

STATE TAX EQUALIZATION BOARD MINUTES

October 18, 2023
11:00 A.M.

In attendance:

Peter Barsz, STEB Board Chairman – MS Teams
Brittany Mercadante, STEB Board Secretary – MS Teams
Gary Baker, STEB Board Member – MS Teams
Nicole Porr, STEB Administrator – MS Teams
Renee Reynolds, STEB Director
Susie Blanton, Counsel to STEB
Kelly Robertson, DCED/Local Government Services Executive Director

Members of the Public: Attorney John Silverstri, Lee Dellecker Counsel for Pittsburgh Area SD and Robert Junker – No comments were made.

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 September 20, 2023. Chairman Barsz asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes as stated. Mr. Baker motioned to approve the meeting minutes and Ms. Mercadante 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 Petitioner had filed a motion for summary judgment, and a response opposing the motion had been filed by the Attorney General's office, who is representing STEB and Department of Education in this matter, on September 29, 2023. On Monday, October 16, 2023, the Court issued a briefing schedule on Boguslavsky's motion for summary judgment. 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 Petitioners Alex and Rozaliya Vaysburd filed their joinder paperwork to join in Petitioner Ilya Vaysburd's brief in opposition to STEB and Department of Education's preliminary objections. The preliminary objections were filed by

the Attorney General's office on behalf of STEB and the Department of Education with the intention of having STEB and the Department removed as parties in this case. The matter regarding the preliminary objections is now pending before the Court and 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. There has been not action since the September 20, 2023. No further updates or 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. On Tuesday, October 17, 2023, Special Counsel to STEB filed a response/answer to the Hickman Objections. No action is required by the Board at this time.

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
November 15, 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 11:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Mercadante

Brittany Mercadante, STEB Secretary