

# COCALICO SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Denver, PA

A special meeting of the Cocalico School Board was called to order on Monday, October 1, 2018 by the President, Mr. Allen Dissinger, who welcomed all those in attendance.

### Board Members Present

Richard Brenner	Douglas Graybill	Desiree Wagner
Juanita Fox	Randall Renninger	Rev. Kevin Eshleman
Lin Sensenig	Brett Buckwalter	Allen Dissinger

### Administrators Present

Dr. Ella Musser	Dr. Stephen Melnyk	Dr. Nathan Van Deusen
Sherri Stull		

### Guest Present

Greg Buck

Mr. Dissinger turned the meeting over to Dr. Ella H. Musser, Superintendent, who provided background on how the District became involved with the Blue Ridge Cable TV Channel and then introduced Mr. Greg Buck, High School Technology Education Teacher. She stated that Denver Borough, as well as Mr. Chris Irvine (High School Principal) and Mr. Buck, were involved in the process. Mr. Buck added that several districts were part of such an arrangement a number of years ago, with Cocalico being one of them. He explained that the District was approached about this endeavor by Blue Ridge last year, however, HD cabling is required at this point in order to go any further. Mr. Buck informed the Board that he is currently working with Blue Ridge and the District's IT department, while considering three different software packages to resurrect "What's Happening at Cocalico." Students would go out as reporters and bring news segments back to the studio. Dr. Musser concluded this segment of the meeting by explaining that the Borough and the District were working on an agreement regarding each party's role in the establishment and utilization of the channel. There were a few items recommended by the District solicitor that still need to be included in the agreement before the District will commence with the programming.

Dr. Musser provided an update on the LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance) Program being considered by East Cocalico Township. She reported that an ordinance designating certain zones as deteriorated areas was presented by the Township at their September 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, and that the Township could possibly approve the LERTA program at its October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. If approved, it would then come to the District for a vote at the November public meeting.

Mrs. Sherri Stull, Business Manager, shared information on the progress of two capital projects. She reported that the High School Panel and Partial Roof Replacement job that had recently been granted an extension for substantial completion, was once

again held up due to weather conditions. Mrs. Stull explained that originally the construction was to be completed by August 10<sup>th</sup>, but after 26 days of rain, an extension to September 18<sup>th</sup> was approved by the District. That date was also missed due to rain. She additionally informed the Board that beige panels had arrived at the District as damaged and that replacements were on backorder, with a tentative delivery date of October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mrs. Stull reported the EIFS resurfacing has begun at both canopy entrances to the High School, signage will be hung after panel installation is complete, and roofing work will also commence once panel work is done. It was reported that construction plans for the Service Center are also moving forward. Meetings were held with representatives from Denver Borough, Hanover Engineering, AEM Architects, Wilkinson & Associates, and the District. An overview of the proposed project was provided, along with a tentative timeline for bid advertisement, bid opening, bid award, and construction start. Mrs. Stull shared that the Denver Borough Planning Commission has scheduled a review of the plan during their October 9, 2018 Planning Commission Meeting.

Mrs. Stull provided a recap of the District's 2017-2018 year-end financial results. Her report provided an analysis of the District's budgeted revenue and budgeted expenditure numbers in contrast to actual year-end performance. Mrs. Stull made recommendations for the future use of funds, referencing the District's Facilities Assessment Study 5 Year Improvements Plan and one-time expenditure instructional initiatives. She added that the District's local audit firm would be providing the Board with a more in-depth financial summary of the 2017-2018 school year, along with the annual audit report, in November. Dr. Musser reviewed the listing for the one-time expenditure instructional initiatives which included STEM training and materials, elementary school curriculum materials, professional development for staff, and various furniture/equipment.

Dr. Stephen Melnyk, Assistant to the Superintendent for Secondary Education, reviewed preliminary academic performance reports for the 2017-2018 school year. He reported the State would be posting the new academic results online and that the District would include the data in its newsletter as well as on its website. Dr. Melnyk added that the information on state averages was not yet released, but would be shared at a later date. Dr. Musser provided an update on graduation requirements and options for those students not passing the Keystone Exams. Dr. Melnyk reviewed the four options recommended in Senate Bill 1095. It was also announced that Reamstown Elementary School received honors for high progress in its Title I program.

Time was given for questions and answers after each presentation. There being no more business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned, and it was announced by Mr. Dissinger that the Board would be going into an Executive Session to review safety plans.

Sherry L. Stull  
Secretary