



POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting Held June 18, 2013

Summary of Key Discussion & Actions Taken:

The Pottsgrove School District Board of Directors held its twice monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 at the Pottsgrove District Office.

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

Comprehensive Planning Update – A draft of the PGSD Comprehensive Plan for 2013-2017 will be posted beginning July 1, 2013. This plan was developed by a district comprehensive planning committee consisting of parents, community members, board members, teachers and administrators using the new Pennsylvania Department of Education guidelines. After the required 30 days of public display, the final plan will be recommended for adoption at the first August Board of School Directors meeting.

Teacher Effectiveness Project - Precipitated by Act 82, the PA Department of Education is ramping up its expectations for school districts' procedures for promoting teacher growth and accountability. School districts across the state will begin implementing a new Teacher Effectiveness Model, the criteria of which is based on the Charlotte Danielson four-domain rubric available for viewing on the PDE website at www.education.state.pa.us.

The updated Danielson rubric includes a method to assess teaching, as well as multiple measures to indicate the degree that teachers implement best practices that result in positive impacts on student achievement. Schools will be assessed using multiple measures appropriate to the grade levels served that will include PSSA achievement for 2012-2013, Keystone scores for 2012-2013, student academic growth rates, graduation rates, promotion rates, attendance, AP course participation and SAT/PSAT scores. This information will be presented on the PA Performance Profile, which is scheduled to be released in the fall of 2013. The teachers' overall performance rating will consist of their assessed performance under the Danielson rubric weighted at 50% and the school's rating on the PA Performance Profile weighted at 15%. The remaining 35% of the teachers' overall rating continues to be discussed at the PA Department of Education level.

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

1. Election of Treasurer – The Board elected Patricia Grimm to serve as Treasurer for the period July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.
2. Special Education Contracts – The Board authorized Administration to enter into contracts with two alternative schools to educate two of our special needs students for the upcoming school year at a cost of \$71,000. They also approved entering into an extended school year contract for one special needs student at a cost of \$6,468.
3. High School Chiller Project – The Board authorized payment of an invoice for services in connection with the installation of the new chiller plant at the High School in the amount of \$10,172.92. Approximately, \$40,000.00 remains payable on this project.



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4. Architect's Contract – The Board approved entering into an agreement with KCBA Architects for services related to the design and construction of the Pottsgrove High School Renovation Project subject to final review by our solicitor. KCBA will be compensated at 5.9% of construction cost plus civil engineering services not to exceed \$203,650.00.
5. High School Athletic Field Design - The Board approved designs for a multi-surface turf field and relocation of a JV softball field to include related drainage.
6. Security Camera Upgrade and Expansion - The Board approved a motion to upgrade and install security cameras at Pottsgrove Middle School, Lower Pottsgrove, Ringing Rocks and West Pottsgrove Elementary Schools, as presented, for a total cost of \$213,847.03. The project will be funded through capital reserves. Pottsgrove High School security camera upgrade and expansion will be included in the renovation project.
7. Copier Bid – The Board awarded a bid for new copiers to Stewart Business Systems at a monthly lease cost of \$8,310.24. This lease adds two additional copiers to our fleet, increases the speed of many of our units, and provides the technological upgrades that will enhance the efficiency and monitoring of our copiers. We have switched our hardware from Ricoh to Xerox. Stewart Business Systems received very positive references from existing customers with regard to their responsiveness. The lease will run for a term of 48 months and will generate a savings of approximately \$360 per month.
8. Direct Energy Contract – The Board approved an extension to our contract with Direct Energy for another three years. This contract allows the District to purchase electricity below the rates charged by PECO for our area. This contract saved the District approximately \$53,000 in 2012
9. Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Contracts – The Board approved entering into a number of contracts with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for technology services provided to the District. These contracts are for the 2013-2014 school year. The contracts are for the following services:

· Internet & Internet 2 Services	\$ 13,350.00
· PowerSchool Student Information Services	\$ 22,518.80
· Moodle Plus	\$ 3,950.00
· Virtual Locker	\$ 3,100.00
· Discovery Educational Streaming	\$ 3,225.00

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

1. Extend Employment Contract for Interim Director of Education. The Board approved Dr. Barbara Burke-Stevenson to serve under an employment contract for the Interim



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Director of Education and Assessment effective July 1, 2013 in the amount of \$600 per day as presented.

2. **Act 93 Administrator Compensation Plan.** The Board approved to amend the original compensation plan for both the Act 93 Administrator Compensation Plan and Administrator Benefits Package in effect July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012 by extending the original agreement by one contract year of 2013-14 with no modification to the salaries or benefits contained in the original compensation plan.

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

1. **Budget Update** – Mr. Nester updated the Board on the status of the State’s budget as well as the status of Pottsgrove’s budget. It is encouraging to see the legislature begin discussing this issue. Mr. Nester informed the Board of recent news which has negatively affected the District’s Title 1 budget and the Board discussed possible solutions. Mr. Nester also notified the Board of two important pieces of legislation that could have impact on the District. If adopted, HB 618 would offer some relief to Districts who have students attending cyber charter schools. In addition, HB 1336 would provide relief for Districts who use third party tax collectors to collect their delinquent property taxes. If adopted, this bill could save Pottsgrove School District approximately \$65,000 in its 2013-2014 budget.
2. **Relay for Life** - The Board authorized the Relay for Life of Pottstown to use the stadium for their 2014 event scheduled for May 31 and June 1, 2014.

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

Upcoming Dates:

6/28/13 - School Board Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. – District Office

8/20/13 – First Staff Day for 2013/14

8/23/13 – No School

8/27/13 – First Student Day for 2013/14

8/30/13 – No School

9/02/13 – No School