

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE
APRIL 16, 2013
MINUTES**

Mrs. Hartford called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Education Center board room.

Members in attendance: Mrs. Hartford, Dr. Christman (6:59), Mr. Crossley, Mrs. Dierolf, Mr. Elsier, Mr. Nichols, Mrs. Semmens, Mrs. Usavage
Administration: Mr. Scoboria, Mr. Szablowski

Public: 7

Everyone participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence

There was no public comment.

The meeting minutes of the April 4, 2013 Finance Committee meeting were approved.

Mr. Szablowski introduced Dr. Robert Lees, BCTC Executive Director and Mr. John Reedy, BCTC Business Manager, who made a presentation regarding the proposed 2013-2014 BCTC Budget, which will be considered by the School Board at the April 23, 2013 Board Meeting. There were questions and comments from several committee members about the BCTC program with most being very complimentary of the education students receive. The District's tuition calculation was explained as a three year proration based on the number of BASD students attending the school. With participation in the BCTC programs increasing, the three year proration produces a tuition increase in excess of 7% when the average tuition increase for Berks county schools is approximately 2.8%. All of the increased expenditures in the BCTC budget are attributed to salaries and benefits even though there is a projected freeze of professional salaries for 2013-2014. The committee thanked Dr. Lees and Mr. Reedy for attending the meeting.

Mr. Szablowski gave an update on the 2013-2014 Budget, which will be considered as the Final Proposed on April 23, 2013. The budget changes were explained as the preliminary budget used the Governor's proposed PSERS limits on contributions, while Mr. Szablowski received direction from PASBO that the worst case scenario of the certified contribution rate of 16.93% be used in calculating the PSERS expense for 2013-2014. The proposed millage change in

the Final Proposed is almost identical to the Preliminary Budget that was adopted in February even with the higher contribution rate due to the fact that the Budget contains the use of the committed fund balance in the amount of \$800,000. Mr. Szablowski shared information detailing the growth of assessed property values in both Berks and Montgomery Counties, with the Montgomery County assessment steadily growing while Berks properties are not growing at the same pace. Mr. Szablowski explained the effect that this has on the millage rate through the tax equalization process.

Mrs. Hartford with the assistance of Mr. Szablowski, distributed information regarding how school district finances are reported covering many basics of financial statements and details on various terminology used in reporting the District's fiscal performance. A bound book was distributed to the Committee members, who expressed their appreciation to Mrs. Hartford for accumulating the informational document.

There was a comment about exploring the possibility of allowing students to opt out of district provided transportation as a way to save transportation expenditures. The solicitor will need to provide an opinion on this suggestion which has been utilized in other school districts. There was also a request to look into setting up "hubs" for non-public student transportation.

Mrs. Linda Curry commented on the various presentations, agendas and minutes and their availability on the District website.

Announcements

April 23, 2013	Final Proposed Budget	Board of School Directors Meeting Pine Forge Elementary – 7:00 PM
May 7, 2013	Finance Committee	Ed Center Board Room – 6:30 PM
May 21, 2013	Finance Committee	Ed Center Board Room – 6:30 PM
June 4, 2013	Final Budget Adoption	Board of School Directors Meeting Education Center – 7:00 PM

Mrs. Hartford adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.