

**Central Bucks School District**  
**School Board Briefs**  
**October 13, 2020**

At the October 13, 2020 School Board meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

**Announced** that the Board met in Executive Session prior to the start of this School Board Meeting to discuss legal and personnel matters

**Approved** the minutes of the September 22, 2020 School Board Meeting

**Heard** Public Comment:

Leslie McManus addressed the Board regarding her support of our teachers. Ms. McManus remarked that she is disheartened by emails that lay blame on teachers, that administration hasn't been supporting our teachers and should ask them what they need and then give them what they ask for. Ms. McManus remarked that there was a rush to get us back into the classroom, but the sustainable option is online. Ms. McManus remarked that asynchronous specials isn't fair as the school district's mission is to give all of our students the education they need for lifelong skills and learning. Ms. McManus remarked that the teachers are doing a great job and that there are parents out there who appreciate the hard work that's being done and we want our teachers to know it.

Thomas Moore identified himself as President of Warrington-Warwick Boys Basketball Association and asked the Board to consider opening our gyms to outside organizations so that the kids have the chance to play basketball during the week and on weekends.

George Vrettos addressed the Board asking for their support to open our facilities to outside organizations for winter sports so that kids can stay healthy and have some semblance of normalcy

Madhav Ponamgi addressed the Board regarding transparent question-and answer sessions with parents and publishing a comprehensive list of those sessions. Mr. Ponamgi remarked that for two years he has been unable to receive a written answer to simple questions: can parents review graded tests, and how is the National Honor Society 10% calculated? Mr. Ponamgi remarked that there has to be a reasonable mechanism at every level to have Q&A of accountability. Mr. Ponamgi remarked that he asked Dr. Kopicki to publish a Q&A of the school tours that were completed over the last two years, but it was never done. Mr. Ponamgi remarked that Q&A is a reasonable thing to ask for and people deserve to have on-the-record answers.

Jamie Walker addressed the Board regarding opening our buildings up. Ms. Walker read an email that she sent in June, asked why we can't use the facilities and why we are taking extracurricular activities away from kids, remarked that the cleaning procedure in the district's Health and Safety Plan is so rigorous that it's almost impossible, remarked that the Board didn't want to speak with the health director Dr. Damsker. Ms. Walker remarked that Dr. Kopicki has decided that aides can monitor classrooms, he likes to shut down sports teams against the advice of the health department, he wants to be a contact tracer, he likes to determine quarantines for children. Ms. Walker remarked that kids should be able to participate in their extracurricular activities and should be allowed to have their childhoods.

Chris Slack identified himself as President of CBAA and asked the Board to consider opening gyms to their members, especially related to basketball. Mr. Slack remarked that the CBAA summer basketball league had 1200 participants playing without a single COVID case because of their stringent health and safety policy.

Mr. Slack remarked that CBAA is prepared as long as the Board will work with them and CBAA would like to form a partnership with the district to figure out a way to do this in a safe environment, that there is a way to do this and CBAA is willing to step up to the plate and do the heavy lifting in order to benefit the kids in our community. Mr. Slack added that other schools are considering opening up their gyms.

**Heard** the Superintendent's Reports:

- FEMO Director Robert Kleimenhagen, Jr. shared an overview of the FEMO Department's work with cleaning, disinfecting, and the potential for outside groups to use our indoor facilities
- Athletics Health and Safety Plan: District Athletics Director Turner presented the board with revisions to the Athletics Health and Safety Plan, including language changes, attendance at games, rules for spectators, and future amendments
- Student Services Director Dr. Cheryl Leatherbarrow shared the district's documentation process to monitor COVID cases

**Reviewed** the School Board Reports:

- Curriculum Committee
- Finance Committee
- Operations Committee
- Policy Committee
- Bucks County Intermediate Unit
- Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

**Approved** the Accounts Payable Check Disbursements Report

**Approved** the 2019-2020 Gifts to Schools Report

**Approved** an Escrow Waiver Amendment with Doylestown Borough

**Approved** the 2020-2021 Public and Non-Public Bus Routes

**Approved** the 2020-2021 First Student Drivers and Aides list

**Approved** quotes from Boyce Associates/PlayPower LT Farmington, Inc. for replacement playground equipment for Cold Spring Elementary School in the amount of \$135,358.45

**Approved** a quote from Johnson Controls for replacement of the fire system panel at Jamison Elementary School in the amount of \$36,525.00

**Approved** a renewal Memorandum of Understanding between MBIT and the Directors of Special Education from the four sending districts

**Approved** the amended Athletics Healthy and Safety Plan

**Approved** a course of study: AP Biology

**Approved** a course of study: AP Chemistry

**Approved** Personnel Items:

- Retirements and Resignations
- Leaves of Absence

- Appointments
- Assignment, Classification, and Status Changes
- Per Diem Substitutes

**Approved** Staff Conferences/Workshops

**Honored** the memory of employee Angela Jacobs with a moment of silence