

**For Immediate Release
May 24, 2017**

Boyertown Area School District

BOARD UNANIMOUSLY APPROVES CONTRACT TO EVALUATE ARCHITECTURAL APPROACHES TO ENHANCING STUDENT PRIVACY

Boyertown, PA – At the May 23, 2017 meeting the Board of Boyertown Area School District (BASD) unanimously approved a proposal by an area architectural firm to study how to possibly enhance student privacy in the high school’s locker and restrooms. The contract, which comes amid a community discussion of how best to accommodate the needs of all students, will initially focus on the high school, but could result in the establishment of a district-wide prototype for existing and future buildings.

Superintendent Richard Faidley said the Hatfield-based firm of KCBA Architects will evaluate the feasibility of modifying existing, multi-user high school facilities to enhance the level of privacy for all students. “This is one case where not being first is a benefit,” commented Dr. Faidley. “So the firm will be able to benefit from best practices, and also work affordably, in its planning and design.” He said the Board’s contract authorized spending less than \$9,000 for what they expect will be a comprehensive conceptual study that could create long term economies of scale.”

BASD has maintained and continues to maintain that its present policies and practices regarding bath and locker rooms accommodate all students and are in compliance with relevant court rulings. However, Dr. Faidley said that while court cases can drag on for many years, the district is receptive to looking at other possible solutions, including those related to architectural design and planning in existing and new structures to address privacy and emotional sensitivities in a diverse education environment.

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“to enable all students to succeed in a changing world”