

# ASD Board Brief

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

Vol. XXXI, No. 11



February 5, 2019

[facebook.com/AbingtonSD](https://facebook.com/AbingtonSD) • [www.abington.k12.pa.us](http://www.abington.k12.pa.us) • [twitter.com/AbingtonSchools](https://twitter.com/AbingtonSchools)

## Approval Highlights:

Minutes of the January Board Meetings – Personnel – Payment of Bills – Permits for Use of Buildings and Grounds – Awards of Contracts – The 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget – The Pennsylvania State University Agreements

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

## Honors

- Dr. James Etlén shared a video from 6abc Action News covering Highland Elementary School's participation in the Junior Flower Show, which is judged by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.
- Dr. Lyndsay Morgan introduced Rydal Elementary School fifth-grade teacher, Ms. Nary Chou, who was selected by the Council for the Advancement of Public Schools and the Pennsylvania State Education Association to be featured in a recent #TeacherTuesday spotlight campaign, which aired on Fox 29.

## Orientations

- Superintendent's Committee for Secondary Programming for Reconfigured Grade Spans – Mr. Angelo Berrios and Mr. Daniel File provided an update on the work of the Superintendent's Committee for Secondary Programming for Reconfigured Grade Spans, outlining the progress made over the past year, as well as next steps.
- Safe2Say Something Program – Dr. James Melchor provided an orientation on the Safe2Say Something program, which is now in operation in Pennsylvania, and is administered by the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General in partnership with Sandy Hook Promise.
- 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget – Dr. Jeffrey Fecher and Mr. Christopher Lionetti reviewed the 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget, including total revenue and expenses. The budget presentation was similar to the presentation from the January 8, 2019 meeting, with one addition: the inclusion of the potential impact of one referendum exception on the revenue budget, the use of fund balance, and the tax increase on the average assessed homestead property. Ultimately, the School Directors voted to adopt the Preliminary Budget of the Abington School District for the 2019-2020 school year in the amount of \$165,701,098, which includes a millage rate of 32.50 mills, but the Board elected to ***not*** increase the tax rate above the Index. Further, Board President Raymond McGarry, Esquire, requested that at the first March meeting, the budget orientation include what the impact of state funding will be on the District without having an increase to the tax rate of 2.3 percent. The next regularly scheduled budget presentation will be at the April 23, 2019 meeting.

## Personnel

- The Board of School Directors approved the hiring of Ms. Fatima Rogers as Principal of Copper Beech Elementary School, effective Monday, April 8, 2019. Ms. Rogers comes to Abington School District with more than 20 years of experience, most recently as the Principal of Charles W. Henry Elementary School in The School District of Philadelphia.
- In addition, the Board of School Directors approved the retirement of Ms. Sheryl Staehly, a paraprofessional at Copper Beech Elementary School, who served the District for eight years.

## Permits for Use of Buildings and Grounds

The Board approved permit applications, including for the C.A.P.T. 24 Hour Relay Challenge to be held May 18-19, 2019 at Abington Senior High School.

## Awards of Contracts

The Board awarded four contracts, including to:

- Eagle Industrial Hygiene Associates, Inc., for asbestos abatement air monitoring and inspection services at Abington Senior High School
- The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit (MCIU) for educational technology consulting services
- Environmental Control Systems, Inc., for environmental consulting services asbestos abatement project management at Abington Senior High School
- Johnson Controls, Inc., for two, 275-ton magnetic bearing centrifugal chillers for Abington Junior High School

### **Miscellaneous Items**

- The Board authorized a scholarship agreement and assessment settlement stipulation agreements with Penn State University. The scholarship will provide \$30,000 annually over the next 10 years, to be awarded based upon financial need, to Abington Senior High School graduates who attend Penn State Abington.
- Dr. Fecher reported that the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) reviewed the District's Single Audit Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2018. The review found the District's Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) as being "substantially in compliance" with relevant Federal and Commonwealth policy.

### **Next Board Meeting**

February 26, 2019, 7:30 p.m., Board Room of the Administration Building

### **Have You Heard the News?**

**Abington School District has a NEW digital newsletter:**

***ASD Highlights & Happenings***

**Visit <https://www.smore.com/jgety> to read all about it!**

---

*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](http://www.abington.k12.pa.us/board-of-directors) or call 215-884-4700. Compiled by Allie Artur.*