

PENNRIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the August 19, 2019 School Board Meeting

The Pennridge School Board met at 7:00 p.m. in room LGI 3.3 of Pennridge High School with President Banis-Clemens presiding. President Banis-Clemens requested the Secretary to call the roll. The following Board Members were present: Mrs. Banis-Clemens, Mrs. Cullen, Mrs. Dolan, Mr. Krause, Mr. Reiss, Dr. Thompson, Mrs. Walters, and Dr. Yarnell. Also present were Dr. Bolton, Mr. Daubert, Mrs. McHale, Dr. Rybarczyk, Dr. Scheid, Solicitor Michael Miller, Board Secretary Mrs. Chenoweth, and approximately 35 guests. Ms. Kilderry was present via conference call, and Dr. Woyurka was absent.

Dr. Bolton shared highlights of the engineering firm selection process.

Questions and comments from Guests

Kyle Esposito/East Rockhill Twp. – addressed the School Board on improvements in school mental health resources and awareness.

Diane Haring/Hilltown Twp. – addressed the School Board on district performance ranking, specifically Niche.

Kevin Foster/Hilltown Twp. – addressed the School Board on Niche and requested update to the outstanding PESPA contract.

Dr. Bolton commented on the importance of the care and wellbeing of students as well as data analyzation and announced upcoming events addressing these topics and more.

Dr. Bolton asked Mrs. Banis-Clemens to have motions for Assistant Superintendent contracts moved to the beginning of the meeting to move forward with swearing in process.

Motion by Dr. Yarnell, second by Mrs. Walters, to approve contract with Dr. Kathleen Scheid, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, for the term July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Dr. Yarnell, second by Mrs. Dolan, to approve contract with Dr. Anthony Rybarczyk, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, for the term August 5, 2019 through June 30, 2022.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Newly Appointed Assistant Superintendents Swearing In

Bucks County Judge, Regina Armitage, administered the oath of office to new Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, Dr. Kathleen Scheid.

Bucks County Judge, Regina Armitage, administered the oath of office to new Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education, Dr. Anthony Rybarczyk.

President's Report

Mrs. Banis-Clemens reported the following:

On July 22, 2019, the Board of School Directors completed the annual performance evaluation of the Superintendent, Dr. David Bolton. It was determined by the Board that the Superintendent successfully achieved the district goals set forth by the Board, in concert with the superintendent, for the 2018-2019 school year; rating him as highly satisfactory to superior on all objective performance standards. The Board continues to be impressed with how much he has been able to accomplish in such a short period of time. Of course, it wouldn't be an evaluation of Dr. Bolton without numbers!

1. Student Growth and Achievement

- a. Elementary Literacy Initiative
 - I. Third grade reading proficiency is often cited as a data point to guarantee academic achievement through high school. A baseline is set at the three-year average of 76% to track improvement
 - II. Pilot at Sellersville Elementary- went from consistently performing at the bottom to being the top school with 91% scoring proficient or advanced, a 15% increase in just one year!
- b. Future Ready Index is being used to drive achievement for building principals with individual trainings on how to access information, run reports, and interpret data. Each principal has developed a data plan.
- c. AP Exams
 - I. 352 students took 679 AP exams
 - II. 90.3% scored 3 or higher
 - III. 8.3-point increase from last year and an all-time high for Pennridge School District
- d. SATs
 - I. Reading and Math scores have increased every year for the last 5 years to current average of 1175

2. Organizational Leadership

- a. Curriculum
 - II. Curriculum planning template established

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- III. Curriculum Design and Innovation Council – Over 40 Administrators and teachers
 - IV. K-12 Reading English Language Arts (RELA) curriculum maps
 - V. Habits of Mind training for all staff
- b. Comprehensive Plan and K-12 Guidance Plan
 - I. Development and approval
 - II. These documents will help guide Pennridge over the next 3-5 years
 - III. Foci on:
 - 1. Teaching, Learning, and Innovation
 - 2. Effective use of Technology
 - 3. Well-Being of Students and Staff
 - 4. College and Career preparation
- c. Educational Environment
 - I. Air conditioning large spaces at the elementary schools
 - II. One-way kindergarten busing- extends day to increase instructional time
- 3. District Operations and Financial Management
 - a. Bringing students back to Pennridge
 - I. 14.4% decrease in number of students attending school outside of the Pennridge School District
 - 1. Saving about \$200,000
 - b. Balanced Budget
 - I. First balanced budget in at least 20 years with no tax increase, no new debt, and no structural deficit
- 4. Communication and Community Relations
 - a. Relationships
 - I. 193 classroom visits
 - II. 87 after school and evening events
 - III. Meetings with 19 Community organizations, including promoting the relationship with BCCC to expand dual enrollment and provide credits for courses taken
 - b. Communication
 - I. New Facebook page – 2,800 followers
 - II. Twitter followers up 16%
 - III. Newsletter recipients up 11%
 - IV. First annual Rams Report to all 21,053 properties in the district
- 5. Human Resource Management
 - a. Reorganization- Staff was reorganized to provide more hands-on support to the classrooms.
 - I. Two Supervisors converted to instructional coaches and the remaining four were dedicated to K-12 subject areas to provide continuity in the curriculum.

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- II. Instructional coaches were added to provide direct support and consistency across the district, including an elementary literacy instructional coach.
 - III. The Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Director of Administration were converted to Assistant Superintendents for the elementary and secondary levels to provide direct support to each level.
 - IV. Additional aides for cafeteria and recess duty were also added to provide collaboration, remediation, and enrichment time for elementary teachers.
 - V. Sister schooling was discontinued to allow students to go to their home schools and teaching assistants have been added at a lower-class size threshold.
6. Professionalism
- a. Dr. Bolton always conducts himself professionally by all standards, in all settings, and through all forms of communication

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Bolton thanked the School Board for his 2018-2019 Superintendent evaluation in addition to the support from the community, administration, and staff.

Ms. Karen Devine, PSBA Interim Director of Member Services, recognized Dr. Yarnell for 28 years of service to the school board.

Dr. Bolton thanked the technology and operations departments for their hard work over the summer months in getting devices and buildings ready.

Student Liaison Report

Gina Palutucci/PHS Senior highlighted T-shirts for all incoming freshman, guest speaker Ed Gerety, Gallery of the Arts, Pink Out, and tropical luau Homecoming theme.

Consent Calendar

Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Mr. Reiss, to approve the Consent Calendar, items a-h, which included minutes of July 22, 2019, Bills List, Capital Projects Bills List, Self-Insurance Bills List, Food Service Bills List, Student Activities Bills List, Budget Transfers, Financial Report, and the Superintendent's Personnel/EDR Report (**Copies in Formal Minute Book**).

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Banis-Clemens

Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Mr. Krause, to approve contracts listed below:

- a. Joseph Werner, MD, reviews student IEP's for health related services, 2019-2020, \$175/per

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hour per completed review (same as previous year) (reviewed by solicitor)

b. New Hope Academy, educational services for student identified as 2020-04, 2019-2020, \$36,400 (reviewed by solicitor)

c. New Hope Academy, educational services for student identified as 2020-05, 2019-2020, \$36,400 (reviewed by solicitor)

d. New Hope Academy, educational services for student identified as 2020-06, 2019-2020, \$36,400 (reviewed by solicitor)

e. Foundations Behavioral Health, 8/29/2019-6/10/2020, see fee schedule on Appendix A (reviewed by solicitor)

f. NCS Pearson, Inc., Aimsweb Training Services Agreement, data for progress monitoring for special education students' IEP goals, \$6,000, (under review by solicitor)

g. Bayada Home Health Care, Inc., nursing services, 2019-2020, \$60/hour (reviewed by solicitor)

h. Grand View Health, sponsorship agreement for advertising, total investment \$25,000 per year for three years 8/1/2019-8/1/2022 (reviewed by solicitor)

i. Museum of American Revolution, Central Middle School trip, 5/26-27/2020, \$1,100 each day (student paid) (reviewed by solicitor)

j. No. Inc., LLC, integration to be created between Naviance and PowerSchool, \$2,700 for 20 hours (under review by solicitor)

k. Bucks County Intermediate Unit, agreement to purchase meals from PSD Nutritional Services for Head Start Early Learning Program, 2019-2020, continuation of the 2018-2019 program (reviewed by solicitor)

l. Scenario Learning D/B/A Vector Solutions Client Agreement, on-line training vendor, 2019-2020, \$4,944 (ly \$4,800) (under review by solicitor)

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Mr. Reiss, to approve Insight Financial Services Lease Resolution for 2019 and Schedule of Assets for 1.1 laptop program approved May 13, 2019 (reviewed by solicitor)

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Mr. Krause, to approve settlement agreement for student identified as 2020-07.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Mr. Reiss, to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Pennridge School District and Pennridge Education Association, EDR schedule for additional extra duty responsibilities, 7/1/2018 through 6/30/2023.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Dr. Thompson, to approve E-signature Resolution for contracts with the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Mrs. Banis-Clemens announced the next Finance Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

Facilities Committee-Mr. Krause

Motion by Mr. Krause, second by Mrs. Dolan, to approve obsolete items a-c listed below:

- a. Bedminster Elementary School
 - Chairs/tables, scrap, Lot #08-01
- b. High School
 - printer, recycle, Lot #08-02
 - various equipment, recycle/scrap/Public Surplus, Lot #08-04
- c. Technology Department
 - July technology, recycling, Lot #08-03

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Krause, second by Mr. Reiss to accept and award School Bus Bid #20-110.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Mr. Krause, second by Dr. Thompson, to deny High School Stadium Netting System Installation bid from Pro Max Fence in the amount of \$133,119.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Mrs. Banis-Clemens explained the reason for having a denial on one bid and an acceptance on the other due to the price difference.

Motion by Mr. Krause, second by Mrs. Walters, to accept Keystone Sports Construction Ball Stopper System Proposal, option C, \$45,942.60

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Krause announced the next Facilities Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

Personnel Committee – Dr. Yarnell

Mrs. Banis-Clemens noted that since personnel agenda items A and B were moved to the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Yarnell will start with agenda item C.

Motion by Dr. Yarnell, second by Mr. Reiss to approve the termination of employee #9697.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Motion by Dr. Yarnell, second by Mr. Krause, to approve medical sabbatical leave for the first half of the 2019-2020 school year.

Voice Vote: All Board Members voted yes. Motion carried 8-0.

Upper Bucks County Technical School (UBCTS) Committee – Mrs. Dolan

Mrs. Dolan highlighted the following from the August 15, 2019 meeting:

- 765 students enrolled in UBCTS with 313 students from the Pennridge School District compared to 273 in the 2018-19 school year.
- Parent night is scheduled on September 26, 2019.
- Open house is November 7, 2019.
- Andy Wollyung was approved as the new HVAC/Plumbing teacher.
- William Gerhard was approved as the new Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds.
- Christopher Gentilezza was approved as the new Supervisor of Career Technical Education (CTE).
- No change in lunch pricing.
- Food truck is in full operation.
- Healthcare instructor, Stacy Strunk was selected to present at the NNAAP job analysis in Chicago.
- Next meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2019.

Old Business

None Reported.

New Business

None Reported.

Comments from Guests

Helen Thompson/East Rockhill Twp. – Addressed the School Board on the job and conditions of working in food service at the Pennridge School District.

Lee Rush/Perkasie - addressed the School Board by acknowledging Ms. Thompson's comments and thanked the School Board for their support with the district's 6th graders.

Ms. Banis-Clemens responded the district was currently looking into the food service conditions and thanked Mr. Rush for his comments.

Announcements

An Executive Session will be held following tonight's meeting to discuss personnel matters. The next School Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2019.

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Motion by Mrs. Banis-Clemens, second by Dr. Thompson, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy E. Chenoweth

Megan Banis-Clemens, President

Nancy E. Chenoweth, Secretary