ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

PLACE: ROBERT E. ZURAW, ADMIN. OFFICE BLDG. DTL **DATE:** 10 February 2020 **TIME: 6:30** P.M.
SPECIAL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Rich Bshara, chair

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
MR. RICH BSHARA	X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA	X		
TOTAL	3	0	

Also in attendance: Ms. Sonia Kaminsky, Brown & Brown Insurance,
Superintendent DiBacco, and Assistant Superintendent Steve Bergin.

II. **Public Comments.**

There were no comments at this time.

III. **Presentation from Brown and Brown.**

47483647. Mr. Bshara asked Ms. Sonia Kaminsky, of Brown and Brown Insurance to speak to the Finance Committee regarding the current policy and details regarding the renewal. Ms. Kaminsky thanked the committee for inviting them and she said she wanted to first speak on the collaborative. She said every three years there is a bid process that happens. Ms. Kaminsky said the process involves their company to go out and find the lowest rates from insurance carriers. She said the program is currently self-funded through Anthem, their numbers have come down and looks like they will be the lowest bid. Ms. Bshara asked if there was a charge from ACES. Ms. Kaminsky said yes, the cost is approximately $6 per member. She reviewed the details for the new stop/loss costs. She said the cost per member, per month for each carrier is displayed in the report that was passed out. Ms. Kaminsky also distributed several other reports showing exact spending, employee cost shares, and other projected claim amount reports to show spending funds and plan changes. She explained the reports also show the district is running under budget this year. The group went over details included in the reports. Ms. Kaminsky added the program is running very well right now.

Several other reports were discussed. All reports showing costs, and components that lead to the costs.

Mr. Bshara asked if he can see the reports for previous years. Ms. Kaminsky said yes, she will get the previous years' reports. He also asked to see where the employee contribution is shown. Ms. Kaminsky pointed this out.

Mr. Bshara asked what the reserve is currently. Ms. Kaminsky said she will send him the report with the reserve breakdown, she said it is approximately $800,000. Ms. Kaminsky said if the new plan is explained correctly, it can truly benefit the employee. She said they can take the savings and bank it for the deductible.

The new plan changes were presented, showing the savings for the Board of Education. Some of the changes included employee deductible, prescription coverage, out of pocket maximums, and prior authorization for specialty physicians. They also discussed the lowered cost share to the new teachers plan. Superintendent DiBacco added he feels most of the teachers in the district are familiar with the plan and after sitting down with the committee to negotiate, they said yes to a lot of the offers. He said they know what they have and what they are looking for.

Mr. Bshara thanked Brown and Brown for coming and said they look forward to speaking very soon.

IV. Budget Workshop.

Discussion: Mr. Bshara asked Ms. Joanne Cegan, interim Business Manager, to address the committee. Ms. Cegan told the Board she wanted to review some numbers and make everyone comfortable with what was in front of them. She started with a salaries report and explained each line item. She reviewed the highest costs for the district, including health care, salaries, Special Education and transportation.

Mr. Bshara asked why certified salaries went up so much. Ms. Cegan said she sees that number and is working on that right now. She s she will give him the information as soon as she gets it.

The committee continued to discuss the budget reports. Superintendent DiBacco said he is having administrators put effort into lowering costs wherever possible and may impact the budget. He said utilizing grant funding anywhere they are able, is what he is aiming for.
Assistant Superintendent Steve Bergin, said putting the SRBI process in place is going to utilize the staff and the multi-tier process will b helping students receive intervention that will save a huge amount of money on special education costs. He said there are corrective act plans in place that will help the students in specific areas. He said all around cost benefits are going to be seen when the SRBI process successful. He said a remarkable team effort is happening in all schools.
Superintendent DiBacco said he has several enrichment ideas for our students with the use of funds once the savings are seen.
Mr. Bshara asked when he would like to meet again. Superintendent DiBacco said he has a tentative date for Feb. 19th.

V. Public comments

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn meeting at 8:25p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA	1	X		
		3	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson

Recording Secretary

Date: 2/14/20