



**March 13, 2023  
Board Meeting  
MINUTES**

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

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
Monday, March 13, 2023 7:00 PM  
Phoenixville Area School District  
Administration Office Board Room  
(TV Channel 28 and [www.pasd.com](http://www.pasd.com))

**MINUTES**

**OPENING**

**OPENING**

Mr. Scott Overland, Board Vice President, Presiding called the March 13, 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**

Mrs. Schamis  
Mr. Weiss  
Ms. Carminito  
Mrs. Ruch  
Ms. Walker  
Mr. Overland  
Dr. Allen

7 board members present Mrs. Turner and Mr. Golberg were absent

**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—February 27, 2023 (immediately following Board Meeting) Re: School Security & Legal (Kdg Center 100 School Lane Property, Personnel and Phoenixville Hospital)
- Board Buildings & Ground Committee Meeting—March 13, 2023 5:30 PM
- Board Policy Committee Meeting—March 13, 2023, immediately following the B&G)
- Board Meeting—March 13, 2023, 7:00 PM

**UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS**

- Board Building Committee—March 16, 2023, 5:00 PM
- Board Curriculum Committee Meeting—March 27, 2023, 5:30 PM
- Board Personnel/Finance Committee Meeting—March 27, 2023 (immediately following Curriculum)
- Board Meeting—March 27, 2023, 7:00 PM
- Board Executive Session—March 27, 2023 (immediately following Board Meeting) Re: Personnel
- Board Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting--April 10, 2023, 5:30 PM
- Board Policy Committee Meeting—April 10, 2023, (immediately following Board Buildings & Grounds)
- Board Meeting—April 10, 2023, 7:00 PM
- Board Building Committee—April 13, 2023, 5:00 PM
- Town Hall Meeting – Redistricting – April 18, 2023, 6:30 PM (Phoenixville Area MS Cafeteria)
- Town Hall Meeting – Redistricting – May 30, 2023, 6:30 PM (Phoenixville Area MS Cafeteria)

**STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

Scout Woronko – Senior Student Representative and Elizabeth (Liza) Barbash – Junior Student Representative spoke about the sports season and the band festival. Other topics included:

- FOCUS Designer Bag Bingo – March 19<sup>th</sup>
- Spring Spectacular – happening next week.
- Read Across America – occurred last week. The School’s varsity club read to the different buildings.
- District Phone / Cell Phone policy – the Pros/Cons from High School student perspective was discussed at the past two Superintendent/Student forums.

**DISCUSSION OF FUTURE VOTING ITEMS****For Potential Board Approval at the March 13, 2023 Meeting**

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

**PERSONNEL**

1. [\\*Personnel Report – March 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

Personnel/Finance chair, Mrs. Ruch provided a summary of the personnel report. She noted that it will be up for approval during the consent agenda portion of the meeting. They include resignations, appointments, conference requests and FMLA Leaves of Absence.



**For Potential Board Approval at the March 27, 2023 Meeting****Board Buildings and Grounds Committee—Mr. Jerome Weiss, Chair**

None

Buildings & Grounds chair, Mr. Weiss indicated that there was nothing scheduled for approval. Topics discussed at the B&G meeting were the Field House condition and potential improvements, as well as the East Pikeland properties which are currently being leased while still for sale.

**Board Policy Committee— Ms. Victoria Walker, Chair**

1. [Policy 004—Local Board Procedures—Membership](#)
2. [Policy 105.1—Programs—Review of Instructional Materials by Parents/Guardians and Students](#)
3. [Policy 118.1—Programs—Option II - Alternative Pathways](#)
4. [Policy 237—Pupils—Electronic Devices](#)
5. [Policy 328—Employees—Compensation Plans/Salary Schedules](#)
6. [Policy 718.1—Property—Service Animals In Schools](#)
7. [Policy 714—Property—Memorials](#)

Policy Committee chair, Ms. Walker provided updates on each of the policies discussed at the policy committee meeting held earlier that evening. It was verified that a number greater than 5 would be required for the vote in policy 004. There was a brief discussion regarding the policies set for 1<sup>st</sup> reading – with final and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading approval the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Board Secretary's Report— Jerome Weiss, Board Secretary**

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
  - a) [February 6, 2023 Board Meeting](#)
  - b) February 27, 2023 Board Meeting

Board Secretary, Jerry Weiss noted the February 6<sup>th</sup> minutes were attached for review and that the February 27<sup>th</sup> minutes would be available soon.

**BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- Phoenixville Community Education Foundation—Betsy Ruch, Board Representative

Mrs. Ruch, PCEF Board reported on the fundraiser as well as the scholarships that are funded by PCEF and that event. She noted that the PCEF awarded \$8,000 in teacher mini grants for the spring grant period.

- Phoenixville Public Library—Dr. Alan Fegley / Jessica Bicker

Dr. Fegley reported that the library committee met last Monday. Joe Sherwood from the Chester County Library System was in attendance at their meeting. A financial update was given, and the library board is requesting a 5% increase in the library budget. He also reported that there was a resignation by one of the current board members. That leaves two (2) people running for three (3) vacancies. Finally, he updated the board on the approval to purchase new furniture at the library at a cost of \$90,000.

- Superintendent's Report—Alan D. Fegley, Ed.D.
  - Redistricting Update Presentation

Dr. Fegley provided an update on the information provided at the county and the local levels regarding number for incoming developments. He also noted that the meetings with all of the elementary HSA groups have been very good.

- Acceptance of Donation of \$9,619.38 from the GIANT Company

GIANT of Phoenixville gave \$9,619.38 from the Round Up at the Register program. This is being used for families, GIANT also donated 1,000 lbs. of food to PACS.



**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.

There was no public comments.

**VOTING ITEMS**  
**CONSENT AGENDA**

**PERSONNEL**

1. [\\*Personnel Report – March 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

***Board Curriculum Committee— Ms. Caitlyn Carminito, Chair***

1. [Approval of a Pediatric Therapeutic Services \(PTS\) Agreement Addendum with an Effective Date of February 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023.](#) (addendum now includes rate for per diem school psychologist)
2. [Approval of an Enrollment Contract with The Camphill School for a term of September 2022 through June 2023](#)
3. Approval of Transportation and Field Trip Requests

Date	Destination	Group	Trip #	Comment
<a href="#">April 17 – 19, 2023</a>	FBLA State Leadership Conference Hershey Lodge/Convention Ctr Hershey PA	High School FBLA Members Grades 9 - 12	22230212	Students funded (club will be reimbursing a portion for those who meet certain requirements after (attend certain number of workshops and share with club, record certain number of study/prep hours, etc.)

4. [Approval of Exchange Student per Policy No. 202.1.](#)

**FINANCE**

**Business Office Report**

1. [Approve the Disbursement of School District Funds – January 2023](#)  
Check # 4151 (1/6/2023) – Check # 4248 (1/27/2023)  
ACH # 222301202 (1/6/2023) – ACH # 222301363 (1/27/2023)
2. [Acknowledge the Receipt of District Financial Reports – January 2023](#)





**Business Office**

1. Approval of [Lease with Toshiba Financial Services](#) for Copiers and [Maintenance](#) in the amount of \$542,902.20 for the Term of 5 Years

**Vice President Overland requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.  
Ms. Walker made the motion with Dr. Allen seconding.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Ruch—YES

Schamis—YES

Carminito—YES

Allen—YES

Walker—YES

Weiss—YES

Overland—YES

**Motion Passes 7-0**

**Vice President Overland read the retirement resolution for Sandy Claus.**

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Sandra Claus has served in the field of education for twenty-five years, with twelve years in Phoenixville, as an Administrative Staff Member of the Phoenixville Area School District; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Sandra Claus has tendered her resignation from the employ of the District for the purpose of retirement; effective June 30, 2023; and,

**WHEREAS**, The Board of School Directors of the Phoenixville Area School District wishes to recognize her for her 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 Mrs. Sandra Claus from its Administrative Staff and expresses its deep appreciation for the qualities of inspiration and dedication which have been so characteristic of her approach with our children, staff and community; 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 March 13, 2023, and that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Sandra Claus.

**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.

The co-chairs from the HS FOCUS committee are Angela Balduzzi & Alison Schlosser who spoke about the upcoming 24<sup>th</sup> annual Post Prom event. They provided information on the many things that FOCUS does to keep the students safe after prom.

Eric Schmidt (East Pikeland resident and Business Owner of Colonial Gardens shared his thoughts on the new Hares Hill Building. He spoke about the importance of energy efficiency and sustainability.



Dennis Ray, Chair of East Pikeland Environmental Counsel spoke about their four main clean energy areas and related financial incentives.

Jane Dugdale, Phoenixville resident spoke about the sustainability of the new Hares Hill building and shared her concerns about artificial turf fields and the need to return to natural grass fields.

Emilyn Fox, First Avenue resident and Green Team member spoke about the Chester County Climate Action Plan and how the district should be a leader in this area as the Hares Hill building plans are finalized.

Rodney Platt, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue resident spoke about the drainage issues around Barkley Elementary School and the lifecycle costs of the new Hares Hill school.

Mark Connelly, Phoenixville Green Team offered feedback about the making a maximum energy efficient building. He suggested adding request is for alternative on the bid process. Mr. Connelly is advocating for an all-electric solar powered school at the Hares Hill location.

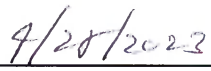
Board response – the builder and architect were requested to give all electrical option for the new buildings. Sustainability is a priority and no decisions have been made. District administration requested that Green Team attend building meetings to share information they may have. The public was reminded that nationally 61% of electricity is produced from non-sustainable fuels. Also, the DPA doesn't want us to drill wells.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President Overland adjourned the meeting at 8:16 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

