

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGET WORKSHOP
JANUARY 30, 2018
MEETING MINUTES**

The January 30, 2018, Budget Workshop was convened at 6:30 PM by Mr. Elsier, Finance Committee Chair, at the Education Center.

Everyone participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America and a moment of silence.

The following board members were in attendance:

Clay Breece, Robert Caso, Jill Dennin, Ruth Dierolf, Steven Elsier, Brandon Foose, David Lewis, Christine Neiman, Donna Usavage

Mrs. Adams, Acting Chief Financial Officer, was recommending a Letter of Engagement from the school district's current auditor, Barbacane, Thornton & Company LLP, extending the three year contract for one additional year at the current rate. Mrs. Adams addressed questions and comments from board members on having a different partner on the Letter of Engagement for the extension, what was the fiscal year ending date for the extension, and is this the first extension for the current auditing firm. Based on unanimous board member consensus the Letter of Engagement will be placed on the next board meeting agenda for consideration.

Mr. Major, Information Technology Director, spoke on the following 2018-2019 Information Technology Budget topics:

Overview: 1) Student Programs: a) Information Technology Internship Program and b) CyberPatriot, 2) Computer Distribution, 3) District-wide Student Technology, and 4) Elementary Schools.

Student Program – Information Technology Internship Program: 1) Fourth Year of program, 2) Eight students (5 seniors / 3 juniors), 3) Supplement Information Technology Staff, 4) Under the supervision of staff members work on servers, network, computers, and security areas during the school year, 5) Receive a grade for their participation, 6) Under the supervision of staff members help over the summer with the thousands of computer that need to be turned over and re-imaged, and 7) Only cost is students are paid during the summer months. Mr. Major stated this program not only helps student learning, it helps with the school district's budget as additional employees do not need to be hired.

Student Program – CyberPatriot: 1) Program stated by Air Force Association, 2) Club for students looking for a career in cybersecurity, 3) Fifteen NJROTC students participate, 4) Divided into three teams that compete with students from across the country, and 5) One of the teams will be competing for a spot on Nationals. There is no cost associated with the CyberPatriot program to the school district.

Computer Distribution: 1) Reached a 1:1 ratio of computers to students across the District, 2) School year 2017-2018 lease returns (2,000 computers & 350 Ipads), 3) Senior High 1:1 Initiative Computer Laptops, 4) Middle Schools 1:1 Initiative Computer Laptops, and 5) Elementary 1:1 Initiative Combination of Computer Laptops and Ipads.

Technology Projects for 2018-2019: 1) Replace Data Center UPS, 2) Replace hardware that hosts our virtual server environment, and 3) Replace door access hardware and server.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: 1) Do projects cost include hardware and installation, 2) Annual cost of 1:1 Initiative, 3) Would like to see expectations of computer efficiency in

BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT/ BUDGET WORKSHOP/JANUARY 30, 2018/ MEETING MINUTES

relation to student performance levels, 4) Would like to see student performance levels of other schools districts in Montgomery County and Berks County who have a 1:1 Initiative, 5) Can students opt out of using school computer and use personal computer, 6) Expected life of servers and hardware, 7) Use of computer leases versus purchasing computer, 8) Funding source of 1:1 Initiative, 9) Funding source of projects, 10) Long-term technology strategy, 11) Software applications efficiency monitored, and 12) 1:1 Initiative vital to enhance technology education of students to prepare them for future careers.

Dr. Woodard, Assistant Superintendent Academics, spoke on the following 2018-2019 Curriculum Budget topics:

Objectives: 1) Impact of data on curricular resource decisions and 2) Review of district-wide content area needs.

Three distinct budgets within the 2018-2018 Curriculum Budget: 1) Curriculum and Instruction, 2) Professional Development, and 3) Data and Assessment.

Highlights and Opportunities: 1) Analysis of where significant growth in ELA and math proficiency was demonstrated and 2) Examination of challenges.

Elementary Literacy: Use of Independent Reading Level Assessment and Implementation of Independent Reading Level Assessment for Grades 2 and 3 roll-out district-wide.

Literacy Instruction: Continued focus on vocabulary development in grades K-12.

Study Island: 1) Currently using the software that supports the learning process through engaging and interactive lessons and activities grades 3-6 in math and grades 3-8 ELA,) Considering the elimination of the Study Island in 2018-2019 for the math portion due to implementation of Zearn Math, and 3) Exploring the use of companion software.

Biology: 1) Explore Learning.com being used, 2) Exploring the option of integrating Gizmos into grade 8 science classes in 2018-2019, 3) Team of teachers has been examining new resources, 4) Decision to continue with open source/online resources (CK 12).

Academic and Honors Chemistry – Bubble year of instruction 2018-2019: 1) Two grade level will be enrolled in Chemistry course (grades 10 and 11) and 2) Need to purchase one-year licenses.

Social Studies: Grade 9 social Studies textbook adoption for 2018-2019 school year.

World Language: 2018-2019 – New curriculum to be implemented in level 3 of world languages.

Career Readiness: 2018-2019 ESSA implementation allows for the expansion in use of valid non-academic measures of school success.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: 1) Appreciation of careful implementation of new programs, 2) Is there grant funding for Chemistry, and 3) Has an analysis been done for the use of actual textbooks versus online textbook licensing that could help with budgeting.

Public Comment:

Michelle Barrett, parent, asked if there are any State and/or Federal educational standards or guidelines on social matters that a teacher can or cannot include in reading materials for grades K-12. Ms. Barrett does not believe in “banning” reading materials. Dr. Woodard stated the State only makes suggestions and does not restrict any social matters. Mr. Krem noted it is at the discretion of the professional staff to determine what social matters are presented to students. Ms. Barrett fully supports the computer 1:1 Initiative.

BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT/ BUDGET WORKSHOP/JANUARY 30, 2018/ MEETING MINUTES

No Committee Comment.

Due to time constraint the 2018-2019 Special Education Budget scheduled for this evening will be rescheduled to be presented at a future date.

Public Meeting Announcements:

January 30, 2018	Facilities Committee	Education Center	7:30 PM
February 6, 2018	Budget Workshop	Education Center	6:30 PM
February 13, 2018	Board of School Directors	Education Center	6:30 PM
February 27, 2018	Board of School Directors	Colebrookdale Elementary	6:30 PM

There being no other business for consideration the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM moved by Mr. Foose, second by Mr. Breece.