



## **Board of School Directors Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2024**

*Generated by Renai Cardillo on Thursday, November 14, 2024*

**Members present:** Nicholas Braccio, William Brong, Janet Flisak, Andrew Landis, Ken Keith, Stephen Nelson, William Formica, Kimberly Wheeler, Michael Barnacz

**Others present:** Tamara Ferlick, Tom Ferlick, John Franzen, Frank Gallagher, Chris Green, Christopher Hey, Katie Kennedy-Reilly, Rebekah Kunicki, Fran Masin-Moyer, Joe Messmer, Damion Spahr, Michael Taylor, and Megan Zweiback

**Meeting called to order at 6:29 PM**

### **1. Education-Personnel Committee**

1.1 2nd Grade Social Studies Curriculum

1.2 4th Grade Social Studies Curriculum

Education-Personnel Chairperson, Mr. Landis, called the Education-Personnel Meeting to order at 6:31 P.M.

Mr. Landis stated that the agenda items this evening were 2nd and 4th grade Social Studies curriculum and an update on Elementary Progress Reports.

Dr. Gallagher noted Social Studies standards have not changed, simply a change in how we will be delivering the content. Dr. Gallagher asked Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Technology, Dr. Kennedy-Reilly to explain.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly welcomed everyone, and introduced two elementary teachers, Chris Green and Rebekah Kunicki. In addition, Dr. Kennedy-Reilly noted the presence of elementary Principals, Mr. Ferlick and Mrs. Ferlick and Curriculum Supervisors, Dr. Franzen and Mr. Masin-Moyer thanking all for their participation and support of the elementary curriculum.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that curriculum revisions are an on-going process for the district, although there are no state standards requiring revision. She stated that the revision is a review of how content is organized and optimized, and making sure that consistency exists across all six elementary buildings.

Ms. Kunicki who teaches 2nd grade introduced the Building Community Unit, which will be taught in the beginning of the school year. Students will learn about building community, and the characteristics of a good citizen within a community. Students will learn about fairness and cooperation and how to be a part of a classroom community. Students will also learn about mapping skills, and how the elements of maps help people learn to navigate around their community. Ms. Kunicki stated how the learning supports life in a classroom and in the community, noting an emphasis on caring and consideration of others, which threads nicely into Morning Meeting practices.

Ms. Green who teaches 4th Grade introduced the revisions to the Social Studies Curriculum which focuses on Pennsylvania. It begins with the Early Settlers; Native Americans through William Penn as well as how Pennsylvania became a leader in the growth of our country. Ms. Green also spoke to the Pennsylvania Geography unit which reinforces mapping skills, and culminates with the 4th grade class field trip to Harrisburg. The third unit revision is for the Northeast Region of the United States which focuses on students achieving a better understanding of the northeast region of the United States. Students will identify the states and capitals within the region, physical characteristics of the region and historical landmarks.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly also commented that the new Houghton-Mifflin ELA program will align nicely with the Social Studies curriculum.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly shared a slide showing the resource recommendation *Exploring Pennsylvania*, which will support with the 4th grade Social Studies Curriculum. Ms. Green noted its comprehensive activities and online resources.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly thanked the teachers who worked after-school and during the Summer on the curriculum revisions and updates.

The next agenda item was the introduction of the update to the Elementary Trimester Progress Report. Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that the process to update the report began approximately 15 months ago, and worked on by a committee comprised of over 200 people. Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that the revision is an intentional effort as a result of parent feedback. It has been redesigned to a format that presents itself on-line and in-print. The revised scale is a comprehensive language allowing for better understanding of student achievement. There will be a comment section for teachers and its release will be timely with conferences.

Dr. Kennedy-Reilly stated that the first release will be mid December of this school year. Each individual elementary school website will have a tab with an explanation of the report. Dr. Kennedy-Reilly shared a slide showing the format of the progress report and its scale for reporting student skills. This report will be utilized across six grade levels (K-5) and feedback will be used to continue to refine it.

All Board members gave very favorable comments on the presentation and thanked the teachers and principals for their involvement in the revisions.

A member of the audience asked how the progress report will reflect students who have an IEP and Dr. Kennedy-Reilly indicated on the presentation slide where that detail would be reflected.

The Committee agreed to move forward for Board action.

Mr. Landis adjourned the Education-Personnel meeting at 6:59 P.M.

## **2. Operations Committee**

### **2.1 Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement (GESA)**

Mr. Brong called the Operations Committee Meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Mr. Brong announced the agenda item as the details of the GESA to support the proposed renovations at Indian Crest Middle School and Salford Hills Elementary School. Mr. Brong stated that SitelogIQ staff and GKO staff were in attendance to answer questions.

Director of Business Affairs Mr. Taylor introduced Mr. Spahr from SitelogIQ. Mr. Spahr reviewed a slide presentation noting that a specific agenda would be shared for each school showing the summary of work with diagrams and narratives. Breakout of costs, phasing and schedules and the schedule to award the project. Mr. Spahr reviewed the Summary of Work for Indian Crest Middle School with the following items:

- Replacement of stairs and reconstruction of the site for water management
- Relocation of the flag pole
- Minor sidewalk replacements
- Replacement of parking lot lights
- New PECO Gas Service
- Maintains current site circulation - bus, car and walkers

Mr. Spahr continued to review the Indian Crest project details including full renovations of the entire building including:

- New HVAC system - reuse some hydronic pipe mains.
- New electrical systems including switchgear, lighting, sound systems, devices and panels.
- New plumbing systems - replacing some of the underground sanitary sewers.
- Renovation of the auditorium including seating, lights, sound and curtains.
- Renovation of the gym including new bleachers, athletic equipment, and refinish the floor, build new fitness center.
- New finishes including ceilings, flooring, and wall surfaces in the corridors and classrooms.
- Renovate locker rooms and toilet rooms.
- Provide new casework and display boards.
- Retain existing roof.
- Replace exterior windows and doors.

A floor plan was reviewed showing major renovations (shown as red on the presentation) and minor upgrades (areas in green).

Mr. Spahr also reviewed the narratives for the Indian Crest project which included additional details on the bulleted items outlined above. Mr. Spahr read the details of the mechanical, electrical and plumbing upgrades.

A slide showing the breakout of costs and the total GESA and Cooperative Purchases Scopes reflected a project total of \$33,181,650.

The specifics of the Cooperative Purchasing included in the \$33M is \$3.6M which includes all flooring, toilet partitions, display boards and signage, lockers, athletic equipment, auditorium work, library furniture, and appliances.

Mr. Spahr shared an abatement estimate in the amount of \$435,000 as well as a furnishings and fixtures contingency in the amount of \$100K.

Mr. Spahr stated that the scheduled project will encompass approximately 2 years in duration and will operate in 8 separate phases, beginning in March 2025 and ending in February 2027. These dates were shown in a pricing and award schedule slide.

Operations Committee Chairman, Mr. Brong thanked Mr. Spahr for the breakout of costs. Mr. Formica thanked Mr. Taylor and SiteLogIQ for their work on the project. Mr. Braccio, Ms. Wheeler and Mr. Baranacz also expressed appreciation for the detailed presentation.

Mrs. Flisak commented positively on the preliminary work that has been done to support the proposed borrowing for this project.

Mr. Nelson commented that there is an estimated 25% to a 1/3 of the project details that are not outlined today, yet remain important to the project. Mr. Brong commented on the choice for floor replacement which will be a savings in maintenance operational costs going forward. Mr. Brong also asked for details on the relocation of the flagpole. Mr. Messmer of GKO Architects responded that there are currently two flagpoles on the school property. The pole outside the gymnasium will remain untouched, the second flagpole will be relocated at the main entrance.

A member of the audience asked about handwashing stations in the cafeteria and Dr. Gallagher responded that would not be necessary due to the proximity of student bathrooms adjacent to the cafeteria. This same member of the audience asked about the outdoor track at Indian Crest and Mr. Brong responded that work on the track is not included in this proposed project. Mr. Taylor added that repair or replacement of the outdoor track could be part of a Cooperative Purchase Agreement. Details will be forthcoming.

A member of the audience inquired about the location of the restrooms at Indian Crest and Dr. Gallagher confirmed they are located in the hallways directly adjacent to the cafeteria. This same member of the audience asked about the availability of gender neutral bathrooms and Dr. Gallagher responded that those requests are addressed with individual students, as needed. The question was also asked about the physical location of the music rooms and Mr. Messmer responded that the music rooms will be renovated equally to support the programs, similar to Indian Valley.

A member of the audience asked if the same Indian Valley contractors will be working on Indian Crest and Mr. Spahr replied that while there may be overlap in certain trades, on the whole, there are different contractors on each project.

Mr. Brong reiterated the work that SiteLogIQ has put forth designing the project, collaborating with the architects as well as working on the bid specifications and reviewing the award process.

The Committee agreed to move forward with the approval of the GESA for Indian Crest Middle School.

Mr. Spahr presented the Summary of Work for the Salford Hills renovation. The slide showed the proposed major renovations in red. The sitework includes additional parking spaces, an accessible entry ramp into the main office, a 5,400 sq. ft. addition, new pavement marking for parent pick up, maintaining the current site circulation for buses and cars.

Mr. Spahr elaborated on the addition stating that it would be for the library. Renovations through out the building will include:

- New HVAC system - reusing some of the hydronic pipe mains
- New Electrical systems - relocating some of the electrical service; to include lighting, sound systems, devices, and panels.
- New plumbing systems - replacing some of the underground sanitary sewers, replacing all fixtures.
- New Finishes including ceilings, flooring, and wall surfaces.

- Toilet room renovations
- New casework and display boards
- Replace approximately half of existing roof
- Replace exterior windows and doors

Mr. Spahr reviewed the overall scope of work showing an updated floor plan that will renovate the kindergarten classrooms, relocate the music classroom, renovate and move front office administration, create a new secure vestibule and entrance, renovate the kitchen, renovate the circular portion classrooms, as well as the library addition and Lifeskills classroom.

Details were provided in a narrative form of the library addition, the circle renovations, core space and toilet room renovations, front entrance modification and accessible secure vestibule. Other general construction items will be the replacement of exterior windows and doors, new kitchen equipment, partial roof replacement and sitework for parking and an upgrade to the kindergarten play area. Mechanical system upgrades were detailed to include the replacement of roof-top equipment using dedicated outside air systems including replacement of duct work, new high efficiency boilers and a new chiller with pumps, replacement of automatic temperature control system, select re-use of existing mechanical piping.

Mr. Spahr also presented narrative details on the plumbing system upgrades which will include replacement of fixtures and accessibility upgrades, selected replacement of domestic hot and cold water lines, and select replacement of underground sanitary sewer lines. New electrical systems upgrades include new electrical service, relocate transformer and substation, replacement of emergency generator and transfer switches, replacement of select panels, and new power connections to new and replaced equipment. New LED lighting both interior and exterior, new clock/public address/fire alarm systems, and new audio/visual systems in select locations.

Mr. Spahr presented a slide showing breakout costs for the Salford Hills project totaling \$25,649,874. Of that total \$1.5M is the future approval of cooperative purchase agreements which include flooring, toilet partitions, signage, lockers, athletic equipment, casework, auditorium seating, stage curtains, gym bleachers, window treatments, library furniture and appliances.

Additional breakout costs include asbestos abatement, fixtures and equipment and builders risk insurance.

Mr. Spahr explained the phasing of the proposed construction which will begin in March of 2025 and run through December of 2026. A timeline for pricing and award schedule for Salford Hills was shared.

Mr. Brong asked for questions and no board members had questions.

Mr. Brong discussed the benefit of a four-pipe system which will allow for air conditioning and/or heating simultaneously, as needed within the building.

A member of the public asked about fencing shown on the plan and its impact to the play area. Dr. Gallagher responded that the play area is actually farther out on the property.

A member of the public asked about the asbestos abatement and Mr. Taylor noted that it occurs in window replacement and behind chalkboards.

A member of the public expressed concerns about cost over runs and Mr. Taylor explained the benefit of a GESA project which is a contract that secures prices and costs. Mr. Taylor also stated that borrowing for this project will not happen all at once. The first projected borrowing will be in January 2025.

The Operations Committee recommended moving forward for Board approval on November 21st.

Mr. Brong adjourned the Operations Committee meeting at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



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