

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2017 AGENDA MEETING

The February agenda meeting of the Pennsbury Board of School Directors was held in the Fallsington School Multi-Purpose Room on Thursday, February 2, 2017. Mr. Sanderson called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: Mr. Kannan, Mr. Palmer, Mrs. Redner, Mr. Schwartz, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Wachspress, Mr. Waldorf and Mr. Sanderson.

Board Member Absent: Mrs. Hilty.

Administrators Present: Dr. Gretzula, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Dorsey, Dr. Dunar, Mrs. Langtry, Mr. Millward, Mrs. Rarrick, Mrs. Spack and Mr. Taylor.

Administrator Absent: Mrs. Godzieba and Mrs. Morett.

Others Present: Mr. Clarke, Solicitor.

Others Absent: Miss Camara and Miss Mix, Student Representatives.

Mr. Clarke, Solicitor, reported that the Board held an executive session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss contract negotiations and a personnel matter.

BUDGET UPDATE – MR. RODGERS

Mr. Rodgers reviewed the basics of the District's budget including revenues and expenditures, the budget process and timeline. Revenue budget challenges such as real estate assessments and appeals, interest on investments and State funding were outlined. Mr. Rodgers explained that the net real estate tax changes as of November 2016 were positive for the District. He further reported on the interest rates over the years from 2008-2009 through and including 2017-2018. Mr. Rodgers commented on State and Federal revenues, PSERS employer rate and the projected PSERS rates affecting the budget process. The Preliminary Budget Summary was reviewed and will be presented and voted upon at the Board Meeting of February 9th reflecting a real estate tax increase of 4.3% which is above the ACT 1 index of 2.5%. Mr. Rodgers reiterated that there is a lot of work to be done in order to achieve the Final Budget in June. He stated that the two primary goals of the budget are to balance the budget to meet the overall needs of the District while taking into account the stakeholders' ability to pay and to maintain support for the most important educational needs with the limited funds available.

Mr. Rodgers addressed all questions from the Board.

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2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR PRESENTATION – DR. GRETZULA

Dr. Gretzula shared two different versions of the calendar (Draft 2B and Draft 3) at tonight's meeting and described that the "process is as important as the product" to be inclusive, democratic and transparent. The calendar in the past has been developed by multiple people and for this calendar the stakeholder group was expanded to include more voices. Three Calendar Committee meetings were held before this evening's presentation with special thanks to Dr. Dunar, Mrs. Spack and Mrs. Langtry for their extensive work. Dr. Gretzula explained each draft calendar and outlined the risks and rewards of both. The Committee recommended Draft 3 Calendar for the Board's consideration with the intent to approve at the Board Meeting of February 9, 2017. Dr. Gretzula welcomed additional input from the public before that meeting.

Dr. Gretzula addressed all comments and questions regarding both Draft Calendars.

BOARD POLICIES – SECOND READ

Mrs. Wachspress reported on the second read of the following policies:

- Board Policy 123.4 – *Sudden Cardiac Arrest*
- Board Policy 252.1 – *Dating Violence*

Mrs. Wachspress announced that both policies are posted on the Pennsbury website and hardcopies were available at this Board Meeting. She also reported that the Committee will proactively notify parents and guardians of policies being reviewed.

Mr. Schwartz informed the public that before each cycle, the Policy Committee will email parents/guardians with policy meeting and Board meeting dates where they are encouraged to attend with the opportunity to provide input.

SALVATION ARMY CORPS IN LEVITTOWN, PA – MAJOR PATRICK LAIDLAW

Major Patrick Laidlaw thanked and congratulated the Board for their support of the Salvation Army Corps and teaching students to serve in the community. Major Laidlaw reported that the Salvation Army services many of those in our community providing 630 or so families with holiday food baskets and toys for 1800 children. He shared that there were a number of schools from the District that participated in bell ringing as well as a group from the Pennsbury High School National Honors Society that raised \$844.42 and the High School Awareness Teen Advisory Group (ATAG) raised \$673.32. Charles Boehm Middle School contributed \$1085.37 and William Penn Middle School raised \$634.37. The Pennsbury High School Twilight Program took 100 angels and went out and actually shopped and adopted children to provide toys and gifts for the holidays.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sanderson opened the floor to public comment at 9:32 p.m. The following people came forward and public comment was closed at 9:50 p.m.

Matt Kane, Lower Makefield Township	Inauguration Ban in Schools; Calendar
Jackie Deitch-Stackhouse, Lower Makefield Twp.	Dating Violence Policy
Robert Abrams, Lower Makefield Township	Budget

All questions and comments were addressed.

Mr. Sanderson reported that there are two additional items to the Board Agenda for February 9, 2017. The additional items are:

Boys' Winter Track – Millrose Games
PlanCon K.

SET AGENDA FOR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

A motion was made by Mrs. Redner, seconded by Mr. Waldorf and unanimously approved with no abstentions to approve setting the agenda for Items I through XVI for the regular monthly meeting.

- I. Old Business
- II. Settlement and Release Agreements
- III. Spring Sports Teams Championship Events
- IV. PA State Chess Championship Tournament
- V. Forensics Team Tournament
- VI. Grade Point Average
- VII. 2017-2018 School Calendar
- VIII. Bucks County Intermediate Unit Programs and Services Budget
- IX. 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget
- X. Advertise and Submit Exceptions
- XI. Donations
- XII. Board Policies
- XIII. Educational and Other Leaves
- XIV. Personnel
- XV. Boys' Winter Track – Millrose Games
- XVI. PlanCon K

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BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Mr. Sanderson commented that it was the recommendation of the Facilities Committee to remove the Item regarding Facility Usage Policy Waiver Request from the Board Agenda for February 9, 2017.

Mrs. Wachspres announced that there is a second Back to School Night at the High School planned for Wednesday, February 8th, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Redner, seconded by Mr. Schwartz and unanimously approved with no abstentions to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel C. Rodgers
Board Secretary