SPECIAL BOARD WORKSHOP
Saturday, April 12, 2008

A special Board workshop was held on Saturday, April 12, 2008 at 8:30 AM in the library of the Pottstown Middle School. The following were in attendance: President, Mr. Richard Huss, Vice President, Mrs. Michele Pargeon, Treasurer, Mr. Robert Hartman, Board members, Mr. Edwin Edwards, Mrs. Amy Francis, Mr. Dennis Wausnock, Mr. Nat White, Mrs. Julia Wilson, and Mrs. Judyth Zahora; Superintendent of Schools, Mr. David Krem, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Reed Lindley, Director of Education and Human Resources, Dr. Jeffrey Sparagana, Business Administrator, Mrs. Linda Adams, Director of Community Relations, Mr. John Armato, Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis, Federation Representative, Mr. Robert Decker, Mr. Hal Hart and Mr. Douglas ? from Crabtree Rohrbaugh.

Mr. Kalis started the meeting with an introduction of the ground rules for the special board workshop which he reminded attendees that they were only to ask questions pertaining to information shared and that discussion on the direction the school board would like to go shall not be permitted.

Dr. Lindley shared information regarding curriculum and professional staff development and how these areas need to be considered before moving forward on the possibility of renovating or new construction for our elementary buildings.

Dr. Sparagana showed a Power Point presentation which reviewed in detail the advantages of a commitment to Early Childhood Education and gave the administration's recommendations in each area of concern. He asked the Board on the administrations behave to carefully consider the information shared today and to take under consideration the proposed recommendations.

Mr. Krem continued the Power Point presentation on behalf of Mrs. Pamela Bateson, Director of Special Education and Student Services, in her absence. Mr. Krem reviewed how Special Education needs will impact in doing what is best for our students. He asked the Board to take into consideration the needs of Special Education students and how it will impact the planning of needs for each of the elementary buildings. He shared statistics and reports that show the benefits of continuing to facilitate special education in the Pottstown School District.

Mr. Krem gave an overview of the Final Report on Superintendent's Commission on Redistricting and explained the importance of this commission. He shared who was involved in preparing this report and he asked the Board to consider this information when evaluating what is in the best interest of the community members, faculty, staff, students and parents of the Pottstown School District.

Dr. Sparagana explained in detail the different facility options necessary to meet the education needs of students in the Pottstown School District. He recommended that the

Board come to agreement on the suggested option recommended by the administrative team, regarding what is they feel will best meet the education needs of all Pottstown School District's students.

Mrs. Adams reviewed the latest feasibility study and the financial estimates with member's presents. Mr. Hart explained in detail what Crabtree Rohrbaugh had given to the district in year's past and current numbers regarding estimated costs. Mr. Rohrbaugh discussed the information provided by the Save Our Land, Save Our Towns case study from the perspective of what information they were asked to provide and why it differs from their original feasibility study and the assumptions used in both scenarios.

Mr. Hart explained the sequence of the Plan-Con process and gave specific details of what the Board could expect if they choose to move forward with plans to renovate or have new construction for the elementary buildings.

The meeting ended with questions and answers regarding the information given at today's meeting. All attendees were very pleased with the accomplishments of this important meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

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Linda S. Adams, Secretary