

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
2229 East Buck Road
Pennsburg PA 18073

BOARD WORKSHOP
March 28, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Workshop of the Board of School Directors of the Upper Perkiomen School District was held in the Upper Perkiomen School District Education Center with the following people attending: Joan T. Smith, James C. Glackin, Judy Maginnis, Raeann B. Hofkin, Mike W. Elliott, Stephen L. Cunningham, Dr. John L. Farris and Melanie R. Cunningham. Absent member was: Dr. Kerry A. Drake. Others in attendance were: Alexis McGloin, EdD., Andrea Farina, EdD., Sandra M. Kassel, Ashley Kitten, Kyle Somers, John Sheeran, Dyan Hipszer, Troy Hill, Phil Detwiler, Michele Kline, Carol Elias, J.R. Yost, Hope Manion, Kim Gery, Patrick Knowles, Labrea Huff, Melissa Dietrich, Joanne Gery, Amy Fox, Wendy Popadak, Maggie Buckwalter, Greta Salmons, Shannon Glerum, and Kaye Yurik.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by James C. Glackin, seconded by Stephen L. Cunningham, to approve the **February 28, 2019, Board Workshop Minutes** (Attachment A). Motion carried; all voted aye.

COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS

a. FACILITIES

- i. Electrical Contractor Bid Award - Troy Hill, Blackney Hayes Architects
Troy Hill gave an update on the Electrical Contract rebid. He said the district received two bids but the proper paperwork was not submitted with the low bidder and the other bid was very high. The recommendation was to reject the bids. He said they expect to have someone in place in the next two to three weeks.
- ii. Off-Site Sidewalk Bid Review - Jim Mazeika, Barry Isett & Associates.
Sandy Kassel spoke for Jim Mazeika, she said three bids were received. The recommendation was to award the bid to Spear Excavating at the April meeting.
- iii. 5-Year Facilities Plan Overview - John Sheeran
John Sheeran presented an updated 5 year project review with newer prices, and actual quotes or proposals since the draft from January. Mr. Sheeran talked about the work that was scheduled to be done in the summer. Items that were budgeted out of the Facilities budget versus Capital Projects were also discussed. The five year plan identified items that were part of the General Fund and items that were being recommended to come from the Capital Funds.
- iv. Parameters Resolution Discussion
Dr. McGloin and Sandy Kassel explained that the plan for the next borrowing was to move forward with the \$9,995,000 and if there was going to be a change it would need to be decided this evening. There was much discussion on the district's financial needs, interest rates, payback of loans, and projects that need to be completed. Mr. Somers explained that action would only need to be taken if a change was going to be made.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Somers explained that this Public Comment section was for Action Items only and the second section was for Agenda Items.

Mr. Somers stated there was a revision to Action Item A, it should read:

Motion to reject the bids that were received on March 26, 2019 for Electrical Construction for the Upper Perkiomen 4th & 5th Grade Center.

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

a. Motion by Melanie R. Cunningham, seconded by Raeann B. Hofkin, to **reject the bids that were received on March 26, 2019 for Electrical Construction** for the Upper Perkiomen 4th & 5th Grade Center. Motion carried; all voted aye.

Motion by Stephen L. Cunningham, seconded by James C. Glackin, to approve **Action Items B through E**:

b. Motion to approve new Student Activity account in accordance with Board Policy No. 618.

<u>Activity #</u>	<u>Activity Name</u>	<u>Advisors</u>
874	4 th & 5 th Grade Center Student Activity	Art Vigilante
813	UPHS Link Crew	Brian Hansley, Meghan Smolinski Christa Paul Matt Nomland

c. Motion to approve **the resignation of Dr. Alexis McGloin as Superintendent of Schools, effective April 30, 2019.**

d. Motion to **appoint Dr. Andrea Farina as Acting Superintendent of Schools for a period of time commencing May 1, 2019 and ending July 31, 2019** or upon the start of the term of the newly elected Superintendent of Schools, whichever occurs first.

e. Motion to **accept the resignation of Ashley M. Kitten as Director of Human Resources, effective May 31, 2019**, subject to the withholding of any accrued payment entitlements at the time of separation in accordance with the terms of her Employment Agreement.

VOTE: Smith – yes, Glackin – yes, Maginnis – yes, Hofkin – yes, **Drake – absent**, Elliott – yes, S. Cunningham – yes, **Farris – no**, M. Cunningham – yes. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Special Education & Pupil Services Committee – Judy Maginnis

Mrs. Maginnis reported that the Committee met and the discussion centered on current mental health supports in the district. Mrs. McCloskey and Dr. Farina presented a Power Point that was posted on the district website. Mrs. Maginnis said they talked about community partners that the district collaborated with and asked for some recommendations from the administration, in the hopes that there was some ideas and answers to questions for when the committee meets on April 22nd. She said that most of the concerns that were discussed revolved around the elementary schools.

b. Curriculum & Instruction Committee – James Glackin

Mr. Glackin reported that the committee discussed the academic calendar for the 2019-2020 school year and also snow days and make-up days.

c. Facilities Committee – Melanie Cunningham

Mrs. Cunningham spoke about the offsite walkways and the new middle school furniture. Mrs. Cunningham said she attended a PSBA seminar about mold in schools. She said the committee discussed the Marlborough chiller project, the installation of the curtains in the high school auditorium and the naming of a new Facility Director.

- d. Policy Committee – Raeann Hofkin
Mrs. Hofkin said the Committee would be meeting on April 10th and she needs feedback from the Board members on the 000 series of policies.
- e. Board Communication Line/Communication Committee – Mike Elliott
Mr. Elliott said that the next meeting was scheduled for the second Tuesday in May.
- f. Western Montgomery Career & Technology Center – James Glackin
Mr. Glackin announced that Upper Perkiomen senior Beverly Regaldo won a \$23,000 scholarship to Moravian College, she is a health technology student at the Western Center. Mr. Glackin reported on the applications for next year from Upper Perkiomen students.
- g. Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Judy Maginnis
Mrs. Maginnis reported that the renovations at the former MCIU site were discussed and that the Director of Human Resources at the MCIU received a renewal of his contract.
- h. Legislative Liaison Report – Judy Maginnis
Mrs. Maginnis reported that Senator Aument will no longer be the Education Committee Chair; he was elected to a Senate leadership position. Mrs. Maginnis talked about a bill that would be moving to the Senate for consideration.
- i. Upper Perkiomen Education Foundation – Mike Elliott
Mr. Elliott reported that the new foundation website would have the ability for donors to donate through the site.
- j. Regional Planning Commission Representative – Melanie Cunningham
No report

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Phil Detwiler, Vice President of UPEA, spoke about the need for itinerant elementary emotional support services in the schools.

Michele Kline, Green Lane/Marlborough teacher, spoke about the urgent need for support services for students at the elementary level.

Carol Elias, Red Hill/Marlborough teacher, spoke about the same issues with students in need of services and training for staff.

J.R. Yost, Red Hill spoke about incidents in his child's classroom and said it was hard for children to refocus after a disruption.

Hope Manion, Hereford Township, asked why the same problems were still occurring and asked everyone to focus on the safety of the kids.

Kim Gery, Red Hill, also spoke on the support services needed at the elementary school. She said the safety of the children and their needs was what everyone should focus on.

Patrick Knowles, Upper Hanover Township, talked about a Right to Know request he filed to obtain data related to classroom safety, classroom evacuations and lack of services. He asked about the incidents that were still occurring.

Labrea Huff, Upper Hanover Township, also had concerns with the lack of support services in the elementary level and that the problem was still continuing.

Melissa Dietrich, Marlborough teacher, had many concerns about the incidents in the classrooms and the problems the disruptions were causing.

Joanne Gery, Hereford Township, asked if everyone could work together on these issues.

Amy Fox, Marlborough teacher, also talked about the many issues and difficulty after the incidents.

Wendy Popadak, Upper Hanover Township and Marlborough teacher, talked about the difficulties of being in the classroom when an incident occurred.

Maggie Buckwalter, Upper Hanover, thanked the teachers for their efforts and said training was needed for staff.

Greta Salmons, Hereford Township and Marlborough teacher, said children need support at a young age so they do not continue to struggle.

Shannon Glerum, Upper Hanover Township and school nurse, talked about the change in laws.

Kaye Yurik, Marlborough Township, asked for everyone to listen and work together.

BOARD COMMENTS

Raeann Hofkin said that she was in agreement with everyone and hoped something could be worked out within the bounds of the special education laws.

Joan Smith, said she hears what everyone was saying and asked how they can help to move forward with the problems.

Stephen Cunningham, said they need to follow laws and the board is open to hear from the public.

Judy Maginnis, said everyone was trying to solve some of the issues and to give them a chance to work on the situations.

John Farris, asked everyone to allow the administration to investigate possible solutions.

Mike Elliott, said that everyone wanted to work together and that the next Special Education committee meeting was April 22nd.

Raeann Hofkin asked what legal risk there was to school directors if they voted on an expense without knowing what it was for and what was the legal penalty if later the expense was found to be unlawful. Mrs. Hofkin said she did not have any specifics she was just inquiring.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by John L. Farris, seconded by James C. Glackin, to **adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm**. Motion carried; all voted aye.

Sandra M. Kassel, Board Secretary

