



# Board of Education COMMITTEE REPORTS

JUNE 8, 2017

## Fiscal Planning & Operations Committee

*The Fiscal Planning & Operations Committee met on May 10, 2017 to discuss the 2017-2018 school year budget and other services.*

1. **2017-2018 Budget:** The 2017-2018 adopted budget is available on the district website and is open for purchase orders.
2. **State Funding:** The district is underfunded when considering state guidelines under the School Funding Reform Act of 2008. The administration continues to attend and monitor State Budget Hearings and to push for fair funding.
3. **Schools Development Authority (SDA) Regular Operating District (ROD) Grant Local Share Projects:** The PHS Bathrooms ADA Compliance project has been delayed pending permits. Discussions continue about the PHS exterior metal panel work and roof repair.
4. **Professional Services:** The Business Office reviewed proposals for new audit services.
5. **Transportation:** Subscription busing opened for the 2017-2018 school year at the same rate of \$425 per child per year. Registration closes June 30.
6. **PHS Planetarium:** Dome repairs and painting of the Planetarium ceiling are completed and a new projector was ordered. The Planetarium will be ready for use in June.
7. **Lead Testing:** Preliminary lead testing is completed with a report to be issued in the coming weeks.
8. **Food Services:** The Business Office is reviewing the new school meal regulations and their impact on the food service program.

## Curriculum Committee

*The Curriculum Committee met on June 5, 2017, and discussed Curriculum Updates, PiscawayREADS, and Piscataway Codes, among other subjects.*

1. **Curriculum Updates:** The Committee is on track to review and approve 20 curricula for the 2017-2018 school year.
2. **Summer Teacher Academies:** Teacher training in Grades 1-5 Next Generation Science Standards, Grades 4-5 ESL, and Grade K Go-Math is planned for summer months.
3. **New Teacher Orientation:** This annual weeklong meeting is scheduled for August.
4. **Administrator Learning Walks:** Administrators have begun Learning Walks in buildings. These are designed to improve observation skills.
5. **State Testing:** PARCC, NJ ASK, and Biology Competency testing was successfully completed.
6. **Go-Math Kindergarten Pilot:** In the 2017-2018 school year, the Go-Math curriculum will begin a two-year pilot program in two Kindergarten classes in each elementary building. Initial evaluations will begin in March 2018.
7. **School Supplies:** Supply lists for each school for the 2017-2018 school year are available on district and school websites.
8. **PiscatawayREADS:** The level of support for this program varied across grades within the district. The committee discussed possible improvements to the program, including student and parent book clubs, additional contests and poster placement, additional student performances, and selecting advocates in each school.
9. **Piscataway Codes:** Launched this year as a complement to PiscatawayREADS, Piscataway Codes offered coding workshops to 100 students in Grades 4-8. Funded by the Piscataway Education Foundation, the program was offered in a six-hour Saturday workshop led by 35 high school volunteers, under the direction of PHS teacher Brinder Soin. The program sold out and looks to expand next year.