



# POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting Held April 23, 2013

Summary of Key Discussion & Actions Taken:

The Pottsgrove School District Board of Directors held its twice monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at the Pottsgrove High School.

During the **Education Report**, the following was presented/discussed:

**KCBA Architects presented their High School Feasibility Study:** KCBA spent nearly 3 months analyzing the high school and finding ways to make it more efficient and effective. Tonight it presented its plan to update the high school's systems and design to accommodate the district's learning needs. Specifically KCBA looked at how to update the high school to accommodate space needed for the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) programs, music, performing and visual arts, special education, as well as safety and accessibility. KCBA's recommendations include \$28.7 million in improvements, including \$8 million in upgrades to major HVAC, plumbing, fire protection and electrical systems (previously approved by the School Board), \$9.3 million in building renovations, and \$5.4 million in space additions. The School Board may choose to accept all, some, or none of the recommendations with the exception of the previously approved required upgrades to the mechanical and electrical systems.

Due to large decreases in annual debt service requirements beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, a project of this magnitude could be financed over approximately 13 years without requiring an increase in property taxes. The proposed construction period would span two school years and three summers. A decision on the scope of the project by the end of June would improve the likelihood of starting construction next summer which is highly recommended due to some failing mechanical and electrical systems. For more information and to access the full report, visit: <http://www.pgisd.org/District/DistrictCommunications/HighSchoolFeasibilityStudy/tabid/966/Default.aspx>

In addition to the regular monthly reports and business, the **Board took action on the following:**

1. **Proposed Final Budget.** The Board delayed a vote on the "Proposed Final Budget" for the 2013-2014 school-year so that it could have more time to discuss it. The proposed budget is \$62,019,810 and requires a property tax increase of 3.5%. This would equate to an increase of approximately \$152 for the average household in Pottsgrove School District. Please note that this does not commit the District to this tax increase. The Business Office is still refining certain key budget projections. Updates will be provided at future meetings. This adoption is the next step in a lengthy budget adoption process which must be concluded by June 30, 2013. Budget discussions will continue during each Board meeting until a final budget is adopted.
2. **PlanCon Part K: Project Refinancing for the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2013.** The Board approved the submission of PlanCon Part K for the District's recent bond refinancing which will save the District approximately \$225,000 in the upcoming school year.
3. **Resolution Allowing Use of E-Signatures.** The Board adopted a resolution identifying and authorizing Shellie Feola to sign electronic Consolidated Application Agreements of the Division of Federal Programs with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. School districts electing to use e-signatures will no longer be required to manually sign and mail to the department all application and grant documents. The use of e-signatures will greatly improve the timeliness and efficiency of grant-making as well as reduce copying and postage costs for School Districts and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.



## POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting Held February 12, 2013

Summary of Key Discussion & Actions Taken:

4. **Service Agreement for Medical Practitioner Review.** The Board authorized the administration to enter into a service agreement for medical practitioner review with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit at a cost of \$1,935.00. This service fulfills a requirement that a physician review and sign off on student treatment plans (IEP) in order for the district to receive reimbursement of ACCESS funds.

The personnel report included approval of a number of professional and support personnel actions.

In addition to the regular monthly reports and business **the Board discussed the following new business:**

**Math Adoption Questions/Follow-Up.** Board members asked several follow-up questions with regard to the recommended mathematics adoption. The administration reiterated the process for review and selection of materials; the transition plan to support students and teachers, and the recommended timeline for implementation.

An Executive Session was called immediately following the regular board meeting to discuss personnel issues.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

04/29/13 – HS Feasibility Study Pubic Meeting @ 7:30 P.M. – High School Cafeteria

05/14/13 – School Board Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. – High School Cafeteria

**Technology Expo Planned for May 14 at the High School.** The technology department is planning a technology expo to showcase the many ways we use technology to advance the district's mission to educate and inspire al students to excel as productive, responsible citizens and lifelong learners. Displays will include classroom and assistive technologies, student media production, robotics, online resources from our schools and regional libraries, as well as assistance to parents in setting up their parent portal, and more. There may even be a sneak preview of the new district web portal design coming this summer. The expo will begin at 6 PM on May 14, 2013 in the lobby area just outside of the high school cafeteria.