

BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
MAY 29, 2012
EDUCATION CENTER
6:30 p.m.

Board members in attendance: Mrs. Hartford (chairperson), Mrs. Semmens, Mrs. Usavage, Dr. Christman (6:37 p.m.), Mr. Elsier (6:37 p.m.), Mr. Crossley (6:39 p.m.)

Administrators in attendance: Dr. Betts, Dr. Beerer, Mr. Szablowski, Mr. Katch, Dr. Weller

Members of the public in attendance: 3

Mrs. Hartford called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

We pledged allegiance to the flag and observed a moment of silence.

There was no public comment.

Dr. Betts explained that the Administration is continuing to work on the budget.

Discussion Items:

Website Improvements (Dr. Beerer and Mr. Major)

Dr. Beerer and Mr. Major discussed working with School Wires to redesign our website. There is a cost associated with this redesign. We discussed moving in this direction and using website advertising to offset the costs. More information will be shared with the Board as we negotiate a contract with SchoolWires. Our intention is to have an item on the June 5th board agenda if we can negotiate a reasonable contract with SchoolWires. Dr. Betts indicated that we would update the Board in the packet.

Advertising Status

Mr. Szablowski explained that we only have one vendor, School Media Marketing headed by Mr. Jim Bozzini, who is interested in helping us solicit advertising. Administration recommended proceeding with this group. School Media Marketing will get 20% from the advertising. The Board indicated they did not want a three-year contract, however. There was discussion about putting an incentive in the contract to explain that if a certain dollar amount was exceeded, then the contract would be extended. There was board support to move forward with placing this item on the board agenda for June 5th.

2012-13 Food Service Budget and BCTC Contract

Mr. Szablowski explained that this budget now includes a pay freeze and a \$.10 increase in lunches. He also explained to new board members that BCTC gets the credit for the student lunches they serve.

April Budget Comparison

We looked at the current budget and determined that our finances look better this year than they did this time last year. This will provide us with some funds to add to our PSERS account.

2012-13 Budget Update

Mr. Szablowski provided a 2012-13 budget update. He shared positive news that there is a minimal increase in county property assessments. The current average millage rate increase is 2.35%.

Future Budget Projections

We reviewed the future budget projections to see what the next few years may hold for tax increases.

Property Tax Relief

We referred to discussions on this topic previously in the meeting.

Health Care Update

Mr. Szablowski shared updates from the district's meeting with Banyan Consulting. These updates include:

- A survey on wellness that was administered to the district
- The status of our self-insurance, saving on average \$100,000 per month
- Information on providers and hospitals that have proven successful for our employees

Washington Township Exoneration Request

The Board discussed some property tax exoneration requests from Washington Township. Mr. Szablowski explained that it's a small amount of money and he recommends accepting the request. There was discussion about waiting on this request until the county exonerates them.

Committee Discussion

Mr. Crossley thanked Dave Szablowski for his leadership. There was agreement from the board committee.

Public Comment

Mrs. Curry asked for copies of April's budget comparison. She also asked questions about the Washington Township exoneration.

Mrs. Hartford announced that there would be an executive session for personnel after the meeting.

Mrs. Hartford adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m