

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

BOARD OF EDUCATION REORGANIZATION MEETING

Thursday, January 2, 2020
6:30 PM
Pennsauken High School - Room 327

CALL TO ORDER - BOARD SECRETARY PRESIDES

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 appeared in the legal notice section of the Courier Post and the 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.

John Ogunkanmi, Board Secretary, declares this to be a legal meeting of the Pennsauken Township Board of Education.

FLAG SALUTE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICIAL RESULTS OF ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION

<u>Three-year Term</u>	<u># of Votes</u>
Michael Hurley	3,061
Nicholas Perry	3,040
JoAnn Young	3,107

INSTALLATION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS – ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS OF OFFICE

Ms. Susan Hodges, Board Solicitor, administers the Oath of Office to Michael Hurley, Nicholas Perry and JoAnn Young

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Michael Hurley	2023
Nicholas Perry	2023
JoAnn Young	2023
Samer John Jarbough-Rafeh	2021
Diane Johnson	2021
Scott LaVine	2021
Michael Bortnowski	2020
Maria James	2020
Orlando Viera	2020

Roll call showed the following Board Members in attendance:

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mr. Bortnowski	X	
Mr. Hurley	X	
Mrs. James	X	
Mr. Jarbough-Rafeh	X	
Ms. Johnson	X	
Mr. La Vine	X	
Mr. Perry	X	
Mr. Viera	X	
Mrs. Young	X	

Also in attendance:

	Present	Absent
Superintendent of Schools: Dr. Tarchichi	X	
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary: Mr. Ogunkanmi	X	
Director of Elementary Education: Mr. Logan		X
Mr. Duane, Assistant Business Administrator	X	
Board Solicitor: Ms. Hodges	X	

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Board Secretary Mr. Ogunkanmi will call for nominations for President.

Mr. Michael Hurley nominated Mr. Nicholas Perry President of the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bortnowski	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						

NOMINATION OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

MOTION BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

Mr. Nicholas Perry was elected President of the Board of Education.

The President, will call for nominations for Vice President.

Mr. Michael Hurley nominated Ms. Diane Johnson for Vice-President of the Board of Education.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bortnowski	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						

NOMINATION OF THE BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

MOTION BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

Ms. Diane Johnson was elected Vice-President of the Board of Education.

1. RECOMMEND the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members, following the presentation by the Board Solicitor.

18A:12-24.1 Code of Ethics for School Board Members

A school board member shall abide by the following Code of Ethics for School Board Members:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
- c. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- d. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
- f. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

2. **RECOMMEND** the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the submission of the 2019-2020 school year merit goals for Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, to the Cape May County Interim Executive County Superintendent, Dr. Judith DeStefano for approval. (See Attachment)
3. **RECOMMEND** the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the 2020 Calendar for the Business Meetings to be held at Pennsauken High School, Room 327, 800 Hylton Road, Pennsauken, NJ, as outlined below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting</u>
January 23, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
February 20, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
March 19, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
April 23, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
May 12, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
June 18, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
July 23, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
August 20, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
September 17, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
October 15, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
November 19, 2020	6:30 PM	Business
December 17, 2020	6:30 PM	Business

4. **RECOMMEND** the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the following Committees:

District Business and Operations
 Communications
 Human Resources
 Negotiations
 Policy
 Education
 HIB & Discipline

5. **RECOMMEND** the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the Board President to appoint the following Committee appointments:

District Business and Operations: JoAnn Young, Mike Bortnowski, Samer Jarbough-Rafeh, Scott La Vine (Nick Perry –Alternate Member)

Communications: Nick Perry, Diane Johnson, Mike Bortnowski, Maria James

Human Resources: Nick Perry, Diane Johnson, Samer Jarbough-Rafeh

Negotiations: Nick Perry, Mike Bortnowski, JoAnn Young, Mike Hurley

Policy: Nick Perry, Diane Johnson, Maria James

Education: Nick Perry, Diane Johnson, Scott La Vine

HIB & Discipline: Nick Perry, Mike Hurley, Maria James, Diane Johnson

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bortnowski	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						

APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS: 1 - 5

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

6. **RECOMMEND** the Pennsauken Board of Education approve the Board President to appoint the following State and Local representation:

New Jersey School Boards Association: To represent the Board of Education at the state level – quarterly meetings on three Saturdays per year:

Legislative Representative: Mike Bortnowski

Alternate Representative: Orlando Viera

Camden County School Boards Association: To represent the Board of Education at the local level – monthly dinner meetings:

Representative: Diane Johnson

Alternate Representative: Orlando Viera

Camden County Educational Services Representative: Diane Johnson

Urban School Boards Representative: Diane Johnson

Municipal Alliance Representative: Nick Perry, Diane Johnson, Mike Bortnowski

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bortnowski	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 AGENDA ITEM: 6

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Pennsauken Township Board of Education recognizes that the schools are the concern of all members of the community. With this in mind, the Board of Education welcomes and solicits input from the public and has allocated a total of twenty (20) minutes for public comments. During the regular monthly Business Meeting, members of the community are afforded an opportunity to express their views. It does, however, respectfully suggest that citizens attempt to resolve concerns by speaking directly to school administrators before bringing it to the Board. Individuals with a relevant interest in the functions or duties of the Board are invited to speak a maximum of two (2) minutes on any one issue. You are required to give your name and address before speaking.

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bortnowski	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						

WAIVE PUBLIC COMMENT DUE TO NO PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

TOPICS:

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

- Nothing for Executive Session

MOTION TO ADJOURN

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN		YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bortnowski	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 MEETING

MOTION BY: Mrs. Young

SECOND BY: Mr. Hurley

MOTION: Carried

TIME: 7:28 PM