

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
March 11, 2021
6:30 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 Burlington County Times. Notice transmitted in the legal notice section of the Courier Post and Burlington County Times stating the time, date, location and that formal action would 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	X	
Vice President: Mrs. Young	X	
Ms. Eckel	X	
Mr. Hurley	X	
Mrs. James	X	
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh (Remote)	X	
Ms. Johnson	X	
Mr. La Vine	X	
Mr. Viera	X	

Also in attendance:

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

FLAG SALUTE

- Moment of Silence

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
Ms. Eckel	X			Mr. La Vine	X		
Mr. Hurley	X			Mr. Perry	X		
Mrs. James	X			Mr. Viera	X		
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh	X			Mrs. Young	X		
Ms. Johnson	X						

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

- No public comment

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ms. Eckel	X			Mr. La Vine	X		
Mr. Hurley	X			Mr. Perry	X		
Mrs. James	X			Mr. Viera	X		
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh	X			Mrs. Young	X		
Ms. Johnson	X						

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

- **SUMMER PROGRAMS DISCUSSION**

ITEMS FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL

1. RECOMMEND the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the following resolution for submission to the New Jersey School Boards Association Annual Delegate Assembly.

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

The following resolution is submitted by the
Pennsauken Township Board of Education (Camden)

Compensation for Board of Education Members

WHEREAS, the current Policies of the New Jersey School Boards Association do not address compensation of members of a Board of Education for their service; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsauken Township Board of Education (“the Board”) governs through the development of policies, goals and objectives for the Baldwin Early Childhood Learning Center, Carson Elementary School, Fine Elementary School, Franklin Elementary School, Pennsauken Intermediate School, Phifer Middle School, Burling High School, and Pennsauken High School; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board must hold and participate in a minimum of six scheduled public meetings annually, one annual reorganization meeting, executive sessions, and additional special meetings; and

WHEREAS, each member of the Board is required to attend training courses in the areas of policy, school finance, student achievement, labor relations, and school law in the first, second and third year of their first term, and first year of any re-appointed term; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board oversee the management of schools by appointing the superintendent, evaluating the superintendent, and negotiating the employment contract of the superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board are charged with final decision on all personnel matters including hiring, employee discipline, leave requests, and termination; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board participate on committees which meet separately from the public board of education meetings; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board are charged with the duty to negotiate with the Local Education Association to reach Collective Bargaining Agreements for covered employees; and

WHEREAS, members of the Board dedicate many hours of service to the school; and

WHEREAS, The Delegate Assembly is the official policymaking body of the New Jersey School Boards Association; and

WHEREAS, Education-related policies resulting from prior Delegate Assembly and Board of Directors actions are codified in the NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education;

RESOLVED, that the Pennsauken Board of Education propose the following additional policy language for adoption by the Delegate Assembly and inclusion in the NJSBA's Manual of Positions and Policies on Education:

THE NJSBA BELIEVES as New Jersey Law does not prohibit local boards of education from permitting persons who sit on those board to receive compensation and reimbursement for expenses incurred while performing school board responsibilities, the NJSBA Manual of Positions and Policies on Education shall be amended to permit the Board to make a recommendation regarding compensation at the annual reorganizational meeting. The recommendation will then be considered by the finance and policy committees before formal action is taken.

RESOLVED, that this resolution be placed on the agenda for consideration at May 15, 2021 Delegate Assembly.

Adopted by the Pennsauken Township BOE
at the special board meeting held on
March , 2021.

School Business Administrator / Board Secretary

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ms. Eckel	X			Mr. La Vine	X		
Mr. Hurley	X			Mr. Perry	X		
Mrs. James		X		Mr. Viera	X		
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh	X			Mrs. Young		X	
Ms. Johnson	X						

APPROVAL OF: ITEM #1
MOTION BY: Mrs. Young
SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley
MOTION: Carried

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
Ms. Eckel	X			Mr. La Vine	X		
Mr. Hurley	X			Mr. Perry	X		
Mrs. James	X			Mr. Viera	X		
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh	X			Mrs. Young	X		
Ms. Johnson	X						

APPROVAL TO WAIVE PUBLIC COMMENT AS NO PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE
MOTION BY: Mrs. Young
SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley
MOTION: Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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 Grievance 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:

- **NOTHING FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Ms. Eckel	X			Mr. La Vine	X		
Mr. Hurley	X			Mr. Perry	X		
Mrs. James	X			Mr. Viera	X		
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh	X			Mrs. Young	X		
Ms. Johnson	X						

ADJOURN SPECIAL MEETING

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

TIME: 7:34 P.M.