

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
2229 East Buck Road
Pennsburg PA 18073

BOARD WORKSHOP
September 27, 2018

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 (phoned in, arrived at 8:15 pm), Judy Maginnis, Raeann B. Hofkin (phoned in at 7:30 pm), Dr. Kerry A. Drake, Mike W. Elliott, Stephen L. Cunningham, John L. Farris, and Melanie R. Cunningham. Others in attendance were: Alexis McGloin, EdD., Andrea Farina, EdD., Sandra M. Kassel, Ashley Kitten, John Sheeran, Dyan Hipszer, Harry Neill, Ray Felix, Ed Walczak, Scott Basaro, Raevona Fisher, Mary Cannon-Orehowski, Rebecca Clifford, and Kaye Yurik.

Dr. Drake announced that a presentation about the mold situation at the high school would occur and indicated there would be time for questions from the public. He stated each person would have two minutes to speak. If any questions required more detailed answers they would be provided on a FAQ that would be posted on the website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Motion by Stephen L. Cunningham, seconded by John L. Farris, to approve the **August 23, 2018, Board Workshop Minutes** (Attachment A). Motion carried; all voted aye.

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATIONS

- a. High School Remediation

Mr. Harry Neill from 1Source Safety and Health and Mr. Ray Felix from Belfor Property Restoration spoke about the mold remediation at the high school.

Mr. Neill showed a map of the high school and explained the process of finding the mold impacted areas and how the zones were isolated and cleaned. He also talked about the comparison samplings and the HVAC status.

Mr. Felix spoke about the HVAC units, the ducts and the cleaning of inaccessible coils in parts of the system that they believed contributed to these issues. He said that some of the ductwork was replaced. Mr. Felix suggests a yearly coil cleaning and duct replacement in the oldest section of the building within the next five years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ed Walczak, Upper Hanover, asked about the unoccupied mode of the HVAC system and had many suggestions about the system.

Raevona Fisher, East Greenville, asked about the mold in the auditorium and about buckets that were collecting water.

Scott Basaro, Green Lane, had questions and expressed some confusion about the time-line of when the students were allowed back into the school. He also asked about where the mold was found.

Mary Cannon-Orehowski, Hereford Township, asked why the district was unsure when the coils were cleaned and if a plan was put in place now.

Rebecca Clifford, Green Lane, asked about the types of testing that occurred and questioned if the parents could see the final report. She also asked about the cleaning of the library and books.

Kaye Yurik, Marlborough Township, thanked the district and the board on the communication of the mold issue. She asked where she could find the information that had been relayed to parents and had some concerns about the other buildings.

Ed Walczak, Upper Hanover, said he would like to offer professional development.

Scott Basaro, Green Lane, thanked the board for quickly responding to the situation. He expressed a concern he heard from people in the public about how the situation was taken care of in one week.

President Drake called for a recess at 8:30, the meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

b. Emergency Contingency Planning

Dr. McGloin and John Sheeran spoke about the All Hazards Plan. The plan addressed any type of situation that could happen in the area such as tornadoes, chemical spills or an active shooter. Mr. Sheeran said that he regularly holds an all hazard meeting where local law enforcement and fire officials attend. Dr. McGloin and Mr. Sheeran talked about the drills that have been held and the reunification process of students and parents that would be put in place in case of an actual need. Mr. Sheeran said that ALICE training would be given to students by November.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Special Education & Pupil Services Committee – Judy Maginnis

Mrs. Maginnis talked about a presentation at the September 24 meeting by George Reigle and Dr. Andrea Farina on the PAYS survey. She stated the committee also talked about professional development for teachers provided by the MCIU, and an update on the MDS classroom at Marlborough Elementary.

b. Curriculum & Instruction Committee – James Glackin

Mr. Glackin reported that a meeting was held on September 24, faculty from the Art and Music department and the Science department were present to discuss new and refined courses and also new potential courses. Middle School Honors ELA and the technology fee for the middle school and high school was also discussed.

c. Facilities Committee – Melanie Cunningham

Mrs. Cunningham said the committee met on September 25 and an update on the windscreen for the tennis courts was provided. The committee discussed phase 2 of the current middle school renovations and the high school library renovation into a media center. She said that stair towers were now in at the new middle school and she was hopeful that the board could tour the site soon.

d. Policy Committee – Raeann Hofkin

Mr. Cunningham reported for Mrs. Hofkin and announced that the next meeting would be October 9.

e. Board Communication Line/Communication Committee – Mike Elliott

Mr. Elliott reported that one item came through and was forwarded to the board. He asked for suggestions regarding the district website and stated they could be submitted through the hotline or by emailing Mr. Elliott. He said the committee would be discussing social media at the next meeting.

f. Western Montgomery Career & Technology Center – James Glackin

Mr. Glackin stated that the new principal at the Western Center was fitting in well. He talked about the donation of two large diesel trucks, girl's night out, an upcoming Boy Scout event, and announced that the dinner starts in November. Mr. Glackin said the auto body and welding classes partnered and created a pumpkin made from horseshoes that were available for sale.

g. Montgomery County Intermediate Unit – Judy Maginnis
No report.

h. Legislative Liaison Report – Judy Maginnis

Mrs. Maginnis said there would be an event on November 17 to meet with local and statewide people who were leading the fight for school funding at the PA Farm show site. She talked about the state senate passing Bill 1095 that had to do with graduation requirements, and reported that the bill made it through the committees. She also reported on the School Safety Grant funding that was available.

i. Upper Perkiomen Education Foundation – Mike Elliott

Mr. Elliott said the next meeting was October 23. The committee was still starting up and they were working on the EITC approval for tax free deductions. The initial project the foundation board wanted to support would be Aqua Culture Hydroponics at the high school.

j. Regional Planning Commission Representative – Melanie Cunningham

Mrs. Cunningham said that at the meeting there was a presentation about the Bike Montco program.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Rebecca Clifford, Green Lane asked about the notification process to parents about a report of bed bugs at the high school.

Scott Basaro, Green Lane, questioned why some and not all parents were notified of the report of bed bugs.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Stephen L. Cunningham, seconded by Mike W. Elliott, **to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.**

Sandra M. Kassel, Board Secretary