

Central Bucks School District
School Board Briefs
September 2, 2020

At the September 2, 2020 School Board meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

Approved the minutes of the August 25, 2020 School Board Meeting

Heard Public Comment: Public Comment was collected using an online form, and President Suits read the submissions aloud. Please see attached for the complete packet of Public Comment submissions.

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 a contract for design services with Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. for bleacher replacement at Central Bucks High School West-War Memorial Field in the amount of \$48,678.00

Approved a proposal from Tozour-Trane for the chiller replacement at Cold Spring Elementary School in the amount of \$175,125.00

Approved a proposal from Tozour-Trane for the chiller rebuild/renewal at Tohickon Middle School in the amount of \$144,126.00

Approved proposals from Tozour-Trane for chiller panel upgrades, glycol removal, and ice field piping removal at Unami Middle School in the amount of \$90,106.00

Approved proposals from SitelogiQ Engineers for commissioning services at Central Bucks High School East, Butler Elementary School, and Barclay Elementary School in the amount of \$112,012.00

Approved a Student Assistance Program Agreement with The Council of Southeast Pennsylvania, Inc. in the amount of \$58,400.00

Approved an Agreement with Biotech Technology Center of Pennsylvania

Approved the District Services Agreement with Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 for the 2020-2021 school year at a per-student fee not to exceed \$80,000.00

Approved an Agreement with Pearl S. Buck International's Welcome Workplace IDI one-on-one assessments for 2 additional administrators in the amount of \$300.00

Approved an Agreement with Pearl S. Buck International's Welcome Workplace IDI one-on-one assessments for 20 additional administrators in the amount of \$3,000.00

Approved Personnel Items:

- Retirements and Resignations
- Leaves of Absence
- Appointments
- Assignment, Classification, and Status Changes
- Per Diem Substitutes

NAME	MUNICIPALITY	
Howard Schargel	Plumstead	<p>To our new board leadership. I have two simple questions.</p> <p>1. Will you commit to having ALL your meetings available via TEAM or some other video format so that WE the public can watch? The audio has been horrible. We never know who is speaking and even more importantly, you are mandating that our children be taught via video but don't use the technology yourselves. I know this has been requested more than once, so will you commit to voting on it now for the next meeting? Who is willing to make a motion and 2nd it?</p> <p>2. In the spirit of transparency and communication will you commit to a series of at least video town halls where the students, parents and other taxpayers can ask our new Board President and Vice President and Dr. Kopicki questions? Perhaps having Dr. Damsker and teacher union rep Erin Corrigan would also be possible since they are key stakeholders. Wouldn't it be a wonderful example to set for our children to see collaborative problem solving in action? Are you willing to take a vote on this now? Who is willing to make the motion and 2nd it?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
Ellen M. Devlin	Buckingham	<p>I would like to know if schools in the district will open once they have staffing issues resolved; even if other schools are still not ready; i.e. is it possible that some schools will open before others? Or will the district wait until ALL schools are fully staffed. Thank you.</p>
Lauren Feldman	Buckingham	<p>I would like the option to send my son to school FULL time and IN person ASAP! My son is so depressed that he doesn't get to go to school and especially see other kids! Please let him have a normal childhood and normal education! (with proper safety precautions)</p>
Denise Psoras	Buckingham	<p>Turn on the cameras. The virtual meetings are embarrassingly bad. Audio is awful. What are you hiding??</p>
Candace Biafore	Central bucks buckingham	<p>Please address in detail why the schools are videoing the classes (with students faces) and planning to send to kids that can't make online school? You can video the teacher or just use audio. Where is the info telling parents this is happening??</p>

Bea Thompson	New Britain Boro	First I want to thank the board for making the decision to #letthemplay last week. You have enabled a huge opportunity to improve mental, emotional and physical well being for our kids! Thank you!
		We need to focus next on getting our students back to physical classrooms. Please continue the charge to look out for our kids and get them back where they belong, even if hybrid at first. 5 days sitting in front of a computer every week is too much for these kids to deal with. Attention spans are short and we can not accept this as a long standing model. Our kids education will suffer along with their mental and emotional well being. Please move is forward and get them back to classrooms.
		Thank you!
Kayla Ottey	Warwick	As a single mother and pediatric practitioner, I am deeply concerned that the district has continually not addressed the affects of virtual learning on our communities children and families . There have been absolutely no support programs or measures adapted to support families during this time . It is wrong .
Jen	Warwick	Parents and tax payers should be afforded the opportunity for a town hall situation with Dr Damsker and the representative from the teachers' union.
		Also, it is difficult for us to understand who is speaking at all times. Therefore, these meetings should include video to aid with that issue.
Joshua Hogan	West Rockhill Township (Pennridge SD)	Please follow Dr. Damsker's methodology for getting students into school and subsequently keeping the schools open. This is being done in parts of the country with much more community spread than we have in Bucks County, and in those areas the sky is not falling.
		And please, for the love of God, let the teachers union know that they are embarrassing themselves by acting like Chicken Little. Every other nation on planet Earth has put their children back in school. The majority of them have done it without masks or social distancing. Only in America does the perverted fear of bad teachers outweigh the courage of good ones. And only in America have the bad teachers succeeded in depriving children of an equitable education.
Elyssa Nemeroff	Warwick	Can our district use cameras so that we can watch the board meetings like so many other districts do? Or can we do a town hall meeting so the community can ask questions?

Tammy Rambaldi	Plumstead	I hope improving ventilation in the school buildings is being looked into as a factor in managing the risk of contracting Covid-19 - this is important now, as we bring the athletes into the buildings for practices, and for re-opening classrooms later this year.
Elizabeth Lescavage	Plumstead	After seeing so many negative comments on social media, I would like to publicly thank Dr. Kopicki, the Board, the Administration, the IT Staff, the Facilities Staff, the Teachers and Support staff for everything that have done, are doing and will do. I truly believe this is not said enough and people need to be more grateful and kind. The people I listed above have no doubt worked tirelessly for countless hours trying to figure out a plan of action in an truly unprecedented time. Thank you and best of luck in the new school year.
Jamie Walker	New Britain	Mrs. Smith, Mrs Darcy, and Mrs. Collopy were elected to the school board because they promised transparency. Where is it? This entire situation has been secretive. How much staff needs to be hired to open schools? Simple question. Why won't the board meet with Dr. Damsker? What will be your Covid quarantine policy if school ever starts? I have watched other school district's meetings. They are easy to hear, you can see the members, and they answer questions. CB's meetings are an embarrassment. You can't even hear anyone. Its time for the board, Dr. Kopicki, and Erin Corrigan to stop hiding. We want a meeting where we can ask questions. We want to hear from Dr. Damsker. Two public school districts in Bucks County as well as every private and parochial school are offering live instruction. Your actions are denying an education to 18000 kids. I don't know how you sleep at night because I know most CB parents are not. Dr. Kopicki and board we need a transparent leader. Stop hiding. Remember our children are watching your decisions.
Maleeka Carroll	Buckingham	I'm upset that my child will be in a virtual class with possibly students from other schools that she doesn't know. If I decide to switch her from virtual to full day, then how will this be accomplished? Who will be her teacher? How is she supposed to build friendships with children from other schools in the district in place of the kids she's been with since kindergarten in her home school of Bridge Valley? If this "type" of schedule continues, I might as well put her in private school.

Stacy Rolland	Warrington	<p>I have several questions for the board tonight, the first being, what is the status in the decision to open our schools, now that we have no new COVID cases? Are the schools fully staffed now? Would you be willing to meet with Dr Damsker, as he plays a key role as our health director in Bucks county? I know a multitude of parents that want to hear from him. The impact of online learning is already taking a serious toll on our children, as reality is setting in. This reality is not pretty, and is one of despondence, as they realize how daunting it will be to be stuck inside all day, staring at a screen for hours, many of which are alone. Where is the concern for this much screen time, along with a serious lack of mobility and socialization? Many parents have already purchased the protective, blue light glasses for their children to protect their vision. Where is the concern for the damage to a developing brain that was once so important, and called out by pediatricians? The concerns continue to pile on top of A mountain that is already so overwhelming for everyone involved. Please take all of this into consideration for our 18,000 students that are trying to cope and handle this situation that seems hopeless and never ending. Thank you</p>
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