



POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting Held March 12, 2013
Summary of Key Discussion & Actions Taken:

The Pottsgrove School District Board of Directors held its twice-monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School.

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

Technology Budget Presentation - Mr. Wagman presented the proposed 2013-14 technology budget which includes replacement of computers purchased under a state grant in 2008-2009, updating the aging industrial technology lab in the Middle School, and related STEM initiatives. Additionally, monies are earmarked to address needed power backup concerns in the district's voice/data network core and address the growing need for a 1 to 1 initiative at the high school (planned for implementation in 2014-15). The proposed technology department budget is \$1,027,403. This budget recommendation reflects a 9.9% increase but is over 12% lower than the 2009-10 budget.

Facilities Budget Presentation - Mr. Katzenmoyer presented the proposed 2013-14 facilities department budget which included a review of the building maintenance, custodial, grounds maintenance and operational (utility) projections. The proposed facilities department budget of \$1,707,650.00 represents an increase of 4.7%. Mr. Katzenmoyer also presented a proposed list of capital projects for Board consideration.

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

- 1. Independent Contractor Agreement.** The Board approved Barbara Burke-Stevenson to serve as Independent Contractor for the Director of Education and Assessment effective March 15, 2013 while the district begins the search for a formal replacement. Burke-Stevenson will be paid \$600/day, which is the average rate districts pay for interim director-level positions. Because she will not receive benefits, this amount equates to a \$41 daily savings over what Davies was paid.
- 2. Special Education Cost Plan.** The Board approved the Special Education Cost Plan Agreement with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit as presented.
- 3. Communications Solutions Group.**
The Board approved the Communications Solutions Group to conduct community engagement/visioning and branding sessions as presented not to exceed \$3,000.

In addition to the regular personnel report, the following personnel action was approved:

The retirement of Rocco Bianchini effective March 11, 2012.

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

- 1. Visioning and Rebranding Sessions.** Communications Solutions Group (CSG) will conduct three "visioning" sessions in April to help it create a new brand identity for the district. One group will be held with administrators and school board members, one with representatives from each school, and one with community members. CSG says the most effective sessions have no more than 15 participants, and will be



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working to ensure that there is balanced representation from each school. The entire community will be able to vote on the three brand options that will be presented as a result of these visioning sessions. A Powerschool Announcement will be sent out later this month regarding recruitment for this session.

2. **Thank you to Lower Pottsgrove Commissioners.** Ms. Feola thanked the Lower Pottsgrove Board of Commissioners for presenting a plaque to the Pottsgrove Falcons Cross Country Team in recognition of their dedication in achieving the Pennsylvania State Championship Title of 2012 and the Pottsgrove Falcons Marching Band in recognition of their dedication in achieving the American “A” Pennsylvania State Championship.
3. **Facilities Committee Update.** A summary of the Facilities Committee discussion was made to the full board along with two motions for approval. The Board then approved an agreement with Moore Engineering Company to conduct a study of the Pottsgrove Middle School Chilled water plant in the amount of \$2,250.00 and the purchase and installation of (12) metal doors at Pottsgrove Middle School from A&L Door Specialties, in the amount of \$11,375.00. Both of these projects will be supported from the capital reserve fund.

An **executive session** to be held immediately following the regular meeting for personnel and negotiations was announced.

Upcoming Dates:

03/26/13 – School Board Meeting @ 7:30 p.m. – District Office

03/27/13 – Staff Development – No Students

03/28/13 through 04/01/13 – School Closed

04/05/13 – End of Third Quarter