POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
POTTSTOWN PA

MINUTES OF BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING
JULY 5, 2011

The Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District held a Board Workshop on Tuesday, July 5, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the 2nd Floor LGI room of the Pottstown Middle School with President Richard C. Huss presiding. The following Board members were present: Ms. Valerie Harris, Mr. Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Michele Pargeon, Mrs. Polly Weand, Mr. Nat White, Mrs. Julia Wilson, Mr. Dennis Wausnock. Also present were: Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Reed Lindley; Business Administrator, Mrs. Linda S. Adams; a member of the local press and interested citizens. The following members of the Board President's Task Force were also present: Mr. James Bush, Mr. Roger Eppeheimer, Mr. Aram Ecker, Mrs. Danielle Butterfield, Mrs. Kelly DeBlase, Mr. Howard Jones, Mrs. Kay Doughtery, Mrs. Kelli Wolfel, Ms. Leslie Stillings, Mr. Chester Pish, Mrs. Mandy Wampole and Mr. David Renn andMrs. Kim Stillwell

WELCOME AND MISSION

Mr. Huss welcomed everyone. He reviewed Board Workshop Agenda and stated that this was a Board Workshop for the purpose of listening to and discussing the Board President's Task Force on Facilities recommendation. There will be no Hearing from the Patrons of the Schools. The public will have an opportunity to speak at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 7, 2011. Mr. Huss asked all the Board Members to keep "open minds" to the information being presented by Mr. Bush, Chairperson for the Task Force on Facilities. Mr. Huss reviewed the Mission Statement as presented in the meeting packet.

PROCESS

Mr. Bush shared a Power Point presentation on the Task Force process. The process consisted of two phases. Phase I of the process focused on fact finding. The Task Force members visited all the district buildings, identifying the needs of each building, the current and projected enrollments for each grade and the percentage of students bused and students that walk to school. Phase II centered on forming options and a recommendation. The Task Force members reviewed previous options and studies including current proposals presented to the School Board and the Administration. Other information reviewed and discuss by the Task Force included a community survey, a school district survey, school zone maps, cost estimates and savings for various options. Mr. Bush presented to the Board the Task Force's recommendation on facilities including an explanation of the vote process and results for each option. The Board President's Task Force on

Facilities by a majority vote recommended the district go from a 5 elementary to a 3 elementary school (Barth, Edgewood and Lincoln) with a grade configuration of Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5. Mr. Bush thanked the members of the Task Force for giving up their time to attend each meeting. He expressed his appreciation to the Task Force members for their commitment and working together in a professional manner.

After Mr. Bush's presentation, there was discussion by members of the Board regarding the 3 school recommendation.

Mr. White asked if the Task Force had researched other small districts with free lunch programs. Mr. Bush stated that Dr. Sparagana had provided information to the Task Force at the May 3 meeting. Mr. White stated that the benefits of a small district with neighborhood schools outweighs the $15/$30 a month tax increase.

Mr. Hylton asked is there was a floor plan for the 3 school recommendation and a chart showing the square feet being added and how the cost was developed. Mr. Bush explained that the Task Force's goal was to determine the needs of the district. It would be the responsibility of the Board to work with the architects once the Board determines the direction they will pursue.

Mr. Hartman stated that it would not be in the best interest of the district and taxpayers to spend money on developing a floor plan prior to the Board's decision.

Mr. Hylton thanked the Task Force members for the time and effort they put into the process. He wanted the Task Force members to know that he has followed the process and looked at all the information. He talked about his affiliations with various organizations supporting walk-able neighborhood schools. Mr. Hylton stated that he and all the Board Members will take what the Task Force has submitted under due diligence and that it is the Board's intention to do right by the community.

Mr. Bush asked the Task Force members who were present to stand and be recognized.

Mr. Huss thanked Mr. Bush and the Task Force Members for their many hours of work. He asked the Board Members to review the Task Force information. The Board will discuss recommendation at the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 7, 2011 and to have a vote on the recommendation at the Regular Board meeting on July 21, 2011.

Linda S. Adams

Linda S. Adams, Board Secretary