

ASD Board Brief

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

Vol. XXXIII, No. 8



November 10, 2020

Approval Highlights:

Minutes of the October Board Meetings – Personnel – Payment of Bills – Permits for Use of Buildings and Grounds – Awards of Contracts – First Reading of Board Policy – Representative to the Joint Operating Committee for the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology – K-12 Comprehensive Counseling Plan

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

Announcements

Dr. Jeffrey Fecher shared that the Abington School District administration is continuing to advance plans for the implementation of the hybrid instructional program, while keeping an eye on health metrics in our area. Dr. Fecher shared the latest metrics for Montgomery County, Abington Township, the Borough of Rockledge, and Abington School District. He also reminded the public of the guidance issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Montgomery County Office of Public Health. As Montgomery County has been moved to the “Substantial” category in the transmission of COVID-19, the District will continue to monitor whether incidents increase for a second week and if there would be any impact on our current in-person programs. At present, this does not affect hybrid implementation plans. Families can continue to track the health metrics in our area via the resources available on the [Coronavirus Resource Center](#).

Honors

- In honor of Veterans Day, Dr. Fecher thanked the men and women who have served our country, including the veterans who work in Abington School District.
- Mr. Joshua Perlman introduced Overlook Elementary School fifth grade teacher, Mr. Andrew Coates, who received the 2020 Teacher as Hero Award in the National Liberty Museum’s 14th annual recognition program. The award honors educators throughout the Greater Philadelphia region who are going above and beyond in their classrooms, schools, and communities to make a difference in the lives of their students. Mr. Coates was nominated by a former student.

Orientations

- Student Achievement – Dr. Fecher and Dr. Toni Butz, Director of Teaching and Learning, along with Assistant Directors of Teaching and Learning, Dr. Stephanie Viola and Ms. Laura Enama, provided an orientation on student achievement data.
- K-12 Comprehensive Counseling Plan – Ms. Judy Bomze, Director of Student Services; Dr. Robert Rosenthal, Supervisor of Student Services; Dr. Matthew Wexler, Coordinator of Student Support Services at Abington Junior High School; and Mr. Joseph Tagliaferro, Coordinator of Student Support Services at Abington Senior High School, provided an orientation on the Abington School District K-12 Comprehensive Counseling Plan, which is required as part of the Pennsylvania Code. The plan was approved by the Board.

Personnel

The Board approved the retirements of Ms. Donna DiMauro, a paraprofessional at Overlook Elementary School, who has served the District for 30 years, and Mr. Robert Greenspon, an aide at Abington Junior High School, who has served the district for 24.5 years.

Awards of Contracts

- The Board awarded contracts to:
 - Nine vendors for music supplies for the 2020-2021 school year, such as reeds, drum heads, instruments and other routine items
 - Verizon Pennsylvania LLC for utility pole removal and relocation, as part of the additions and renovations project at Abington Senior High School
 - Trox for 4,471 Dell Chromebooks for implementation of a one-to-one initiative at Abington Junior High School and in grades 4-6 at the seven elementary schools
- Additionally, the Board authorized two change orders to previous contracts with Trox for Chromebooks for Abington School District elementary schools and Abington Junior High School, removing a total of 4,471 Lenovo Chromebooks from the Board-approved contract, but retaining the accidental damage protection, services, and Chrome Educational Management Licenses.

Miscellaneous Items

Further, the Board approved the election of Mr. Daniel Kaye to serve as the representative to the Joint Operating Committee for the Eastern Center for Arts and Technology, and Mr. Brian Allen as its alternate, for a three-year term beginning December 1, 2020.

Next Board Meeting

November 24, 2020, 7:30 p.m., <https://www.YouTube.com/AbingtonSchoolDistrict/live>

Visit the Coronavirus Resource Center for ongoing updates and information:

<http://www.abington.k12.pa.us/coronavirus-resource-center>

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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.