

COCALICO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Denver, PA

A special meeting of the Cocalico School Board was called to order on Monday, March 5, 2018 by the Treasurer, Mr. Richard Brenner, who welcomed all those in attendance.

Board Members Present

Richard Brenner
Juanita Fox

Douglas Graybill
Randall Renninger

Brett Buckwalter
Desiree Wagner

Administrators Present

Dr. Ella Musser
Sherri Stull

Dr. Stephen Melnyk

Dr. Nathan Van Deusen

Guests Present

Dr. Kent Sweigart

Lesley Stricker

Mr. Brenner called the meeting to order and then turned the meeting over to Dr. Ella Musser, Superintendent, who introduced Dr. Nathan Van Deusen, Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education and Dr. Kent Sweigart, Director of Technology.

Dr. Van Deusen reviewed the process he and Dr. Sweigart utilized to evaluate the student online registration systems of three different vendors. He also explained the student registration structure currently in place at each of the school buildings. After careful analysis, Dr. Van Deusen and Dr. Sweigart are recommending Ecollect, a platform from AccelaSchool that works in conjunction with PowerSchool, the District's current electronic student management system. Dr. Sweigart commented that the online system would save time and paper/envelope/postage costs, and would also eliminate the need to prepare registration packets in advance. He added that any data collection needs, such as athletics sign-ups, could be handled through the online system as well. The annual cost of AccelaSchool is \$8,860.00.

Dr. Musser introduced Dr. Stephen Melnyk, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Education, who explained the rationale behind purchasing staff laptops, desk computers, and iPads this year rather than waiting until next year. Doing so would provide time to initialize the machines and provide training before school lets out so professional staff can familiarize themselves with the new devices over the summer months. Dr. Sweigart shared that the order would include 257 laptops/computers and 8 iPads totaling \$265,974.00. Funds had already been set aside for the purchase. Current machines are approximately six years old.

Dr. Musser, Mrs. Sherri Stull, Business Manager, and Mrs. Lesley Stricker, Assistant Business Manager, presented the first draft of the Cocalico School District's Proposed Budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Mrs. Stricker and Mrs. Stull reviewed the budget timeline, provided specific information on key revenue and expenditure components of the General Fund, and explained how the District would be impacted financially by utilizing various Act 1 scenarios. They shared how the District budgets conservatively for revenues and aggressively for expenditures, and described the effects that the rising PSERS liability and Special Education costs have had on district revenues which have not been able to keep pace in comparison. Dr. Musser stressed that various options were being investigated to reduce the expenditures number. Historical budget information was also provided, along with a 5-year listing of capital/maintenance projects.

Before the meeting concluded, Dr. Musser (1) announced that the Legislative Breakfast scheduled for March 12th at the Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13 has been cancelled, (2) shared that the Education Foundation fundraiser Iron Chef was held over the weekend, and (3) reminded Board Members of the upcoming IU Convention.

Time was given for questions and answers after each presentation. There being no more business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

Sherri L. Stull
Secretary