

Central Bucks School District
School Board Briefs
July 25, 2023

At the July 25, 2023 School Board Meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

Announced that the Board met for an Information Session from 6:00pm - 7:00pm on July 25, 2023 regarding legal and personnel items.

Approved the minutes of the June 13, 2023 School Board Meeting.

Heard Superintendent's Report: *Recognition of Students Nominated to the 2023 National High School Musical Theatre Awards, aka Jimmy Awards.*

Superintendent Lucabaugh and the Board of School Directors recognized two CBSD students who were recently nominated for the 2023 Jimmy Awards: Anna Shea Safran and Jackson Manning. The National High School Musical Theatre Awards, also known as the Jimmy Awards, celebrates U.S. high school musical theater students.

Following the student recognition, Superintendent Lucabaugh shared updates about School Resource Officers, personal boundary and safety training for students, staffing for the new school year, and recent niche.com rankings for our three high schools: CB East ranked 12th out of 1416, CB West ranked 19th out of 1416, and CB South ranked 23rd out of 1416.

Heard Public Comment:

1. Claire Natoli, Doylestown Township, yielded her speaking time to Joan Natoli.
2. Joan Natoli, Doylestown Township, spoke about transgender athletes, PIAA guidance, and read aloud part of a WHY.org article.
3. Laurie Ann Moore, Buckingham Township, spoke about the climate at her former school district, the CB Board majority and Superintendent, and voting in November.
4. Sandy Karlberg, Plumstead Township, yielded her speaking time to Katherine Semisch (listed as #22 on the sign-up sheet).

Katherine Semisch, Doylestown Borough, spoke about the Superintendent's contract, a salary lawsuit from female employees, raising taxes, and fair compensation.

5. Amanda Paschke, Buckingham Township, spoke about the Superintendent contract and salary, PR and law firms, open positions in the district, hiring and retention, and compared access to library books and criminal behavior.
6. Michael Esris, Warrington Township, yielded his speaking time to Betty Esris.
7. Betty Esris, Warrington Township, read aloud part of a George Washington speech and spoke about Moms4Liberty, district policies, history, targeted books, dismissing Mrs. Burger, the Superintendent contract, and the November election.
8. Barbara Kielbania, Doylestown Township, yielded her speaking time to Steve McComas.

Reverend Steven McComas spoke about CB Cares, students needing adults who lead by example, and the Superintendent contract.

9. Andrea Hanna, Plumstead Township, spoke about the Superintendent contract, tax dollars, and fiscal responsibility.

10. Anne Ferguson, Doylestown Township, spoke about the Superintendent's speech last month, the global pandemic, PSSA science scores, the Superintendent contract, and other district's school boards.

11. Tricia Doebler, New Britain Township, spoke about the teacher who was terminated, gratitude to Dr. Lucabaugh for protecting all kids, and the Superintendent contract.

12. Mara Witsen, Chalfont Borough, spoke about comments made earlier tonight, the Superintendent contract, and offered some sports analogies regarding salaries.

13. Liz Downing, Doylestown Township, spoke about her experience teaching Mandarin and policy collaboration with Independence Law Center.

14. Kate Nazemi, Doylestown Township, spoke about Central York School District, culture wars, parental rights, policy making advice from Independence Law Center, book challenges and removals in Central York School District, and opt-out library forms.

15. Michael Stadelmaier, Buckingham Township, spoke about salaries of the Governor and the New York City Superintendents. Mr. Stadelmaier spoke about job complexity and compensation.

16. Cindy Stadelmaier, Buckingham Township, spoke about the voting districts meeting and suggested introducing committee members, providing agendas, and posting map proposals.

17. Jenna Ott, Plumstead Township, spoke about the Superintendent contract, three years of tax increases in Central Bucks, quoted a portion of the Superintendent contract, and yielded the remainder of her speaking time to Heather Reynolds.

18. Heather Reynolds, Buckingham Township, spoke about the Superintendent contract, fiscal irresponsibility, tax dollars being invested in students and classrooms, and competitive wages for support staff.

19. Dana Foley, Buckingham Township, spoke about the Superintendent contract, staffing shortages, teen mental health plans, student test scores, and culture wars.

20. Shannon Martin, Buckingham Township, yielded her speaking time to Dana Foley.

21. Chris Kehan, Warrington Township, spoke about a notification from the Library Coordinator about dissolving that position, professional development and library resources brought in and supported by Mrs. Burger, and about Policy 109.2.

22. Katherine Semisch, Doylestown Borough, yielded her speaking time to Gail Hutchings.

Gail Hutchings spoke about her experience with teachers in CB schools, socialization, available library books, and teachers fostering respect.

23. Rosemary Huether, Doylestown Borough, spoke about student programming and IEPs, support staff duties, comments made by Mr. Pepper, and CB staff who lost work time and medical insurance.

24. Chris Evans, Plumstead Township, spoke about content on phones and content in libraries, cell phone policies, a board member's comment to another board member, the Superintendent's pay raise, and a toxic work environment.

25. Doreen Stratton, Doylestown Borough, spoke about items her family sold at yard sales to pay school taxes years ago and trying to get a Board that will look out for our children.

26. Ginger Hardwick, Doylestown Borough, spoke about the wording of the Superintendent contract and that the process should include negotiations and not be rushed through at the end of July.

27. Amy McGahran, Doylestown Township, asked why there is a new Superintendent contract, if the Board proposed the contract, and what the salary was based on.

28. Bill Weir, Chalfont Borough, spoke about the Superintendent contract, understaffed support staff, support staff wages that do not include benefits, and asked why there is a change to the Superintendent's contract.

29. Lora Terifay, Doylestown, yielded her speaking time to Vonna DeArmond.

30. Vonna DeArmond, Plumstead Township, thanked Dr. Lucabaugh for protecting children and for his internal investigation. Ms. DeArmond spoke about community politics, child abuse training, Neighbors United, blindly trusting the ALA, limiting free speech, Moms4Liberty, protecting parental rights, protesters at a recent summit, and finding things we have in common.

Note: The following five speakers were listed on the sign-up sheet but were not afforded time to speak due to the 90-minute time limit; their names will be listed at the top of the Public Comment speaker list at the next School Board Meeting. Their names, municipalities, and speaking topics are listed below:

31. Phyllis Arnold, Buckingham Township: Pay Raise for Superintendent

32. Alan Gold, New Britain Township: History of Change

33. Michael Witsen, Chalfont Borough: Depending

34. Spencer Halstead, Buckingham Township: Superintendent Pay Raise

35. Gail Hutchins, Doylestown Township: My experience as a student, LGBT topics in the classroom

Reviewed School Board Reports:
Curriculum Committee.
Finance and Facilities Committee.
Policy Committee.

Bucks County Intermediate Unit.
Middle Bucks Institute of Technology.

Approved Finance Department Items:

Financial Reports.

Accounts Payable Check Disbursements in the amount of \$5,825,864.99

Contract with Conrad Siegel Consulting Services for an actuarial review of the CBSD benefits program in the amount of \$75,000.00.

Contract with Ed Puzzle for grades 7-12 in the amount of \$16,000.00.

Microsoft renewal in the amount of \$369,051.85.

4-year contract with Canon Solutions America for district-wide copiers in the amount of \$716,304.00.

Bid award to O'Shea Lumber for technology education lumber in the amount of \$29,642.62.

5-year contract with ATI for athletic trainer services in the amount of \$1,752,000.00.

Bus purchases in the amounts of \$262,360.00 and \$454,992.00.

2022-2023 Gifts to Schools Reports in the amount of \$34,817.39.

Staff Conferences and Workshops in the amount of \$10,696.00

Approved Facilities Department Items:

Change order for domestic water piping for the Lenape HVAC project in the amount of \$91,592.11.

Contract with Keystone Fire & Security for sprinkler repairs in the amount of \$46,075.00.

Contract with SportCare Synthetic Field Maintenance in the amount of \$20,600.00.

Contract with Integrated Pest Control in the amount of \$41,310.00.

Open PO for roofing repair services in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00.

Approved Special Education Department Items:

Settlement Agreement (1) in the amount of \$41,899.40.

Settlement Agreement (2) in the amount of \$41,899.40.

Settlement Agreement (3) in the amount of \$2,340.00.

IEP Waiver Agreement (1).

2023-2024 Foundations (Lifeworks School) Agreement in the amount of \$63,221.00.

2023 Devereux ESY Agreement in the amount of \$15,200.00.

2023-2024 Aspire Educational Agreement

Approved Student Services Department Items:

2023-2024 Social Skills Instruction Agreement with Rick Fertig in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00.

2023-2024 Private Investigative Services Agreement with Acclaimed, LLC

Pennsylvania School for the Deaf ESY Agreement in the amount of \$10,905.40.

2023-2024 High School Tuition Student in the amount of \$14,106.43.

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Approved Curriculum Items:

Adoption of Reading Horizons Discovery Sound City classroom materials in the amount of \$56,862.00.

Grade 3 Book Club book purchases in the amount of \$12,405.75.

Adoption of QUEST Course of Study.

Adoption of AP Comparative Government textbooks in the amount of \$17,637.84.

MOU with Roxy Therapy Dogs.

2023-2024 amended CBSD calendar.

PDE Flexible Instructional Day application.

Approved Policy Items:

Moved to Table for First Read School Board Policies 832, 105, 322, 318, 831, and 906.

Retired School Board Policies 322 from the old 300 series.

Retired School Board Policies 422, 418, and 416 from the old 400 series.

Removed from Table and Approved School Board Policies 011, 137, 137.1, 137.2, and 137.3.

Approved Student Items-Field Trips and Foreign Exchange Requests:

CBW Cheerleading to Brodheadsville, PA in August 2023.

CBS Boys Varsity Basketball to Wildwood, NJ in December 2023.

Foreign Exchange student for CBS.

Foreign Exchange student for CBE.

Approved Human Resources Department Items:

Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations.

Leaves of Absence.

Appointments.

Assignment, Classification, and Status Changes.

Summer Staff Lists.

New Position Approvals.

Approved Other Action Items:

District's Comprehensive Plan and School Plan for Tohickon Middle School.

District's participation in the social Media class-action lawsuit and authorization for the Board president and/or Superintendent to execute related documents.

Director of Pupil Services Employment Agreement with Alyssa Marton for a five-year term.

Chief Operating Officer Employment Agreement with Tara B.G. Houser for a five-year term.

Acceptance of the resignation of Dr. Abram Lucabaugh.

Appointment of Dr. Abram Lucabaugh as Superintendent of CBSD for a five-year term.

Superintendent Employment Agreement with Dr. Abram Lucabaugh for a five-year term.

Did Not Approve a motion to add an item to the agenda: Motion to nullify the contract with Duane Morris.