

CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
Board of School Directors
June 21, 2022

1.0 Meeting Opening

A) Call to Order

- The Regular Board Meeting of the Charters Valley Board of School Directors was called to order at 6:28 p.m. by Dr. Mariano in the District Assembly Room.

B) Pledge of Allegiance

C) Roll Call

Present

Mr. Jeff Choura
Mr. Robert Kearney (*via phone*)
Mr. Mitchell Montani
Mr. Herbert Ohliger
Mrs. Meghan Sexton
Dr. Sonja Svihla (*via phone*)
Mrs. Lisa Trainor
Mrs. Sandy Zeleznik, Vice President
Dr. Darren Mariano, President

Also Present

Dr. Johannah Vanatta, Superintendent
Mr. Scott Seltzer, Assistant Superintendent
Mrs. Julie Franczyk, Assistant to the Superintendent
Mr. Don Palmer, Solicitor
Mrs. Pat Connolly, Director of Finance & Operations
Ms. Mikaela Duckstein, Director of Communications
& Strategic Partnerships
Ms. Kim Borza, Board Secretary

E) Recognitions

- There were no recognitions.

F) Public Comments – Agenda Items

- There were no public comments and agenda items.

2.0 Executive Session

- Dr. Mariano stated that there was an executive session prior to this public meeting to discuss personnel, legal and safety matters.

3.0 Superintendent's Reports/Presentations

- Annual Report Preview by Mikaela Duckstein

4.0 Solicitor's Report

- There was no solicitor report.

5.0 Informational Agenda

A) Pathfinder –

- Mr. Ohliger said they had graduation; they are still dealing with the air handler issues; summer projects are underway.

B) Parkway

- Mr. Choura stated that Dr. Fred McGiven is retiring; extensive interview process, they are hiring someone from within; enrollment continues to grow, CV has the most students enrolled.

C) SHASDA

- Mrs. Sexton said that there is nothing new to report.

D) Finance Committee Report

- There will be a finance report during the action/discussion part of the meeting.

6.0 Consent Agenda

A) Meeting Minutes

6.2 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Board Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2022.

B) Education

C) Athletics & Activities

6.3 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the 2022-2023 Soctober, Angel Tree and Spring Food Drive fundraisers for the National Honor Society.

6.4 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the fundraising requests from the Class of 2024 for the 2022-2023 school year.

D) Personnel

6.5 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Human Resources Report for June 21, 2022.

6.6 The Board approves the 2021-2022 performance rating for Dr. Johannah M. Vanatta, Superintendent. The Board has determined that the Superintendent has met the objective performance standards for the 2021-2022 school year and that the Superintendent performance rating is distinguished.

E) Budget & Finance

6.7 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Grants received for school year 2021-2022.

6.8 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the following payments as of May 1 to 31, 2022 in the amount of \$4,451,908.37. A. Payment of General Fund invoices in the amount of \$1,228,739.93. B. Payment for Payroll direct deposit and payables in the amount of \$3,169,256.41. C. Payment of Middle School Activity Fund invoices in the amount of \$6,178.74. D. Payment of High School Activity Fund invoices in the amount of \$17,061.85. E. Payment of Bond Fund 2021 invoices in the amount of \$30,671.44.

F) Policy

6.9 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the review of Policy 249 Bullying/Cyber Bullying and Policy 349 Anti-bullying.

Motion to approve items 6.2 to 6.9 listed above.

Moved by Mr. Ohliger, seconded by Mr. Choura.

On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.

7.0 Action/Discussion

7.1 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the CV Cyber Academy agreements with Waterfront Learning and Educere for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion to approve item 7.1 listed above.

Moved by Mr. Choura, seconded by Mr. Montani.

On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously

7.3 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the 2022-2023 insurance policies for a total cost of \$362,761.

Motion to approve item 7.3 listed above.

Moved by Mr. Choura, seconded by Mrs. Sexton.

On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously

Dr. Mariano read the following statement before the 2022-2023 final budget motion:

Chartiers Valley like many other school districts have felt the inflationary pressures for our operational costs and we are not immune to this change as everyone at home has felt this impact in their daily lives. Financially, Chartiers Valley for the past 5 years has raised taxes to meet operational costs, but we cannot continue at the current pace and taxpayers cannot be

expected to bear the responsibility of some of the highest operational costs as a local school district. Our budget this year was \$72,158,944.00. Benefits have increased dramatically at 8% and our salaries are the highest of all neighboring school districts in our area.

To this point, we have not explored programming or staffing cuts. We cannot continue at the current pace and our community will not stand and should not stand for providing less opportunities for our students. We have some difficult decisions to be made and some might not like the path we may choose.

I've been working this past year to increase development within our boundaries, and some have suggested this would solve our operational problems, however this is being sought to meet the needs of our aging intermediate school not to increase operational costs even further. The intermediate school will soon require a substantial investment in a renovation and our capital fund balance is well below acceptable levels.

I challenged the administration in April and May to again re-evaluate all our programs and to propose bold changes in how we control costs. Everything was and should be on the table. I suggested to be creative and just don't look 3-5 years, but 5-10 years out. I know what you presented to the board is a culmination of hard work throughout the year, and you've stretched each dollar to end up at this point. Our problems will not be addressed by simply kicking the can to the next year, or by not addressing the real problem that is unique to Chartiers Valley. We cannot live beyond our means.

As I said, we have raised taxes for the past five years. We are not to the point where we can predict a tax increase is not on the table yearly, because our operational costs are beyond our means as a local school district. Currently our expenses this past year was \$72,922,344.00. Our expenses next year are \$74,629,857.00. The PA Department of Education has calculated our index for the 2022-23 school year to be 3.4% which equates to a revenue increase of approximately \$1,461,068.00. However, our expenses have increased for next year beyond our means of generating revenue leaving the district with a shortfall of \$246,455.00 even with raising taxes. We, as a board, must use our debt stabilization fund to balance the budget and/or cut even further. We cannot continue to finance this district this way especially since we must save for our aging intermediate school repairs and general maintenance along with updating our resources throughout the district. We cannot live beyond our means, nor can we constantly be raising taxes on our community members.

7.4 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to adopt and approve the general fund budget of the Chartiers Valley School District in the amount of \$74,629,857 for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July, 2022 with the necessary revenue for the same period of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 provided by an earned income tax resolution, a deed transfer tax resolution, a realty transfer tax resolution and an occupation privilege tax resolution adopted May 25, 2004, and a realty transfer tax resolution dated January 9, 2007; and by a school tax on real estate which is hereby levied and assessed at a rate of 19.3957 mills or at a rate of \$1.94 on each \$100 of assessed valuation of taxable property, and to adopt and approve the Chartiers Valley School District Budget Resolution dated June 21, 2022. All taxpayers required to pay tax on real estate imposed by the School District shall be entitled to a 2% discount within two months after the date of tax notice, shall be charged a penalty of 10% if paid more than four months from the date of notice and all delinquent real estate taxes shall be charged 10% interest unless taxpayers elect to pay such taxes in installments. The Board Secretary is hereby directed to append a copy of the budget to the minutes and to give notice to the Department of Community and Economic Development of the Act 511 taxes as required by law.

Motion to approve item 7.4 listed above.

Moved by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mrs. Trainor.

On a Roll Call Vote, the motion passes with 6-yes and 3-no.

7.5 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the 2022-2023 Capital Budget in the amount of \$393,301.

Motion to approve item 7.5 listed above.

Moved by Mr. Montani, seconded by Mrs. Zeleznik.

On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.

Board Member Roll Call Votes 2022-2023 Final Budget June 21, 2022	
Mr. Choura	No
Mr. Kearney	Yes
Mr. Montani	Yes
Mr. Ohliger	No
Mrs. Sexton	Yes
Dr. Svihla	Yes
Mrs. Trainor	Yes
Mrs. Zeleznik	Yes
Dr. Mariano	No

7.6 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the 2022-2023 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution authorizing Act 50 and Act 1 homestead and farmstead exclusion for real estate tax deductions for the school year beginning July 1, 2022.

**Motion to approve item 7.6 listed above.
Moved by Mr. Choura, seconded by Mrs. Sexton.
On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

7.7 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the resolution deputizing Jordan Tax Service, Inc. to fulfill all tasks associated with the collection of school district real estate taxes in the capacity as Deputy Tax Collector for Scott Township.

**Motion to approve item 7.7 listed above.
Moved by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mrs. Trainor.
On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

7.8 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the agreement with Precision HR Solutions, Inc. for substitute services for the 2022-2023 school year with the following billable rates and software renewal clause: Substitute Teacher, \$160.00 per day; Substitute Instructional Assistant, \$15.36 per hour; Substitute Secretary, \$17.92 per hour; Substitute Custodian, \$19.20 per hour; and Substitute Nurse, \$160.00 per day. The 2022-23 renewal fee for the Frontline software will be reimbursed by Precision HR Services, Inc. in the amount of \$14,992.98.

**Motion to approve item 7.8 listed above.
Moved by Mr. Choura, seconded by Mrs. Sexton.
On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

7.14 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Unified Champion Schools Memorandum of Understanding for a partnership between Special Olympics Pennsylvania and Chartiers Valley High School.

**Motion to approve item 7.14 listed above.
Moved by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mr. Montani.
On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

7.15 The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the agreement between Chartiers Valley High School Athletics and BSN Sports Rewards Program.

**Motion to approve item 7.15 listed above.
Moved by Mr. Montani, seconded by Mrs. Sexton.
On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

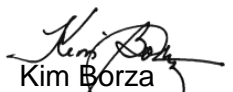
8.0 Public Comments ~ non-agenda items

- Erin Riccitelli, 1368 Cardinal Dr., Scott Twp., re: voting at the Intermediate School

9.0 Adjournment

**Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:11 p.m.
Moved by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mrs. Trainor.
On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,


Kim Borza
Board Secretary