

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

PLACE: Meeting held via ZOOM

DATE: July 8, 2026 **TIME:** 6:00 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Mr. Phipps, President.

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call – Mr. Phipps called a quorum

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
DR. STEVEN ADAMOWSKI	X		
MR. RICH BSHARA	X		
MR. DAVID KNAPP	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE	X		
STEPHANIE OCASIO-GONZALEZ			X(6:15p.m.)
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	X		
TOTAL	6		1

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no one from the public who wished to address the Board.

III. ACTION ITEMS and consideration of approving the following items:

A. Approval of Food Service Contract

-Dr. Adamowski noted that the contract was not attached to the agenda. He stated he believed either Mr. Phipps or Superintendent DiBacco had emailed it out previously, and asked if it could be displayed on a split screen. Superintendent DiBacco stated he did not have a copy available at that moment. He clarified that there were no language changes, only wage adjustments.

-Superintendent DiBacco noted that one personal day was added, along with a total 3% raise spread over 4 years. He added that there was an increase in healthcare cost-sharing, and noted that the Food Service Contract does not affect the local budget.

-Dr. Adamowski summarized the changes shared by Superintendent DiBacco and asked for confirmation.
Mr. Phipps then requested a motion to approve the contract.

MOTION: To approve the Food Service Contract as presented.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
DR. STEVEN ADAMOWSKI		X		
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MR. DAVID KNAPP	X	X		
MS. BETH LABERGE		X		
STEPHANIE OCASIO-GONZALEZ				
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK		X		
TOTAL		6		

B. Approval of Custodian Contract.

-Mr. Phipps asked Superintendent DiBacco to explain the contract changes to the Board. Superintendent DiBacco stated this is a five-year contract. The changes include a 2.75% wage increase in the first year, followed by a 3% raise each year thereafter. He also noted the addition of a part-time maintenance/custodian contract position and an increase in the employee healthcare cost-share.

-Superintendent DiBacco explained the cost structure of the Teamsters Union healthcare plan. Mr. Marriott confirmed that members will pay an increased cost-share of 3.5% for the first three years, and 2.75% for the remaining two years. Dr. Adamowski noted that it is a very lucrative medical insurance plan.

-Superintendent DiBacco shared that this plan costs roughly half as much as the district's other insurance options. He noted the district's standard insurance plan costs approximately \$45,000, whereas the Teamsters plan is approximately \$20,000, adding that family plans cost the same as single member plans.

-Dr. Adamowski asked for a second explanation. Mr. Marriott detailed the exact pricing and increases, referencing Page 9 of the contract. Mr. Bshara broke down the costs in comparison to other plans offered by the district. Discussion continued regarding employee and district cost-sharing.

-Dr. Adamowski asked if there was a history of long contracts, given this one spans five years. Mr. Bshara responded that because the rate is highly favorable to the district, it is beneficial to lock it in for a longer duration. Mr. Marriott stated the wage increase was compared to surrounding towns and similar District Reference Groups (DRGs), noting the rates favor the district.

-Dr. Adamowski pointed out that no Board members were involved in negotiations and asked if the Board Attorney objected to the long contract. Mr. Marriott stated the previous contract was also five years and the attorney had signed off on the agreement.

-Superintendent DiBacco noted there were no other changes besides specific language updates to align with the Connecticut Paid Leave Act. Dr. Adamowski observed that wage increases are hovering around 3% for this contract, 3% for the Food Service Contract, and 3.5% for administrators this year, asking if this is comparable to other districts. Superintendent DiBacco confirmed that it is.

-Mr. Phipps asked for a motion to approve the contract.

MOTION: To approve the Custodial Contract as presented.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
DR. STEVEN ADAMOWSKI		X		
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MR. DAVID KNAPP		X		
MS. BETH LABERGE		X		
STEPHANIE OCASIO-GONZALEZ		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	X	X		
TOTAL		7		

VI. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 6:19pm

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
DR. STEVEN ADAMOWSKI		X		
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MR. DAVID KNAPP		X		
MS. BETH LABERGE		X		
STEPHANIE OCASIO-GONZALEZ		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS		X		
MS. SHARON VOROSCHAK	X	X		
TOTAL		7		

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson
Recording Secretary
Date: 7/15/2026