



# Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

## Fiscal Planning and Operations Committee

***The Fiscal Planning and Operations committee met on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, to discuss capital projects, the Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP), school security, and other matters.***

**1.** The Committee discussed a NJ School Boards Association draft resolution opposing premium increases in the School Employees' Health Benefits Program.

### **2. Facility Capital Projects**

- HVAC Upgrade No. 1 – Temporary AC/heat units were installed in some classrooms at Knollwood and Randolphville schools as we await replacement units. Supply-chain issues have delayed the shipment of equipment for other parts of the project.
- HVAC Upgrade No. 2 – Bid specifications are being finalized for a bid release date in early October, with work expected to take place in Summer 2023 and Summer 2024.
- Paving work was completed by the middle of August, including supplemental curb work at Conackamack Middle School.
- The Committee agreed to recommend to the Board that a project to replace exterior metal panels at Piscataway High School be abandoned because of cost increases and other capital project priorities for the District.

**3. Summer Maintenance** – Mr. Oliveira reviewed the list of maintenance projects that were completed in the summer and projects that remain to be completed during the 2022-2023 school year.

### **4. Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP) Update**

- Solar Power Purchase Agreement – Solar panels are operating and generating electricity at Grandview, Knollwood, Piscataway High, Schor, and Fellowship Farms schools. Supply-chain issues are delaying solar panel installations at Arbor, Eisenhower, and King schools. The Board of Public Utilities (BPU) approved a blanket extension for school solar projects.
- Honeywell Projects – Building envelope work is

complete. Work is ongoing on LED lighting, water conservation, mechanical upgrades, building management system, and cogeneration energy conservation measures (ECM).

**5. School Security** – The Committee discussed the possibility of adding School Resource Officers or School Law Enforcement Officers; Governor Murphy's proposed \$6.5 million in federal funding for school security projects; and legislation that requires districts to establish school threat assessment teams.

**6. Transportation Update** – An \$820,000 grant application was submitted to the US Environmental Protection Agency in August to assist in funding electric vehicle infrastructure and the replacement of four buses.

**7. Free and Reduced Meal Applications** – Reminder messages to complete this year's application for free and reduced meals are being distributed via email, phone messages, and social media. The district has received 1,026 applications thus far.

**8. Wellness Committee** – The Wellness Committee provided welcome back fruit baskets, granola bars, and water for staff on September 1 and will be expanding its initiatives this year.