

Pottsgrove School District

Community Budget Task Force Meeting Minutes

Name of Sub-Committee: Transportation

Date of Meeting: February 23, 2011

Admin. Co-chair: David Nester **Community Co-chair:** Justin Valentine

Attending:

Frances Buchert, Rachel DePaoli, Charlie Dickinson, Ruth Fisher, Stephan Kincaid, Sue McGroarty, Jennifer Osborn, Fred Remelius, Jennifer Ridgeway, Teri Widmann

Topics Discussed:

1. Introductions
2. CPO- The context, purpose and proposed outcome for the committee were explained.
3. Norms & Agenda- Norms for conduct were reviewed for all participants and the agenda for the meeting was explained.
4. Explanation of I Think/We Think Protocol - The committee participants were asked to view the presentation of the Transportation program while at the same time record their thoughts (I thinks) and questions as they viewed the presentation. Following the presentation, they would be given an opportunity to reflect on the information presented as well as collaborate with others. Additionally, they would be asked to report out to the full group prior to leaving the meeting.
5. Presentation of Transportation Program including the following:
 - Overview of Pottsgrove's Transportation System including:
 - Key players and their responsibilities
 - Pottsgrove demographics and statistics
 - Vehicle inventory
 - Runs per building
 - Pupil Transportation Mandates
 - Requirements if Transportation is Provided

- Definition of Hazardous Roads
 - Review of Transportation Costs
6. The following additional information regarding Pupil Transportation was provided to each participant:
 - Actual revenue and expenditure data for the transportation system for 2007-2008 through 2009-2010 and budgeted data for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012
 - Frequently asked questions from Pa Dept of Education's (PDE) website
 - Findings identified by West Chester and Upper Perkiomen School Districts.
 7. Mr. Nester fielded a number of questions from the participants.
 8. Participants broke off into small groups and were given twenty-five minutes for group discussion to complete "we thinks" and to prepare a report out for the rest of the group.
 9. Participants reported out on their questions, additional information needed and possible areas for reduction as summarized below:

Group Reports

The groups reported out the following potential savings:

- Consider eliminating the mid day K runs
- Consider eliminating elementary activity runs
- Consider eliminating all activity runs
- Maximize # of students riding on each bus to reduce required # of buses
- Consider consolidating bus runs to reduce the # of buses
- Consider altering bell schedules so HS and MS can ride the same buses to and from school
- Consider installing a dedicated fuel tank at CMD to permit participation in fuel bids
- Consider lengthening the maximum walking distance to bus stops or schools to 1 mile for all ages (or to .8 mile for elementary and 1 mile for secondary)

The following questions and/or additional information was requested:

- More detailed information on the types of expenses reflected in the transportation budget

- Calculation of potential savings to be derived from each concept

Outcomes from the Meeting:

Dave Nester indicated that the department would compile the information from the report out of each group; review the questions and additional information requested, and prepare to bring back additional information for the next session.

The meeting concluded at 9:00 PM

Due to a conflict with Dave Nester's schedule, the next meeting will be held on Monday, March 14, 2011