

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, June 28, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. to hold a hybrid special 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. Leah Mulhearn, Mr. Daniel Schultz, Dr. Ross Whiting.
Absent: Ms. Jennifer Lowman, Ms. Robyn Murphy

CHELtenham SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Mary Kay Feeley, Interim Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Joshua Sweigard, Director of Business Services; and Dr. Brian Scriven, Superintendent.

SOLICITOR

Mr. Edward Diasio, Esq.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Debra Harding

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board member, Ms. Blitstein.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Mr. Diasio announced the board met in one (1) executive session since the last legislative meeting on June 28, 2024 regarding CEA Collective Bargaining.

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 are transcribed verbatim for the meeting minutes.*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Adoption of the 2024-2025 Final Budget

Upon motion by Mr. Epps, seconded by Mr. Burdell-Williams, the following consent agenda item was approved via voice vote. The 7-0 vote was as follows:

- Ms. Blitstein – aye
- Mr. Burdell-Williams – aye
- Mr. Epps – aye
- Ms. Henry – aye
- Ms. Lowman - absent

Ms. Mulhearn – aye
Ms. Murphy - absent
Mr. Schultz – aye
Dr. Whiting - aye

Adoption of Budget and Tax Levy

The Financial Affairs Committee recommends Board approval of the final budget for the Cheltenham School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and authorization of the appropriation and expenditure of the funds as itemized in said Budget during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, in the amount of \$134,311,861. The necessary revenue for the same shall be provided by the following taxes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, adopted concurrently herewith:

1. A Real Estate Transfer Tax of one percent (1%) to be shared equally between the Township of Cheltenham and the Cheltenham School District where each receives one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the Real Estate Transfer Tax.
2. A Mercantile License Tax on (i) wholesale vendors or dealers in goods, wares at the rate of one (1) mill on each dollar of gross volume of business and (ii) retail vendors or dealers in goods, wares, and merchandise at the rate of one and one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) mills on each dollar of the gross volume of retail business transacted within the School District during the license year to be shared equally between the Township of Cheltenham and the Cheltenham School District where each receives one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the Mercantile License Tax;
3. A tax on net profits earned on businesses, professions, and other activities conducted by residents of the School District of Cheltenham Township and on salaries, wages, commissions, and other compensation earned by residents of the Cheltenham School District is imposed by the School District at the flat rate of one percent (1%) to be shared equally between the Township of Cheltenham and the Cheltenham School District where each receives one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the Earned Income Tax.
4. A Local Services Tax (LST) in the amount of Five Dollars (\$5.00), by virtue of the fact that the Commissioners of the Township of Cheltenham have enacted a LST in the amount of \$52.00 similar to the Resolution imposing a like tax by the Cheltenham School District.
5. A school tax on real estate at a rate of 53.17 mills, or at the rate of \$5.317 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property shall be levied upon all the property upon which the County of Montgomery taxes are levied and assessed.

Approval of Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion

WHEREAS, the County Assessor has certified to the School District that there are 7,796 eligible homestead properties in the School District and no eligible farmstead properties in the School District for the 2024-2025 fiscal year and.

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Education has certified that the School District's Property Tax Reduction Allocation for the 2024-2025 fiscal year is \$4,657,817.

In accordance with the Special Session Act 1 of 2006, known as the Taxpayer Relief Act, the Board of School Directors hereby establishes the following homestead exclusion and farmstead exclusion, for the 2024-2025 fiscal year;

All eligible homesteads shall receive a homestead exclusion of \$11,402.00 of the assessed value of the homestead, which, based upon the millage rate established for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, corresponds to a tax reduction of \$597.46

All eligible farmsteads shall receive a farmstead exclusion of \$11,402.00 of the assessed value of the farmstead, which, based upon the millage rate established for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, corresponds to a tax reduction of \$597.46.

The Tax Collector shall itemize the exclusion on each eligible homestead and eligible farmstead owner's annual property tax bill, showing (a) the assessed value, (b) the tax liability on the assessed value, (c) the amount of the homestead and/or farmstead exclusion in assessed value, (d) the actual tax liability after the homestead and/or farmstead exclusion and (e) the actual tax savings associated with the homestead and/or farmstead exclusion.

The Tax Collector shall also have the following notice included with the tax bills of all owners of eligible homestead and farmstead properties:

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Your enclosed tax bill includes a tax reduction for your homestead and/or farmstead property. As an eligible homestead and/or farmstead property owner, you have received tax relief through a homestead and/or farmstead exclusion which has been provided under the Pennsylvania Taxpayer Relief Act, a law passed by the Pennsylvania General Assembly designed to reduce your property taxes. These provisions shall apply to the annual property tax bills issued in July 2024 and not to any interim real estate tax bill.

Approval of Real Estate Tax Installment Payments Resolution

The administration recommends the following resolution be adopted approving the Real Estate Tax Installment Payments to meet Special Session Act 1 of 2006 and the 2024-2025 budget requirements of the School District.

WHEREAS Act 1 requires school districts to offer installment payments for real estate property taxes and;

WHEREAS the Board of School Directors intends to comply with this regulation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of School Directors of the School District of Cheltenham Township establishes installment payments as follows:

Installment payments will be available to all properties to comply with Act 25.

Installment payments will be made in three equal payments due on or before the last banking day of **September, October, and November** of the applicable tax year.

Discounts are not permitted.

Failure to make the first installment payment by the established due date will disqualify the taxpayer from the installment payment program for the applicable year.

If complete payments are not received by December 31, 2024, the entire penalty indicated on the bill will be assessed.

A taxpayer who is delinquent by more than ten days on two installment payments shall be ineligible for the installment payment option in the following fiscal year.

Approval of Real Estate Tax Discount and Penalty Periods

The administration recommends the following for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year:

If paid in full by Tuesday, September 3, 2024, the 2024-25 tax referenced above will be entitled to a discount of 2%; September 4 through November 3, the 2024-25 tax referenced above will be payable at the face amount and any taxes paid after November 4, 2024, will be subject to a penalty of 10% through December 31, 2024. All such 2024-2025 taxes that remain unpaid as of December 31, 2024, shall be subject to a penalty of 10% considered delinquent and treated as such for all purposes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

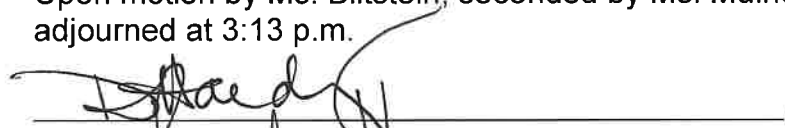
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**RESPONSE TO
PRIOR QUESTIONS**

There were no unanswered prior questions.

**MEETING
ADJOURNED**

Upon motion by Ms. Blitstein, seconded by Ms. Mulhearn, the meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.


_____, Board Secretary


_____, Board President