

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUDGET WORKSHOP
FEBRUARY 6, 2018
MEETING MINUTES**

The February 6, 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

Berks Career and Technology Center (BCTC): Mrs. Adams, Acting Chief Financial Officer, presented the Berks Career and Technology Center 2018-2019 Preliminary Budget. Mrs. Adams shared the Boyertown Area School District Proportionate share is 16.585% which is \$2,179,059.00 of the total budget. The member share was calculated based on a three-year average number of students attending BCTC. The member share also includes costs to fund the Five-Year Capital Projects Plan. Based on unanimous board member consensus the Berks Career and Technology Center 2018-2019 Preliminary Budget will be placed on the next board meeting agenda for consideration.

Mrs. Adams presented the following Boyertown Area School District 2018-2019 General Fund Budget information:

Factors Contributing to Deficit of (\$5,983,697): 1) Salary Increase, 2) Medical Benefits Increase, 3) Net PSERS Increase, 4) Net Social Security Increase, 5) Net Transportation Increase, 6) Special Education Increase, 7) Purchased Professional and Other Services, 8) Net Impact of EIT Elimination, 9) Reduction of Rental Subsidy, 10) Reduction of PSERS Fund Balance, 11) Transfer to Capital Projects, and 12) Miscellaneous Factors.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: 1) How were the salary increase, medical benefits increase, and PSERS increase determined, 2) Different ways to present budget information, 3) Rental Subsidy, 4) State budget impact, and 5) Is transportation for Special Education and schools outside of the school district included in increase.

Information Technology Budget Comparison Information: 1) 2016-2017 Actual Budget, 2) 2017-2018 Approved Budget, and 3) 2018-2019 Projected Budget.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: Professional and Other Services increase.

Curriculum & Instruction, Professional Development, and Data & Assessment Budget Comparison Information: 1) 2016-2017 Actual Budget, 2) 2017-2018 Approved Budget, and 3) 2018-2019 Projected Budget.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: 1) Why has amount of reduction changed from January 30, 2018 figures, 2) Budget is a work in progress until approved, and 3) Are course offerings versus student participation reviewed.

Special Education Budget Comparison Information: 1) 2016-2017 Actual Budget, 2) 2017-2018 Approved Budget, and 3) 2018-2019 Projected Budget

General Fund Budget Information: 1) 2017-2018 Approved Budget, 2) 2018-2019 Projected Budget, 3) Five-year budget projection 2018-2018 through 2022-2023, 4) How is millage calculated, 5) BASD Act 1 Index. Based on unanimous board member consensus the 2018-2019 General Fund Preliminary Budget will be placed on the next board meeting agenda for consideration.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: 1) Tax increase impact based on assessment value, 2) Deficit amount, 3) Average Assessment Value, 4) Total Assessment Value and Real Estate Tax Value for entire school district, 5) Per Pupil Cost, 6) Reduction of student activity fee, 7) Five year budget projection data and taxpayer impact, 8) Non-mandated program costs, 9) School building utilization / consolidation / redistricting and taking action timelines, 10) Tough decisions on possible cuts, and 11) Long-term strategic planning.

Mrs. Torchia, Assistant Superintendent Operations, shared the following Special Education information: 1) Definition of Special Education, 2) Disability Categories 3) Learning Disability, 4) Other Health Impairment, 5) Speech or Language Impairment, 6) Intellectual Disability, 7) Multiple Disabilities, 8) Autism, 9) Emotional Disturbance, 10) Special Education Budget and Enrollment History {actual and projected}, 11) Driving Factors of Increased Budget, 12) What we have control over for budget, 13) What we do not have control over, 14) Services Offered, and 15) Support Caseloads/Staffing.

Discussion/Questions/Comments by board members: 1) Cyber Charter School costs and State Legislation, 2) How are other school districts coping/dealing with Special Education costs, 3) Data on progression of students, 4) Importance of providing programs, and 5) Staffing needs.

Public Comment:

Michele Barrett asked board members to take into consideration when they are speaking the public is watching and listening. Board members need to be respectful in their comments of all students.

Barbara Furman said the school district has been fiscally responsible. Ms. Furman stated the current standard/status of the quality education provided in Boyertown needs to be maintained. Ms. Furman told board members to attend school events and see the success of public education in Boyertown. Ms. Furman stated the school district and the community need to work together.

Linda Curry asked if Mrs. Torchia's presentation was going to be posted on the school district website. Ms. Curry wanted to know if the school district was still receiving funds from the ACCESS program and, if yes, what was the amount.

No Committee Comment.

Public Meeting Announcements:

February 13, 2018	Board of School Directors	Education Center	6:30 PM
February 20, 2018	Policy Committee	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 8:57 PM moved by Mr. Caso, second by Mr. Lewis.