MINUTES FROM JUNE 25, 2019 COMMUNITY MEETING
FOR PROPOSED MIDDLE SCHOOL IN CLIFTON HEIGHTS BOROUGH

A. Parties for the Upper Darby School District:

(1) Dr. Greg Manfre, Director of Secondary Education, Upper Darby School District.

(2) Kyle Berman, Esquire, Robert W. Gundlach, Jr., Esquire, Clair E. Wischusen, Esquire, and Andrew R. Stoll, Esquire, Solicitors to Upper Darby School District.

(3) Thomas Friese, James Markham, and Jason Sheridan, Pennoni Engineers, Civil Engineers to the Upper Darby School District.

(4) Mark Marella and Michael Kelly, KCBA Architects, Architects to the Upper Darby School District.

B. Presentation by the School District:

(1) Introductions and agenda for this meeting. Rob Gundlach.

a. Mr. Gundlach generally discussed the project, introduced members of Fox Rothschild, Pennoni, KCBA, and outlined how the meeting would be conducted. Mr. Gundlach advised that this would be one of many meetings between the School District and the neighbors. Mr. Gundlach further stated that adjacent neighbors would be receiving notices to meet with the District on an individual basis to discuss how each neighbor's property is affected by the project.

(2) Reasons why the School District needs a new middle school. Dr. Manfre.

a. Dr. Manfre briefly discussed the overcrowding in the schools, that the trailers are beyond their expected lifespan, and other reasons related to why a new middle school is necessary.

(3) The investigation performed by the School District to select the subject property for the new middle school. Dr. Manfre.

a. Dr. Manfre briefly discussed that there was a due diligence process in which the School District selected the Clifton Heights property. Dr. Manfre did not go into great detail about the process, other than to say that the investigation performed by the School District showed that the Clifton Heights property was the most suitable location for the much-needed middle school.

(4) Projected number and location of students to be assigned to this new middle school. Dr. Manfre.

a. Dr. Manfre briefly discussed the overcrowding in the two current middle schools, how the new middle school would "draw" students from other locations, and remedy the overcrowding.

(5) Proposed layout for the new middle school building, athletic fields, parking lot, access points and other site improvements for the new middle school. Pennoni Engineers.

a. Pennoni briefly described the layout for the new school.

(6) Proposed building amenities and layout for the new middle school. KCBA Architects.

a. KCBA briefly described the layout for the new school.

(7) Availability of the athletic fields and gymnasium for use by the community. Dr. Manfre.

a. Dr. Manfre made clear that the gymnasium, other certain interior rooms, and athletic fields would be me available for community use. To this end, Dr. Manfre advised that the School District drafted memorandums of understanding which outlined the School District's commitment to making the school and athletic fields available to the community.

(8) Questions.

After the aforementioned presentations, the neighbors were given the opportunity to ask questions in front of all of those in attendance. The following questions/concerns were presented

a. Is the School District making the athletic fields and school building (*i.e.* gymnasium and cafeteria) available to the public on a trial or permanent basis?

    a. Dr. Manfre advised that the School District is committed to making the facilities available to the community. It will not just be on a short, trial basis. Dr. Manfre also advised that the School District was in the process of putting together memorandums of understanding stating that the District intends to work with the community to make the facilities available on a permanent basis. This, of course, is subject to the School District's use of the fields. Dr. Manfre clarified that the school's use will not conflict with the community's use of the fields (*i.e.* the school may be done with the fields at 5:00, and the community organizations may need them at 5:30).

b. Will the community be permitted to have fundraisers on the fields?

    a. Dr. Manfre advised that there are insurance issues related to the community's use of the fields for certain events. Subject to those concerns, the School District intends to make the fields available for reasonable community use, including fundraisers.

c. What is being done to address potential "cut-through" traffic?

a. Pennoni will investigate how we can eliminate/limit "cut through" traffic using the alleys adjacent to the proposed fields.

d. Has the School District looked into issues relating to adding left-turn intersections to the school?

    a. Pennoni will investigate concerns arising from issues with left-turn locations. It would be best to complete a plan of the surrounding intersections and proposed traffic movements

e. Where will the students who will be attending the middle school be coming from?

    a. The School District will provide a "dot" map showing the approximate locations of students who will attend the middle school.

f. What has the School District done to protect the safety of students who may be walking to school/what efforts have been made to ensure that students walking to school are not affected by "cut-through" traffic?

    a. Pennoni will complete a "pedestrian access plan" and review any intersection improvements required to facilitate the ability of students to walk to school.

    b. An initial suggestion was to add more crossing guards at the most impacted intersections. The School District will look into this suggestion.

g. Has the School District talked to other school districts who recently built schools about ways to eliminate/limit the construction's effects on the foundation/infrastructure of the neighboring properties?

    a. The School District will provide a plan setting forth how it intends to eliminate/prevent the construction of the school from altering the infrastructure/foundation of local residences.

h. Has the School District looked into silos and how it will address the handling of low-incident students in the middle school?

    a. The School District will provide further information as to low-incident students in the middle school.

i. With respect to parking, has the School District looked into whether or not there is sufficient parking for not only full-time staff, but also part-time staff, aids, etc..?

a. The School District will provide a chart of all persons who will be visiting the school during school days (*e.g.* full-time and part-time employees, aids who visit the school, deliveries, etc..), to substantiate that its proposed parking lot is sufficient in size.

j. What is the economic impact of the construction of the school on Clifton Heights?

a. Dr. Manfre stated that data shows that schools provide an economic benefit to the surrounding area. The School District expects the same impact with the new middle school.

k. Have the architects and engineers been to the site of the projected middle school?

a. Yes.

l. Is the School District certain that there are sufficient emergency access points to handle any potential emergencies at the school?

a. Pennoni will investigate the need for additional emergency access connections to the adjacent alleys.

(9) Individual question and answer.

After the presentations and the group question and answer session, the neighbors were given a chance to question the School District's staff (Fox Rothschild, Pennoni, and KCBA) one-on-one. The neighbors stated that the one-on-one question and answer session was very beneficial. The neighbors also stated that they believed the meeting was very beneficial and showed that the School District was willing to listen and address their concerns. The School District again highlighted that it will be scheduling separate meetings with any adjacent property owners to discuss issues that directly impact them, and how they can best be addressed.