



**February 6, 2023
Board Meeting
MINUTES**

**PHOENIXVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Phoenixville, PA 19460**

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Monday, February 6, 2023 7:30 PM
Phoenixville Area School District
Administration Office Board Room
(TV Channel 28 and www.pasd.com)

MINUTES

OPENING

OPENING

Ms. Susan Turner, Board President, Presiding called the January 9, 2022, Board Meeting to Order at 7:31 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

Mrs. Turner

Mrs. Schamis

Mr. Weiss

Ms. Carminito

Mrs. Ruch

Mr. Golberg

Ms. Walker

Mr. Overland

8 board members present

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT

Dr. Alan D. Fegley, Superintendent

Dr. Jessica Kilmetz, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Jeremy Melber, Director of Finance

Dr. Kate Pacitto, Executive Director of Curriculum and Specialized Programs and Services

Dr. Frank Garritano, Executive Director of Schools and DEI

Mr. Ken Gibson, Director of Technology and Operations

Mrs. Sylvia Rockwood, Director of Human Resources

Mr. Dave Ramsey, Director of Specialized Programs and Services

Mr. Phil Vontor, Supervisor of Maintenance

Dr. Rose Scioli, High School Principal

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Scout Woronko – Senior Student Representative

Elizabeth (Liza) Barbash – Junior Student Representative

2 Student reps present

OTHERS PRESENT

Lenore Filipovic, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools

Phantom TV Crew

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETINGS

- Board Executive Session—January 23, 2023 6:45 PM Re: Legal/100 School Lane
- Board Meeting—January 23, 2023, 7:00 PM
- Board Executive Session—January 23, 2023, 7:50 PM Re: Legal/100 School Lane
- How to Run for School Board—January 24, 2023, 6:00 PM, Board Room DAO
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting—February 6, 2023, 5:30 PM
- Board Policy Committee Meeting—February 6, 2023, immediately following Buildings & Grounds
- Board Vacancy Interviews—February 6, 2023, 6:00 PM

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Board Executive Session—February 6, 2023 (immediately following Board Meeting Re: Legal/100 School Lane)
- How to Run for School Board—February 9, 2023, 6:00 PM, Virtual
- Board Building Committee—February 16, 2023, 5:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee Meeting—February 27, 2023, 5:30 PM
- Board Personnel/Finance Committee Meeting—February 27, 2023 (immediately following Curriculum)
- Board Meeting—February 27, 2023, 7:00 PM

President Turner announced the meetings that had occurred as well as upcoming meetings in February. She did note that the “you want to be a board member” forum is scheduled for Thursday at 6:00 PM as a virtual meeting.

Ms. Woronko and Ms. Barbash spoke about the upcoming Eagles spirit day on Friday the new futsal ball games that are held early in the AM at the high school. They also reported on the HS Music concert that is scheduled for February 13 at 6:30 PM. The Middle School is presenting “A Little Mermaid” as the spring spectacular and it was noted that Parent conferences are coming soon. They reported on the Summer Camp event that is being held in the Manavon Gymnasium Thursday.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION***Open Public Comment – Comments on Appointment of New Board Member***

At this time, the Board welcomes public comments on appointment of new board member from residents of PASD or others who have a business affiliation with PASD. 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 opened the floor for public comment on the Appointment of a New Board Member. There was no public comment.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

President Turner asked for nominations for the vacant board seat.

Mr. Overland nominated Dr. Allen
Ms. Walker nominated Ms. Reed
Ms. Walker nominated Mr. Perry
Ms. Carminito nominated Mr. Venezia
Mr. Weiss nominated Mr. Denson
Mr. Golberg nominated Ms. Shanley

With no other nominations, President Turner closed the nominations. She noted that Dr. Kilmetz would do a roll call vote for each nominee based on the order of nominations.

Roll call vote

STEPHANIE ALLEN

Ruch—YES
Schamis—YES
Golberg—YES
Weiss—YES
Walker—YES
Overland—YES
Carminito—YES
Turner—YES

VOTE 8-0

LAURA REED

Overland—YES
Carminito—YES
Golberg—YES
Ruch—NO
Schamis—YES
Weiss—NO
Walker—NO
Turner—YES

VOTE 5-3

GRAHAM PERRY

Overland—YES
Walker—YES
Golberg—NO
Ruch—NO
Schamis—YES
Weiss—YES
Carminito—NO
Turner—YES

VOTE 5-3

FRANK VENEZIA

Schamis—YES
Walker—YES
Golberg—YES
Ruch—NO
Overland—YES
Weiss—YES
Carminito--YES
Turner—YES

VOTE 7-1

PRINCE DENSON

Ruch—NO
Schamis—NO
Golberg—YES
Weiss—YES
Walker—NO
Overland—NO
Carminito—NO
Turner—YES

VOTE 3-5

EMILY SHANLEY

Overland—NO
Carminito—YES
Golberg—YES
Ruch—NO
Schamis—NO
Weiss—YES
Walker—NO
Turner—YES

VOTE 4-5

President Turner announced that with a vote of 8-0, Dr. Stephanie Allen was appointed as the new Board member to fill the term through December 2023.

Ms. Filipovic administered the Oath of Office. Dr. Allen was given Policy 004.1 – to acknowledge and agree on.

President Turner called for a 10-minute recess at 7:41 PM to allow for Dr. Allen to get situated.

President Turner reconvened the meeting at 7:50 PM.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE VOTING ITEMS

Board Finance/Personnel Committee— Mrs. Betsy Ruch, Chair
For Potential Board Approval at the February 6, 2023 Meeting

Mrs. Ruch shared details of the upcoming annual fundraiser – at Rivercrest Country Club.

She then shared details of the Personnel Report which included resignations, appointments etc. She reminded the board members that they would be voting on this during the consent agenda later in the meeting.

PERSONNEL

1. *Personnel Report – February 2023
 - a. Resignations
 - b. Appointments
 - c. Krise Employees
 - d. Unpaid Leave of Absence
 - e. Volunteers
 - f. Informational Items
 - a. Conference Requests
 - b. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leaves of Absence

For Potential Board Approval at the February 27, 2023 Meeting

FINANCE

1. Approval of the Acceptance of the ERate Bid with _____ at a rate of _____
_____ for services _____ to _____

Mr. Gibson reported that details and additional information on the ERate agenda item will be shared before the next meeting.

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

1. Approval of Installation of Phoenixville Public Library Fence from R&S Fence Co. - \$10,506.35
2. Approval of Software Upgrade for Schuylkill Elementary HVAC from NRG Building Services - \$13,380.

Mr. Weiss reported on the items set for approval on February 27th It was noted that the expenses for both items was in the Operations Budget.

Board Secretary's Report— Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - a) January 9, 2023, Board Meeting
 - b) January 23, 2023, Board Meeting

Mr. Weiss shared that the board minutes for January will be linked prior to the next voting meeting. He expects to have a draft by the end of the week.

Board Policy Committee— Ms. Victoria Walker, Chair

1. Policy 316—Employees—Nontenured Employees
2. Policy 328—Employees—Compensation Plans/Salary Schedules

Ms. Walker reported on the two (2) policies set for approval at the February 27th meeting. She noted that Policy 237 was also discussed briefly at the committee meeting and that it will be added to the agenda for approval next month.

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- Chester County Intermediate Unit Board—Michelle Schamis, Board Representative
Mrs. Schamis indicated that the IU did not hold a board meeting and that she will provide an update at February 27th board meeting.
- Legislative Committee—Ms. Victoria Walker, Board Representative
Ms. Walker noted that the legislative committee met on January 25th and the special election is scheduled for tomorrow to name the new Speaker of the House. Two bills were also passed but Bill 84 Repealed the prohibition of teachers wearing religious attire/clothing. Bill 114 also passed regarding fire fighter training programs for high school students.

- Superintendent’s Report—Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D.
 - February Enrollment
Dr. Fegley reported that the enrollment had increased by 8 students. He stated that Decision Insight reports are due in soon, but the administration hopes to have more updated figures at the next meeting.
 - Redistricting Planning to become effective September 2025
Dr. Fegley shared updated information on the Hares Hill School Redistricting Project. Items discussed included transportation, the change of feeder patterns as well as the balancing of the school capacities. He noted that he will be seeking board approval in June 2023. After a brief discussion about the breakdowns by school capacity, it was noted that more detailed numbers by would be shared at an upcoming meeting. Redistricting materials and information can be found on the district website under School Board/Planning our New School.

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. 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 opened the floor for public comment on the Consent Agenda.
There was no public comment.

VOTING ITEMS

President Turner asked for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Mr. Weiss made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Walker seconded the motion.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

PERSONNEL

1. *Personnel Report – February 2023
 - a. Resignations
 - b. Appointments
 - c. Krise Employees
 - d. Unpaid Leave of Absence
 - e. Volunteers
 - f. Informational Items
 - a. Conference Requests
 - b. Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leaves of Absence

For Potential Board Approval at the February 6, 2023 Meeting

FINANCE

Business Office Report

1. Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds – November 2022
Check # 3885 (11/4/2022) – Check # 4034 (11/25/2022)
ACH # 222300792 (11/4/2022) – ACH # 222301028 (11/25/2022)
2. Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds – December 2022
Check # 4035 (12/2/2022) – Check # 4150 (12/30/2022)
ACH # 222301029 (12/2/2022) – ACH # 222301201 (12/30/2022)
3. Acknowledge the Receipt of District Financial Reports – November 2022
4. Acknowledge the Receipt of District Financial Reports – December 2022

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

1. Approval to Appoint Rhonda Lorde of Saxton & Stump as Bond Counsel for the Phoenixville Area School District for the Financings of Debt Related to the Hares Hill Construction Project.

Board Curriculum Committee— Ms. Caitlyn Carminito, Chair

1. Approval of the Health & Safety Plan
2. Approval of an Affiliation Agreement with Messiah University for Student Teaching Placements and Field Placements with the District for a term of January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 with an autorenewal option.
3. Approval of an Affiliation Agreement with Cabrini University for Student Teaching, Practicum, and Field Experiences with the District for the 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 Academic Years.
4. Approval of a Clinical Experience and Outreach Affiliation Agreement with Kutztown University for the Five-Year Term from January 23, 2023 through January 22, 2028.
5. Approval of a Services Agreement with Applied ABC Behavioral Mental Health Counseling, PLLC for a term of November 21, 2022 through June 9, 2023.
6. Approval of Disposal / Sale / Recycling of Textbooks or Library Books
 - Phoenixville Area Middle School (set 1)
 - Phoenixville Area Middle School (set 2)
 - Manavon Elementary School
7. Approval of Transportation and Field Trip Requests

Date	Destination	Group	Trip #	Comment
December 26 – 30, 2023	KSA Events Holiday Basketball Tournament Disney's Wide World of Sports Orlando, FL	High School Basketball Team Grades 9 - 12	22230091	Booster Club Funded (REPOSTED CORRECTED DATE)
January 27 – 28, 2023	PIAA Competitive Cheerleading Competition Giant Center Hershey, PA	High School Cheer Squad Grades 9 – 12	22230147	Athletics – Transportation Budget
March 26 – 29, 2023	College Tours (Central State University) Wilberforce, OH	High School Grades 9 – 12	22230141	Destinations with Directions (PCEF Funded Program)
August 16 – 18, 2023	Boys Cross Country Gettysburg Artillery Campground Gettysburg PA	High School Grades 9 – 12	22230160	Athletics – Transportation Budget

President Turner asked Dr. Kilmetz to do a roll call vote on the Consent Agenda.

Ruch—YES

Schamis—YES

Golberg—No to Curriculum Committee Item #1, Yes to everything else

Weiss—YES

Walker—YES

Overland—YES

Carminito—YES

Turner—YES

VOTE 7-1, Motion Passed

President Turner read the retirement resolutions for Mrs. Donna Groff and Dr. Rori Minsales, Mrs. Renee Sillitti, and Mr. Jack Sturgeon.

RETIREMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Mrs. **Donna Groff** has served **37** years in education with **24** years in Phoenixville; and Dr. **Rori Minissale** has served **27** years in Phoenixville; and Mrs. **Renee Sillitti** has served **32** years in education with **9** years in Phoenixville; and Mr. **Jack Sturgeon** has served **31** years in Phoenixville, as dedicated members of the professional staff of the Phoenixville Area School District.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Donna Groff, Dr. Rori Minissale, Mrs. Renee Sillitti and Mr. Jack Sturgeon have tendered their resignations from the District for the purpose of retirement.

WHEREAS, The Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District wishes to recognize them for their 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 resignations of Mrs. Donna Groff, Dr. Rori Minissale, Mrs. Renee Sillitti and Mr. Jack Sturgeon from its staff and expresses its deep appreciation for their service and dedication; 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 February 6, 2023, and that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Donna Groff, Dr. Rori Minissale, Mrs. Renee Sillitti and Mr. Jack Sturgeon.

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 affiliation with PASD. 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.

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

Mr. John Mraz, Schuylkill Township, spoke about the open board vacancy and the interviews held earlier in the evening. He questioned how many applications were received and what was the criteria for being selected for an interview. He also thanked the district for being one of 21 school districts that utilizes the automated video cameras to catch cars that pass a stopped school bus.

Becky McCarron was signed up but not present to speak.

Dr. Fegley responded to Mr. Mraz's questions – 12 applications received with one withdrawn. The criteria for interview selection were that the Board reviewed each letter of interest and CV/Resume – they were asked to rank them as top 5. The top five (six because of a tie) were brought in to be interviewed.

ADJOURNMENT to an Executive Session – Legal / 100 School Lane

President Turner adjourned the meeting at 8:17 PM to an Executive Session re: Legal/100 School Lane

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