



Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORT

NOVEMBER 3, 2022

Fiscal Planning and Operations

The Fiscal Planning and Operations committee met on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, to discuss capital projects, the Energy Savings Improvement Program, food services, business office updates, and more.

Legislative update

The New Jersey Association of School Business Officials will continue to support Bill S3203, which will expand the pool of available drivers for vans with nine passengers or fewer.

Facility Capital Projects

- The Piscataway High School and Middle School Auditoriums and PHS Family/Consumer Science Room project has been completed.
- HVAC Upgrades #1 – The majority of the unit ventilators arrived, with four outstanding units remaining for Randolphville. Installation began in the media centers.
- HVAC Upgrades #2 – The bid was released on Tuesday, Nov. 1, and a walkthrough for interested contractors will take place on Nov. 8.
- Mr. Oliveira updated the Committee on progress on the 5-Year Capital Project Plan.

Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP)

- Solar PPA – Installation at Eisenhower and King is scheduled to be completed Nov. 10. The alternate installation approach was approved for Arbor and the contractor is scheduling the work. The Quibbletown modified solar proposal was received and is under review.
- Honeywell projects – LED lighting work is nearly complete. Work on boilers, destratification fans, water conservation measures, and transformers is ongoing. Cogeneration equipment will be installed at PHS on Nov. 10. Honeywell is preparing cost estimates to consider additional projects to utilize the remaining funds.

Transportation

The district did not receive the US EPA electric bus grant.

Food Services

Meetings were held at all three middle schools to hear student feedback on preferred menu items and fruit/vegetable diversity. Improvements in menu messaging was a common theme.

Business Office

- Health Benefits – Stop loss reimbursement data for the first three months of the school year is still being compiled, but is expected to have a positive effect on 2022-2023 expenditures. The district is considering a supplemental program to help address musculoskeletal expenses.
- The district auctioned 16 buses damaged in Hurricane Ida, earning approximately \$65,000.
- Mr. Oliveira discussed the M-1 and Comprehensive Maintenance Plan included on the board meeting agenda.

Culture, Climate, and Community Relations

The Culture, Climate, and Community Relations Committee met on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, to discuss positive messaging, community partnerships, and wellness services.

The committee set and approved three goals for the 2022-2023 school year.

Goal No. 1: Positive Messaging

Positive messaging to foster community engagement, a sense of history, wellness, and to support the character education programs in our schools to continue to build a positive school climate.

Some areas of focus will be marquee messaging, student-to-student mentoring messages, and positive marketing of our schools.

Goal No. 2: Community Partnerships

Build Community Partnerships and collaborate with new departments within Rutgers University to provide resources and support to our school communities.

Ms. Pongratz reported on the continued relationships with Rutgers' Division of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Engagement; Business School; and Future Scholars Program; and the partnership with Jersey Cares.

Goal No. 3: Wellness Services

Conduct Community Outreach to highlight Wellness services found within our School and local Community to highlight supports available to our families.

Some areas of focus are a review of school start times and a parent workshop to be developed by The Haven at Piscataway High School.