



# Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORTS

DECEMBER 12, 2019

## Fiscal Planning & Operations Committee

*The Fiscal Planning & Operations Committee met on December 4, 2019 to review the 2018-2019 audit, 2020-2021 budget schedule, capital projects, and other ongoing projects.*

- 1) Audit:** Auditors presented the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 and will present to the full Board at the December Business meeting
- 2) Capital Reserve:** The Business Office is updating the Long Range Facilities Plan. Committee reviewed available funds in capital reserve to ensure funding for 2020-2021 planned Middle School Auditorium upgrades and PHS PAC lighting upgrades.
- 3) 2020-2021 Budget:** The Business Office reviewed the budget timetable. Input and budget requests from all schools are being reviewed.
- 4) Capital Projects:**
  - I. PHS Marquee:** Installation is completed. The marquee is up and running.
  - II. PHS Stadium Upgrades:** Bids were opened on December 5 and will be awarded December 12 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.
- 5) Professional Services:** To ensure Piscataway Schools receives the most competitive services, the Business Office will issue Requests for Proposals for professional services such as insurance companies.
- 6) Transportation:** Preschool busing began this month for students living more than two miles from their school.
- 7) Business Office:** The Business Office is overseeing an energy audit as a preliminary step to implement an Energy Savings Improvement Program.

## Policy/Legislative Committee

*The Policy/Legislative Committee met on Thursday, December 5, 2019, to review and approve the updated Strauss Esmay Policy Manual and Regulations Manual, to review and approve a new policy and regulation on civility developed by the administration, and to review recent legislative developments of interest to the District.*

- 1) Review of Straus Esmay Policy Manual and Regulations Manual:** Following the Board's adoption of the updated Strauss Esmay Policy Manual and Regulations Manual on First Reading at its November Business Meeting, the Committee had no further revisions to suggest for the Manual and recommends its adoption on Second Reading by the full Board at the December Business Meeting. .
- 2) Policy and Regulation on Civility:** The Committee reviewed the Administration's proposed new policy and regulation on Civility, which is intended to promote an atmosphere of respect in our District and puts in place procedures to enforce respectful behavior. The Committee approved the policy and regulation and recommended adoption on First Reading by the full Board at the December Business Meeting, subject to some minor edits.
- 3) Legislative Update:** The Committee was updated on recent legislative developments of interest to the District, including Senate President Sweeney's plan to introduce legislation to help school boards reach adequacy under the State's school funding system and the approval by the Assembly Education Committee of six bills concerning school meal programs that focus on ensuring that all students receive meals regardless of meal plan payment balances. It was noted that Piscataway had already addressed this issue in Policy.

## Culture, Climate & Community Relations

*The Culture, Climate & Community Relations Committee met on November 19, 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. School administration is working with students to develop messaging that focuses on leadership qualities to present to the committee before implementing.
- ◇ The Committee discussed Black History Month and having principals develop collaborative positive messaging for new electronic signs posted during 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 books about African-American History at Rutgers. The committee recommended a link on the district website to a recommend reading list.
- ◇ Rutgers volunteer partnerships were discussed and will be shared with building principals.
- ◇ Signia USA, a Piscataway hearing aid manufacturer, has offered to bring information about hearing protection to Piscataway students. Administration will follow up.

- **Goal 3: Develop and implement volunteer outreach for school and district events and other needs:**

- ◇ The Committee discussed volunteer recruitment efforts, including text messaging and Sign-Up Genius, to test.