

Central Bucks School District
School Board Briefs
Special Meeting: February 23, 2024

At the February 23, 2024 Special School Board Meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

Heard the Purpose of the Special Meeting: The purpose of the meeting is to accept the resignations of school board members Cannon and Sciscio.

Announced that no executive sessions have been held since the last board meeting.

Heard Public Comment:

1. Jennifer Bish, Buckingham Township, spoke about her disappointment in the resignations, dropping culture wars, thanked the present Board, actions of the prior board majority, and the recent school board election results. Ms. Bish spoke about a transparent and fair process to appoint replacement board members. Ms. Bish read aloud part of a John F. Kennedy quote.
2. Shannon Martin, Buckingham Township, yielded her speaking time to Jennifer Bish.
3. Andrea Hanna, Plumstead Township, thanked the board for their service and spoke about diverse thoughts, and selecting board member replacements that will support our kids.
4. Edward Mackouse, Buckingham Township, spoke about bullying and intimidation of Republican members, not accepting the resignations, not replacing outgoing Republicans with Democrats, men defending women, transgenderism, women deserving respect, taking a month to look over legal matters, and Dr. Lucabaugh's high standards.
5. Lela Casey, Doylestown Borough, read aloud part of public comments given by Mrs. Cannon prior to her service on the school board. Ms. Casey spoke about protecting students, asked why Mrs. Cannon and Mrs. Sciscio would give up their board seats if they believed kids were in danger, their support of Dr. Lucabaugh, and spoke about getting back to working for our kids.
6. Debbie Hofer, Buckingham Township, was listed on the sign-up sheet but did not speak.
7. Taya Kovacs, Buckingham Township, yielded her speaking time to Shannon Harris.
8. Shannon Harris, (municipality listed as "mother of student" on sign-in sheet), spoke about her disgust with the behavior of the board, violations of the Sunshine Act, freedom of speech, and disenfranchising parents who could not attend this early meeting. Ms. Harris spoke about an article that President Smith was quoted in, the solicitor performing pro bono work, and that the claims in Mrs. Cannon's and Mrs. Sciscio's letters are true. Ms. Harris asked why Mrs. Cannon's resignation letter is redacted and then read aloud the redacted portions of that letter.
9. Erin Rizk, Plumstead Township, spoke about the board having sown distrust, anger, and suspicion over the past three years. Ms. Rizk spoke about the replacement of Mrs. Sciscio's and

Mrs. Cannon's seats giving us an opportunity to welcome collaborative new leadership and asked for an open application process.

10. Jenine Zdanowicz, Warwick Township, yielded her speaking time to Kathy Cranmer.

11. Kathy Cranmer, Doylestown Township, spoke about history, the district returning to decency, the prior board's targeting of students and teachers, and the prior board ignoring the prior board minority. Ms. Cranmer spoke about resignations not meaning one should be held harmless from bad acts, and Mrs. Cannon's and Mrs. Sciscio's concerns for their personal liability. Ms. Cranmer spoke about board members voting for an unread contract, Mrs. Cannon's attendance at meetings, board members violating ethics and ignoring their fiduciary responsibility to the district.

12. Diana Leygerman, Warwick Township, spoke about changes since Mrs. Cannon and Mrs. Sciscio were seated on the board which include library book bans, the passing of neutrality and textbook policies, and losing many teachers, staff, and administrators over the last few years. Ms. Leygerman spoke about the new board creating good policies, fighting for our kids, ignoring noise, and doing what they were elected to do.

13. Michael Stadelmaier, Buckingham Township, spoke about Abraham Lincoln being known for spending hours meeting with people who one would consider his enemies. Mr. Stadelmaier spoke about his hope that with the changeover of the board, the board would work to try to understand each other. Mr. Stadelmaier spoke about choosing carefully and about the importance of board diversity.

14. Kate Nazemi, Doylestown Township, spoke about the November voters sending a message about education. Ms. Nazemi spoke about tonight's resignations and the subsequent replacements providing an opportunity to ensure strong, vibrant schools where all kids can reach their highest potential. Ms. Nazemi spoke about essential district-wide training to prevent bullying. Ms. Nazemi about the actions and policies of the previous board and about harmful rhetoric having no place in CB.

15. Anusha (no last name listed on sign-in sheet) Viswanathan, Doylestown Township, spoke about the chaos over the last three years and students who came to previous meetings pleading with the previous board to halt their harmful agendas. Ms. Viswanathan spoke about undoing the harm done, empowering teachers, and enacting policies that provide checks and balances.

16. Dev Avadaria, New Britain Borough, congratulated the board majority for winning in November. Mr. Avadaria spoke about CB graduates watching board meetings and the hypocritical resignations. Mr. Avadaria spoke about Republicans and Conservatives reflecting on what they want their parties to stand for.

Received the resignations of school board members Cannon and Sciscio.

Accepted the resignation of school board member Debra Cannon.

Accepted the resignation of school board member Lisa Sciscio.