

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2016 AGENDA MEETING

The November agenda meeting of the Pennsbury Board of School Directors was held in the Fallsington School Multi-Purpose Room on Thursday, November 3, 2016. Mr. Sanderson called the meeting to order at 8:25 p.m. The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Sanderson reported that prior to this meeting, the Board met in executive session.

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

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

Others Present: Mr. Clarke, Solicitor.

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

Mr. Clarke, District Solicitor, reported that during the executive session, the Board discussed litigation matters, contract negotiations and a personnel matter.

PRESENTATION: *ARTS IN PENNSBURY*

Dr. Gretzula introduced the *Arts in Pennsbury* presentation commenting that it is a great opportunity to celebrate the Arts. The following Pennsbury Staff introduced themselves and their roles in the District: Ruth Ann Schultz, District Art Coordinator and Art Teacher at William Penn Middle; Becky Van Lieu, Art Teacher at Pennwood Middle, John Lucas, Instrumental Music Teacher at PHS, Frank Mazzeo, Instrumental Music Coordinator; Felicia Reilly, PHS Orchestra Director and Teacher at Makefield and Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary and James Moyer, Curriculum Coordinator for Vocal Music K-12 and Director of Choral Activities at PHS.

A video was shown highlighting Arts in the Curriculum including visual, choral and instrumental arts recognizing Pennsbury's proud traditions and diverse community. Numerous Pennsbury Alumni testimonials were included sharing the same message of how the Arts in Pennsbury prepared them to become creative, ethical and critical thinkers for life-long success.

Mrs. Smith thanked everyone highlighting what the Arts bring to the Pennsbury School District. Mrs. Smith emphasized that it is really important that voters and parents understand just exactly what we are creating here for the future of the world and for what our students are going to be able to go out and offer to the rest of the world.

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PRESENTATION: ARTS IN PENNSBURY (continued)

Mr. Waldorf questioned if there were opportunities for students to play instruments who could not otherwise afford to rent an instrument. Mr. Mazzeo responded that students do have the ability to sign out an instrument owned by the District.

Mr. Moyer talked about the Pennsbury High School Concert Choir and Women's Ensemble presenting a concert of French Choral Music, the *Requiem*, by Composer Gabriel Faure. The public is welcome to this free concert on Wednesday, November 16th, at 7:30 p.m. in Keller Hall, PHS West. Dr. Joe Miller, Director of Choral Activities at Westminster Choir College, will be the Guest Conductor at this concert. On November 28th, the Pennsbury High School Concert Choir has been invited by special invitation to perform the *Requiem* at Lincoln Center in New York City.

Dr. Dunar thanked the coordinators and teachers recognizing their great leadership and their contribution to Pennsbury students.

Mr. Sanderson thanked everyone for making the Arts in Pennsbury so rich and for the dedication that the teachers and parents have to our students.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Sanderson opened the floor to public comment at 8:52 p.m. The following people came forward to speak and public comment was closed at 9:04 p.m.

Robert Abrams, Lower Makefield Township

Senior Citizen Increases; Budget and Healthcare

Frank Car, Falls Township

Demographic Study of District for Population Growth and Alternate Delivery of Student Education

Mrs. Smith responded to a public comment that the numbers quoted at the last Board Meeting regarding student cost were for Regular Education students and it was part of a study that was published by the Courier Times. Mrs. Smith added to a second public comment that the negotiations involving our teachers' contract actually achieved a \$5 million savings in healthcare.

Mr. Sanderson invited Mr. Taylor to talk about enrollment and shared that the enrollment numbers would be available to the public during the development of the budget. Mr. Taylor explained that there are three different computer modeling systems that the District presently uses to project enrollments as far out as 20 years. Mr. Taylor further explained that the District uses these systems to project our enrollments for the next school year since this information is needed for staffing purposes.

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PUBLIC COMMENT (continued)

Dr. Dunar addressed public comment regarding online classes. She informed the public that the District began to build online courses and uses the online component for alternative education. Dr. Dunar added that Pennsbury's homebound students are having great success with online courses as well as independent study students. She added that Dr. Gretzula has formed a Superintendent Council on Instructional Technology which Mr. Dorsey is spearheading to further use technology to enhance instruction.

BOARD POLICIES SECOND PUBLIC READ

Board Policy 253.1 – *Transgender and Gender Expansive Students*

Board Policy 216.3 – *Records Retention*

Board Policy 216.1R1 – *Education Records*

Mrs. Wachspres reported that there was a First Read of three policies at the last Board Meeting and reported that there had not been additional public comment on any of the three policies. The three policies are posted on the District Website for the public to read in detail. Voting is planned for the November 10th School Board Meeting.

Mr. Rodgers added the following three items for the Regular Monthly Meeting Agenda for November 10, 2016:

Weighted Grade Metric;
Pennwood Change Order and
Proposal Acceptance.

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

SET AGENDA FOR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

- I. Old Business
- II. Recognition of American Education Week
- III. Settlement and Release Agreements
- IV. Tuition Agreement
- V. Summer School Abroad Program – Spain
- VI. Winter Sports Teams Championship Events
- VII. Winter Sports Teams Tournament Events

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SET AGENDA FOR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING (continued)

- VIII. PA FCCLA State Leadership Conference and
National FCCLA Student Leadership Conference & Competition
- IX. School Based Access Program Cost Settlement
- X. PlanCon
- XI. Microsoft Agreement
- XII. Facility Usage Policy Waiver Request
- XIII. Board Policies
- XIV. Donation
- XV. Educational and Other Leaves
- XVI. Personnel
- XVII. Weighted Grade Metric
- XVIII. Pennwood Change Order
- XIX. Proposal Acceptance

DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Mr. Schwartz reported that the Bucks County Technical High School will host an Open House, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., November 10th, for perspective students and their families. On November 12th a hair cutting event, *Cuts 4 Wishes*, will be held at BCTHS to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Redner, seconded by Mr. Palmer and unanimously approved with no abstentions to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel C. Rodgers
Board Secretary