

# COCALICO SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Denver, PA

A special meeting of the Cocalico School Board was called to order at 7:00pm on Monday, March 8, 2021 by the President, Rev. Kevin Eshleman, who welcomed all those in attendance. The meeting was held virtually. A moment of silence was held, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Board Members Present

Richard Brenner	Lin Sensenig	Desiree Wagner
Pamela Blickle	Randy Renninger	Douglas Graybill
Juanita Fox	Brett Buckwalter	Rev. Kevin Eshleman

### Administrators Present

Dr. Ella Musser	Dr. Stephen Melnyk	Dr. Beth Haldeman
Sherri Stull	Andria Weaver	Bradley Kafferlin

### Guests Present

Lesley Stricker	Aubree Fahringer	Tara Griest
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Rev. Eshleman turned the meeting over to Dr. Ella H. Musser, Superintendent, who together with 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 2021-2022 fiscal year. They reviewed specific information on key revenue and expenditure components of the General Fund, and explained how the District could be impacted financially by utilizing various Act 1 scenarios. They shared that being the first draft of the budget, the District had budgeted aggressively for expenditures in order to provide funds for unknown but necessary costs until more information becomes available. They 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. Information was shared regarding the pandemic's effect on District finances, particularly the huge increase in cyber charter school tuition expense and costs associated with the District's own virtual program, Cocalico Connections. Details of Governor Wolf's state budget proposal were also provided, including how the Cocalico School District would fare if passed as presented, which is considered very unlikely. Historical budget information utilized in the preparation of the budget was cited as well. Dr. Musser and Mrs. Stull stressed that various options were being investigated to reduce the preliminary budget expenditures number.

Under other updates, Dr. Musser announced that the previous Friday, Dairy Queen had donated Dilly Bars in honor of National Employee Appreciation Day; a Student Advisory meeting is scheduled for later in the week; Community Action Partnership plans to move its Head Start/Pre-K Counts program from Reamstown Elementary to Adamstown Elementary, thereby providing opportunity for a preschool program at all three elementary schools; and Reamstown Elementary School would be switching to virtual instruction for the next three days due to the number of COVID cases at that school.

Time was given for questions and answers after each presentation. Rev. Eshleman announced that the Board would adjourn the public work session and go into an Executive Session to review legal matters and matters of employment. There being no more business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Sensenig and a second by Mr. Buckwalter, with all Board members voting yes.

Sherry L. Stull  
Secretary