

Parkland Community Advisory Council

March 15, 2018

CO-PRESIDENTS

Melanie St. Hill

Ann Segan

VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP

Michelle Wahlmark

SECRETARY

Andrea Scott

ATTENDEES: Mary Braccili, Lisa Hayducek, Catherine Garon, Nicole Mandry, Melanie St. Hill, Andrea Scott, Ann Segan, Michelle Wahlmark

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Trish Balestrini, Bob Fager, Ben Gullede, Jennifer Jones, Jessica Kara, Monica Gutman, Marie Maritch, Thomas Murray, Mary Ost, Lisa Petrocelli

GUESTS: Lisa Brunnabend, Frank Garon, Naomi Guenin, Desiree Pascal, Ryan Ray, Sara Roberts,

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES: Seth Fine, Kiera Segan

SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVES: Linda Perlman-McKenna

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Rodney Troutman

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Melanie St. Hill at 7:00 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes from February 15, 2018 was made by Linda Perlman-McKenna and seconded by Sara Roberts. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION:

“New Elementary School and Capital Projects” presented by David Keppel, Richard Sniscak and Rodney Troutman.

The new elementary school construction is a long process comprised of many steps with many regulations to navigate. The process has taken three years so far, and is scheduled opening is still three years away!

Some highlights of the discussion:

- New traffic patterns on Schantz and Twin Ponds Rd.
 - o Twin Ponds Rd.- additional left turning lane into the school
 - o Schantz Rd.- additional turning lanes and a signal light at the Twin Ponds intersection
- Construction will begin in May 2018
 - o bidding begins March 16th; bid presentations to the Board March 27th for approval in April
 - o Time lapse photography will record the construction
- Floor Plans were distributed and building highlights were noted
 - o Double paned, insulated, tinted grey glass strategically placed so everyone can see out but people can't see in the building
 - o At the main entrance
 - The receptionist has clear viewing of a large area with a panic button (like banks) that automatically dispatches police with a touch of a button.
 - A captured vestibule funnels visitors into the office, eliminating the access to the main building.
 - o Creative commons area for use as a premium space for projects
 - o Outside Courtyard/Common Area design

- Tiered amphitheater/teaching area
 - No maintenance turf instead of grass
 - Tables with shade sail canopies adjacent to literacy area
 - Unique drainage system with underground retention system under the soccer field
- LEED like building- not LEED certified (too costly to certify) but build using LEED standards
- Recess is outside of common area in the grass to the south of the building
- Motion detector lights will be used in the parking lot that dim until motion is noticed
- Land donated to Parkland by Jaindl
- Upper Macungie Township has been very helpful and cooperative with the project
- When constructed Jaindl Elementary, Fogelsville and the new school will each have about 500 students (without construction of the new school, Jaindl and Fogelsville would have 750 each!)
 - Student enrollment projections are hard because of new developments cropping up all the time

Other Capital Projects

- 2017 Capital Project Highlights
 - We have aging schools – even the “new” high school is 20 yrs old and starting to age!
 - Fogelsville Elementary School- New front sidewalk, back ramp replacement for ADA compliance
 - Ironton- New concrete sidewalk and steps and covered parent pickup area
 - Schnecksville- install restrooms for kindergarten classrooms
 - OMS- upper bus garage paving
 - PHS- refinish pool (project took all summer!) and refinished gym floor
 - Unfortunately, with one of the winter storms there was a leak of 500 gallons of glycol onto the floor, which got under the tongue and groove floor so it now has to be replaced
- 2018 Proposed Capital Projects (estimated costs)
 - PHS- replace fire alarm panel- \$360k
 - OMS- replace lighting panels- \$25k
 - SMS- replace chiller- \$190k, replace roof sections under chiller- \$45k
 - Cetronia- renovate gym- \$25k, repair concrete- \$58k
 - Fogelsville- convert boilers from fuel oil to gas- \$155k
 - When new hotel was build gas line was extended to school
 - Savings of \$30k/yr
 - Kernsville- replace the fire panel- \$85k
 - Parkway Manor- concrete work-\$26k
 - Schnecksville- renovate gym- \$26k, seal exterior- \$10k, replace stairwell- \$18k
 - Construction budget \$1,199,360

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:

The February 20th Board Meeting Workshop focused on the new elementary school design and an update on the school district goals (which can be viewed online). KCBA Architects presented new photos of the elementary school and reviewed the timeline going out for bid. The bid will be rewarded in April with groundbreaking of the new school in May.

The Regular Board Meeting, held directly after the workshop, was focused on the topic of school violence. A moment of silence was observed for those whose lives were taken in the senseless shooting in Parkland, Florida. It was emphasized that the PSD and its Board hold school safety and security as its highest priority.

The 2018-19 school calendar was approved, noting the first day of school is Sept 4th. A resolution opposing ESA (Education Saving Accounts) Vouchers, Senate Bill 2, was approved. To date, more than 100 school districts have adopted such a resolution and more boards are discussing it. If you would like to advocate for our public schools by signing up for alerts, searching legislation, and taking action on important legislative issues please go to the PSBA "TAKE ACTION" page, <https://www.psba.org/advocacy-and-news/issues/legislative-advocacy/>. The Summer Library schedule was shared for the district elementary schools, with programs running from June 18th thru August 2nd (no program the week of July 2nd). The Parkland SD Education Foundation held a Ladies Day Out event at Randall's on the Orchard to benefit the Gala's Silent Auction and coordinated a Harlem Wizards Basketball Game and fundraiser. The following 2018 Distinguished Alumni Wall of Honor Inductees were announced and will be celebrated at the Gala: Barry Dobil, Samir Lakhani, Ryan Mackenzie, Don Pratt, and Eric Roberts.

The February 27th Board Meeting began with presentations from teachers, students and principals representing all the schools in the district, all grade levels, as well as presentations on behalf of the teachers union and the PESPA (Educational Support Personnel) union. After the presentations, the new athletic director, William (Bill) Dreisbach was approved and the 1,000 sq ft expansion of the Parkland Library was reported by Rob Cohen. Also, David Kennedy and Rich Sniscak thanked the first responders who helped put out the fire in the bus garage this week. Everyone was grateful that there were no injuries and the response was truly a team effort. The staff, including those in the transportation services department and all of the mechanics worked long, hard hours from Friday thru Sunday to ensure school would resume on Monday morning.

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, March 20th at 7pm (Workshop) and 8 pm (Regular Meeting).

STUDENT REPORT:

General:

- Parent Forum Spring workshop March 21st 7pm
- Due to weather make up days, school is being held March 29th, spring break is 3/30 – 4/2

Arts:

- March 30th - April 2nd Spring Musical: The Hunchback of Notre Dame April 11th - 15th
- Spring Band Concert April 26th 7pm
- Spring Orchestra Concert May 10th 7pm
- 15th annual Festival of the Arts May 17th - 19th
 - o Student Art Show May 17th 6pm
 - o Spring Chorus Concert May 17th 7pm
 - o Parkland's Got Talent May 18th 7pm
 - o Artists on the Quad May 19th 10am

Academics:

- Deadline to sign up for the High School's SAT prep class is tomorrow March 16th
- High School students will be ending their 3rd marking period on April 10th
- A *Career Education for the Workforce* session will be held on March 20th from 7-9 at the high school
- College Visits: Marywood University (March 16th), Keystone College (March 20th), U.S. Army (March 22nd)

Athletics:

- Swimming
 - o Girls: Won District meet with 1st places in the 200 team medley, individual medley, and freestyle
 - o Boys: Got 2nd in the District meet

- Both Teams have swimmers competing in the state meet going on now through this coming weekend at Bucknell University
- Spring Sports have begun practices and will be starting games soon (First/Next matches)
 - Boys Lacrosse: Bethlehem Catholic (March 27th - Away)
 - Girls Lacrosse: Moravian Academy (March 27th - Away)
 - Boys Volleyball: Allen (March 23rd - Away)
 - Boys Tennis: Pocono Mountain East (March 20th - Home)
 - Track and Field: Emmaus (March 26th - Away)
 - Baseball: Hazleton (March 26th - Away)
 - Softball: Bethlehem Catholic (March 28th - Home)
- The National Letter of Intent Signing will occur on April 11th at 3:30

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: none

ROUNDTABLE:

Bus Garage Fire Discussion:

- Inspectors are still trying to find out the cause
- Replacement of 12 Buses (10 yrs old or newer) was fully covered by insurance
- 14 buses outside heavily damaged
- 9 mechanics pulled together to be ready for school to resume on Monday
 - Worked long hours- until 10am Friday night; 6am-10pm Saturday; 7am-evening Sunday
- PSD had calls from East Penn SD, and every school district in the valley ready to help with buses
 - AMAZING community support!

Job Fair at PHS for juniors and seniors was a great success.

The National School Walkout at PHS was held as a memorial for the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (Parkland, FL) students. The 90 minute event was a student driven, very well organized, non-political event held in the gym for the safety of students. The “Parkland for Parkland” bracelet sales raised \$10k for the Florida school. A “Thank You” video from the students in Florida was shown along with student speakers memorizing each student who lost their life. We should be proud of all the, both those who participated and those who did not participate. This was a good lesson in the democratic process knowing that everyone has a choice and a voice.

The Little Mermaid, OMS’ spring musical, and High School Musical, SMS’ spring musical, performances were outstanding.

Post Prom Committee is looking for a lot of volunteers. Volunteers do not need to be at the event all night (11pm to 6am the evening after the Prom).

Next meeting April 12th at the Library Classroom. Topic- State of the District

MOTION TO ADJOURN: At 8:20 pm, Mary Braccili called for a motion to adjourn. Michelle Wahlmark moved the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Scott