



## POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting Held April 14, 2015

Summary of Key Discussion and Actions Taken:

The Pottsgrove School District Board of Directors held its twice monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at Ringing Rocks Elementary.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Two public comments were made. One comment raised a concern related to a specific disciplinary issue at the middle school and the second dealt with the election petition report that received coverage in the Pottstown Mercury.

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

1. The Board approved all personnel items as presented in the agenda including the appointment of Ms. Kathryn Pacitto as Supervisor of Special Education.
2. The Board approved budget transfers for March 2015.
3. The Board authorized administration to execute an agreement with Personal Health Care, Inc for one student at a rate of \$44 per hour.
4. The Board authorized administration to execute an agreement with New Story for one special needs student at a rate of \$175 per day.
5. The Board approved change order GC-018 for repair and replacement of terrazzo flooring at the Pottsgrove High School in the amount of \$17,068.80.
6. The Board approved the payment of the Pottsgrove High School Renovation Project invoices as presented.
7. The Board approved the payment of the Pottsgrove Middle School Cooling Tower Project invoices as presented.
8. The Board approved conference attendance as presented.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Superintendent Feola discussed the findings of a review of personnel costs in the context of closing the \$841,000 projected budget deficit. The review looked at retirements, class sizes and course enrollments in the high school. Student enrollment trends in certain elective courses indicate possible cost savings associated with retirements, not filling one or more of the positions, and the reduction of one position to a half time. Additionally, Superintendent Feola highlighted possible cost savings at the Western Montgomery Career and Technical Center operated by Pottsgrove, Springford and Upper Perkiomen School Districts. The total potential savings could exceed \$581,000.

### **BOARD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:**

Ms. Chloe Klaus reported the following:

West Pottsgrove participated in Jump Rope for Heart in Health and Physical Education class and collected \$2348 for the American Heart Association. They are preparing for the Spring Art show that is being held Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

Ringing Rocks has added Falcon Fitness Club this year and are training for the PG Education Foundation Fun Run 5K. Students needing additional academic support are attending after school tutoring where they receive support for math and reading.

Lower Pottsgrove students have prepared for the PSSAs in fun and exciting ways. Science Explorers presented a program for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students fully funded by a grant from TEVA Pharmaceuticals. The annual Spring Fling will



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be held May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Sieller will be in the dunk tank.

The Middle School is celebrating the efforts of students doing their best and showing what they've learned. During a portion of a grade-level meeting, they highlighted the School-Wide Positive Behavior System and reinforced the Falcon Four (Be Safe, Positive, Respectful and Responsible). The Digital Learning Environment work continues and a variety of digital products will be on display at the art show later this spring and at Oscar Night that is being held the evening of May 21<sup>st</sup>.

The High School will be hosting two assemblies and a parent night on Rachel's Challenge. Prom is being held on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Double Tree in King of Prussia. The PTSA is hosting a safe post prom at the high school with a number of exciting activities where students can win prizes.

Finally, Ms. Klaus told the Board that there are students in the high school with an interest in current events and taking a role in the decisions made that affect their school.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Superintendent Feola reported on a dedication request for the new high school music wing.

Superintendent Feola read a letter from the Lower Pottsgrove township manager thanking the PGHS softball team for their assistance with the annual Easter egg hunt.

Mr. Rabinowitz reminded the community about the annual Spring Fling on the evening of May 1. Additionally, Mr. Rabinowitz urged parents with students at LPES and the MS to consider taking a leadership role in PTA. These organizations could fold without parent leadership and that would be a huge loss to the school community.

Mrs. Cherico urged community members to support the Pottsgrove Education Foundation Annual 5K Run on Saturday, May 16 at the high school.

Mr. Valentine and Mr. Coffelt commented on the election petition signature controversy. Mr. Coffelt apologized for his actions related to this event.

### **UPCOMING DATES:**

4/15/15 HS Advanced Bio Trip to Wallops Island  
4/16/15 HS Concert Band & Jazz Band Trip to Williamsburg, VA  
4/21/15 Key Communicator Meeting  
4/21/15 - 4/22/15 Kindergarten Screening @ West Pottsgrove Elementary  
4/24/15 - HS DECA International Career Development Conference in Orlando  
4/25/15 HS Prom @ the Double Tree in King of Prussia at 6:20 PM  
4/25/15 HS Post-Prom @ HS beginning 11:00 PM - 2:00 AM  
4/25/15 Western Center Car Show  
4/28/15 RR Kindergarten Screening  
4/28/18 School Board Work Session @ District office at 6:30 PM



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View the Comprehensive Calendar of District events at <http://www.pgsd.org/Page/2>

Visit the Board website at <http://www.pgsd.org/board>

For Renovation information, visit <http://www.pgsd.org/facilities>

Board meetings are now recorded for viewing on PCTV twice weekly, Wed., at 6:30 PM, Sun., at 6:00 PM and on demand from the District website.