



UPPER ST. CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Mr. Phillip J. Elias, President • Dr. Daphna Gans, Vice-President
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas • Vacant Seat • Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr.
Mr. Michael R. Mascaro • Mrs. Angela B. Petersen • Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore • Dr. Danielle Z. Wetzel
Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent • Mrs. Jocelyn P. Kramer, Solicitor

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 21, 2022 @ 7:30pm
District Administration Building Board Room

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, a Special Board meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on February 21, 2022 in the District Administration Building Board Room.

School Board Members:

Mr. Phillip J. Elias, President (in-person)
Dr. Daphna Gans, Vice-President (in-person)
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas (in-person)
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr. (in-person)
Mr. Michael R. Mascaro (in-person)
Mrs. Angela B. Peterson (in-person)
Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore (in-person)
Dr. Danielle Z. Wetzel (in-person)
Vacant Seat

School Personnel:

Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent (in-person)
Dr. Sharon K. Suritsky, Assistant/Deputy Superintendent (virtual)
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Assistant Superintendent (virtual)
Mr. Ray Carson, Senior Director of Operations & Administrative Services (virtual)
Mr. Scott Burchill, Director of Business & Finance (virtual)
Mrs. Jocelyn Kramer, Solicitor (in-person)
Mrs. Sarah MacDonald, Board Stenographer (in-person)



Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

(Elias, School Board President)

Mr. Elias called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00pm.

Mr. Elias thanked everyone in attendance and advised that he will try to make the meeting run as quickly as possible.

Meeting Procedures

(Solicitor)

Dr. Rozzo introduced Solicitor Harr who filled in for Solicitor Kramer during the meeting.

Solicitor Harr reviewed that the Board accepted the resignation of Mr. Patrick Hewitt at the January 28, 2022 School Board Meeting and subsequently has 30 days to fill his vacant seat. Solicitor Harr also advised about the qualifications needed for a resident to be appointed to the vacant School Board seat.

Mr. Elias thanked Solicitor Harr.

Mr. Elias advised that the School Board received 18 applications for the vacant School Board seat. However, one applicant could not be considered, due to the individual not meeting the qualifications to fill the vacant seat. He noted there were 13 applicants in the room to be interviewed, with the other 4 applicants unable to attend the meeting; however, the applicants not in attendance would still be considered for the vacant seat under the application packages they submitted.

Mr. Elias explained the details of the interview process, noting that applicants do not have to speak for the entire 5 minutes, and after applicants finish speaking the Board may ask clarifying questions. He advised that the new Board member will be appointed at the regularly scheduled School Board Meeting on February 28, 2022. He reported that all applicants were seated in the Board Room and non-applicant residents were seated in adjacent rooms. He also reviewed the selection process for applicants to come to the podium and speak, noting that applicant's names will be randomly selected by Solicitor Harr from a bowl. He asked the candidates to please speak about why they want to be on the School Board and again advised that all candidates have five minutes to speak.

Mrs. Bolas pointed out that a timer will be used to track each applicants speaking time, which will ensure that no applicant exceeds five minutes.

Mr. Elias thanked Mrs. Bolas for pointing out the timer and reiterated that it will be a hard-stop at the five minute mark.



Reading of the Mission:

(Elias, School Board President)

Dr. Wetzel read the following Mission Statement:

Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promotes happiness and success.



Reading of the Shared Belief Statement #3 from Strategic Plan:

(Elias, School Board President)

Ms. Schnore read the following Shared Belief Statement #3

We Believe that:

A commitment to excellence demands an investment of financial, human, and material resources.

Interview Applicants for School Board Vacancy

(Elias, School Board President)

The applicant's names were randomly selected by Solicitor Harr in the below listed order. Each applicant spoke for a maximum of five minutes about why they would like to be on the School Board. No follow-up questions were asked by the Board.

1. Mr. Daniel Powell
2. Mr. Howard Ginsburg

Mr. Elias paused the interview process to note the names of the 4 applicants who were not in attendance at the meeting: Ms. Kelly Hanna, Mr. Jarred Detweiler, Mr. James H.H. Reik, and Mr. John Shedd. He reiterated that the applicants will move forward based on the application packages they submitted.

3. Mr. Michael Castagno
4. Mr. Richard Waltemire
5. Ms. Kathleen Carroll
6. Mr. Paul Fox
7. Mr. Sébastien Dubreil
8. Ms. Jaime Greenberg
9. Ms. Amy Baldasare
10. Mr. David Miller
11. Ms. Lisa Fay-Thorp

Mr. Chris Daley's name was drawn at this time, however he was not in attendance.



12. Mr. Ahmed El Nokali

Mr. Elias thanked all of the applicants. He noted that it was great to hear from the applicants and to know that everyone in the community still cares so much about the School District. He explained that the regularly scheduled School Board Meeting will be held next week and an applicant will be appointed during that time.

Dr. Gans commented that the interviews really gave the Board a peak into the depth, talent, and caring feelings the community has towards the School District. She advised that although there is only one spot for a new School Board member, she hoped that the applicants would stay involved in the District, as there are many other opportunities and ways to get involved in the District.

Residents' Comments - (Regarding Any District Related Items)
(Elias, School Board President)

Note: As per Guidelines for Resident's Comments, please state your name, confirm you are a resident, and limit your comments to three minutes.

There was one resident comment at this time:

1. Louis Oliverio – mask mandate, marching band, Deer Valley, return to normalcy

Matters of Information
(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

Dr. Rozzo advised that the School Board Candidate will be selected at the February 28, 2022 School Board meeting.

- a. The selection of the School Board Candidate will happen at the February 28, 2022 Board Meeting

Announcement Regarding Executive Session
(Elias, School Board President)

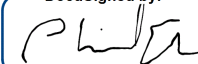
Mr. Elias announced the following Executive Session:

- a. Executive Session was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 6:00pm for Legal Matters and Negotiations

Adjournment
(Elias, School Board President)

Mr. Elias adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:37pm.



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Philip J. Elias, President
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

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Scott P. Burchill, Secretary
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

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Submitted by: Sarah MacDonald
SCHOOL BOARD STENOGRAPHER