



**September 12, 2022
Meeting
MINUTES**

PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Monday, September 12, 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 September 12, 2022, Board Meeting to Order at 7:00 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 (arrived at 7:39 PM)
Mr. Scott Overland, Board Vice President
Mrs. Betsy Ruch
Mrs. Michelle Schamis
Dr. Ayisha Sereni
Ms. Victoria Walker

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. Alan D. Fegley, Superintendent
Dr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Finance
Mr. Ken Gibson, Director of Technology and Operations
Mr. David Ramsey, Director of Specialized Programs and Services
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

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Scout Woronko – Senior Student Representative
Elizabeth (Liza) Barbash – Junior Student Representative

OTHERS PRESENT

Lenore Filipovic, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools
Phantom TV Crew

President Turner announced the meetings scheduled for September 26, 2022 have been moved to September 27th to allow for celebration of Rosh Hashanah.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS (Continued)

- Board Executive Session—September 7, 2022, 5:00 PM Re: School safety
- Board Curriculum Committee Meeting—September 12, 2022, 5:30 PM
- Board Policy Committee Meeting—September 12, 2022, immediately following
- Board Meeting—September 12, 2022, 7:00 PM

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Board Building Committee Meeting—September 22, 2022, 5:00 PM
- Board Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting—September 26, 2022, 5:30 PM
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting—September 26, 2022 immediately following
- Board Meeting—September 26, 2022, 7:00 PM

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Scout Woronko, Senior Student Representative and Elizabeth (Leeza) Barbash, Junior Student Representative reported that sports are in full swing and that tickets need to be purchased on the website in advance of the event. They also shared information on the generous donation of food and non-perishable items made at the Community BBQ. It was noted that the topic of discussion at the recent superintendent/student forum is of the potential vote on school security options. There was a request from the student representatives to run a survey to teachers and students to gauge their opinion. She also reported that there are upcoming flu clinics, and that school is only a half day on September 23rd and schools are closed on the 26th. Dr. Fegley noted that the forums have been very respectful and that the students are engaged and are allowing for differing viewpoints.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE VOTING ITEMS

Board Curriculum Committee—Ms. Michelle Schamis, Chair

Potential voting items for September 27, 2022

1. [Approval of Healthcare Staffing Agreement with Interim Healthcare of Chester, Delaware, and Philadelphia Counties for the Provision of healthcare staffing services for a one-year term of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 at the rates as listed.](#)
2. [Approval of an Agreement with Keystone Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services for School Interpreting Services for a term of April 2022 through August 2023 at the rates listed.](#)
3. Approval of Two (2) Agreements with The Timothy School for Special Education Services for Specific Special Education Students for the 2022-2023 School Year at a cost of \$89,500. ([Student A](#)) and ([Student B](#))
4. Approval of Two (2) Extended School Year Agreements and Addendums with The Timothy School for Special Education Services for specific Special Education Students for a term of July 6, 2022 through August 12, 2022 at a cost of \$7,000. ([Student A](#)) and ([Student B](#))
5. [Approval of a Tuition Contract with Talk, Inc., \(d/b/a Talk School\) for a Special Education Student for the 2022-2023 School Year at a cost of \\$86,093.00](#)
6. [Acceptance and Approval of Allocation of Federal Program Funds for 2022-2023 \(Title I and Title II-a\)](#)
7. [Approval of a Renewal of SRA Reading Mastery as evidence-based intervention in accordance with IEP's](#)
8. Approval of Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Textbooks or Library Books
 - [Phoenixville Area Early Learning Center](#) (Textbooks)
 - [Barkley Elementary School](#) (Textbooks)
 - [Phoenixville Area Middle School](#) (Library Books)
 - [Phoenixville Area Middle School](#) (Library Books)
9. Approval of Transportation and Field Trip Requests

Date	Destination	Group	Trip #	Comment
February 8 – 14, 2023	UCA Nationals Cheer Competition Disney Wide World of Sports Complex Orlando, FL	High School Competition Cheer Squad Grades 9 - 12	22230042	Student Funded

Ms. Schamis, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, provided a summary of the discussions at the meeting held earlier this evening. She noted the voting items discussed included – Interim Healthcare (staffing Services), interpreting services, Timothy School specific students, ESY agreements for specific students, and TALK school.

Board Policy Committee— Mr. David Golberg, Chair

Potential voting items for September 27, 2022

1. [Policy 227—Pupils—Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia](#)
2. [Policy 236.1—Pupils—Threat Assessment](#)
3. [Policy 237—Pupils—Electronic Devices](#)
4. [Policy 805—Operations—Emergency Preparedness and Response](#)
5. [Policy 805.2—Operations—School Security Personnel](#)
6. [Policy 808—Operations—Food Services](#)

Policy Committee Temporary Chair, Mrs. Schamis provided a summary of the changes for the policies addressed during the Policy Committee meeting. She noted the committee reviewed the general scope of each policy and had a discussion about the record retention policy and how board meeting videos and recordings are handled.

The administration agreed to begin re-posting the board meeting videos on the website utilizing MyVRSpot. It was agreed that videos will be kept somewhere between 4 and 5 years. Awaiting final discussion.

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

PERSONNEL

Potential voting item for September 12, 2022

1. *Personnel Report – [September 2022](#)
 - a) Resignations
 - b) Appointments
 - c) Volunteers
 - d) Informational Items
 - a) Conference Requests
 - b) Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence

Finance/Personnel Committee chair, Mrs. Ruch provided a summary of the items being approved later this evening. She noted the resignations, appointments, substitutes and extra pay for extra duty employees, leave requests, building volunteers, etc.

Potential voting item for September 12, 2022

Board Secretary's Report— Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) [August 8, 2022, Board Meeting](#)
 - b) [August 22, 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 Board—Dr. Alan Fegley & Mrs. Jessica Bicker
Dr. Fegley shared the Library report which included details of the Wine Wit and Wisdom event which will be held at Rivercrest Country Club on November 3rd. Bestselling author of romance novels, Jasmine Guillory, will be the main speaker and will be signing books. A new Youth Director, Tegan-Conner Cole, brings experience and fresh ideas to the role. The library is also hiring a part-time Office Manager, if anyone knows of any potential applicants.

He reported on the small group and tutoring space on the upper floor and noted they will be getting two more quotes in October and November. The project has been budgeted and money has been set aside. He also indicated that they are checking the library hours with others in the area. This may help determine if they should be revised.

- Legislative Committee—Scott Overland, Board Representative
Mr. Overland reported that on October 1st, school breakfasts will be free for all Free/Reduced Lunch students in PA. The General Assembly also returns on October 1st.

- Superintendent Report—Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D.
Dr. Fegley thanked the students, staff, and faculty for a great return to school. He also noted how great the Community BBQ was.
 - Enrollment
 - [Day 1 – 2022-2023](#)
 - [Day 3 – 2022-2023](#)
 - [September 1st Enrollment](#)
He noted the slight increases in enrollment; however, the kindergarten numbers are down from around 300 to 271 as well as Charter school from around 300 to 255.
 - State Representative Melissa Shusterman
 - [Ready to Learn Block Grant award - \\$250,000](#)
Dr. Fegley reported that with the Omnibus bill Ms. Shusterman requested another \$250,000 for our Ready to Learn grant. The money is potentially used to address class size and STEM work.
 - School Calendars
 - 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026
He also noted that with the upcoming building project, he will be asking the board to approve School calendars for the next three year. This would allow for longer summer breaks and to help with the move-in timeline. This approval may also provide additional time to assist administration when reviewing the grade configuration.

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 also noted that the items on the consent agenda for this evening include:

- Personnel Report
- Finance report
- B&G items
- Board minutes for last two meetings

Mr. John Mraz, Schuylkill Township spoke about the financial report and how he is unable to reconcile the disbursements with the treasurer's report. Dr. Melber provided assistance in reconciling the disbursements.

VOTE CONSENT AGENDA

President Turner requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mrs. Ruch made the motion with Ms. Schamis seconding.

Before the vote, Dr. Melber shared the information on Mr. Mraz's statements. He provided details on where the figures are on the reports and how they match. He also indicated that he had requested individual meetings with Mr. Mraz to explain the reporting, but his requests went unanswered.

Dr. Kilmetz called the roll.

ROLL

Overland – YES
Ruch – YES
Schamis – YES
Carminito – YES
Sereni – NO
Walker – YES
Weiss – YES

ROLL (continued)
 Turner – YES
 MOTION PASSES 7 - 1

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

PERSONNEL

1. *Personnel Report – [September 2022](#)
 - a) Resignations
 - b) Krise Employees
 - c) Appointments
 - d) Volunteers
 - e) Informational Items
 1. Conference Requests
 2. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence

2. [Approval of the Annual Contract Renewal with ESS for Substitute Employee Services for the 2022-2023 School Year](#)

FINANCE REPORT

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

1. [Approval of the Purchase of Two \(2\) New Mowers in the amount of \\$28,401.20](#) (Budgeted)
2. [Approval of the Complete Saniglaze Work on Schuylkill Elementary Bathrooms in the amount of \\$22,200.](#) (Budgeted)
3. [Approval of District Tree Work by Beyond The Leaf in the amount of \\$24,535 to include options 2 and 3 with Retention Pond work and Storm debris on old Golf course](#) (Budgeted)
4. [Approval of High School Elevator Repairs by Kencor, LLC at a cost estimated at \\$87,402.00](#) (Contingency)
5. [Approval of a One-Year Agreement with Keystone Sports Construction for Two \(2\) Synthetic Turf Maintenance Services per year in the amount of \\$5,375](#) (Budgeted)

Board Secretary's Report— Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) [August 8, 2022, Board Meeting](#)
 - b) [August 22, 2022, Board Meeting](#)

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION ON ROLL CALL VOTING ITEMS

Ethan Desjardins, PAHS senior, opposed the potential voting item of hiring School Resource Officers, Police Officers, or armed guards for out buildings. He shared data from prior mass shootings with armed officers on campus.

ROLL CALL VOTING ITEM

1. Approval of \$273,000 of security infrastructure improvements

President Turner requested a motion to approve \$273,000 be spent on Security Infrastructure improvements. Mr. Weiss made the motion with Ms. Ruch seconding.
There was no additional discussion on this topic.

She then requested Dr. Kilmetz do a roll call vote on this item.

ROLL CALL

Ruch - YES

Schamis - YES

Carminito - YES

Sereni - YES

Walker - YES

Weiss - YES

Overland - YES

Turner - YES

MOTION PASSES 8-0

2. Approval of \$80,000 for a Security Monitor for all District Buildings
Dr. Fegley explained that this person watches video monitors for district wide camera feeds during school hours.

President Turner requested a motion to approve the \$80,000 to be spent on a person to watch the video monitors for district wide camera feeds. Mr. Weiss made the motion with Ms. Walker seconding.

There was a brief discussion surrounding the question of a job description.

Roll call

Schamis - YES

Carminito - YES

Sereni - NO

Walker - YES

Weiss - YES

Overland - YES

Ruch - YES

Turner - YES

MOTION PASSES 7 - 1

3. Consideration of and possible approval by the Board of School Directors of one of the following security personnel enhancement options:
- Engage the services of a School Resource Officer with the applicable municipalities
 - Contract with an Armed Security Service for each School
 - School Police Officer(s) hired by the District

No motion. There was a request to move this item to the September 27th meeting which will be after a survey of secondary students, all secondary staff, and employees.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION ON ANY SCHOOL SUBJECT

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

Mr. John Mraz, Schuylkill Township thanked those involved with the Community BBQ. He spoke briefly about the board vice president spear heading an open letter addressed through public education. He spoke about his Right to Know Request for funds used for grant writing services and why there is a payment for \$60,000 to the Phoenixville Jaycees in July for grant writing services. He requested details of what was applied for and what and how much was awarded. He reiterated that the finance report, in his opinion, did not show disbursements aligning with the treasurer's report.


Dr. Melber provided additional detail on the reports Mr. Mraz referenced in his public comment. He again shared how the figures in question match and where they can be found in the packet. He provided details on where the figures are on the

reports and how they match. He reiterated that he had requested individual meetings with Mr. Mraz to explain the reporting, but his requests went unanswered.

ADJOURNMENT

President Turner adjourned the meeting 7:41 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

10/26/2022
Date

