

ANSONIA BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

Shared Services Committee

DATE: March 11, 2026 **TIME:** 6:00 p.m.

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call – Dave Knapp called a quorum.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
DR. STEVEN ADAMOWSKI	X		
MR. RICH BSHARA	X		
MR. DAVE KNAPP	X		
TOTAL	3		

Superintendent DiBacco, Assistant Superintendent Steve Bergin, and Finance Director Erich Marriott were also in attendance.

II. Discussion regarding Shared Services

Mr. Knapp welcomed everyone in attendance to the first Shared Services Meeting. He asked Superintendent DiBacco to speak about the history of any shared services he is aware of within the district and his experience of any services that were shared.

Superintendent DiBacco said before his time here, he is aware Ansonia tried to share Food Service Departments with Derby. He said it came to because Derby was struggling with their Food Service. He said our director, Dom Golia offered to have his assistant spend time in Derby to help their program. Superintendent DiBacco said the services between the towns was shared but then Derby hired our Assistant Food Director for their own. He said Ansonia and Derby also worked on sharing Technology Departments but nothing every came about. Superintendent DiBacco told the committee, the city and school district joined together to share phone contracts. He said they also joined with the city sharing electric contracts and both are working great. He said there were a few other shared service ideas he has talked to the city about including the document and record archive company Iron Mountain as well as copier/printer contract with Xerox. Superintendent DiBacco talked about savings for the city as well as the district for the union members who have Teamsters Healthcare. He said other ideas he thought about were shared fuel, internet, and SRO Services. There was discussion about past project savings that could have been if more was shared with the city. The Nolan Field Project was one example where if the project had been shared with the school district, reimbursement and equipment to maintain the property could have saved 87% of the cost had the city been open to share plans. Superintendent DiBacco then talked about the relationship they have with ACES. He said Ansonia uses ACES to share many Special Ed services with other districts for savings. He said ACES is an asset regarding several services. He said they are also utilized for the Special Needs Programs at Mead and the Middle School as well as our self-funded Health Care consortium. Mr. Knapp asked if any other towns have reached out to share services. Superintendent DiBacco said no other towns have shown interest in sharing services.

The committee talked about concerns with sharing services while our district is working with very limited staff for necessary jobs. IT, Maintenance Departments, and Central Office were examples used for higher demands but staffing cuts making it difficult. There was lengthy conversation regarding pros and cons with sharing services. The committee talked about towns we have good relationships with that may be open to discussion regarding sharing services. Dave Knapp suggested to reach out to surrounding towns for further discussion. Dr. Adamowski said our city does not have a Shared Services Committee, and mentioned the possibility to ad hoc a committee to perhaps talk about shared options. Superintendent DiBacco said he would suggest having ideas where sharing services would be beneficial for our district whether it be within our town or with other districts before anything. He said having specifics to discuss instead of just meeting with no idea would be helpful. Mr. Bshara talked about an idea for the part-time city IT employee and the district's IT Department that may be beneficial financially.

Dr. Adamowski asked if the district buses are propane. Superintendent DiBacco said most but not all are propane, he shared details of the propane contract stating the cost is shared between three other districts.

Dr. Adamowski asked what the vision for SROs is. Superintendent DiBacco said he would like an SRO at the Middle School and right now the one SRO at the high school is district funded.

Dr. Adamowski said the background presented has been helpful and he complimented the email Ms. LaBerge sent regarding shared services. Dave Knapp said based on what has been discussed, he thinks the next meeting should be with the city to further discuss shared IT options. There was lengthy conversation around details that would be helpful to the district and the city. Superintendent DiBacco suggested to bring Vin Pastore in for his expertise. He said he would want the ideas well thought out and planned, he would not want something just brought up and shared without it being a success. He said he would like to have a preliminary conversation with the district and city regarding an entry point.

Dr. Adamowski said he is a little concerned with the city's existing staff to rely on what needs there are. He said whatever study is currently being done at the city will be helpful, but they do not have means comparable to the district right now for any input. Mr. Bshara said he doesn't think this is anything that has to be rushed. He said it can be researched and done the right way.

Another meeting will be scheduled after talk with the city to find about their interest.

III. Public Comments

There were no comments from the public

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
DR. STEVEN ADAMOWSKI		X		
MR. RICH BSHARA	X	X		
MR. DAVE KNAPP		X		
TOTAL		3		

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson
Recording Secretary
Date: 4/1/2026