

CALL TO ORDER

In accordance with Sections 402 and 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code, the Board of School Directors of Cheltenham School District met on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at 2000 Ashbourne Road, Elkins Park, PA 19027 and also via Zoom to hold a hybrid regular legislative board meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Henry. Attendance was as follows:

CHELtenham SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Present: Ms. Mia Blitstein, Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams, Mr. Zachary Epps, Ms. Pamela Henry, Ms. Jennifer Lowman, Ms. Leah Mulhearn, Ms. Robyn Murphy (via Zoom), Mr. Daniel Schultz, Dr. Ross Whiting.

CHELtenham SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Chris Barone, Director of Information Technology; Ms. Charlene Collins, Director of Secondary Education; Mr. Kevin Kaufman, Director of Communications; Dr. Stephen Catrambone, Director of Special Education; Ms. Jessica Keene, Director of Student Services; Ms. Adrienne Tolbert-Jackson, Director of Human Services; and Dr. Brian Scriven, Superintendent.

SOLICITOR

Ms. Christina Gallagher, Esq.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Debra Harding

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member, Dr. Whiting.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Student Representative Shalom Chuker reporting for the Student Council shared information regarding:

- Thanksgiving Baskets
- Bulletin Board
- Clothing Drive / Thrift Drive
- Project with Wyncote Challenge Program
- Recycling program

RECOGNITIONS

Vice Principal Smith shared a video overview of special moments this year at Cedarbrook Middle School. He also acknowledged the student artwork displayed in the auditorium.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT	Dr. Scriven yielded his reporting time to Mr. Kaufman who presented a slideshow about the progress of the CSD branding efforts.
SOLICITOR’S REPORT	Ms. Gallagher announced there were no executive sessions held since the last legislative meeting.
PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY	There were no public comments on agenda items. <i>**Public comments heard during the meeting are summarized for the meeting minutes. Public comments received via csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org are transcribed verbatim for the meeting minutes.</i>
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Upon motion by Ms. Mulhearn, seconded by Ms. Lowman, the minutes of the November 21, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT	Mr. Schultz reporting for the Financial Affairs committee, shared information from the meeting held on December 5, 2023. The meeting video and presentation for any Finance Committee meeting can be found here . The next meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2024.
EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT	Ms. Mulhearn reporting for the Educational Affairs committee, shared information from the last meeting held on November 28, 2023. The meeting video and presentation for any Educational Affairs committee meeting can be found here . The next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2023.
EASTERN CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT	Mr. Burdell-Williams, reporting for the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology, shared information from the meeting held on November 8, 2023. The minutes of any Joint Operating Committee meeting can be accessed via the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology – Joint Operating Committee website . Mr. Burdell-Williams announced the next JOC meeting will be held on December 13, 2023.
MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT (MCIU) REPORT	Ms. Lowman, shared that no meeting was held since the last legislative meeting. The minutes of any Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting can be accessed here . The next meeting will be held on January 24, 2024.
FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT	Mr. Burdell-Williams, reporting for the Facilities Committee, shared information from the meeting held on December 5, 2023. Any meeting video and presentation of the Facilities Committee can be found here . Mr. Burdell-Williams announced that the next meeting will be held on January 2, 2024.

LIAISON GROUP Mr. Epps, reporting for the Liaison Group, shared that no meeting was held since the last legislative meeting. The next meeting date is to be determined.

POLICY COMMITTEE Mr. Epps, reporting for the Policy Committee, shared that no meeting was held since the last legislative meeting. The video and summary of any policy committee meeting can be found [here](#). The next Policy Committee meeting (hybrid model) is scheduled for January 30, 2024 in a hybrid format at the administration Building, Room 102.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT Mr. Epps, reporting for the Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee (MCSDLC) shared information from the meeting held on December 6, 2023 including:

- the need to ‘reimagine’ the educational system, including things such as universal Pre-K and equitable opportunities for all.
- Bill HB1422 which represents comprehensive reform for cyber charter schools

Mr. Epps shared that the next meeting date is February 15, 2024.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS Upon motion by Mr. Burdell-Williams, seconded by Mr. Epps, the following consent agenda items were unanimously approved:

Approval of Consent
Agenda Items

Approval of Volunteers

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of the following volunteer pursuant to Policy 916:

- Moneceya Alston
- Erin Greenbaum
- Kerri Donlon
- Latisha Gardner
- Sara Guzzi
- Christina Jeoboham
- Maiysha Johnson
- Tyeshia Kelly
- Eboni Langston
- Mariah Minges Klusman
- Scott Norwood
- Arianne Romney
- Corrine Smith
- Randy Taylor

Approval of Conferences

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of the attendance and payment of expenses for Allison Kuchler, Supervisor of Special Education to attend the 2024 Pennsylvania Department of Education Conference on February 28 - March 1, 2024 with an estimated total cost of \$449.00 to be paid from the general fund account.

Appointment of Support Staff

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the appointment of **Cynthia Rash - Martin** Kindergarten Assistant, Tier IA, at Wyncote Elementary School, 7 hours per day for 182 days, at an hourly rate of \$15.92 (2022-2023 salary rate) to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective November 27, 2023. A 90-day probation period is required.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the appointment of **Rafeeq Fitzgerald** General Office Secretary, Grade 3, at Elkins Park Elementary School, 7.5 hours per day for 260 days, at an annual rate of \$44,068, effective December 5, 2023. A 90-day probation period is required.

Approval of Changes of Assignment

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of a change in position for **Brenna Powell** from: Kindergarten Assistant at Myers Elementary School to: Long Term Substitute Elementary Teacher (Floater) at Myers Elementary School, at a salary of \$55,391 (Step 4/Masters) prorated effective December 4, 2023.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of a change in position for **Cheree Atwood** from: 8th Grade English Teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School to: Interim Vice Principal at Cedarbrook Middle School, at an annual 2023-2024 salary of \$131,000 prorated, effective date January 2, 2024.

Approval of Accelerated Budget Opt-Out Resolution Certifying Tax Rate Within Inflation Index 2024-2025 School Year.

RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of Cheltenham School District, makes the following unconditional certifications:

1. The school district's various tax levies and other revenue sources will be sufficient to balance the school district final budget for the next fiscal year (2024-2025) based on maintaining current tax rates or increasing tax rates by an amount less than or equal to the Act 1 index applicable to the school district

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as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This conclusion is based on the school district preliminary budget or other information available to the School Board.

2. The applicable index for the next fiscal year is 5.3%, and the School Board will not for the next fiscal year increase the rate of its real estate tax, or any other tax for the support of public education, by an amount that exceeds the applicable index.

3. The School Board has to date and, in the future, will comply with the rules set forth in School Code § 687 for adoption of the school district proposed and final budgets for the next fiscal year.

4. The School Board understands that the school district will not be eligible to use Act 1 referendum exceptions for the next fiscal year.

Approval of Payments

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of bills for payment for the period November 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023, in the following amounts in accordance with the list submitted to the board.

FUND	Check Numbers	Amount
General Fund	167277 - 167654 WT 240155-240163	3,639,397.87
Payroll Fund	13460 – 13469 WT 240142 - 240172	1,840,186.34
Food Service	43002773-43002779	603,271.14
Capital Reserve	100069-100072	309,679.00
Self-Insurance	WT 240140-240141	893,190.69
Student Activity	52003155-52003157	10,167.61

Approved Bus Drivers

RESOLVED: Below are 2 new Non-CDL drivers for board approval. They are still in training so we do not have a start date yet.

Name	Job Title	Hire Date	License #
Jean Claude Gousse	Non-CDL Van Driver	TBD	32493338
Esther Jean	Non-CDL Van Driver	TBD	33370247

RESOLVED: Below is a new CDL driver for board approval. His start date is pending completion of training.

Name	Job Title	Hire Date	License #
Harold Ingram	CDL (in training)	TBD	19611197

RESOLVED: Below is a new CDL driver for Board Approval. She is still training so her start date is TBD.

Name	Job Title	Hire Date	License #
Tameka Boone	CDL (in training)	TBD	25551969

Extra Duty/Extra Pay

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of the following Extra Duty/Extra Pay assignments, per the attachment, at a rate of \$227.50 per unit, as listed.

THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS WERE NOT SUBJECT TO VOTE

Repeat First Read Policies

- #109 School Library Philosophy/Policy (2016) - Proposed Title Change to "School Library Materials"
- #218.2 - Weapons and Other Dangerous Items (2017) - Proposed Title Change to "Weapons"
- #904 Public Attendance in School Facilities (2020)
- #356 Weapons (2021)
- #918 Title I Parent/Family Member Engagement (2019)
- #247 Bullying and Harassment (2020)

Administrative Regulation (AR) for Review Only

- #247 Bullying and Harassment (2020)

Resignations

Sydney Vaughn, Paraeducator at Glenside Elementary School, effective December 1, 2023, end of workday. (Revised date)

Kaylah White-Winters, Paraeducator at Myers Elementary School, effective October 18, 2023, end of workday.

Gwyneth Cooney, Long-Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher at Cheltenham High School, effective December 15, 2023, end of workday.

Retirement

Charles Kronmiller, Grounds Foreman, District Wide, effective May 24, 2024, end of workday. Mr. Kronmiller has been a district employee for 14.6 years.

Sergio Stalletti, Assistant Director of Facilities at Administration Building, effective November 12, 2024, end of workday. Mr. Stalletti has been a district employee for 34 years.

Non-discretionary Leaves of Absence

Daniela Hayek, Special Education Teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School, granted an unpaid child rearing leave from January 17, 2024 until the last teacher day of the 2023-2024 school year. Daniela Hayek’s return to work date is August 20, 2024.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.
***Public comments heard during the meeting are summarized for the meeting minutes. Public comments received via csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org are transcribed verbatim for the meeting minutes.*

**RESPONSE TO PRIOR
QUESTIONS**

There were no prior unanswered questions or comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Upon motion by Mr. Epps, seconded by Mr. Burdell-Williams, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

_____, Board Secretary

_____, Board President