

BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Boyertown, Pennsylvania
www.boyertownasd.org
Finance Committee Meeting
October 15, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Hartford, Finance Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:19 pm in the Education Center Board Room.

Members attending: Mrs. Dierolf, Mr. Elsier, Mrs. Hartford, Mr. Nichols, Mrs. Semmens, Mrs. Usavage

Administration: Dr. Faidley, Mr. Scoboria, Mr. Szablowski,

Members of the Public: 5

Mr. Mark Drabinsky, 414 Rhoads Ave., Boyertown, requested permission to videotape the meeting.

Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of silence

Public Comment

Mrs. Curry commented on HB76/SB76 School Real Estate Property Tax Elimination, encouraging the committee to review the legislation.

The minutes from the committee meeting of 10/1/13 were moved and seconded. The minutes were adopted unanimously.

Mr. Szablowski reviewed documents in support of a new scholarship named the Margareta R. Lamb Scholarship. There was discussion on the proposed scholarship. The committee recommended the scholarship be placed on the next agenda for School Board action.

The legislation HB76/SB76 proposing to eliminate the School District Property Tax was reviewed. Mr. Szablowski distributed a document to the committee containing talking points as to why the elimination of this major revenue source would severely affect the District's finances and ultimately the education of children. Mr. Szablowski referred to a report by the Independent Fiscal Office (IFO). The report projects that the first year of the tax elimination would be \$3 million short of neutral, but in the

fourth year the deficit created would grow to over \$1 billion. There was much discussion on the topic.

The 2014-2015 Budget Development process has begun with building and department meeting scheduled for later in October. The first budget meeting will be occur at the November 19, 2013 Finance Committee meeting with subsequent meetings established for December 17, January 7, 2014, January 21, 2014 and February 4th. The preliminary budget vote is scheduled for February 11, 2014.

Public Comment Period #2

Mrs. Curry discussed the impact of school property taxes not only on senior citizens but on young homeowners as well. Mrs. Curry suggested a Legislator's Forum might be a good idea to discuss the topic.

Mrs. Hartford announced the following meetings:

October 22 2013 Personnel Committee, Washington Elementary, 6:00 p.m.

October 22, 2013 Board of School Directors, Washington Elementary, 7:00 p.m.

November 6, 2013 Facilities Committee, Education Center, 6:00 p.m.

November 6, 2013 Finance Committee, Education Center, 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Dierolf moved the adjournment of the meeting, second by Mr. Elsier. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.