

PENNSAUKEN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education Administration Building
1695 Hylton Road, Pennsauken, New Jersey 08110

**BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARING
(SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET)
Tuesday, May 2, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Advanced written notice of this meeting of the Pennsauken Township Board of Education was transmitted to the Courier Post and the Burlington County Times. Notice transmitted in the legal notice section of the Courier Post and the Burlington County Times stating the time, date, location and that formal action may be taken at that time. Notice was also posted with the Township Clerk.

As President, I declare this to be a legal meeting of the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent
President: Mr. Perry		
Vice President: Mrs. Young		
Mr. Alves		
Ms. Eckel		
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh		
Ms. Johnson		
Mr. La Vine		
Mr. Viera		
Mr. White		

Also in attendance:

	Present	Absent
Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Tarchichi		
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary: Mr. Ogunkanmi		
Board Solicitor:		

FLAG SALUTE

- Moment of Silence

PRESENTATION

- 2023-24 PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

The Board of Education now welcomes the public to comment on the items which are on our agenda tonight. Community members should first try to resolve their concerns by speaking directly to school administrators before bringing those concerns to the Board. It may not always be possible or appropriate for the Board to directly answer questions during the public comment period. Each speaker is allotted a maximum of two (2) minutes to make their statement. No one may speak more than once on the same topic. You are required to give your name and address before speaking. Please keep your comments respectful and non-defamatory, and maintain the level of decorum appropriate for a public meeting where minors may be in the audience.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

ITEMS FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL

BUSINESS & FINANCE

1. RECOMMEND the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Pennsauken Township School District budget as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund	\$140,922,734.00	\$44,066,943.00
Special Revenue Fund	\$6,704,660.00	
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$2,482,544.00</u>	<u>\$1,864,151.00</u>
Reserve Transfer		
Totals	<u>\$150,109,938.00</u>	<u>\$45,931,094.00</u>

WHEREAS the Pennsauken Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for banked cap in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.1(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$214,675.00 for the purpose of projected transportation increase costs and other necessary capital projects. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2024.

WHEREAS the Pennsauken Board of Education includes in the final budget the adjustment for increased costs of health benefits in the amount of \$546,000.00. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health benefit premiums.

2. RECOMMEND the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Pennsauken Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.2 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-1.2, which includes attendance at regularly scheduled in-state county meetings, department or association sponsored events or in-state professional development activities, where prior Board approval shall not be required unless the annual threshold for a staff member exceeds \$1,500.00 in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, the Pennsauken Board of Education established \$89,900.00 as the maximum travel amount for the current school year and has expended \$16,497.77 as of this date; now

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves professional development, travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, to a maximum expenditure of \$89,900.00 for all staff and board members for the 2023/2024 school year.

3. RECOMMEND the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 5.2 requires the Pennsauken Township Board of Education to establish maximum annual dollar items during budget preparation for dissemination of public information.

AND WHEREAS the Pennsauken Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to dissemination of information to parents and the community in an efficient and timely manner.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Pennsauken Board of Education establishes a budget maximum for dissemination of public information of \$50,000.00.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS:

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL

The Board now welcomes the public to comment on any educational issue or school matter of community interest. Once again, each speaker is allotted a maximum of two (2) minutes to make their statement. No one may speak more than once on the same topic. You are required to give your name and address before speaking.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

OPEN EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

TIME:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Pennsauken that it adjourn to Executive Session as prescribed under the “Sunshine Law”, if necessary, in order to discuss legal issues, contracts and personnel issues. Any discussion held by the Board of Education that need not remain confidential will be made public. Matters under discussion will not be disclosed to the public until the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting, and

WHEREAS, the Pennsauken Board of Education has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of the Pennsauken Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session, at approximately ____ p.m. this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pennsauken Board of Education will convene into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

____A matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public. (Provision relied upon: _____)

____A matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government.

____A matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.

_____A collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in a collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body. (Specify contract: _____)

_____A matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.

_____Tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public whose disclosure could impair such protection.

_____An investigation of violations or possible violations of the law.

_____A pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party, or a matter falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is: _____)

_____A matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting. The nature of discussion is _____and the employee(s) involved has been provided the required notice and has not requested the discussion be held in open session.

_____Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

TOPICS:

1. LEGAL
2. CONTRACT
3. STUDENT
4. PERSONNEL

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION BY:

SECOND BY:

MOTION:

TIME:

MOTION TO ADJOURN

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Alves				Mr. Perry			
Ms. Eckel				Mr. Viera			
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh				Mr. White			
Ms. Johnson				Mrs. Young			
Mr. La Vine							

ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING**MOTION BY:****SECOND BY:****MOTION:****TIME:**