

ASD Board Brief

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

Vol. XXXIV, No. 1



August 10, 2021

Approval Highlights:

Minutes of the June Board Meetings – Personnel – Permits for Use of Buildings and Grounds – Advertisement for Bids – Awards of Contracts – 2021-2022 Calendar Adjustment – Abington School District Health and Safety Plan for 2021-2022 – Federal Grant Applications – Title I, IIA, and IV Services to Non-Public Schools – Project ACCESS – Title I, IIA, and IV Services to Non-Public Schools – Instructional Materials Adoption

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

Orientation

- Dr. Jeffrey Fecher, Dr. James Melchor and Ms. Judy Bomze, Director of Student Services, presented the Health and Safety Plan for 2021-2022, based on the most recent [school guidance](#) from the Montgomery County Office of Public Health (MCOHP). Ms. Michel Masters, Division Director of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention from MCOHP, was also in attendance virtually to answer questions from the Board and provide information. The plan was approved by the Board of School Directors and is accessible via the District's [Coronavirus Resource Center](#).

Personnel

- The Board approved the appointment of Dr. Marla Wormley as an Assistant Principal at Abington Senior High School. Dr. Wormley began her career as a guidance counselor for the School District of Philadelphia, and is coming to Abington most recently from the Upper Darby School District, where she has worked as a Lead Teacher, and prior to that assignment, an elementary teacher. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and a Master's degree in Counselor Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and she earned her Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership from Gwynedd Mercy University. Additionally, Dr. Wormley is a graduate of Abington Senior High School.
- In addition, the Board approved the retirements of:
 - Ms. Donna Voelker, an Itinerant Speech Therapist, who has served the district for 36 years
 - Mr. Wayne Carrol, a bus driver in the Transportation Department, who has served the district for 3 years
 - Ms. Sumintra Chang, a night line custodian at Abington Senior High School, who has served the district for 10 years

Permits for Use of Buildings and Grounds

- The Board approved permits for the use of District buildings and grounds, which are contingent upon the provisions of the Health and Safety Plan pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic. The permits include:
 - The Red Cross Club and American Red Cross Blood Drive on October 28th at Abington Senior High School
 - Open Houses to be held at Abington Junior High School on September 21st for grade 7, and September 23rd for grades 8 and 9; Copper Beech Elementary School on September 20th for grades K-3, and September 27th for grades 4-6; Highland Elementary School on September 22nd; and Overlook Elementary School on September 20th.

Advertisement for Bids

The Board authorized advertisement for bids for replacement bus garage lifts for the Transportation Department.

Awards of Contracts

- The Board awarded contracts to:
 - Nine vendors for art supplies for the 2021-2022 school year, such as paint, paint brushes, markers, etc.
 - Univest Capital, Inc., doing business as Municipal Capital Finance, for capital lease financing for two, 72-passenger school buses
 - Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit for client and server software licenses
 - Land Mobile Corporation for 200 digital radios, 60 single-unit charging cradles and 33 multi-unit chargers
 - CDW Government, LLC, for Google Workspace for Education Plus
 - A.N. Lynch Co., Inc., for electrical construction as part of HVAC upgrades to the nurses' suites at the elementary schools and the Junior High School, and to Myco Mechanical, Inc., for the mechanical construction
 - M.A. Brightbill Body Works, Inc., for one, 30-passenger student transportation bus
- In addition, the Board retroactively approved a contract with McHugh Engineering Associates, Inc., for engineering design services related to replacement of air handling units at the junior high school
- Further, the Board approved three contract change orders, which include contracts with:

- Boro Construction for general construction work as part of the Additions and Renovations to Abington Senior High School
- H.T. Lyons Engineers for balancing and commissioning work and related HVAC system repairs at Abington Junior High School and seven elementary schools
- IXL Learning for online adaptive and personalized learning programs

2021-2022 Calendar Adjustment

- The Board approved an adjustment to the academic calendar for the 2021-2022 school year as a result of Juneteenth being declared a Federal holiday by President Biden. As the Juneteenth holiday falls on a Sunday in 2022, the holiday will be observed on Monday, June 20, 2022. As a result, the newly approved academic calendar includes the following adjustments:
 - The last day of student attendance for the 2021-2022 school year has been adjusted from Friday, June 17, 2022, to Thursday, June 16, 2022
 - Abington School District schools and offices will be closed on Monday, June 20, 2022

Miscellaneous

- Further, the Board approved:
 - Authorization for the Office of the Superintendent of Schools to file applications for 2021-2022 Federal Grant Funds for Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV funds, in accordance with the procedures administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Division of Federal Grant Programs
 - Authorization for the Administration to execute an agreement with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 school years to provide mandated Title services to eligible students, and professional development for staff in qualifying non-public schools in Montgomery County for amounts determined on an annual basis
 - Authorization for the Administration to enter into an agreement with the Public Consulting Group and SivicSolution Group for the processing of School-Based ACCESS Program claims for reimbursement for Direct Services and transportation services that are provided to eligible students who participate in the District's special education program for the period of July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
 - Authorization for the Administration to contract with Pediatric Therapeutic Services (PTS) for the provision of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Services, Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), and Speech and Language Services for the district's Special Education Program for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Authorization for the Administration to contract with Children's Therapy Center for the provision of Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Authorization for the Administration to contract with Envision CVI Consulting for the provision of cortical vision services for the 2021-2022 school year
 - The adoption of new textbooks and/or instructional programs for the 2021-2022 school year, including *Words Their Way*, a developmental approach to phonics, vocabulary and spelling instruction, and *Second Step*, an evidence-based social-emotional learning curriculum that provides a framework for promoting students' social, emotional and academic success

Next Board Meeting

August 24, 2021, 7:30 p.m., Board Room of the Administration Building

REMINDER:

The first day of school is Thursday, September 9, 2021

 @AbingtonSD
  @AbingtonSchoolDistrict
  @AbingtonSchools
  @AbingtonSD
www.abington.k12.pa.us

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.