

# STATE TAX EQUALIZATION BOARD MINUTES

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September 20, 2023  
11:00 A.M.

In attendance:

Peter Barsz, STEB Board Chairman  
Gary Baker, STEB Board Member – MS Teams  
Nicole Porr, STEB Administrator – MS Teams  
Renee Reynolds, STEB Director  
Susie Blanton, Counsel to STEB

Members of the Public: None

Chairman Barsz called the scheduled meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

1. There were no corrections to be made to the meeting minutes of August 16, 2023. Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as stated. Mr. Baker motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Mr. Barsz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Litigation Updates:**

2. Ms. Blanton presented the Board with an update on *Boguslavsky v. N. Pocono Sch. Dist., et al.*, no. 348 MD 2021 (Pa. Cmwlth.), and stated that on August 30, 2023, the Attorney General's Office, which is representing both the Department of Education and STEB, requested an extension to file a response to Petitioner Boguslavsky's motion for summary judgement. The Court granted the request and the date for filing a response was extended to September 29, 2023. No further updates or action required by the board at this time.

3. Ms. Blanton presented the Board with an update on *Vaysburd v. N. Pocono Sch. Dist., et al.*, Docket No. 40 MD 2023 (Pa. Cmwlth.), and stated that the Attorney General's office, which is also representing the Department of Education and STEB in this matter, filed objections to the Vaysburd Petition for Review seeking the removal of both the Department of Education and STEB as parties in this case. Petitioner Boris Vaysburd filed a brief in opposition to the preliminary objections, and on September 8, 2023, the Court issued an order directing the other

petitioners, Alex and Rozaliya Vaysburd, to file a response to the preliminary objections, with their responses due by September 22, 2023. There is no action required by the Board at this time.

4. Ms. Blanton updated the Board regarding the status of the Pittsburgh School District's objections to the recalculated 2020 Common Level Ratio for Allegheny County. The matter has been referred to the Department of State for the assignment of a hearing examiner and has been docketed as School District of Pittsburgh, No. 2023-0005. On August 17, 2023, a petition to intervene was filed by CAA Investment Inc, Patrick Hickman, Marie Hickman, Marion Mazzocco and Steeltown Management Inc. There is no action required by the Board at this time.

5. Ms. Blanton updated the Board regarding the objections to the 2022 Common Level Ratio for Allegheny County filed by Petitioner Hickman. This matter has also been referred to the Department of State for the assignment of a hearing examiner and the case has been docketed as Hickman et. al., No. 2023-0006. There is no action required by the Board at this time.

6. Ms. Reynolds informed the Board of the appeal regarding the Freeport Area School District to their 2022 Market Values and indicated the district requested to proceed with the appeal after the information was reviewed by the district. She reminded the board of the sales and other data with questionable or doubtful validity. The district is requesting the sales be removed and new market values calculated. Ms. Reynolds completed the tentative values and is requesting the Board make a motion to formally reapprove the 2022 Market Values for Freeport Area School District with the new market values as outlined below:

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Old MV</b>	<b>New MV</b>
Freeport Boro.	40,747,456	41,341,026
South Buffalo Twp.	201,997,395	204,078,283
Buffalo Twp.	no change	

Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to approve the newly recalculated 2022 Market Values for Freeport Area School District. Mr. Baker motioned to approve the market values as outlined and Mr. Barsz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No further items came before the Board.

## **NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING:**

Governor's Center for Local Government Services  
State Tax Equalization Board  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
October 18, 2023, at 11:00 A.M.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN:**

Having attended to all matters of concern, Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Baker motioned to adjourn, and Chairman Barsz seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board concluded at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Peter R. Barsz*

Peter Barsz, STEB Board Chairman