

VIRTUAL SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

The Special Legislative Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Cheltenham School District was held on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, at 7:01 p.m. virtually via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Board President, Ms. Haywood. Those present were: Mr. Cohen, Ms. Haywood, Mr. England, Mr. Schultz, Ms. Henry, Ms. Lowman, Mr. Fishbein, and Mr. England, Dr. Smith – Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Marseille – Superintendent, Mr. Roos -Solicitor, Ms. Michaels, Business Manager, and Mrs. Mance -Secretary.

Mr. Fishbein and Scott were absent.

The following members of the staff were present:

Mr. Barone, Director of Technology
Ms. Collins, Director of Secondary Education
Mr. Kaufman, Director of Communications
Ms. Tolbert- Jackson, Director of Human Resources
Dr. Gallagher, Director of Special Education
Dr. Cheryl Horsey, Director of Student Services
Mr. Teasdale, Director of Facilities

There were 51 attendees online for the virtual board meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cheltenham Board member Ms. Henry.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no comments on agenda items.

PIAA SAFETY PRESENTATION

Mr. Blackwell, Director of Athletics and Activities presented the PIAA Safety plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS

Vernon Lewis, Armani Ezell, Darren Bennett, and Jordan all students from Cheltenham High School, stated; As an athlete it would make sense to have practices at the school. No matter what decision the Board comes up with we are going to find a way to work out. If the Boards number one concern is safety, we would rather be under the care of the school than go to a random gym where other people are or could be exposed to the virus.

Bella Dolan, Elkins Park asked, Will there be outdoor accommodations for indoor sports like volleyball?

Mr. Blackwell responded yes; we are working on that now.

Jared Schwai, Cheltenham asked, Will the guidelines apply to winter sports specifically swimming and diving or will a new set of rules be made closer to that time?

Mr. Blackwell responded yes; the plan is fluid and will be updated as we go along.

Judith stated the marching band members each have their own one-gallon water bottles and Gatorade jugs.

Michael Cleary, Glenside asked, What are the chances school won't open in the Fall and what's the contingent plan?

Dr. Marseille responded there will be a contingency plan, but at this time it hasn't been decided if we're reopening in the Fall.

Novice Ezell, Glenside stated, I understand the concern from the Board but since the practices are voluntary this would allow anyone who has concerns to reframe from sending their child to practice. Shouldn't it be the families decision to determine if they feel comfortable with the plan or not?

Dr. Marseille responded the families that want to participate must follow the guidelines.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
AGENDA ITEMS
(continued)**

Christian asked, How will the students be transported in the Fall?
Dr. Marseille responded we are currently working on developing a plan.

Sherry Hazlewood, Glenside asked, Will additional staff be hired for monitoring which is outlined in the plan? Will Extra Duty/Extra Pay and over time be necessary?
Dr. Marseille responded we don't believe extra staff will be needed at this time.

Sherry Hazlewood also asked; If students or coaches tests positive will the gym, weight room, and locker room be closed?
Dr. Marseille responded we would follow the CDC guidelines as it relates to contact tracing.

Sherry Hazlewood finally asked; How will information be shared between schools? How do we tell other teams and what are we required to reveal?
Dr. Marseille responded, unless there is a direct connection in contact tracing with will share with the school.

Bella Dolan, Elkins Park asked, How will games, matches, and scrimmages be handled?
Mr. Blackwell responded that has yet to be determined. It's part of the Fall phase and we are awaiting guidance from PIAA.

Novice Ezell, Glenside asked, What information do the Board members feel they have that would provide better directions? What would be the purpose of tabling the vote? What research would the Board be doing that has not already been done by the Administration?
Board members Mr. Cohen, Mr. Burdell-Williams, Mr. England, responded they are concerned for the safety of the students.

Vernon Lewis asked, If parent allow the students to practice, why would the Board get in their way?

Ms. Haywood responded it is the Board's ultimate goal to ensure the safety of all students.

Amani Ezell asked, Is the Board taking into account how the decision will affect the future of senior athletes?

Ms. Haywood responded the Boards biggest priority is the safety of students, coaches and everyone involved.

Ms. Henry stated she can respect their desire to move forward and get started, but the Board wants to ensure everyone will be safe.

Mr. England responded he appreciates all the work that has gone into the presentation.

Novice Ezell, Glenside asked, If there isn't a liability for the District why won't the Board let the families make the decision?

Mr. Schultz responded the plan is as balanced as possible to allow for the outcomes we're expecting.

Mr. Cohen asked Mr. Diasio to respond to the liability issues.

Mr. Diasio responded to the question about liability.

Mr. Cohen responded by stating he takes the health, safety and welfare of the students and their families very seriously.

Darren Bennett asked, If his parents were willing to sign a waiver would that be ok?

Muam Islam asked, If you don't approve the plan today what will be the impact on the students?

Ms. Haywood thanked everyone for their comments, concerns and questions.

Coach Nase asked, Didn't the plan state that Dr. Marseille and Mr. Blackwell could make changes as needed?

PUBLIC COMMENTS
AGENDA ITEMS
(continued)

Ms. Haywood responded that the motion to approve the PIAA Safety plan that was presented tonight did not pass.

APPROVAL OF PIAA SAFETY
PLAN

Upon motion by Mr. England, seconded by Ms. Haywood, the following resolution was adopted:

In order to promote the safe and orderly operation of the Cheltenham School District's athletic program during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the Cheltenham School District PIAA Athletics and Activities Health & Safety Plan ("Plan").

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Administration the Board of School Directors denies authorization for the Superintendent or his designee to take any other actions the Superintendent deems appropriate, without further Board approval, to ensure the safety of participating students to the extent authorized by law and irrespective of any policies that may be to the contrary, including minor revisions to the Plan. Any action taken by the Superintendent or his designee in accordance with this authorization shall be deemed to be the action of this Board. Such action shall be confirmed by the Board no later than at its next regular Board meeting.

Mr. England joined the meeting at 8:30 p.m. and Mr. Burdell Williams joined the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

On roll call, the following voted in the affirmative: Ms. Haywood. Absent: Mr. Fishbein and Mr. Scott. Abstain: Mr. Burdell -Williams, Mr. Pender, and Mr. England. Negative: Mr. Cohen, Ms. Henry, and Mr. Schultz. Motion denied.

Ms. Haywood asked for a motion to schedule another Special Board meeting within the next week.

Upon motion by Mr. Cohen, seconded by Ms. Henry the Board agrees to have another Special Board meeting with review the revised PIAA Safety Plan.

On roll call, the following voted in the affirmative: Ms. Haywood, Mr. Burdell -Williams, Mr. Pender, Mr. Cohen, Ms. Henry, Mr. Schultz, and Mr. England. Absent: Mr. Fishbein and Mr. Scott. Abstain. Negative. Motion adopted.

PERSONNEL
Appointment of Temporary
Professional Employees
Approval to Changes in
Position
Appointment of Secondary
Summer School and ESY
(Extended School Year)
Personnel
Appointment of Temporary
Registrar Staff
Approval of Salary
Adjustment

Upon motion by Mr. England, seconded by Mr. Burdell-Williams, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Ellen Park, Mathematics Teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School, to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective August 25, 2020, at a salary of \$53,664 (Step 7/Bachelor's).

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Amy Kwofie, Grade 1 Teacher at Glenside Elementary School, to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective August 25, 2020, at a salary of \$ \$49,450 (Step 5/Bachelor's).

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the appointment of Anna Krammes, Music Teacher at Myers Elementary School, to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective August 25, 2020, at a salary of \$ \$49,450 (Step 5/Bachelor's).

PERSONNEL
(Continued)

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the change in position and classification for Elsie Russell, from: Climate and Culture Administrator at the Elkins Park School and Cheltenham Elementary School, to: Grade 3 Teacher at Wyncote Elementary School, at a salary of \$88,895 (Step 11/Doctorate), effective August 25, 2020.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the change in position and classification for Marilyn Shadis, from: Staff Nurse at Glenside Elementary School, to: School Nurse at Glenside Elementary School, at a salary of \$55,834 (Step 8/Bachelor's), effective August 25, 2020.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the personnel for ESY teaching staff, per attachment entitled "2020 ESY Teaching Staff List", at an approved rate of \$36.90 per hour.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the personnel for secondary summer school teaching staff, per attachment entitled "2020 Summer School Staffing List", at an approved rate of \$36.90 per hour.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the personnel listed as Temporary Registrars for the summer of the 2020-2021 School year, effective June 22, 2020 through August 27, 2020, at \$12.00 per hour.

- Ms. Barbara Gadson
- Mr. Darryl Mance
- Ms. Taylor Gray

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the personnel listed as Nurses for Student Registration for the summer of the 2020-2021 School year, effective June 22, 2020 through August 27, 2020, at \$36.90 per hour.

- Ms. Marilyn Shadis
- Ms. Aisha Raye

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the horizontal salary column movement for Molly Hufnagel, Special Education Teacher at Elkins Park School, effective August 20, 2019, inasmuch as that she has submitted official evidence of credits earned; from: Step 9 Masters+24, \$75,779 to: Step 9 Masters+36 at \$81,319.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the horizontal salary column movement for Shaun McLaughlin, Health and Physical Education Teacher at Cheltenham High School, effective January 23, 2020, inasmuch as that he has submitted official evidence of credits earned; from: Step 7 Bachelor's, \$53,664 to: Step 7 Masters at \$57,940.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the horizontal salary column movement for Brynn Johnson, Special Education Teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School, effective August 20, 2019, inasmuch as that she has submitted official evidence of credits earned; from: Step 9 Masters +12, \$66,939 to: Step 9 Masters +24 at \$75,779.

***Dates corrected from previously reported motion**

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the horizontal salary column movement for Shannon Lahiff, Special Education Teacher at Cheltenham Elementary School, effective August 20, 2019, inasmuch as that she has submitted

PERSONNEL
(Continued)

official evidence of credits earned; from: Step 13 Masters +24, \$87,714 to: Step 13 Masters +36 at \$93,488.

Resolved, upon recommendation of the administration the Board of School Directors approves the horizontal salary column movement for Robert Weneck, Industrial Arts Teacher at Cheltenham High School, effective August 20, 2019, inasmuch as that he has submitted official evidence of credits earned; from: Step 8 Masters +12, \$64,294 to: Step 8 Masters +24 at \$72,922.

On roll call, the following voted in the affirmative: Mr. Cohen, Ms. Haywood, Mr. Burdell - Williams, Mr. Schultz, Ms. Henry, Mr. Pender, and Mr. England. Absent: Mr. Fishbein. Negative: None. Motion adopted.

Information Items:

1. Resignations

The Superintendent accepted the following resignations:

- a. Remar Tate, District Registrar and Residency Specialist at the Administration Building, effective June 23, 2020, end of workday.
- b. Timothy McCleary, Assistant Director of Technology at the Administration Building, effective July 24, 2020, end of workday.
- c. Leah Brown, Inclusion Paraeducator at Elkins Park School, effective June 22, 2020.
- d. Briana Barnett, Grade 3 Teacher at Wyncote Elementary School, effective June 24, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mike Cleary, Glenside asked, Will the reopening decision be made at the District or county level? Dr. Marseille responded at the District level.

Jessica Way, stated, This signifies the importance of our students and staff and ensures that everyone that is working with our children is on the exact same page.

Imani Ezell, Glenside stated, This isn't fair. We've been out here suffering and the Board is sitting on their hands. The Board had plenty of time to think about this meeting before it happened. This shows the Board doesn't care as much as we do.

Ms. Haywood responded we appreciate all the comments from the community and students.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Upon motion by Mr. England seconded by Mr. Burdell – Williams and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

DocuSigned by
Crystal Manca
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Secretary

DocuSigned by
Julie Haywood
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President

