

**CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting**  
**Board of School Directors**  
**March 28, 2023**

**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 6:37 p.m. by Dr. Mariano in the District Assembly Room.

**B) Pledge of Allegiance**

**C) Roll Call**

**Present**

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

**Also Present**

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

**Absent**

Mr. Robert Kearney

**E) Recognitions**

- Athletic Director, Mike Gavlik, recognized the athletes who made it to states in wrestling, swimming and unified bocce.

**Before public comments on agenda items, Dr. Mariano read the following:**

*Charters Valley School District Board Requests Fact-Finding Panel  
as Part of Teachers' Contract Negotiations*

*Statement from Charters Valley School District Board of Directors*

*Good evening and thank you for being here. On behalf of our Board, I'd like to update everyone on a next step that has been taken to help us on the ongoing contract negotiations with the Charters Valley Local of the American Federation of Teachers' union.*

*On Monday, March 20, 2023, our Board gave notice to the local AFT union and filed a request with the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board (PLRB) to enter the Factfinding process following a series of 27 bargaining sessions that have taken place since January 2022 with no successful conclusion to date. Factfinding is a process that is intended to assist school districts in resolving contract disputes when traditional negotiations have yet to produce a contract.*

*As a next step, the Labor Relations Board will appoint a neutral Factfinder to develop a report to include recommendations on the unresolved issues. We anticipate that one hearing will be held, and the Factfinder's Report will be issued within 40 days of the Factfinder's appointment on the PLRB and our School District's web sites. The Report of the Factfinder will not be "binding." This process is governed by Act 88 of the Pennsylvania Public School Code.*

*The Factfinder's Report will be issued simultaneously to both the School Board and the Teachers' union. We will then have up to 10 days to vote on the Factfinder's Report in its entirety. If both the Board and Teachers' union were to agree on the Factfinder's Report, a contract would be reached based on the recommendations in the report. Our School Board remains very hopeful that this process will soon help produce a contract.*

*If either party disagrees, the Labor Board will then publish the Factfinder's Report and both parties will then have another 10-day period after the Factfinder's Report was made public to vote on the package in its entirety. If one or both parties reject the Factfinder's Report after both consideration periods, the Teachers' union and the School*

*Board will have the right to continue negotiating a successor contract. If at the end of the second consideration period both parties agree to the Factfinder's Report, a contract would be reached.*

*The Board of Directors truly value our teachers, and we continue to respect and appreciate the critically important work they do for our children and families. I believe we all agree that any disruption to education will be detrimental to our students – and this is something that we are doing our very best to avoid.*

*Let me, once again, end with these two points:*

*First, if fiscal responsibility is not fully considered, we will be in an extremely difficult position. We will be forced to consider reductions in programs and opportunities for our students—something that no one wants to see happen.*

*Secondly, to move forward, we must find common ground and our Board is prepared to do just that. We all have a stake in keeping this District on firm financial footing. However, no amount of public posturing or campaigning will succeed in changing the financial situation currently facing our District. Ultimately, the community is responsible for paying its teachers.*

*We will continue to update you on the status of our negotiations on the District's web site ([www.cvsd.net/contract](http://www.cvsd.net/contract)) where you will also find the facts about our financial realities.*

*We hope this process will result in reaching a fair and equitable contract on behalf of the communities we – and all of our teachers – serve. Thank you.*

*CVSD Board of Directors*

## **F) Public Comments – Agenda Items**

- There were no public comments on 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**

**3.1** Mike Gavlik updated the Board on winter sports.

**3.2** The student representatives gave an update on the academic, athletic and activities of CVSD.

## **4.0 Solicitor's Report**

- There was no solicitor report.

## **5.0 Informational Agenda**

**A) Pathfinder:** Mr. Ohliger said they put the building fund into a money market account.

**B) Parkway:** Mr. Choura stated that they are doing some misc. construction improvements; CV student Anthony Marasco is student of the month; there are a number of students that qualified to go to Skills USA.

**C) SHASDA:** Dr. Vanatta said that this Thursday she and Megan are attending the Superintendent's meeting.

**D) AIU:** Dr. Mariano reminded the Board to send in their ballots; Dr. Vanatta stated that she & Lisa attended a legislative forum last week.

**E) Finance Committee Report:** Mrs. Connolly announced that next finance report will be at the April 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

## **6.0 Consent Agenda**

**6.2** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Board Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2023.

**6.3** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Middle School Student Council members to attend the PASC State Conference in Altoona, September 22-23, 2023.

**6.4** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Odyssey of the Mind students to the travel to Lock Haven, PA to participate in the state championship March 31 to April 1, 2023.

**6.5** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Human Resources Report for March 28, 2023.

- 6.6** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the \$300 donation to the Colt Closet from the Corpus Christi Parish in Carnegie.
- 6.7** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the payments from February 1 to 28, 2023, in the amount of \$4,644,342.53.
- 6.8** The Superintendent recommends and I so move to approve the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Bureau of Special Education Grant: School Psychology Paid Internships for Out of State Graduate Students in the amount of \$20,000 for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Motion to approve items 6.2 to 6.8 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 Settlement Agreement and Release regarding Student #20637.

**Motion to approve item 7.1 listed above.**  
**Moved by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mr. Ohliger.**  
**On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

- 7.2** Motion to approve re-appoint Henderson Brothers as the district's insurance and risk management insurance agency on an annual basis.

**Motion to approve item 7.2 listed above.**  
**Moved by Dr. Mariano, seconded by Mr. Choura.**  
**On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

- 7.3** Motion to approve payment to the South Central Area Special Schools Jointure Committee in the amount of \$20,700 for necessary repairs to the HVAC system at Pathfinder School.

**Motion to approve item 7.3 listed above.**  
**Moved by Dr. Mariano, seconded by Mr. Montani.**  
**On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

## **8.0 Public Comments ~ non-agenda items**

- The following teachers spoke re: working without a contract:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Municipality</b>
Amanda Bautista	22 Foxcroft Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220	Scott
Amy Bouch	228 Bateman Road, Oakdale, PA 15071	North Fayette
Cindy Holleran	179 McMurray Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241	USC
Dan Krivanek	1431 Main Street, Bridgeville, PA 15017	CV
Jake Locke	132 N. Hoide Lane, McMurray, PA 15317	Peters Twp.
Jason Ward	5028 Sherwood Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102	Bethel Park
Judy Kirtley	142 Brookdale Cir., McMurray, PA 15317	Peters Twp.
Nicole Ciaramella	198 Firwood Dr., Bridgeville, PA 15017	South Fayette
Robin Whitaker	22 Ducan Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15205	Crafton-Carlynton

## **9.0 Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:32 p.m.**  
**Moved by Mr. Choura, seconded by Mr. Montani.**  
**On a voice vote, the motion passes unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Kim Borza  
 Board Secretary