ASD Board Brief
Summary of the latest meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Abington School District
Vol. XXXII, No. 12  January 7, 2020

Approval Highlights:

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

Honors
• Dr. Jeffrey Fecher shared that Abington School District was named to the 10th Annual AP District Honor Roll, one of 250 Districts in the U.S. and Canada to earn this recognition. This is Abington’s fifth time making the list, which reflects increases in access to Advanced Placement courses for a broader number of students, as well as a maintained or improved rate at which AP students earn scores of 3 or higher on an AP Exam. Dr. Fecher thanked the teachers and administrators at Abington Senior High School for helping our AP students succeed.
• Dr. Fecher congratulated and thanked Mrs. Genina Etlen, a kindergarten teacher at Willow Hill Elementary School, who successfully applied for a mini-grant from the Pennsylvania Gamma chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa. The award totals $500 and will be used to enhance Mrs. Etlen’s English Language Arts literacy center in her classroom.
• In addition, Dr. Fecher thanked Ms. Judy Bomze, Director of Student Services, who once again helped secure a grant for Abington School District from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Abington School District was awarded with a second Teacher in the Workplace grant—the first of which was awarded two years ago to aid in the development of the college and career Pathways Program. This most recent grant totaling $25,000 will be used to develop lessons at Abington Junior High School to teach students about the employability skills needed to be successful in the workforce.
• Mr. Joshua Perlman shared an NBC10 News video clip of Overlook Elementary School’s spelling bee, at which Dr. Fecher; Dr. James Melchor, Assistant Superintendent; Ms. Bomze; and Ms. Regina Rausch, Assistant Director of Student Services, served as judges. Mr. Perlman also congratulated sixth-grader, Chase Lambert, who won the spelling bee for the second year in a row and will move on to compete in the Scripps regional competition in the spring.
• Mr. Angelo Berrios shared 6abc Action News and PHL17 Action News videos about Abington Senior High School’s partnership with the nonprofit Kisses for Kyle this holiday season, an annual initiative aimed at providing gifts and holiday cheer to families in our area who have been affected by pediatric cancer.
• Mr. Berrios and Mr. Todd Vaccaro, Athletic Director, honored the accomplishments of Abington Senior High School’s fall sports athletes, including girls soccer player, Casey Touey, who was named to the 2019 Pennsylvania Female All State Team by the Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association; boys soccer player, Nevin Baer, who was named to the 2019 Boys Pennsylvania All State Team by the Pennsylvania Soccer Coaches Association, and to the 2019 NSCAA (United Soccer Coaches) All Region II East Male Team; and field hockey player, Paige Doyle, who was named to the Pennsylvania High School Field Hockey Coaches Association Second Team All State. In addition, coaches and members of the Abington Senior High School cheerleading team were honored for earning a bid to the PIAA Competitive Spirit Championships in the Large Division, and for placing first in their division at the UCA Empire Regional, which earned them a bid to the National High School Cheer Championship. Coaches and members of the football team were also recognized, including for their claim of the Suburban One League National Conference championship title, the team’s first outright league football championship since 1989.

Awards of Contracts
• The Board awarded a contract to Earthborne, Inc., for a replacement backhoe.
• In addition, the Board approved a change order in the contract with Boro Developers, Inc., for the Additions and Renovations to Abington Senior High School project in an amount not to exceed $2,101.86.

Miscellaneous Items
Further, the Board approved the installation of a sign at the site of the former Glenside Weldon school playground, and plaques for up to three new playground structures at that location, to acknowledge donations made through the Friends of Glenside Weldon (FoGW), in support of playground upgrades at the site. The signs and plaques will be donated at no cost to the District by the FoGW, with designs approved by the District. FoGW is a group of neighbors, working with Abington School District, the Glenside Youth Athletic Club, and Commissioner Matt Vahey, on the renovation and update to the playground on the former Glenside Weldon property, which is owned and maintained by Abington School District. The organization has a goal of raising $75,000 to fund the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at the site, and donations may be made via the following link: http://www.glensideweldon.org.
Next Board Meeting
January 21, 2020, 7:30 p.m., Board Room of the Administration Building

NEXT PARENT COUNCIL MEETING: Clearing the Air about Vaping
A presentation by Be a Part of the Conversation, in partnership with the Montgomery County Office of Drug & Alcohol
Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2020, 7:30 p.m.
Highland Elementary School

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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.