

CHARTIERS VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP/SPECIAL ACTION MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES/DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ROOM

October 10, 2017

1.0 Meeting Opening

A. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Charters Valley Board of School Directors was called to order at 6:53 p.m. by Mrs. Patel in the District Assembly Room.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

Present

Mrs. Alka Patel, Vice President
Mrs. Sandy Zeleznik
(Left meeting at 8:30)
Mr. Eric Kraemer
Mr. Mark Kuczinski
Mr. Robert Kearney
Mrs. Julie Murphy
(Via Phone)
Mr. Jeff Choura

Also Present

Mr. Scott Seltzer, Interim Superintendent
Dr. Jillian Bichsel, Director of Secondary
Education
Mr. Don Palmer, Solicitor

Absent

Mr. Tony Mazzarini

D. Public Comments

None

E. Recognitions

None

2.0 Superintendent's Reports/Presentations

2.1 Parkway Presentation – Dr. Darby Copeland

Dr. Copeland said that we send about 85 of our children to Parkway. Stating that only 33% of today's jobs require a 4-year degree and that 51% of young adults do not earn a college degree by age 24. Parkway's 14 career majors focus on opportunity occupations and priority occupations while introducing salary levels for these careers. These are the jobs and career paths that can't be outsourced.

Mr. Snedeker talked about the school's Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation Therapy Technology Program stating that enrollment has doubled in its second year and that it has been a huge success. The latest program is the HVAC program and the teacher we hired is a Parkway grad. Mr. Snedeker also said that we are the largest CTC in Allegheny County,

Our restaurant is open two days a week to the public, Tuesdays and Wednesday for 7 dollars, all you can eat. Cosmetology is open two days a week at an extremely reduced rate. Auto technology, we bring in lab work to give the students experience. Vet tech is open 3 days a week, we have doggy day care, grooming, nail trimming, tooth brushing etc., it gives the students an opportunity to deal with different animals.

Mr. McGivern discussed the academic classes offered by Parkway to enable students to participate in the programs at Parkway. There is a 98% graduation rate and a 90 % NOCTI pass rate. We're very proud of that rate, it's well above the state average. We have a 91% attendance rate, we encourage this with a rewards program and we give some pretty nice prizes away. Chartiers Valley has 85 students that are coming to Parkway. Those students earned 107 Portable Industry Certifications in the 16/17 school year, which allows them to go directly into the industry or to be ahead of other students when entering college or trade school.

Mrs. Patel asked about the work in Harrisburg in terms of the NOCTI scores and Keystones.

Mr. Snedeker said, recent legislation passed that if students do not pass the Keystones, the NOCTI can give them a pass with no harm to the districts. There were 4 or 5 of us that met with the Speaker of the House and explained that kids were being held back, so we wrote a bill and got it through this year. There is another bill out there right now that eliminates Keystones and in lieu of that, the SAT's or NOCTI will be used. We are a supporter of that. We make a trip to Harrisburg once a year to try and get funding for our school.

Mrs. Patel asked about a program that is not just for CTC students

Mr. Snedeker said, the Energy Innovation Center which is solving real world problems for business and industry partners. Some of these projects are coming full circle now and we are getting funding. It is encouraging students in critical thinking.

The board discussed the timeline in which our students are exposed to Parkway.

2.2 Discuss Index Report

Mr. Seltzer shared PDE's Index Report comparing our district to others, detailing the percentage by which districts are permitted to raise taxes for the 2018-2019 school year. He said that we are listed at 2.4 % and that our district finance consultant believed that number to be low and she would be investigating that further. Mr. Kuczinski is researching what our millage rates have been, going back to 2010.

Mr. Seltzer also addressed rumors and realities of the district's current budget situation. There were concerns, especially in the High School that there weren't enough computers for the students. Speaking with the Principal, there are computers available for every student that needs one. They are doing group projects right now, so there are two students to a computer. There have also been concerns about art supplies, we do have art supplies. Our art budget has been reduced, but what our faculty is doing is looking at what we have in surplus. What we are doing is just being a little more fiscally responsible with our materials. The building principals are open to buying materials for specific projects if their budgets permit. We want faculty to look at what they have in surplus before we replenish.

Mrs. Patel asked at what point they would come to the board.

Mr. Seltzer said that if the purchase is outside their budget, the Principal would have to petition the board for that cost.

Mrs. Murphy stated that there have been a lot of concerns brought to her attention concerning the budget, this year more than any other and wondered how aware the teachers were of this process.

Mr. Seltzer said that this is standard practice. It has always been the case if a teacher needs something that they don't have; they go to their building principal. The budget for art supplies was at \$30,000.00, I took that to our consultant and she said that seemed high for one building. At one time things could be purchased and not questioned; now purchases are being questioned so that we are more fiscally responsible.

Ms. Hopp said that they are looking at supplies in all areas. A few years ago, a classroom teacher at the Primary School might have received \$150 in supply money, and this year received \$50. Their seeing a reduction in their amount of money, so they come to the principal and we look at, can we take it from here or we can get it for free from there?

Mrs. Patel asked if there has been an increase of requests.

Mrs. Hopp said there had been a slight increase.

Mrs. Murphy expressed her concerns with the significant budget decrease in that department.

Mr. Seltzer said that all departments have had a decrease. What we've found is that they were just buying items to buy and store them instead of utilizing their surplus. If money is needed for a particular project, the money is found for that project.

Mrs. Patel expressed concerns about whether the budget decrease was affecting academics.

Mr. Seltzer said at this point, that has not been the case. But looking forward, we can't foresee that. There hasn't been a point so far that a teacher has been denied

Mr. Kuczinski said, we should have had these conversations 4 or 5 months ago when we were talking about the budget and not raising taxes. We knew this was coming. It is what it is right now, going forward, we need to get down to the decision makers, principal and teachers, and let them say here's what we need in our building. At that point you can hold everyone responsible, this is what you put in for, this is what was agreed upon, obviously there will be a review process, but these are the rules you go by.

Mr. Seltzer said, what is beneficial to us is our consultant has met with the building principals and the directors for them to explain what that budget system was. She is also talking about a meeting with all of them, principals and teachers, who are on the ground floor, and asking, what they need.

Mrs. Patel said that she and Mr. Seltzer discussed having Mrs. Cordisco come to a meeting to discuss her findings.

3.0 Consent Agenda

None

4.0 Action/Discussion

4.1 Motion to approve Human Resource Report.

Mrs. Patel said that she is sorry to see Mrs. Droney go. Her commitment and her work and everything she has put forth for this district is very much appreciated and will be missed. It's sad to see her go along with the other individuals resigning.

Motion to approve item 4.1 listed above.

MOVED by Mr. Kuczinski, seconded by Mr. Kraemer.

On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

4.2 Monthly Construction Report – PJ Dick.

Mr. Day said that the last month has been back to construction as usual. The schedule updates will be here by October 1st, so we will have them here by the end of the week as promised. The Middle Schools current status; the drywall and finishing are ongoing and paint is going up in various areas. The casework delivery is anticipated next week and the bridge connector elevator is ongoing. The kitchen equipment installation is scheduled to start Monday and the painting of the gym walls is nearing completion with the gym equipment delivery anticipated next week. The mechanical room, startup and controls, and balancing of the system is to start next week. Outside, the site concrete curb and sidewalk is ongoing, the asphalt paving is anticipated by the end of October, and the storm water detention tank work has been completed.

Mrs. Patel asked when Phase 1A would be completed.

Mr. Day said it may take a couple months. The contractors have been working on a second shift since the beginning of the school year and they are chipping away at it. We will be checking in on that in November.

Mrs. Patel asked about when the kitchen would be done.

Mr. Day said they were going to try and turn the kitchen over before December.

Mrs. Patel talked about the concerns being expressed to her about the dust in the building and if the air quality was being monitored.

Mr. Seltzer said that it had been very dry, but the custodians are keeping up with it and they are monitoring the air quality and have had no concerns.

Mr. Day said in the High School auditorium, the AHU's are operational and the lights were completed today. The punch list in the performing arts wing is 95% complete and in the Tech Ed and DMC the second shift is working on that punch list. The learning tower foundations and the utility tunnel waterproofing are the two major activities happening right now.

Mrs. Patel asked about items 4.3 and 4.4, stating that these are new reports and she thinks it would be helpful if Mrs. Cordisco was here to go over this because she had a couple questions about the numbers.

Mr. Seltzer said this is an informational report, not to be voted on and we can have Mrs. Cordisco come in and discuss it. Previously we did not have a soft cost budget; we did not put a dollar amount to that. Mrs. Cordisco's suggestion was, let's put a dollar amount to that, realizing that we may go over that, but let's have a ball park figure.

4.3 Monthly Pay App Summary.

4.4 Construction Project Report – Costs.

4.5 Motion to approve Change Order #01 – Merit Electrical – Middle School, for an add of \$4,777.00.

4.6 Motion to approve Change Order #03 – Merit Electrical Group, High School, for an add of \$11,932.00.

Mrs. Patel asked for some background on these.

Mr. Seltzer said that items 4.5 and 4.6 have already been approved, there were some errors on the agenda and language that needed to be cleaned up, it's in my report, so they've already been approved, we're just approving the corrections.

**Motion to approve items 4.5 and 4.6 listed above.
MOVED by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mr. Choura.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

4.7 Motion to approve and ratify Enders Plumbing and Heating HS Change Order #02 as listed for an add of \$16,804.00.

Mr. Day said that these are fairly old and that they needed to be processed for the contractor. The last item, being the largest is for work done this summer for the unforeseen conditional way the domestic water went into the high school basketball locker rooms and the auxiliary gym locker rooms. They had to reroute piping and insulation to get them on line. There are also a few credits with this change order.

Mr. Day was asked why this was unforeseen and he responded that these were not included in the original contractor drawings.

Motion to approve item 4.7 listed above.
MOVED by Mr. Kraemer, seconded by Mr. Kuczinski.
On a voice vote, the motion passed 6-1.

- 4.8 Motion to and ratify Enders Plumbing and Heating HS Change Order #03 as listed for an add of \$16,271.00.

Mr. Day said that a lot of these were unforeseen conditions from this past summer. They had to readdress and reconnect various domestic water lines, natural gas and so forth.

Mrs. Patel asked if these were also missed drawings.

Mr. Day said they were not on the drawings.

Mrs. Patel asked if it's a case that we could go back and get revised drawings to avoid some of these in the future and what's in the pipeline that you are aware of that may be related to the tunnels.

Mr. Day said that these were all issues from the tunnels and there is always some risk, but we are getting closer to getting through these utility conflicts. It is not included in my report but was during the Wednesday phone conference, I have estimated about \$85,000.00.

Motion to approve item 4.8 listed above.
MOVED by Mr. Kraemer, seconded by Mr. Kearney.
On a voice vote, the motion passed 6-1.

- 4.9 Motion to approve Lugaila Mechanical Change Order #03 as listed for an add of \$14,907.00.

Mr. Day said this was very similar to the one we just talked about. This really deals with duct work. When the building was torn away, it was hanging there, we had to put some of it back, not all of it. There were three main runs we had to install. The other is for existing equipment that had to be moved. It could be construed as owner generated/slash error, so we could split it in half.

Mrs. Patel asked Mr. Day if he was going to modify this document, stating that he was on the hook and it would be going on the minutes that way.

Mr. Day said that he would keep track.

Motion to approve item 4.9 listed above as modified by Mr. Day for an add of \$14,907.00.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Kuczinski.
On a voice vote, the motion passed 6-1.

- 4.10 Motion to approve Merit Electrical Group High School Change Order #06 as listed for an add of \$11,549.00.

Mr. Day said there were a variety of things on this, some sensors that were missed, front drive lighting etc. During the gas line and water line installation, they came up the front drive, they dug through the feeds of those lights that were not shown on any drawing. Downstairs in the pool filter room there is a variety of conduit circuits that run through the area that got demolished that were not on the drawings, so that's an example of what's happening down there. It was the same issue in the basement service area.

Motion to approve item 4.10 listed above.

MOVED by Mrs. Zeleznik, seconded by Mr. Kuczinski.

On a voice vote, the motion passed 6-1.

- 4.11 Motion to approve Merit Electrical Group High School Change Order #07 as listed for an add of \$8,468.00.

Mr. Day said the item 3 and 4, he was really worried about before, but Merit did a nice job of minimizing the cost. Initially I was thinking the cost would be around \$25,000.00. The existing Tech Ed equipment had to be completely rewired and additionally it was for some of those pieces that got moved. During the inspection of the elevator, a couple things had to be added during that inspection and Merit was instructed to do it. In the construction trailer area, they were digging up for the detention tank and didn't have any idea the leads were there. There was a request from Collier and the fire inspector to put a panel by door 9 by the cafeteria and number 5, two add circuits for the dust collector.

Motion to approve item 4.11 listed above.

MOVED by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Kuczinski.

On a voice vote, the motion passed 5-1.

- 4.12 Motion to approve Rycon Construction Change Order #12 as listed for an add of \$19,465.00.

Mr. Day said there were a variety of items and a handful of credits. Items 1 through 3, there was scope change to the floor polishing, field condition, behind the kitchen, a wall was put there to separate the maintenance area from the food court area, error and omission between the curtain wall and walkway and some masonry work. There were also some temporary railings that needed to be built. The ceiling in the DMC had to be lowered for some mechanical work and we had to build a bulkhead.

Motion to approve item 4.12 listed above.

MOVED by Mr. Kuczinski, seconded by Mr. Kraemer.

On a voice vote, the motion passed 5-1.

- 4.13 Motion to approve Mucci Construction Change Order #12 as listed for an add of \$19,388.00.

Mr. Day said the handicap access on the sidewalks was missed in the drawings, and had to be added. Items 2-5 are over excavation and backfill, all unforeseen. There was a need to relocate an exhaust fan to the top of the elevator shaft and we had to replace the louvers with mesh to create airflow.

Motion to approve item 4.13 listed above.
MOVED by Mr. Kuczinski, seconded by Mr. Kearney.
On a voice vote, the motion passed 5-1.

- 4.14 Motion to approve Mucci Construction Change Order #13 as listed for an add of \$17,612.00.

Mr. Day said that most of these were error and omissions from Mucci and some structural steel needed modified. The terrace railing needed some redesign and we added the junction box relay. On the southeast corner of the MS, the foundation was exposed so it was covered with a concrete curb. There was also a change in the gym equipment controller.

Mrs. Patel asked about the modification for the RFI.

Mr. Day said the constructural steel drawings conflicted with how the architectural drawings showed them and some angles had to be modified for architectural design.

Mrs. Patel asked Mr. Day if IKM was responsible for item 5.

Mr. Day said they were.

Mrs. Patel thanked Mr. Day.

5.0 Public Comment

None

6.0 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.
MOVED by Mr. Kearney, Seconded by Mr. Choura.
On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Wiseman
Acting Board Secretary.