



## Board of School Directors Committee Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 12, 2022

Generated by Renai Cardillo on Monday, October 17, 2022

**Members present:** Courtney Barbieri, Nicholas Braccio, William Brong, Janet Flisak, Andrew Landis, Ken Keith, Thomas Kwiatkowski, Stephen Nelson, Donna Scheuren

**Others present:** Stacey Aronow, Frank Ball, Lisa Ball, Scott Brandis, Todd Burns, Mike Darcy, Jamie Doyle, Frank Gallagher, Amanda Hahn, Jesse Hagey, Christopher Hey, John Franzen, Bob Nolen, Jeff Pammer, Jackie Schum, Sam Varano, Jeff Zaleta, Owen Zern and Megan Zweiback

### 1. Education-Personnel Committee

#### 1.1 Curriculum Revisions

Mr. Kwiatkowski called the Education-Personnel Committee Meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Mr. Franzen, reviewed a PowerPoint presentation showing the agenda items being discussed this evening; Curriculum Revisions for elementary, middle, and high school.

Director of Pupil Services, Mrs. Zweiback introduced the PaL Program explaining that it stands for *Positivity and Leadership Peer Mentorship*. Mrs. Zweiback stated that the program will select fourth grade students to be trained for a year-long peer mentorship program. Students will be assigned to four of five first graders and will meet with them weekly and a recess. The program aims to foster relationships and facilitate recess games and activities. The program focuses on self-esteem, problem-solving and communication skills.

Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Mr. Burns, introduced the curriculum revisions to the 7th grade courses; *Innovate, Design and Create* and an overview of the course *Innovation*. Mr. Burns introduced middle school librarians, Ms. Hahn and Mr. Zaleta. They spoke to the group about the courses and how the concentrated focus of skills will assist students going forward in their school careers. These are research based courses, with fact finding to strengthen student confidence and support their efforts in ELA courses.

High School Principal Dr. Varano introduced high school business teacher, Mr. Darcy who spoke about the revisions to the Business Leadership courses. He indicated that some of the changes to the current FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) club had prompted the revisions to the Business Leadership course. The revision will replace the FBLA award program learning with a more organic learning structure which will give students the opportunity to learn and lead within their own business communities. He also indicated that the scheduling of this course will be more attractive to student scheduling.

Mr. Darcy also stated that participation in FBLA will still be available to students as a club-based activity.

High School Principal Dr. Varano introduced ELA department leader, Dr. Aronow and high school ELA teacher, Ms. Schum. They spoke about the revisions to existing high school ELA course Literature of Fear & Horror. They stated that specifically Unit 4 has been revised to include *Puzzling through Mystery Fiction - Elements of Crime and Detective Fiction*. Dr. Aronow and Ms. Schum noted that there has been a renewed interest in mystery and suspense and this course will allow students to engage in a learning environment to support their interest. Ms. Schum indicated that students will have the opportunity to create podcasts, with live audio, which will require students to have full and complete understanding of the literature in their study.

Dr. Aronow noted that this is a very popular quarter course and lends itself to being flexible in its instruction.

Ms. Barbieri and Mr. Keith praised the changes to curriculum, noting the effort to attract more students and keeping course content relevant. A comment from the audience praised the quarter course for high school students, allowing them to try a course without a full semester commitment.

Mr. Franzen concluded the Curriculum presentation and Mr. Kwiatkowski thanked everyone for their work and dedication to the students.

Mr. Kwiatkowski asked to see a final presentation from the Library (Innovate) course. Dr. Gallagher suggested a possible Spotlight video sampling the presentations.

Mr. Kwiatkowski adjourned the Education-Personnel meeting at 7:02 P.M.

## **2. Operations Committee**

### 2.1 BusPatrol - School Bus Safety Technology Presentation and Discussion

Mr. Brong called the Operations Committee Meeting to order at 7:09 P.M.

Director of Business Affairs, Mr. Taylor introduced the BusPatrol program. He opened a live virtual presentation including Mr. Anderson from BusPatrol. Mr. Anderson gave a brief overview of the program, which is an AI-enabled stop-arm camera school bus safety program. The technology and program are provided at no up-front cost to the District. This is made possible through a violator-funded cost recovery model. Mr. Taylor also noted that representatives from Transportation Services, Inc. were present at this meeting to answer questions. The representatives from T.S.I. have previously been briefed on the BusPatrol school bus safety program.

Mr. Anderson reviewed the types of potential violations that occur throughout the country and the process of local review and issuance of citations when warranted. Mr. Anderson stated that BusPatrol covers the costs of the equipment and installation into buses and citation revenues are split between their firm, the local municipality and the school district. Mr. Anderson also reinforced that no citations are issued without the formal video review process which is performed by the local law enforcement.

Mr. Taylor stated that all data would be available for viewing by the school district at all times and that the public would be made aware of the program, prior to its implementation. A brief discussion occurred about the ownership of the equipment, the data and the ability to shield student identities when necessary. Mr. Taylor also indicated that several area school districts are already successfully operating the program.

The Committee agreed to move forward for Board approval.

### 2.2 Review Five-Year Capital Project Timeline

Mr. Brong stated that this agenda item was a review of the 5-year capital timeline, highlighting of upcoming projects.

Mr. Taylor indicated that the information provided to the Board was an updated 5-year projects plan, containing proposed and anticipated projects that are listed individually on a schedule through the 2024-2025 school year. Mr. Taylor noted that the projects were originally presented in a KCBA Feasibility Study in July 2020. Mr. Taylor suggested upon review and discussion that some projects could be purchased from the general fund rather than the capital reserve fund.

A timeline was reviewed for projected project start dates. Mr. Taylor also stated that the paving on the Franconia Elementary and Indian Valley Middle School projects has been placed on hold at this time. He indicated that both will be re-bid at a later date.

A brief discussion occurred regarding the brick exterior of the Oak Ridge Elementary School. Mrs. Scheuren requested that several different options be explored and proposed for the repair and replacement of the crumbling brick exterior.

A brief discussion occurred about responsible borrowing and Mr. Kwiatkowski and Mrs. Scheuren requested a priority review of all projects

Mr. Brong adjourned the Operations Committee Meeting at 8:10 P.M.

## **3. Finance Committee**

### 3.1 Capital Project Financing Discussion

Mrs. Scheuren called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 8:13 P.M.

PFM Financial advisor Jamie Doyle was in attendance to review a handout. Ms. Doyle gave a Municipal Market Update noting the impact of actions by the Federal Reserve. Ms. Doyle also reviewed new money borrowing, borrowing laws, bank qualifications and reimbursement resolution.

Ms. Doyle stated the importance of debt portfolio management and reviewed illustrations of financing scenarios for the borrowing of \$7M, \$8.5M, and \$10M. Ms. Doyle reviewed the sample motion and a proposed timeline for borrowing that would allow for a settlement in February 2023.

Mr. Taylor reminded the Committee that a parameters resolution can be adjusted as the financial environment changes between its initial approval and its settlement date.

Ms. Doyle indicated that there are two meetings by the Federal Reserve scheduled to occur before the end of the calendar year.

Mrs. Scheuren indicated that she would not want to limit the district's borrowing capability by aiming too low in a borrowing situation.

Mrs. Scheuren adjourned the Finance Committee Meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Taylor, C.P.A.  
Board Secretary/Director of Business Affairs