

Pottsgrove School District

Community Budget Task Force Meeting Minutes

Name of Sub-Committee: K-12 Educational Program

Date of Meeting: March 29, 2011

Admin. Co-chair: Shellie Feola **Community Co-chair:** Herb Beekley

Attending:

Herb Beekley, Pat Novak, Steve Miller, Crystal Lloyd, Yolanda Williams, Paul Fisher, Phil Keogh, Pat Novak, John Shantz, April Konasthathis, Kristen Hyde, Hollie Casper, Rob Land, Elwood Taylor

Topics Discussed:

Committee members re-introduced themselves. Ms. Feola then reviewed the outcomes from the last meeting. She then provided the context, purpose and outcome for this evening's meeting. Ms. Feola reminded committee members that the outcome would be to make recommendations to the board. The board would consider the recommendations and then make a final decision.

Ms. Feola reviewed the agenda for the meeting and activities as follows:

1. Each committee member would take 10 minutes for individual reflection of the 15 initial ideas generated during a free brainstorm during meeting held on March 15, 2011.
2. The committee would then discuss each initial idea and utilize a consensus protocol to assist in determining a list of final items to be recommended to the School Board of Directors. Committee members were reminded of the definition of consensus and that consensus does not mean a majority vote. The consensus protocol to be used, "fist of five," was explained.

The table below summarizes the discussion of the committee in attempting to determine whether the initial brainstormed ideas would be recommended to the School Board of Directors.

Recommendation	Consensus/Not	Comments/Edits
Drop Mandarin Program	Consensus	This item will be recommended to the Board.
Reduce Staff Development Supplies	Consensus	This item will be recommended to the Board.
Eliminate Identified special payment positions	Consensus	Some discussion on the duties and impact occurred. This item will be recommended to the Board.
Reduce Induction Costs	Consensus	This item will be recommended to the Board.
Eliminate After School Tutoring @ MS Reduce Scope at EL	Tabled	No consensus could be reached after several attempts.
Add PGSD Charter School	Consensus	This item will be recommended to the Board.
Offer Instrumental Music outside of the traditional encore program	Tabled	No consensus could be reached after several attempts.
Reduce 3 MS/HS Building Aides to part time Revision: move from 2 fulltime aides at the HS to 4 part time aides	Tabled Tabled	Initial proposal was to add more staff at a part time rate to allow for full coverage. No consensus could be

without benefits and move from 1 fulltime aide at the MS to 2 part time aides without benefits.		reached after several attempts.
Cut AP courses	Tabled	It was determined that this would not generated a cost savings and it would be detrimental to the high school program so it was dropped.
Cut Computer Credit @ high School	Tabled	No consensus could be reached after several attempts.
Cut FACS (or another elective at the HS)	Tabled	No consensus could be reached after several attempts.
Cut WL at the MS	Tabled	No consensus could be reached after several attempts.
Eliminate Café/Recess Aides at MS/ES	Tabled	No consensus could be reached after several attempts.
Use Act 80 Days for Staff Development	Tabled	It was determined that this was option would not generate a cost savings so it was dropped from the list.
Alleviate/Reduce use of outside consultants	Tabled	After discussion, this item was dropped from the list.

The meeting concluded at 9:10 PM. All committee members were invited to the April 12th school board meeting to be present when all committees present their findings and recommendations to the school board.