



Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORTS

NOVEMBER 14, 2019

Culture, Climate & Community Relations

The Culture, Climate & Community Relations Committee met on October 15, 2019 to review steps toward goals for the coming year.

- **Goal 1: Continue sharing Positive Messages in the schools:**
 - ◇ Conackamack Middle School is utilizing the Brene Brown philosophy to introduce the positive messaging campaign. Donna White will meet with her staff over the next few months to frame next steps, and create and put up positive messages.
 - ◇ The Committee discussed Black History Month and having schools choose positive messages that correlate to post on our new electronic signs throughout the month of February
- **Goal 2: Continue building our partnerships with colleges and universities, particularly Rutgers, and develop partnerships within our community and local businesses:**
 - ◇ Rutgers University Division of Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement (D.I.C.E) provided the committee Scarlet and Black novel. The office of Curriculum and instruction is reviewing the novel for possible curriculum integration.
 - ◇ Volunteer recruitment efforts were discussed and ideas were shared on how to yield more volunteers by describing the rolls available to volunteer at different events .
 - ◇ Rutgers students enrolled in the undergraduate and graduate programs may require volunteer hours for their programs. It was suggested that these students volunteer for the Education Foundation events.
 - ◇ Signia USA, a Piscataway hearing aid manufacturer, has offered to bring information about hearing protection to Piscataway students.
- **Goal 3: Develop and implement volunteer outreach for school and district events and other needs.:**
 - ◇ The Committee Chair requested that the Administration present the volunteer graphic organizer to the Presidents Council for their organization.

Policy/Legislative Committee

The Policy/Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, October 30, 2019, to review and approve the updated Strauss Esmay Policy Manual and Regulations Manual and to review recent legislative developments of interest to the District.

- **Review of Straus Esmay Policy Manual and Regulations Manual:** The Committee reviewed and approved the updated Strauss Esmay Policy Manual and Regulations Manual and recommended adoption by the Board of Education on First Reading at its November Business Meeting, subject to changes to Bylaw 0134, Policy 1642, Policy 8550, and Policy 7446, and Policy 8561 as reflected in the meeting Minutes.
- **Legislative Update:** The New Jersey State Board of Education has eliminated the exams in Math and English for 10th graders and is currently working on the creation of a single 11th grade test for graduation. Governor Murphy signed into law S-3160/A4865 establishing a four-year pilot program on later school start times for high school students. Governor Murphy also signed into law S-2861/S-3081/A4592/A-4446, which are a series of bills requiring school districts to ensure that health education programs recognize the multiple dimensions of mental health.

Fiscal Planning & Operations Committee

The Fiscal Planning & Operations Committee met on November 13, 2019 to review the audit schedule, stadium upgrades, cybersecurity, and other ongoing projects.

1) Audit: Auditors will present findings for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 at the December Committee meeting and to the full Board at the December Board meeting

2) Capital Projects:

I. PHS Marquee: The PHS marquee will be installed in November.

II. PHS Stadium Upgrades: Bids will be opened on December 5 for Spring 2020 stadium upgrades, including new ADA compliant bleachers with underneath storage, entrance ramps, a new press box and ticket booths, new light poles and sound system, an entrance plaza with ADA compliant ramps for the Anthony Building, and concrete work.

3) Cybersecurity: Dellicker Strategies has begun developing a cybersecurity strategic plan and implementing control initiatives to address the findings of their district-wide assessment based on the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework.

4) Transportation: The Business Office opened preschool busing bids and will recommend awarding the contract to Layla Transportation. The District hired a full-time mechanic to service all school buses and vehicles.

5) Copier Service: New copiers were installed in all district schools and buildings under a five-year lease awarded to Atlantic Tomorrow's Office.