

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

PLACE: Robert E. Zuraw Administration Building, DTL, 42 Grove Street, Ansonia, CT, 06401

DATE: October 27, 2025 **TIME:** 6:15 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mr. Rich Bshara, President.

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call – Mr. Bshara called a quorum

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
MR. RICH BSHARA, president	X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO		X	
MS. STEPHANIE OCASIO-GONZALEZ		X	
MR. DAVID KNAPP	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE		X	
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	X		
TOTAL	4	3	

II. Public Session

There was no one from the public wishing to speak.

III. Discussion and Possible Action regarding the following

A. Building Usage Policy

Discussion: Mr. Bshara said he thinks the Board needs to create a Building Use Policy. He said it doesn't have to be decided tonight, but would like to start the discussion. He gave the example of the night volleyball league that has been going to the Middle School for several years. He said the concern is for insurance purposes, adult supervision, and damage. Mr. Bshara said he would like to come up with some procedures to put in place as a guide to follow for those interested in using our buildings. He said cost can be discussed for security. The Board discussed Ansonia youth basketball, custodial need for events, and all costs for events taking place. He said they would like to first priority to go to the youth and residents of Ansonia that would like to use the buildings and fields. He said he knows there was talk of the Ansonia Rec. Committee taking over the Ansonia Board of Ed fields. He said he is not sure if that is possible without the Board's authorization. No one in attendance was familiar or has heard this mentioned prior. Mr. Bshara said when outside parties come in, the Board needs to be protected and security needs to be present.

There was discussion regarding the charge for renters not from the Ansonia community.

Superintendent DiBacco explained the process that happens currently for building usage/rental and agreed it will be great to be able to allow anyone the opportunity, but said rules need to be put in place and the policy is a good idea.

They talked about maintenance of the fields and who is responsible, groups they would let take precedence, security presence, wear and tear costs on buildings, and fees that should be charged for rental.

Bob Evans suggested having a security person if anyone is coming into the building.

B. School District Budget

Discussion: Mr. Bshara asked Erich Marriott to give a brief summary. Mr. Marriott explained the budget summary hand out that was given to all members. He talked about the timeline. Mr. Bshara said the goal is to be timely this year and it looks like they are planning well. Mr. Bshara talked about the zero balance to begin and move up according to needs and wants from each department. Mr. Bshara said he is good with consolidating some line items where schools may not be using all of the funds listed to make it easier on everyone. Mr. Bshara said it's important to remember next year there is no additional funds in the Alliance Grant coming in. He said modifications will be necessary. Mr. Bshara said he has been told next year's budget amount will be lean from the city.

Superintendent DiBacco said at this time we do not know if there will be an increase until the beginning of May. He said he wants to base the amount on what we have.

Mr. Bshara said he knows the question will be what the SPED reimbursement will be.

Mr. Marriott said he showed the remaining percentage from this year through October and last year through October are very close. He also said spending from this year and last are also very similar. He said like always, Healthcare, Special Education, and Transportation costs are the majority of the budget. He talked about the increase in sports transportation cost. Mr. Marriott said there is an estimated \$2.5 million in cost reimbursement and they will begin uploading to the state for the Excess Cost Grant. He said he will be meeting with Accounts Payable and Special Ed every two weeks to begin.

There was discussion about budget cuts that will have to happen.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:02p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA, president		X		
MRS. TRACEY DELIBERO				
MS. OCASIO-GONZALEZ				
MR. DAVID KNAPP	1	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE				
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	2	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK		X		
TOTAL		4	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson
Recording Secretary
Date: 11/03/2025