

Central Bucks School District
School Board Briefs
April 27, 2021

At the April 27, 2021 School Board Meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

Announced that the Board held an Informational Session on April 19, 2021 with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit regarding their Superintendent search services. The Board met in Executive Session on April 20, 2021 to discuss the outcome of the previous informational session.

Approved the minutes of the April 13, 2021 School Board Special Meeting

Heard Public Comment:

Ella Lee of Doylestown Township aired an audio recording by Tabitha Dell'Angelo of Doylestown regarding adding Diwali as a school district holiday, other religious holidays, and reimagining the Central Bucks School District's calendar.

Anuradha Pasi of Furlong ceded here time to the next speaker.

Paree Pasi of Furlong addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday, AP classes, and religious equality.

Chloe Weintraub of Doylestown Township addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday and aired an audio recording by Mariam Mahmud of New Britain Township regarding adding Diwali as a school holiday, supporting inclusion, a recent meeting at which board members discussed holidays, and embracing an all-inclusive calendar.

Marlene Pray of Doylestown Borough thanked members of the School Board, Dr. Lucabaugh, and staff for their ongoing hard work and addressed the Board regarding the Diwali holiday being recognized as a holiday in the Central Bucks School District and PDE requirements for school holidays.

Larissa Hopwood of Doylestown Borough addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday, a recent meeting at which Jewish holidays were discussed, and racism in our schools.

Debra Cannon of Warrington Township addressed the Board regarding Human Growth and Development curriculum, the social-emotional wellness of children, administration and curriculum directors' competency and decisions about curriculum, implementing Social-Emotional Learning into the Human Growth & Human Development and parents wanting transparency.

Tricia Conn, CBSD teacher and CBEA member, addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday, equitable and inclusive classrooms, and comments by board members at a recent Curriculum Committee Meeting.

Vonna DeArmond of Plumstead Township addressed the Board regarding fully opening meetings to the public, meeting live-streaming issues, a recent Curriculum Committee Meeting at which she spoke about parent input and review of anti-racist curriculum, the Sunshine Law, transparency, emails between President Suits and Dr. Kopicki, Modified Quarantine, and our children wearing face masks.

Patricia Doeblner of Chalfont addressed the Board regarding children wearing face masks, following science, and wearing face masks during recess and gym classes.

Steven Lieberman of Doylestown Township addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday, supporting Asian Americans, and comments about Jewish holidays made by board members at a recent Curriculum Committee Meeting.

Jamie Walker of Chalfont read from some emails obtained through a Right to Know request including one from Director Gamble regarding the need to go hybrid and one from the County's Health Director sent to Director Gamble and then forwarded to President Suits, read from a recent email she received from President Suits, and addressed the Board regarding the district's Health and Safety Plan and conference calls between the school board president and the school district's solicitor.

Rich Walker of Chalfont passed out a copy of a form from a law firm researching whether teachers on leave may solicit the tutoring of students and copies of emails that were obtained through a Right to Know request, asked the Board who authorized the petition filed against Jamie Walker, and encouraged the Board to read the copies of the emails that he shared.

Shannon Harris of Buckingham addressed the Board regarding a follow-up email she sent to Mrs. Turner and Dr. Lucabaugh about temperature checks on student athletes. Mrs. Harris remarked on the district's Athletics Health and Safety Plan, temperature checks on student athletes ending at the end of the season, and 3-foot and 6-foot social distancing.

Shari Wohl of Warrington, current President of Temple Judea, addressed the Board regarding respecting the values and beliefs of others, adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday, the presentation by Patee Pasi at a recent Curriculum Committee Meeting, and the discussion about Jewish holidays that followed that presentation

Leonard Saffren of Warwick, incoming President of Temple Judea, addressed the Board regarding teaching children that others matter, supporting diversity, honoring and including non-Christian holidays, and expanding curriculum to teach non-Christian customs.

Jerel Wohl of Warrington read from statements regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday written by clergy representing congregations of many faith traditions and by members of the Greater Delaware Valley Interfaith Community.

Vidhya Shahapurkar of Chalfont addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday

Arlene Hanauer of Buckingham addressed the Board regarding acknowledging the needs of students, religious bigotry, and Jewish holidays.

Sarah Zhang of Warwick addressed the Board regarding anti-racist curriculum and education, feeling safe in schools, and adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday.

Isabela Stamples-Blackburn of Buckingham addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday, celebrating other cultures, anti-racist education, and Jewish holidays.

Alyson Etter of Doylestown Township addressed the Board regarding diversity and inclusion, and then ceded her time to the next speaker.

Kevin Leven of New Hope addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday and encouraged the Board to look up the rich history of Diwali, the Festival of Lights.

Heather Scott of Doylestown Township addressed the Board regarding returning to school without face masks, students eating on the floor or not eating at all, COVID restrictions, COVID vaccines, and a normal return to school or a virtual choice in the fall.

Paresh Birla of Doylestown addressed the Board regarding adding Diwali to the school district calendar as a school holiday.

Peder Cox of Doylestown addressed the Board regarding students wearing face masks on track fields or gyms, military soldiers wearing face masks, judging people by the quality of their work and their integrity, diseases in the world and deaths from diseases in the world, and teachers in this school district who are teaching from home.

Announced Updates to the CBSD Health and Safety Plan-Dr. Leatherbarrow reports that the implementation of modified quarantine has been going well. Since its recent adoption, 144 people in our district have been recommended to practice modified quarantine and 49 people in our district have been recommended to practice quarantine.

Heard Superintendent's Report:

District Demographic Study Update-Dr. Fred Withum of Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates updated the Board on the district's demographic study, which included information on enrollment rates, enrollment projections, establishing capacity rates, and next steps in the study.

2021-2022 Proposed Final Budget-Mr. Loftus updated the Board on the 2021-2022 proposed final budget, which included budgeting goals, revenues, expenditures, a budget summary, and next steps in finalizing the 2021-2022 Central Bucks School District budget.

Reviewed the School Board Reports:

Curriculum Committee

Finance Committee

Operations Committee

Policy Committee

Bucks County Intermediate Unit

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Approved the Treasurer's Report and Summary of Fund Disbursements

Approved the Accounts Payable Check Disbursements Report

Approved the Resolution for the 2021-2022 Proposed Final Budget

Approved the General Supplies Purchases in the amount of \$250,733.76

Approved the Team Sports Supplies Purchases in the amount of \$56,338.43

Approved the School Bus Bid Purchases in the amount of \$628,432.00

Approved the list of First Student Drivers and Aides for the 2020-2021 school year

Approved the Pear Deck Contract in the amount of \$19,260.00

Approved the 3-year lease of 3,000 laptops in the amount of \$1,887,039.00

Approved the 4-year lease of 1,500 laptops in the amount of \$210,859.74

Approved a FAPE Waiver Agreement in the amount of \$23,750.00

Approved a FAPE Waiver Agreement in the amount of \$299,300.00

Approved the Ratification of Contract between CBSD and the Central Bucks Transportation Association

Approved the BCIU #22 Superintendent Search for CBSD Agreement

Approved the July 2022 Study Abroad Course to Spain

Approved Personnel Items:

Retirements and Resignations

Leaves of Absence

Appointments

Assignment, Classification, and Status Changes

Activities EDRs and Athletics Points

Approved Staff Conferences/Workshops in the amount of \$3,790.00

Reviewed the Sabbatical Leaves of Absence Report