 PM, District Administration Building
- Public Forum – New Building Discussion—August 30, 2022, 6:00 PM

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE VOTING ITEMS

Board Curriculum Committee—Ms. 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 Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Textbooks or Library Books
 - Phoenixville Area High School (Mathematics Textbooks)
 - Phoenixville Area High School (Science Textbooks)
11. Approval of Transportation and Field Trip Requests

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

Ms. Schamis, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, provided a summary of the discussions held at the meeting held earlier this evening. She noted the voting items discussed included the 2022-2023 District Health & Safety Plan, the 2022-2023 Emergency Instructional Time Template, the Reciprocal MOU with Grace Valley Calvary Bible Church, Two (2) agreements with Devereux Educational Services, Educational Instructional Support Agreement with CCRES, a Clinical Affiliation Agreement with Emerson College, educational services agreement with Camphill Special School and a Confidential Settlement Agreement with Student 2020-2021C. Finally book disposal requests for textbook and library book and approval of upcoming overnight field trips and transportation requests.

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

Policy Committee Chair, Mr. Golberg provided a summary of the changes for the policies addressed during the Policy Committee meeting. He noted the general scope of each policy: Policy 118 – parameters for independent stud, 312 performance metrics for Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, Policy 333.1, confirmed monetary incentives for securing grant awards, Policy 341, employee benefits, Policy 343, paid holiday for employees, and Policy 810, regarding transportation buses and walking perimeters.

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

PERSONNEL

Potential voting item for August 8, 2022

1. *Personnel Report – August 2022
 - a) Resignations
 - b) Approval of Salaries
 - c) Contracted Salaries
 - d) Appointments
 - e) Leave Request
 - f) Volunteers
 - g) Informational Items
 - a) Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence
 - b) Transfers

Finance/Personnel Committee chair, Mrs. Ruch provided a summary of the items on the personnel report being approved later this evening. She noted the resignations, salaries of professional staff; appointments of Long-term substitutes and extra pay for extra duty employees, Leave requests, building volunteers, and internal transfers.

Potential voting item for August 8, 2022

Board Secretary's Report— Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) June 13, 2022, Board Meeting
 - b) June 27, 2022, Board Meeting

Mr. Weiss reported on the board minutes being requested for approval. There were no board comments or questions.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

President Turner then opened the floor for the board representative reports.

- Phoenixville Library—Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D. on behalf of Jessica Bicker, HS Librarian
Dr. Fegley shared the Library report which included the new Officers; President, Ms. Eustis, Ms. Coy is Vice President, Mr. Koury is Secretary, and Ms. Alen is the Treasurer. He noted that a large portion of the library board discussion included how to keep the salaries competitive. On November 3 – the largest fundraiser, Wine Wit and Wisdom will be held at Rivercrest with Jasmine Guillory, best selling author of romance novels will be there signing books.
- Chester County Intermediate Unit Board—Michelle Schamis, Board Representative
Ms. Schamis noted that there is a meeting scheduled for August 17th at 7:30 PM.
- Legislative Committee—Scott Overland, Board Representative
President Turner stated that Mr. Overland will provide an updated report at the next Board Meeting on August 22nd.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (continued)

- Phoenixville Community Education Foundation—Caitlyn Carminito, Board Representative
Ms. Carminito reported that PCEF been prepping for new year. The current big projects are the PAC-a-backpack program which provides them to any K-12 PASD student in need of school supplies. She noted that families in need please contact their school office secretary or guidance office. She also reported that PCEF has brought on three (3) high school students to help with social media and marketing. They also met with all building principals to discuss potential grant needs. She reminded those listening that the first round of PCEF teacher mini grants is due September 12th.

Superintendent Report—Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D.

- Grant Funding
 - Chester County Health Department Professional Services Agreement
\$17,000 to replace filters in the HVAC system. These will be replaced in November.
 - PCCD (Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency) – Safety & Mental Health Grants
\$165,000 for school safety and \$165,000 for mental health. Admin will come back to the board at the August 22nd meeting with how the money will be spent.
- Application for Free and Reduced Lunch
Reminder to public that during the pandemic all breakfast/lunches have been free for everyone despite income level. Federal government has changed and will go back to the free/reduced lunch program please apply if you believe your household income meets the requirements. You must apply for it. If approved, you may be eligible for other federal programs.
- State Budget Update
The State approved the 2022-2023 Budget recently with PASD scheduled to receive an additional \$600,000 in Basic Education Funding, and \$80,800 above the typical special education allocation. The State then passed a law that special education students who are twenty-one are now eligible to apply for schooling for one mor year. Unfortunately, even if one student applies and is approved, all those additional special education funds would be then allocated to that student's education.
- Strategic Plan/Superintendent Goals
President Turner reminded the board they will be given an opportunity to review the first draft of the Strategic Plan and the Superintendent Goals. She also noted that they would be posted on the district website for public review. It will be a roll call voting item at the next board meeting on August 22nd.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION

Open Public Comment – Comments on Consent Agenda Items

President Turner opened the floor for public comment on consent agenda items. She noted that the board is enforcing the pre-meeting signup requirement and that no additional comments would be accepted. This decision had been announced at previous meetings and it is now included on the agenda. It is for consistency purposes for all public Board meetings. No one signed up for this Public Comment period

VOTE
CONSENT AGENDA

President Turner requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Walker made the motion with Mr Weiss seconding.

Dr. Kilmetz called the roll.

Overland – not present

Ruch – YES

Schamis – YES

Goldberg – YES

Carminito – YES

Sereni – NO
 Walker – YES
 Weiss- YES
 Turner - YES
 MOTION carries 7-1 (Sereni)

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

PERSONNEL

1. *Personnel Report – August 2022
 - a. Resignations
 - b. Approval of Salaries
 - c. Contracted Salaries
 - d. Appointments
 - e. Leave Request
 - f. Volunteers
 - g. Informational Items
 - a. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence
 - b. Transfers

Board Secretary's Report— Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) June 13, 2022, Board Meeting
 - b) June 27, 2022, Board Meeting

Board Buildings & Grounds— Jerome Weiss, Chair

1. Acceptance of \$17,000 Grant for the Procurement and Installation of MERV 13 HVAC Air Filters for a term of August 17, 2022 through November 30, 2022 with the Chester County Health Department.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION ON ROLL CALL VOTING ITEMS

There were no public comments for roll call items.

ROLL CALL VOTING ITEM

Mr. Fitzgerald, School Solicitor, announced that the district needs as per School Code evidence of the transaction of the leased computers and continued lease agreement. Item number one fulfills the procurement requirement of School Code, while item two fulfills the financing portion. He also noted that the lease is also an extension of the original lease / purchase agreement from 2020.

Item three is the assessment document showing the tax assessment appeals filed on behalf of the school district.

Approval of Lease Proposal

Approval of Technology Purchase

1. Approve the purchase by the District of the computers and related equipment subject of the Proposal in the aggregate amount of \$1,156,276 issued by [Dell Financial Services, L.L.C.] [Dell-Technologies] through COSTARS 3 IT Hardware Contract (COSTARS 003-051) comprised of the Dell Latitude 3120 (1300 units at \$603 per unit for \$783,900), the Dell Latitude 5530 (165 units at \$1,374,40 per unit for \$226,776) and the Dell Latitude 3310 (200 units at \$728 per unit for \$145,600).

Approval of the terms and conditions of that certain Lease Proposal through CoStars 3 IT Hardware Contract No. COSTARS 003-051 dated July 15, 2022 (the "**Proposal**") issued by Dell Financial Services, L.L.C. to Phoenixville Area School District (the "**District**") and the terms of that certain Lease Purchase Schedule No. 810-6829484-002 dated August 8, 2022 to Master Lease Agreement No. 598978-66816 (together with all schedules thereto, the "**Lease Schedule**"), with respect to the proposed lease by the District, on a tax exempt basis, of approximately \$1,156,276 of computers and related equipment. Such approval of the Lease Schedule shall be subject in all respects to: (a) the

(Roll Call items Continued)

District's solicitor's review and final approval of the Lease Schedule, and all documents, instruments and agreements memorializing the Proposal (the "**Lease Documents**"); and (b) that the terms and conditions set forth in the Lease Documents are substantially similar to the Proposal.

Assessment Appeals:

2. The Board of School Directors hereby authorizes the District Administration, in consultation with the Solicitor's office, to file District initiated Tax Assessment Appeals for the 2022-2023 fiscal year for properties that meet the criteria for appeals under Policy 615.1. In authorizing the Administration herein, the School District shall file an appeal with the county's Board of Assessment Appeals. Filing a further appeal beyond the Assessment Board level shall be at the discretion and separate approval of the School Board.

President Turner requested a motion to approve the three roll call voting items. Mrs. Schamis made the motion with Ms. Walker seconding.

Dr. Kilmetz took a roll call vote:

Schamis - YES

Golberg – NO

Carminito – YES

Sereni – NO

Walker – Yes

Weiss – Yes

Overland – not present

Ruch – YES

Turner – YES

Motion pass 6-2

Board Listening Session – Will begin no earlier than 7:30 PM

SCHOOL SAFETY

- Board Presentation - Dr. Frank Garritano

President Turner opened the floor for Dr. Frank Garritano who shared information on the recent safety audit and safety planning with an overview of the drills, and safety planning strategies. He noted that specific details of the trainings, and response / planning will not be shared publicly.

Dr. Garritano answered questions posed by the board. There was then a full board discussion /comment period.

President Turner opened the floor for public comments on the topic of School Safety.

Lisa Longo, Phoenixville resident, spoke about mental health and other at-risk student situations. She felt that law enforcement should have been present to hear the public's thoughts.

Carol Bouche, Phoenixville Borough, spoke about school safety and having fully armed citizens who are trained with firearms.

John Mraz, Schuylkill Township resident, spoke about school safety and questioned why the citizens who live nearby are not notified of an emergency by the school district.

Steve Smith, Phoenixville resident, parent, and teacher from another district, spoke about school safety and provided options for interior school safety. He also spoke briefly about security and procedures for school sponsored events.

Danielle Jouenne, Schuylkill Township resident, spoke about school safety and the new PAMS policy regarding not carrying backpacks which removes the ability for a student to have a bullet proof insert in their backpack for further protection.

These individuals did not sign up but requested time to speak.

Board Listening Session (Continued)

Paul Celentano, Phoenixville resident, spoke about school safety and his experience on that topic.

Naomi Rodney, Schuylkill Township resident, spoke about school safety and the possibility of having town hall forums for parents to discuss/share questions or concerns about school safety.

Deborah Sulli, Schuylkill Township resident, spoke about school safety and provided suggestions.

Mr. Golberg requested the board have an executive session to discuss what are the next steps for the school safety program. President Turner noted that the board will have future discussion and responded to the request for an investigation into what an Act 120 certified police officer would cost to be put on staff.

Mr. Weiss requested an Executive Session prior to the next meeting to discuss options. President Turner noted that certain topics must be discussed publicly, and if needed, moved to Executive Session. Mr. Fitzgerald shared the legality of what can be discussed publicly.

The Majority of the board chose to not have another executive session prior to the August 22nd meeting. President Turner indicated the board will have a discussion at the August 22nd meeting to discuss if it is a good idea, what are the costs etc., in having an SRO or armed security guard.

President Turner then read a retirement resolution for Mr. Steven Winnick.

*WHEREAS, Mr. Stephen Winnick has served in the field of education for twenty-four years as a teacher and dedicated Professional Staff Member of the Phoenixville Area School District; and,
WHEREAS, Mr. Stephen Winnick has tendered his resignation from the employ of the District for the purpose of retirement; effective July 1, 2022; and,
WHEREAS, The Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District wishes to recognize him for his 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 resignation of Mr. Stephen Winnick from its Professional Staff and expresses its deep appreciation for the qualities of inspiration and dedication which have been so characteristic of his approach with our children; 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 August 8, 2022, and that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Stephen Winnick.*

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION ON ANY SCHOOL SUBJECT

President Turner opened the floor for public comment on any school subject.

Lisa Longo, Phoenixville resident voiced concerns of having police officers or armed security guards on property, the consent agenda, and who is eligible to be for the paid incentive for securing a grant as well as having a start time discussion.

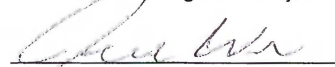
John Mraz, Schuylkill Township resident, spoke about the artificial turf on the athletic fields at PAELC and Manavon fields. He also questioned the \$600,000 additional funding and how will it be accounted and used for. He also spoke about the sign-up sheets and the new procedures for public comment period.

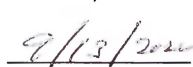
Dr. Garritano briefly shared statistics from the Secret Service audit showing the amount of "mass shootings" at elementary, secondary and colleges/universities.

ADJOURNMENT

President Turner adjourned the meeting 8:34 PM.

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