

Central Bucks School District
School Board Briefs
January 11, 2024

At the January 11, 2024 School Board Meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

Announced that the Board met in Executive Session on December 19, 2023 regarding legal matters Cartee-Haring vs CBSD 220-cv-1995, Marinello vs. CBSD 221-cv-2587, and Cartee-Haring vs. CBSD 222-cv-4019.

The Board met in Executive Session on January 11, 2024 prior to this evening's meeting regarding legal matter Burgess Federal Complaint 23-cv-01369-tjs, a personnel matter, and Sunshine Act litigation Vecchione vs. CBSD BUCKS CCP 2024-00025, DeArmond vs. Individual Board Directors docket number unknown.

President Smith spoke about the four items that were added to the December agenda and explained that those four items appear again on this evening's agenda due to a Sunshine Act violation complaint that was submitted. President Smith spoke about correcting an error on agenda item 12E. President Smith spoke about a Sunshine Act violation complaint that was submitted pertaining to approving minutes prior to public comment, that Policy 006 which lists the Order of Business will be referred to Committee, and asked the Board if they are agreeable to moving the Approval of Minutes section of the agenda to follow the Public Comment section of the agenda this evening. President Smith spoke about the appointment of Dr. Scanlon and thanked Dr. Malone and the Cabinet.

The Board agrees to move Approval of Minutes (Item 2A on the agenda) after Public Comment (Item 4A on the agenda).

Heard Public Comment:

1. Matt Silverhartt, Buckingham Township, read aloud a portion of a Carnegie Endowment for International Peace paper. Mr. Silverhartt spoke about being open to hearing opinions, universal respect, and a forum needed to air grievances.
2. Barbara Kielbania, Doylestown Township, yielded her speaking time to Kathy Cranmer.
3. Kathy Cranmer, Doylestown Township, spoke about debating the merits of policies, the whitewashing of history, the ending of the PR contract, the previous Board president, fiduciary responsibility, the outgoing Superintendent's contract, payments to Duane Morris for legal services, and holding the prior board members responsible for abdication of their fiduciary responsibility.
4. Anne Ferguson, Doylestown Township, spoke about the neutrality policy, indoctrination, students on the Board, the transgender policy, PIAA, Title IX, the library policy, and keeping students safe from gun violence.
5. Nancy Tegano, Buckingham Township, was listed on the sign-up sheet but did not speak.

6. Edward Mackouse, Buckingham Township, spoke about education versus indoctrination, the Board appointing Dr. Scanlon without the public hearing from him first, having a public survey about Dr. Scanlon, legal fees, and taxpayers paying for settlements.

7. Alyson Zimmer, Buckingham Township, yielded her speaking time to Tanya Kovacs.

8. Tanya Kovacs, Buckingham Township, read aloud a statement from Shannon Harris about Dr. Scanlon, the Technology Pool counsel, new positions, the Remind app, Educational Staffing Solutions, the National debt, and settling the Haring case. Ms. Kovacs submitted handouts which are attached to the minutes.

9. Art Larson, Doylestown Township, spoke about members of Mega, websites, the No Place for Hate program, the Inquirer newspaper, and websites exposetheenemy.com and whoiswho.com

10. Christy Callaghan, Buckingham Township, spoke about policies that appear on the agenda again, legal advice, the Sunshine Act, the ongoing ACLU complaint, agenda items 12D and 12 E, Dr. Scanlon's daily rate of pay, Dr. Lucabaugh's salary, and an email blog by advocates for inclusive education. Ms. Callaghan submitted a handout which is attached to the minutes.

11. Mike Sobczak, Doylestown, (listed as "CB student" on the sign-up sheet) spoke about sports for boys and girls and Policy 123.3. Mr. Sobczak spoke about Polices 109.1, 109.2, 123.3, and 321 remaining suspended, decisions being made in the interests of personal beliefs, and CB making headlines.

12. Vonna DeArmond, Plumstead Township, asked to speak last because the last speaker on the sign-up sheet (Pam Masciotro, #15) is yielded her speaking time.*

13. Corinne McKnight, Doylestown Township, welcomed Dr. Scanlon back to the district and spoke about bringing a divided community back together.

14. Carla Grabianowski, Plumstead Township, yielded her speaking time to Christy Callaghan, listed as #10 on the sign-up sheet.

15. Pam Masciotro, Warrington Township, yielded her speaking time to Vonna DeArmond (#12 on the sign-up sheet).

*Vonna DeArmond, Plumstead Township, spoke about Karen Smith's swearing-in ceremony, reapproving the November 14th minutes, the solicitor giving legal advice prior to appointment, legal fees, and conflicts of interest. Ms. DeArmond spoke about being approached by Mr. Conn after the last meeting. Ms. DeArmond spoke about Dr. Scanlon's IU contract, salary, social media, shutting schools down and masking during COVID.

Approved the minutes of the December 4, 2023 School Board Meeting.

Did not reapprove the minutes of the November 14, 2023 School Board Meeting.

Heard Superintendent's Report: Acting Superintendent Malone announced that the Central Bucks School District will host a Job Fair for support staff positions at CB South from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. on February 12, 2024 (snow date February 26, 2024).

Reviewed School Board Reports:

Curriculum Committee.

Finance and Facilities Committee.

Bucks County Intermediate Unit.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology.

Approved Business Department Items:

Financial Reports.

Accounts Payable Check Disbursements in the amount of \$3,853,915.66.

Remind101, Inc. Essentials Plan in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Luminare EAP Contract in the amount of \$90,600.00.

SSKW Fees Agreement for district solicitor.

Truck purchase in the amount of \$57,000.00.

Van purchase in the amount of \$43,000.00.

First Student bus drivers.

Staff conferences and workshops in the amount of \$18,643.00.

Technology Pool Counsel in the amount of \$404.00.

Discovery Education Agreement in the amount of \$30,080.75.

Approved Operations Department Items:

Carroll Engineering Professional Services Proposal for Titus ES School Zone Flashing Devices in the amount of \$6,500.00.

Construction Masters Services, LLC Contract for CB South Paving and Running Track Improvements in the amount of \$941,237.00.

2024 Playground Equipment Proposal from General Recreation, Inc. in the amount of \$594,200.00.

Analytical Labs Professional Services Proposal for Water Monitoring Services in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00.

New Britain Bus Garage Diesel Dispenser Replacement Quote from E.O. Habhagger Company, Inc. in the amount of \$57,624.74

Approved Special Education Department Items:

Settlement Agreement 1.9.24 (1) in the amount of \$67,100.00.

Settlement Agreement 1.9.24 (2) in the amount of \$145,000.00.

Addendum to Settlement Agreement 1.9.24 in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Approval of Edison Court, Inc. (Mathom House) Services Agreement.

Approval of IEP Waiver Agreement 1.9.24 (1).

Approved Policy Items:

Continue the Suspension of School Board Policies 109.1, 109.2, 123.3 and 321.

Move School Board Policy 005 to Table for First Read.

Approved Student Field Trips:

CB West Girls and Boys Winter Track: January 14, 2024.

CB West Wrestling: January 19-20, 2024.

CB West Boys Winter Track: February 3, 2024.

CB West Girls Winter Track: February 4, 2024.

Tohickon Ninth-Grade Class: April 22, 2024.

Approved Human Resources Department Items:

Retirements/Resignations/Terminations.

Leaves of Absence.

Appointments.

Assignment Changes.

New Position Approval.

Activities EDRs/Athletics Points.

Elementary Music EDRs.

Elementary Activity EDRs.

Elementary Discretionary EDRs.

Sabbaticals.

Approved Other Action Items:

Confirmation of the Discontinuance of the Appeal in the Redistricting Litigation.

Direct the Solicitor to Take Any Appropriate Action Regarding Dr. Lucabaugh's Purported Separation Agreement.

Appointment of David Conn of Sweet, Stevens, Katz & Williams, LLP as District Solicitor.

Appointment of Dr. James Scanlon as Acting Superintendent for a six-month term effective January 12, 2024.

Staffing Agreement with the Bucks County IU for the provision of Dr. James Scanlon to serve as Acting Superintendent through Educational Staffing Solutions, LLC to the Central Bucks School District with a term ending no later than September 30, 2024.