

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

PLACE: Ansonia High School, Media Center, via Zoom **DATE:** 10 February 2021 **TIME:** 6:30 p.m.
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mr. Chris Phipps, President

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call – Mr. Phipps called a quorum

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
MR. RICH BSHARA	X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO	X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	X		
MS. BETH LEBERGE	X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS, president	X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	X		
TOTAL	7	0	0

II. Public Session

III. Action items, consideration of approving the following items

A. Ansonia Board of Education meeting minutes dated January 11, 2021 (regular) (Personnel Committee); January 13, 2021 (Regular); and January 14, 2021 (Facilities Committee).

MOTION: To accept the meeting minutes dated January 11, 2021 (Regular) (Personnel Committee); January 13, 2021 (Regular); and January 14, 2021 (Facilities Committee).

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO	2	X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI		X		
MS. BETH LEBERGE		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS, president		X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	1	X		
TOTAL		7	0	

B. Report and recommendations from the Facilities Committee Meeting.

Mr. Phipps asked Mr. Bob Evans to update the Board. Mr. Evans told the Board he and Ms. Rebecca Adams will be setting up a meeting with the Board of Aldermen. He said this was agreed upon by the Facilities Committee members, as well as the regular Board to access the lapsed account funds. He said the Coe Lane project will be moving forward in the spring. Mr. Evans said the Pre-K move to our elementary schools was also discussed in the Facilities Committee Meeting. He said this move will be happening over the summer break. He said Ms. Adams is getting all the final numbers and will meet with the city to access funds from the lapsing account. Mr. Evans said the Alliance and CRF grant projects were updated and will be getting underway. He told the Board \$225,000 was spent on touchless fixtures throughout the district and the remaining request will be written up to approach the city for approval.

MOTION: To approve the relocation of the Pre-K program from Ansonia Middle School to the elementary schools.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		

MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	2	X		
MS. BETH LEBERGE		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS, president		X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	1	X		
TOTAL		7	0	

MOTION: To approve access of the non-lapsing account from the city.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI	1	X		
MS. BETH LEBERGE		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS, president		X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA	2	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK		X		
TOTAL		7	0	

C. Reopening Status.

Mr. Phipps asked Superintendent DiBacco to update the Board. Superintendent DiBacco said many thanks goes out to the Board for the approval to access the non-lapsing account. He said it's going to be very beneficial. He said right now, the high school is currently running five days a week with early dismissal and the rest of the district is four days a week with Wednesday being a remote learning day. Superintendent DiBacco told the Board that March 15th will be the next date to re-evaluate. He said at that time, they will discuss what will be best for the students and the district. He said he appreciates everyone's continued support, and please realize this re-opening is similar to that of a new school year. He said approximately 50% of the parent surveys were answered, leaving arrangements to be made for the rest of the students that were unknown. Superintendent DiBacco said he has spoken with students and staff, and they could not be happier being back in the building. He said they will continue to consult with Naugatuck Valley Health Department as well as our own medical advisor.

D. ESSER II.

Superintendent DiBacco said this \$3.5 million grant is for elementary and secondary schools, over a two year span. He said the 24 specific areas mostly concentrate on learning loss, trauma, safety, and air quality. He said the outline is very specific. He told the Board they will utilize all areas possible. He told the Board this is all outlined in their packet.

4. Informational Items.

A. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Superintendent DiBacco told the Board Mr. Bergin submitted his report, he is not present tonight. There were no questions.

B. Special Education Director's Report

Mr. Kevin Keating, Special Education Director, said new students continue to move into district already receiving special education services. He said he is very pleased with how helpful intervention continues to be for our students. Mr. Keating said he is also very happy to have the students back in the buildings. He said the community outreach lead by Mr. Lisi is an amazing resource to our district. He said this unique approach is very beneficial to us all. Mr. Keating says they received a memorandum of understanding from BH Care through PCRC regarding drug and alcohol counseling and treatment program. He said this program will allow students to be evaluated and receive treatment, with parental consent. He said he has the MOU to share for the Board. Mr. Phipps asked if there was a need for this service, or is it for preventative reasons. Mr. Keating said he believes it is very important to have available support for the areas known. He said he wants to make sure we do the very best we can to support within. Mr. Phipps said this is a great service and thanked Mr. Keating. Ms. LeBerge asked Mr. Keating if he had any information to provide to the Board for better understanding. Mr. Keating said he has a copy of the full MOU and will send it to all Board members. He said this is also a grant funded program. There were no other questions.

C. Technology Report

Mr. Pastore gave his report. He told the Board that updates for the category one improvements continue to be made throughout the district. He said these are all being submitted to the FETC for approval. He said these will hopefully be 90% funded. He said the student data privacy process for software continues to be completed for compliance, and discussed other active projects. There were no questions.

D. School Business Administrator Financials

Ms. JoAnn Cegan reviewed the expenditures for the year. She explained expenses and balances. She said this fiscal year budget is going well. Ms. Cegan said they have been working on the Corona Virus Relief Fund Grant, which will reimbursing the local budget. She said the insurance collaborative continues to do very well. Ms. Cegan said she continues to work with the auditor. There were no questions.

E. Athletic Director

Mr. Tom Brockett was not present, his report has been submitted.

F. Enrollment –

Report was submitted.

G. Youth and Family Outreach Summary

Mr. Bob Lisi said this last month he visited approximately 14 homes. He said some were a success, some were not. He said he was able to secure oral kits for the schools, containing dental hygiene tools as well as dental insurance information. He said six mobile sites will continue with food service delivery. There were no questions.

H. Facility Director's Report

Mr. Bob Evans, Facilities Director, gave his report. He said the custodial and maintenance departments continue to stay on top of the buildings. He added there are two custodial position openings that will be filled very soon. Mr. Evans the duct cleaning project continues, HVAC system evaluation will take place, as well as 2020-2021 Alliance Projects. He said also, as part of this grant, the security system will be upgraded, and asphalt will be replaced at Ansonia High School and Mead School. Mr. Evans said there is a set back with the maintenance garage project, and Ms. Adams will be handling the situation.

I. Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations Report

Ms. Rebecca Adams, Director Human Resources, said she is working with the contractor to move the maintenance garage project along, and will update the Board as necessary. She said there is a lot of Policy series work to be done and she is working along with Fran DiGiorgi to improve and or adjust Policies. She said she wants to make sure this is done right and several have already been updated. Ms. Adams said she will be happy to address any questions regarding the Policy series as she updates them. She told the Board she wanted to say Nurse Monica has been a dream to work with. She said it has been an ongoing effort by all, and she will be happy to answer any questions. There were no questions.

J. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent DiBacco thanked the Board. He said he appreciates the hard work from Ms. Fran DiGiorgi and Ms. Adams on the Policy updates. He said he met with the Dean of The School of Education at Quinnipiac University and our Future Teachers of America Program at the high school are being allowed to take up to seven credits. He said Mr. Phipps and he met with the deputy chiefs of the CT Department of Education, regarding the re-opening plan and loss of learning. He said the conversation proved to be very fruitful. He said he feels they were very happy to hear of our plans, and want to share with other districts. Superintendent DiBacco said he had a meeting with Sacred Heart University regarding internship and residency for their teaching program. He reviewed his report with the Board discussing numerous projects in the IT Department, Human Resources compliance projects, and calendar of events. Superintendent DiBacco said all staff received an "Ansonia Love" t-shirt as a small token of appreciation and care.

Mr. Phipps said he can't help but notice that we are not remaining stagnant at all. He said this is a great team effort and wanted to thank everyone. He said not only as a Board member but also as a resident he is very proud of all the programs being implemented and progress throughout the district.

Ms. Varoschak said she agrees with what Mr. Phipps said and gets very happy hearing about all of the programs going in place. She asked if there is a CADD Program. Superintendent DiBacco told her there is a CADD Lab and we are very fortunate to have a great relationship with Sikorsky. He said robotics will also soon be implemented.

Mr. Scarlatta asked if spectators were allowed at the basketball games. Mr. Phipps said they are not allowed, but the games are live streamed with the link on the website.

K. Additional; Administration or Board of Education

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO	1	X		
MS. FRAN DIGIORGI		X		
MS. BETH LEBERGE		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS, president		X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	2	X		
TOTAL		7	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson

Recording Secretary

Date: 2/16/2021