

ASD Board Brief

Summary of the latest meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Abington School District

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December 11, 2018

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Approval Highlights:

Minutes of the November Board Meetings – Personnel – Financial Report and Payment of Bills – Permits for Use of Buildings and Grounds – Advertisement for Bids – Awards of Contracts – Addendum to Agreement for Collection of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes – Taxpayer Relief Act and Certification of Sterling Act Tax Credits – Designation of Depositories

Please note: Meeting materials are available on BoardDocs, accessible via the ASD homepage

December 3, 2018, Reorganization Meeting

At the reorganization meeting of the Board of School Directors, held on Monday, Dec. 3, 2018, the Directors re-elected Raymond McGarry, Esquire, as president of the Board, and Ms. Susan Arnhold as vice president of the Board.

Honors

- Dr. Jeffrey Fecher congratulated Ms. Jennifer Tanay's third-grade APEX students and Ms. Amy Doherty's first-grade class at McKinley Elementary School for being selected as two of the five winning entries in the LEGOLAND Discovery Center Philadelphia's "Cities of the Future" Contest. The students submitted designs for what they think Philadelphia will look like 200 years into the future, and both classes will have the chance to travel to the Center to see their designs constructed into three-dimensional representations by master model builders.
- In addition, Dr. Fecher acknowledged Willow Hill third-grade teacher Ms. Shalon Doctor, who secured a \$400 teacher mini-grant from Alpha Delta Kappa, an international honorary organization for women educators. Ms. Doctor successfully submitted a grant proposal, entitled "Why Don't I See People Who Look Like Me in Non-Fiction Literature?", for which funds will be used toward the purchase of non-fiction books at Willow Hill Elementary School.

Orientations

- Superintendent's Administrative Procedure on "Academic Proficiency and Requirements for Graduation" – Dr. James Melchor provided an orientation on Pennsylvania State Senate Bill 1095, which was signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf in October. The legislation maintains a moratorium on the use of Keystone Exams as a graduation requirement through the 2020-2021 school year, and puts into effect, beginning with the Class of 2022, multiple pathways for students to demonstrate "graduation readiness".
- 2019-2020 Budget Process – Dr. Fecher and Mr. Christopher Lionetti, Business Manager, presented an overview of the 2019-2020 budget process and timeline, which concludes with the final budget adoption on June 11, 2019.

Advertisement for Bids

The Board authorized advertisement for bids for firewall, security appliance, network switches, wireless access points and related components to support the technology infrastructure primarily at Abington Senior High School.

Awards of Contracts

- The Board awarded two contracts, including to:
 - CDW Government, Inc., for Chromebooks, carts and related components for the District technology pilot program that permits professional staff to develop proposals for innovative and effective uses of mobile technology to support instruction
 - Two vendors for the portable lift at the bus garage — Amazon.com for an oil transfer tanker with electronic pump, and NAPA for two, 10-ton service jacks and two sets of 22-ton jack stands

Miscellaneous Items

- The Board also approved the following:
 - An addendum to the agreement with Portnoff Law Associates for the collection of delinquent real estate taxes
 - The authorization for the Administration to submit the Certification of Sterling Act Tax Credits for Calendar Year 2017 at a wage amount of \$556,237,978, and a Sterling Act Tax Credit of \$2,781,189.89 to the Pennsylvania Department of Education
 - The authorization to designate depositories for school district funds, contingent on the maintenance of adequate collateral securities as required by law

Next Board Meeting

- January 8, 2019, 7:30 p.m., Board Room of the Administration Building

Winter Recess:
Monday, Dec. 24, 2018, through Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019
Have a happy and healthy New Year!

This communication from Abington School District and its Board of School Directors is meant to be a summary of actions taken at the most recent Board meeting, and is not intended to serve as minutes of the meeting. Materials presented at all meetings of the Abington Board of School Directors are available on BoardDocs, accessible via the ASD homepage. Recordings of the meetings are also found on the ASD website, in addition to being broadcast on Comcast XFINITY channel 968/Verizon Fios channel 34. For more information, please visit www.abington.k12.pa.us/board-of-directors or call 215-884-4700. Compiled by Allie Artur.