



POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting Held May 28, 2013

Summary of Key Discussion & Actions Taken:

The Pottsgrove School District Board of Directors held its twice monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2013 at the Pottsgrove District Office.

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

Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Services Presentation – Dr. Jerry Shively, MCIU Executive Director, made a short presentation outlining services provided by the intermediate unit in support of Montgomery County Schools.

KCBA Architects High School Feasibility Study Presentation –Based upon the feedback from the May 14, 2013 Board meeting, KCBA Architects presented slight modifications to the second high school renovation option. The modifications include a slight increase to the width of the proposed gymnasium to accommodate seating capacity for 1200, qualifying the building to be able to hold PIAA events and other large functions. Additionally, the music spaces were modified slightly after review of enrollment trend numbers and consultation with music staff. This change brought the cost of this option to \$30,901,992 which is an additional \$106,554.00. The Board approved a motion to authorize Phase One of the project which includes land development and schematic designs for the high school and verbal authorization to enter into a contract with KCBA to conduct the work.

Elementary Centers Presentation - Dr. Barbara Burke Stevenson and the elementary principals made a presentation focused on the transition to centers and progress in year one, concerns shared through surveys and meetings, the manner in which concerns were addressed and the plans for continued focus on addressing them. In addition, performance data was shared to demonstrate the growth the students have made in Language Arts in all three buildings. Special Education data was also mentioned which demonstrated savings that were realized this year and the plans to accrue more savings next year.

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

1. **Extended School Year Contracts.** The Board authorized extended school year contracts at Devereux for a special needs student at cost of \$6,468.00
2. **Special Education Contracts.** Districts are required to provide education to all special needs students who reside within their boundaries. The Board approved a contract with Buxmont Academy to provide educational services for two students from The Pottsgrove School District at a cost of \$37,051.00.
3. **Pottsgrove High School Chiller Replacement.** A new chiller plant was installed at the High School to provide air conditioning to the building at a total cost of \$776,300. The Board authorized the payment of \$82,094.25 in connection with this project.
4. **InfoSnap.** In order to improve registration services for our families, as well as to streamline the process of obtaining updated information annually from our families with returning students, the Board approved InfoSnap, an on-line system that integrates with our student management system, PowerSchool. InfoSnap will allow families to complete registration and other forms collectively referred to as the first day packet online, in advance of a new school year. Most district forms currently available in hard copy or in



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Meeting Held February 12, 2013

Summary of Key Discussion & Actions Taken:

downloadable PDF will be converted to online forms over time. The cost for this system includes a \$6,600 set up fee and a recurring fee of \$11,880 per year.

5. **High School Sanitary Sewer Replacement Bid.** After reviewing three bids received for the high school sanitary sewer replacement project, the Board awarded the lowest bid received from B.P. Paterson, Incorporated in the amount of \$92,647.
6. **High School Roof Replacement Bid.** After reviewing bids from five contractors for the high school gym/auditorium roof replacement project, the Board awarded the lowest bid from Warko Roofing Company, Incorporated in the amount of \$297,000.

The personnel report included approval of a number of professional and support personnel actions including the following:

1. **Retirement of Ruth Fisher as Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School Principal.** The Board accepted the resignation of Ruth Fisher as principal of Lower Pottsgrove Elementary School after a nearly 40 year career in education. Mrs. Fisher has been a principal in Pottsgrove since 1999 and always made decisions with the best interest of her students. The district will miss her wisdom, experience, and care for her kids.

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

1. **Proposed Final Budget.** The Board adopted a “Proposed Final Budget” for the 2013-2014 school-year in the amount of \$61,478,099 which would require a property tax increase of 2.2%. This would equate to an increase of approximately \$95 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. **Upgrade to the School District’s Radio Communication System.** The Board approved a motion to award RF Design a contract to upgrade and expand the District’s radio communication system to include hybrid (analog/digital) radios and signal repeaters at a cost of \$34,652. In addition to improving communication within schools, this action comports with recommendations from emergency management agencies and Department of Homeland Security to enhance the capacity of school districts to communicate across multiple schools in crisis situations.

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

Upcoming Dates:

06/10/13 – Baccalaureate 6:30 p.m.

06/10 – 06/12/13 – ½ day early dismissal

06/12/13 – Last Day for Students

06/12/13 – Commencement 6:00 p.m.

06/13/13 – Last day for Staff