

**CHARLEROI AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Special Voting Meeting of Friday, November 12, 2021

10:00 AM

Charleroi Area High School Community Room

MINUTES

Prior to the regular meeting, the Board met in Executive Session at 9:30 a.m. in the High School Community Room, 100 Fecsen Drive, Charleroi PA 15022 to discuss personnel matters. Persons present were: Mr. Caruso, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Keranko, Mr. Nutting, Mrs. Pappasergi, Mrs. Pellegrini - virtually, and Mr. Wiltz.

Mr. Wiltz, Board President, announced that the Board had been in executive session since 9:30 p.m. and then called the Special Voting meeting of the Charleroi Area School District Board of School Directors to order at 10:04 a.m. in the High School Community Room, 100 Fecsen Drive, Charleroi PA 15022.

Upon roll call, members present were: Mr. Caruso, Mrs. Hopkins, Mrs. Keranko, Mr. Nutting, Mrs. Pappasergi, Mrs. Pellegrini - virtually, and Mr. Wiltz.

Mr. Pappasergi, school solicitor, made the announcement that at this time the meeting will be open for public comments limited to items listed on the agenda. There was one public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Joseph Leone Jr. addressed the Board regarding his disagreement of the mask mandate.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion of Mr. Caruso, seconded by Mrs. Hopkins, it was resolved to approve the agenda for the Special Voting meeting of the Charleroi Area School District Board of School Directors for November 12, 2021.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Student Representatives Colton Palonder and Triniti Powell-Boyer spoke with the Board regarding the mask mandate.

Dr. Mason, Mr. Brewer and Mr. Killinger discussed with the Board regarding the mask mandate.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

- a. UPMC COVID Vaccination Clinic for Ages 5-11: Dr. Zelich announced that UPMC will offer a COVID vaccination clinic for children ages 5-11.
- b. On Wednesday, November 10, 2021, Pennsylvania’s Commonwealth Court ruled that the state’s acting health secretary did not have authority to issue a mandatory school mask mandate at the beginning of this academic year: Dr. Zelich announced that the federal mask mandate is still in effect for all students riding transportation.
- c. Secretary of Education Order to Observe Masking Orders Throughout the Duration of the Court’s Proceedings: Dr. Zelich shared with the Board that the Secretary of Education announced that schools should continue to observe the school masking order throughout the duration of the court’s proceedings.
- d. Discussion of CASD Current COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan: Dr. Zelich discussed with the Board the District’s current Health and Safety Plan.
- e. Board Recommendation for Health and Safety Plan Moving Forward: After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to follow our plan and the mask order.

Mrs. Keranko made a motion to go into Executive Session, at 10:34 a.m. to discuss school safety, seconded by Mrs. Pappasergi.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:58 a.m., and the meeting resumed.

Dr. Zelich announced that the Board would like to enforce the mask mandate until children 5-11 years old have an opportunity to be vaccinated. Once the mask mandate is lifted, the Board will allow masks to be optional.

Upon motion of Mr. Caruso, seconded by Mrs. Keranko, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.