

**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, April 18, 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: Mr. Charles Burdell-Williams, Mr. David L. Cohen, Mr. Zachary Epps, Mr. Joel Fishbein, Ms. Julie Haywood, Ms. Pamela Henry, Ms. Jennifer Lowman, Ms. Leah Mulhearn, Mr. Daniel Schultz.

CHELtenham SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Chris Barone, Director of Information Technology; Ms. Charlene Collins, Director of Secondary Education; Mr. Timothy Holman, Director of Facilities and Maintenance; Ms. Jessica Keene, Director of Student Services; Dr. Brian Reilly, Director of STEM; Dr. Tamara Thomas Smith, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Joshua Sweigard, Director of Business Services; Ms. Adrienne Tolbert-Jackson, Director of Human Services; and Dr. Brian Scriven, Superintendent.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Edward Diasio, Esq.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Debra Harding

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

President Henry opened the meeting with a moment of silence to honor the memory of Rachel King, a parent in the District whose recent tragic death impacted staff and students, and Mr. David Rackow, a former long-tenured board member.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board member, Mr. Burdell-Williams.

**RECOGNITIONS**

Principal Perez presented an overview of Cheltenham Elementary highlighting the student artwork displayed in the administration building.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

No report given.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Scriven discussed the following:

- 2023-2026 Strategic Plan Branding Initiative

- National Robotics Week
- SkillsUSA State Competition
- Montgomery County Science Research Competition
- Cedarbrook student accomplishments at the Delaware Valley Science Fair
- Elkins Park School Leadership Academy Program Tie Ceremony
- Myers Book Scavengers accomplishments at the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Reading Olympics
- Opening Day Ceremony at Cheltenham Little League

**SOLICITOR'S  
REPORT**

Mr. Diasio 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.  
*\*\*Public comments heard during the meeting are summarized for the meeting minutes. Public comments received via [csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org](mailto:csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org) are transcribed verbatim for the meeting minutes.*

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Epps, seconded by Ms. Mulhearn, the minutes of the March 13, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

**FINANCIAL  
AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

Ms. Henry reporting for the Financial Affairs committee, shared information from the meeting held on April 11, 2023. The meeting video and presentation for any Finance Committee meeting can be found [here](#). The next meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2023.

**EDUCATIONAL  
AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

Ms. Mulhearn reporting for the Educational Affairs committee, shared information from the last meeting held on March 21, 2023. The meeting video and presentation for any Educational Affairs committee meeting can be found [here](#). The next meeting is scheduled for April 25, 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 April 12, 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 May 10, 2023.

**MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY  
INTERMEDIATE  
UNIT (MCIU)  
REPORT**

Ms. Lowman, shared information from the meeting held on March 29, 2023. The minutes of any Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors meeting can be accessed [here](#). The next meeting will be held on April 26, 2023.

**FACILITIES  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

Mr. Burdell-Williams, reporting for the Facilities Committee, shared information from the meeting held on April 11, 2023. Any meeting video and presentation of the Facilities Committee can be found [here](#). The next Facilities Committee meeting will be held on May 2, 2023.

**LIAISON GROUP**

Mr. Cohen, reporting for the Liaison Group, shared information from the meeting held on April 17, 2023 including:

- Thanks to Dr. Scriven for participating in the April CRTF meeting
- Formal announcement that Alyson Elliott is the new Township Manager
- Update on PennDOT improvement Project on Church/Greenwood intersection and Church from Rices Mill Road through Greenwood Avenue intersection, including closures, detours, and a Public Meeting
- Update on Township Facilities; also voting locations
- Reminders of pool registrations; summer programming
- Proposed demolition of home of Reggie Jackson on Greenwood Avenue
- Condolences to youth whose mother who was murdered at Dunkin Donuts
- Updates on juveniles/Wawa
- Creek naming efforts by the Township

Mr. Cohen announced the next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for May 15, 2023.

**POLICY  
COMMITTEE**

Mr. Epps, reporting for the Policy Committee, shared information from the meeting held on March 28, 2023. The video and summary of any policy committee meeting can be found [here](#). The next Policy Committee meeting is combined with Educational Affairs and is scheduled for April 25, 2023.

**LEGISLATIVE  
REPORT**

Mr. Epps reporting for the Montgomery County School Directors Legislative Committee (MCS DLC) shared information from the meeting held on March 15, 2023:

- President Biden announced his 2024 Fiscal Year Budget, which runs from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024. Funding from this budget would impact the 2024-25 school year. This

proposal includes a 13% increase for the US Department of Education, with significant investments in Title 1, Special Education, and Teacher Development. This proposal is not final and represents the White House only. Congress will propose its budget, and negotiations will take place. As we have seen over the past few years, a long-term agreement is not always a guarantee.

- In February, the US Department of Agriculture proposed changes to the nutrition standards to align with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The proposal increases limits on added sugars and sodium within meals served in all schools. This proposal, if approved, would have a phased launch in fall 2025. The public comment period ended last week and we await the final decision.
- In March, Acting Secretary of Education Khalid Mumin went before the House and Senate Appropriation Committees to discuss Governor Shapiro's budget proposal. The total budget is just over \$44 Billion, and Education represents 40% (\$17B).
- Members of the board and our superintendent met with both of our state legislators as part of the Pennsylvania School Board Association's Advocacy Day

Mr. Epps shared that the next meeting date will be during April 2023.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Upon motion by Mr. Epps, seconded by Mr. Fishbein, the adoption of Policy #113.2 Behavior Support (2011), was pulled from the consent agenda items in order to conduct a separate vote on the matter. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Mr. Burdell-Williams, the following consent agenda items were unanimously approved:

**Policies for Adoption or Repeal**

#011 Principles for Governance and Leadership (2022)

#828 District-Wide Safety (2022)

#709 Building Security (2013) **for Repeal**

#236 Threat Assessment (2021)

#827 Conflict of Interest (2016)

#825 Reporting Waste and Wrongdoing in District Operations - Whistleblower (2015)

#920 Non-school Organizations/Groups/Individuals (2020)

**Approval of Revision to 2022-2023 Academic School Year Calendar**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends that the Board approve the following revision to the 2022-2023 academic school year calendar: the final school day for students in the 2022-2023 school year will now be Tuesday, June 13, 2023, and the final day for staff will be Thursday, June 15, 2023.

**Approval of Conferences**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of the attendance and payment of expenses for **Dr. Adicia Cohen-Johnson, Vice Principal** - Cedarbrook Middle School, to attend the 2023 Annual Visible Learning Conference on July 10-13, 2023, with the total estimated cost of \$1,749.97 to be paid from the general fund account.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of the attendance and payment of expenses for **Jaclyn DiGianivittorio, Supervisor of Special Education**, to attend the National Autism Conference on July 31-August 3, 2023, with the total estimated cost of \$1,025.00 to be paid from the general fund account.

**Approval of Educational Service Agreement**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of the educational service agreement between the District and parents of the student identified below by confidential student number in the form presented to the Board:

Student #: 403254

Student #: 411059

**Approval of Volunteers**

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

Ramona Amaro

Marnie Barnhart

Amal Bass

Ashley Borders

Kristin Brown

Michelle Brown

Sara Buehler

Dana Byard

Jenell Calo

Courtney D'Avella

Ashley Daniels

Jeramie DeBerry

Fatima El-Mekki

Kimberly R. Ford

Leslie Grant-Smith  
Alan Kaufman  
Rebecca Kohn  
Ilyssa Kyu  
Michael Leshner  
Alexa Lester  
Shannon Lewis  
Marty Manson  
Gina Miller  
Elizabeth Norris  
Ruthanne Parker  
Janae Reid  
Cherise Shane  
Crystal Stryker  
Deonna Thompson  
Janelle Wesley  
Brandon Wilson

**Approval of Bus Drivers**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of the Bus Drivers as submitted to the Board.

**Approval of Bid**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of the bid for the fire alarm detection system at Cheltenham High School. Bids were opened on April 12, 2023, and the recommendation is to award the bid to the Yates Electrical Services, Inc. in the amount of \$2,224,500.

**Approval of Purchases**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the Board approve the purchase of 1250 Lenovo Chromebooks for Elkins Park School and Elementary Schools in the amount of \$399,850 using ESSER Funds. This price included Chromebooks, Cases, and Google Management Licenses.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the Board approve the purchase of 100 Smartboards, including installation costs for Cheltenham High School, in the amount of \$499,712 using ESSER Funds.

**Approval of Payments**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends approval of bills for payment for the period March 1, 2023 through March 31, 2023, in the following amounts in accordance with the list submitted to the board.

FUND	Check Numbers	Amount
------	---------------	--------

Cheltenham School District  
Hybrid Legislative Meeting of the Board of School Directors  
April 18, 2023

<b>General Fund</b>	164781 - 165150 WT2300301	2,534,448.47
<b>Payroll Fund</b>	13352 – 13366 WT230269- 230315	6,501,502.20
<b>Student Activity</b>	52003130- 52003134	7,338.25
<b>Self Ins Fund</b>	WT 230270- 230271	849,863.69
<b>Food Service Fund</b>	2733-2736	608,991.28

**Appointment of Long-Term Substitute**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the appointment of **Talynn Holman**, Long Term Substitute 6th Grade Teacher at Elkins Park School, at a salary of \$51,550 (Step 4/B), to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective February 26, 2023.

**Appointment of Support Staff**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the appointment of **Ya-Sin Shafeeq-Quarles-Abdul-Haqq** as Paraeducator, Emotional Support, Tier III, at Cheltenham High School, 7 hours per day for 184 days, at an hourly rate of \$18.34 to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective April 10, 2023. A 90-day probation period is required.

**Approval of Agreements**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of a service agreement between the School District of Cheltenham and **Nyman Associates** for supplemental therapists and behavioral services.

**Approval in Changes of Assignment**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the approval of a change in position for **William Littles** from: Head Custodian, Grade 16, at Cedarbrook Middle School to: Custodial Supervisor at the Administration Building at an annual 2022-2023 salary of \$70,000 prorated, effective April 3, 2023.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the approval of a change in position for **Jason Brown** from: Head Custodian, Grade 16, at Myers Elementary School to: Lead Custodian, Grade 17, at

Glenside Elementary School, 8 hours per day for 260 days, at an annual rate of \$54,650 prorated, effective March 20, 2023.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the approval of a change in position for **Beverley Lawrence** from: Lead Custodian, Grade 17, at Glenside Elementary School to: Custodian, Grade 18, at Cheltenham Elementary School, 8 hours per day for 260 days, at an annual rate of \$47,280 prorated, effective March 13, 2023.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the ratification of the approval of a change in position for **Anthony Cipparone** from: Head Custodian, Grade 16, at Cheltenham High School to: Lead Custodian, Grade 17, at Cheltenham High School, 8 hours per day for 260 days, at an annual rate of \$52,530 prorated, effective February 6, 2023.

#### **Appointment of ESY (Extended School Year) Personnel**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of the personnel for ESY teaching staff, per attachment entitled "2023 ESY Teaching Staff List", at an approved rate of \$50.00 per hour.

RESOLVED: The administration recommends the approval of ESY paraeducators, per attachment entitled "Summer 2023 ESY Paraeducator List". The rate of pay is the same as the individual's hourly rate during the 2022-2023 academic school year.

#### **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.

#### **Approval of Salary Adjustment**

RESOLVED: The administration recommends horizontal salary column movement, effective January 27, 2023 for professional employees per the attachment, in as much as they have submitted official evidence of credits earned.

#### **Termination of Classified Employee**

Administration recommends the termination of employment of classified employee #10918 pursuant to Section 5-514 of the Pennsylvania School Code and information provided to the Board of School Directors, effective immediately.

**THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS WERE NOT SUBJECT TO VOTE:**



### **First Read Policies**

#204 Attendance (2017)

#127 Assessment of Educational Program (2016) - Change to "Assessment System"

#136 Home Education (2019)

#136.1 Participation in Extracurricular Programs by Home Education Students

#136.2 Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students

#136.3 Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students.

### **ARs Only**

#828 District-Wide Safety (2022)

#709 Building Security (2013) for Repeal

#236 Threat Assessment (2021)

#825 Reporting Waste and Wrongdoing in District Operations - Whistleblower (2015)

#204 Attendance (2017)

### **Retirements**

**Stephen Buckingham**, First Grade Teacher at Wyncote Elementary, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. Stephen Buckingham has been a district employee for 25 years.

**Karen Goode**, Special Education Teacher at Wyncote Elementary, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. Karen Goode has been a district employee for 30 years.

**Katherine Falso**, 4th Grade Teacher at Cheltenham Elementary, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. Katherine Falso has been a district employee for 29 years.

**Bruce Tilley**, 2nd Shift Custodian at Glenside Elementary, effective February 10, 2023 end of the workday. Bruce Tilley has been a district employee for 5 years.

**Brian Hollis**, Social Studies Teacher at Cheltenham High School, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. Brian Hollis has been a district employee for 26 years.

**Cyd Smith, Elementary Counselor at Elkins Park Elementary**, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. Cyd Smith has been a district employee for 19 years.

**Kara Hopkins**, Art Teacher at Myers Elementary, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. Kara Hopkins has been a district employee for 22 years.

**David Burton**, Health and Physical Education Teacher at Cheltenham High School, effective the last teacher day in June 2023 end of the workday. David Burton has been a district employee for 26 years.

### **Resignations**

**Patrick O'Neil**, Accounts Payable Clerk at the Administration Building, effective March 17, 2023 end of workday.

**Bertha Allen**, Custodian at the Administration Building, effective March 9, 2023 end of workday.

**Shelly Johnson**, Part-time Building Aide at Elkins Park Elementary, effective March 22, 2023 end of workday.

**Marissa Custer**, Groundskeeper at the Administration Building, effective April 19, 2023 end of workday.

**Lylunette Bennett**, Paraeducator, LS at Elkins Park Elementary, effective April 7, 2023.

### **Non-discretionary Leaves of Absence**

**Shenita Smith**, Custodian at Cheltenham High School, granted an unpaid leave of absence from April 6, 2023 until May 5, 2023 under the provisions of the Family & Medical Leave policy. Shenita Smith's return to work date is May 8, 2023.

**Tiffany Rogers**, Part-time Building Aide at Cedarbrook Middle School, granted unpaid leave as per the BEC Collective Bargaining Agreement (VII.B.2) from February 27, 2023 until the last student day in June 2023. Tiffany Rogers' return to work date is August 22, 2023.

**Crystal Gordon**, Part-time Building Aide at Cheltenham Elementary School, granted unpaid leave from February 27, 2023 until May 26, 2023 due to medical necessity. Crystal Gordon's return to work date is May 30, 2023.

**Robbin Balfour-Austin**, Paraeducator at Cedarbrook, granted an unpaid leave of absence from March 21, 2023 until April 21, 2023 under the provisions of the Family & Medical Leave policy. Robbin Balfour-Austin's return to work date is April 22, 2023.

**ADOPTION OF  
POLICY #113.2  
BEHAVIOR  
SUPPORT (2011)**

Upon motion by Mr. Schultz, seconded by Mr. Epps, a voice vote was taken on the adoption of Policy #113.2 Behavior Support (2011). The vote was as follows:

Mr. Cohen – yes, Mr. Fishbein – yes, Ms. Lowman – yes, Ms. Mulhearn – yes, Ms. Haywood – yes, Mr. Epps – yes, Mr. Burdell-Williams – yes, Mr. Schultz – yes, Mr. Henry – yes. The motion carried 9-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS  
ON NON-AGENDA  
ITEMS**

There was one (1) public comment on non-agenda items.  
*\*\*Public comments heard during the meeting are summarized for the meeting minutes. Public comments received via [csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org](mailto:csdboardmeetingcomments@cheltenham.org) are transcribed verbatim for the meeting minutes.*


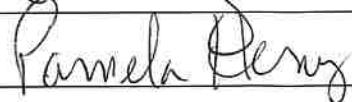
Taryn Knox, Wyncote, offered comments on athletic field conditions. Ms. Knox had several questions regarding the plans for field repair and the budget for athletics. Dr. Scriven asked that she forward her questions to Principal D'Andrea and a meeting would be held to discuss her concerns. Mr. Schultz added that the April 2023 Financial Affairs Committee meeting would include a discussion of the budget and encouraged Ms. Knox and the community at large to attend.

**RESPONSE TO  
PRIOR QUESTIONS**

There were no prior unanswered questions or comments.

**MEETING  
ADJOURNED**

Upon motion by Mr. Burdell-Williams, seconded by Mr. Epps, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Board Secretary  
  
\_\_\_\_\_, Board President