# CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE RECEIVER'S MEETING OF THE PUBLIC

April 15, 2021 6:00 P.M.

A Public Meeting of the Receiver of the Chester Upland School District was held this evening via Zoom.

Executive Staff Present -

Dr. Juan Baughn, Receiver

Dr. Carol Birks, Superintendent

Dr. Jala Olds-Pearson, Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Christine Murrin, Director – Spec. Ed. Dr. Lakiyah Chambers, Director - HR

School Board -

Anthony Johnson, Board President

The Receiver's meeting opened with a call to order by Receiver, Dr. Juan Baughn and the Pledge of Allegiance.

# NOTICE OF ADVERTISED MEETING

(COPY OF ADVERTISED NOTICE ATTACHED)

Before the Superintendent Report, Dr. Baughn asked Dr. Leroy Nunery to update on the Proposals and the upcoming Board Meeting on May 6, 2021.

**Dr. Nunery** explained that there were three institutions that sent proposals from the RFPs that were sent out. Chester Community Charter School, Friendship Academy and \_\_\_\_\_\_. He went on to say that the institutions would be giving their presentations to the community and they would be answering any questions that the community may have regarding their proposals. He said that the review board had gone over the proposals and asked their questions and that they would be giving their recommendation to the Receiver after hearing what the public had to say on the proposals. Dr. Nunery asked for questions.

Q: Are you going to allow the charters to knock down our buildings?

Dr. Nunery: That is not a question that I am prepared to answer. The task force and the Receiver will review the proposals and decide how to proceed.

Q: Are there any teachers or principals on the task force?

Dr. Nunery: Mr LaMonte Popley is on the task force and Ms. Quail was an educator as is Dr. Irving. That's how we've staffed it. There is only seven or eight on the force so to make it efficient.

#### REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Good evening Dr. Baughn, good evening board members, our families, our precious jewels, our students, and our overall Learning Community. April is poetry month, jazz appreciation month and Autistic Awareness month. Tonight we are honoring poetry month. Poetry month reminds the public that poetry is an integral part in our culture and that poetry matters. It has an impact on our students and their social/emotional learning. Some poets of note are Langston Hughes, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Maya Angelou, Ezra Pound, Nikki Giovanni, Edgar Allen Poe, Emily Dickenson. Am I reminding you of those that you had to memorize? And of course, Modern Day Poet Laureate, Amanda Gorman. Tonight, our very own Director of Human Resources is going to share a poem with us that we thought was befitting of where we are as a community. Dr. Chambers.

**Dr. Lakiyah Chambers -** Thank you, Dr. Birks. Poem is entitled, It couldn't Be Done by Edgar Guest. Somebody said that it couldn't be done, but he with a chuckle replied, "That maybe it couldn't," but he would be one who wouldn't say so until he tried. So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin. On his face, if he worried, he hide it. He started to sing as he tackled the thing that couldn't be done and he did it. Somebody scoffed, "Oh, you'll never do that. At least no one ever has done it." But he took off his coat and he took off his hat And the first thing we knew, he'd begun it. With a lift of his chin and a bit of his grin without any doubting or quitting, he started to sing as he tackled the thing that couldn't be done and he did it. There are thousands to tell you, it cannot be done. There are thousands to prophesy failure. There are thousands to point out to you one by one, that dangers will wait to assail you, but just buckle in with a bit of a grin. Just take off your coat and go to it. Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing that cannot be done and you will do it. Thank you.

**Dr. Birks** - Thank you, Dr. Chambers. Let's give a round of applause for Dr. Chambers. So as a community, just want us to remember that collectively building on our collective strengths of everyone within our organization and our extended learning community, we can do it. We can ensure that our students are successful. We can do it. We can make sure that we improve academic outcomes and make Chester Upland School District one of the highest performing school districts in the nation. I believe that as your superintendent, but it's going to be important that we remember our foundation.

One, children first, Our O, one Chester Upland School District, Our R, re-imagining the district. And that's what we're doing right now. And our E, equity access and social emotional learning. And with all those tenets and the collective geniuses of everyone who's under the sound of my voice, as well as our [inaudible 00:02:50], their families and our extended community, we can do it. So we're excited tonight that it's poetry month and moving along, it is Autistic Awareness Month. And April is Autistic Awareness Month and it's a time to bring attention to and raise the awareness of individuals who faced with the Autism Spectrum Disorder and support those living with this particular exceptionality.

And tonight I am excited that we will have a presentation from our extended learning community, all our jewels at Main Street School focusing on Autistic Awareness Month. And they did a good job and I want to show you this. They created this beautiful box and I want to show it to everyone. I have to choose another background to do it. So give me one moment, please. This is fantastic. I want it... let's give a round of applause. Main Street Strong for all of our students at Main Street School, as well as our principal and teachers in honor of Autistic Awareness Month and there's a beautiful... sorry for the ruffling... t-shirt, Autism Awareness Month, Main Street School. Isn't it wonderful? Let's give Main Street a round of applause. Yay for Main Street.

And at this time, I'm going to call on our sensational and talented principal, Principal Parker and the Main Street learning community to provide us with a presentation this evening. Principal Parker.

Principal Carlena Parker and children from Main Street Elementary School gave a presentation on autism awareness.

**Dr. Birks -** Yes, we are all unique. We are all exceptional. And have great gifts and we are all in this together. And it reminded me of all of us, including me, we really need to reflect some time about more kindness and caring and compassion and realizing that at least we all have unique ways that we learn and how we grow. And that's why usually with my team knows, I always refer to our students having exceptionalities and not using the deficit mindset about their unique gifts in the way they learn. And so again, I want to thank Main Street for raising that awareness for us this evening. Moving... and thank you again, Principal Parker.

So I have a few more minutes, Dr. Baughn. I just have some academic highlights as well as some recognition. I want to thank our Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Pearson and our academic team. We are planning our academic night for Wednesday, April 28th. Yes, April 28th, Academic Night! We are in the learning business. So we are excited when we talk about learning and not just learning for our children, but learning for everyone. So more information will be forthcoming about how you access the links to Academic Night. So thank you, Dr. Pearson. We are also planning our summer programming, our extended learning for the year. Our dates are June 24th through July 30th. And so parents and everyone who's listening or who's connected or family members and grandmas and TT'S and everyone else who's listening to me, we need you to please complete our survey. There will be a survey launch next week on April 22nd in which we want to hear from you as to what you feel your child needs for an enriching summer experience. I know this year we've had some stops and goals because of the impact of COVID-19, but learning doesn't stop.

And we want to make sure that our students are receiving continuous learning as well as activities. So we have many of our community partners who are excited to partner with us in various areas. And we know part of our mission is to focus on academics as well as athletics. So we will also add those components to our academic programming. And I know we've done some of that before, but we really want to hear from you so that we tailor our programming to meet your needs. So April 22nd, please look for the survey via our social media, as well as our website. So thank you. And if there are teachers who are listening, we need your talents and gifts to work during the summer, as well as support staff and social workers and nurses and such. So please, if you have questions, please direct them to Dr. Pearson, as well as Dr. Chambers.

You Are The Lights. People should be clapping. You Are The Lights, yes! You Are The Light. This month we have You Are The Light recipients throughout our learning community. And for people who are just listening to our presentation who has not attended a board meeting before, You Are The Light is our recognition program, in which we highlight individuals who are making a difference within our learning community. And the individuals are recognized by their peers. So it doesn't come from Dr. Birks. We send out a survey out and people respond and we have a team that selects based on criteria. So I'm going to announce our You Are The Light recipients this evening. For Classroom Catalyst, these individuals are champions of change. And this month we are proud to award the Classroom Catalyst Award to Mr. Richard Paquette, who is a teacher at STEM Academy. Let's give him a round of applause. And to Kyle [McCaskey 00:09:54], who is a Chester Upland School of Arts Elementary School student. We can do better for that. We can put things... I think... Dr. McCook, is the chat working or can they put something in there because this is celebratory time? Next our trendsetters for this month are Ms. Lori Deni from our Food Services Department and [Adriana 00:10:17] Smith is our student from Stetser Elementary School. Let's give a round of applause for them. They are our trendsetters. Our community heroes or heroines are the following. We are proud to award the community hero or heroine award to Coach LaDontay Bell. Coach Bell, who serves as our Interim Athletic Director and he's been working really hard and attending a lot of meetings because of the pandemic. So we want to say we thank you, Coach Bell. Also, and he's very encouraging. And also our student is Jazmaya, I hope I got that right, Bell from... I don't think they're related, from Chester Upland School of the Arts and Alaysia Stevenson, who's a student from STEM Academy. Let's give a round of applause to those individuals. I think they told me Alaysia was advocating for us to receive additional funding for our school district. And so we want to commend her. And her mother sits on our Superintendents' Parents Advisory Council. So thank you, Ms. Goodman. We also have another two special recognitions.

One, this individual, many of us see often throughout our administrative offices. You ask him to do something, he graciously does it. He will stay late. He will walk you to your car. He will provide you with umbrella. He'll ask if you want something to eat and he will also clean your office. And so I am proud to recognize this special individual, Mr. David Jennings. He is one of our custodians. Let's give a round of applause to David for a job well done. He's receiving our special recognition award for this month. People in the central office are smiling because we know David is on it. I got you. He's all over it. So thank you, David. And last month for Women's History Month, we sent out a survey throughout our social media and throughout the district asking us to recognize a woman of distinction within the Chester community. This individual who was going above and beyond the call to ensure that we as a collective community in district and outside of the district is moving forward to support our children.

I am so proud to recognize Ms. Karen Miah, who is our phenomenal woman for our Women's History Month 2020. Let's give a round of applause for Ms. Miah. We want to say thank you, Ms. Miah for a job well done and your commitment. And I want to say a little bit about Ms. Miah. She supports all children and families in

Chester. She faithfully served on the Chester High School PTO for more than eight years. She continuously advocates for quality education for the children of Chester. She has spearheaded numerous college tours to expose high school students to educational opportunities. She led the Chester High School cheerleading team for more than 20 years. That's a long time, some people don't do things for 20 minutes. Ensuring students are prepared for leadership roles within the school, the community and overall to engage in service. And let me tell you, Coach Miah is tough. She's making sure that our students are learning, the cheerleaders they're involved in the community and representing us well. Coach Miah also, she graduated from Chester High School herself and many of her students, cheerleaders have gone on to pursue post... 90% of her students have gone on to pursue some type of post-secondary education. So let's give a round of applause to Ms. Miah for that because that's exceptional as a leader because sometimes when you're involved in sports, you're not always as involved in the academics. And she has demonstrated true leadership that she has a strong commitment to the cheerleaders pursuing or demonstrating strong academic prowess. She also serves on our school reopening task force and she provides keen insights to our overall community. And if you ask her to do something, she will go above and beyond to do it. And I'm so happy and honored that she is partnering... and I'm going to say this even though... but this was written here. I wasn't going to say it. She's also a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. And so we want say, thank you Ms. Miah. We honor you, we thank you. I'm so, so happy that I get an opportunity to work closely with you and thank you for what you do. And you are a phenomenal woman and you are Chester Upland School District Woman of Distinction and in history for Chester Upland School District. So thank you very much.

Okay. I'm moving along and a strong report tonight and Dr. Baughn is going to take me off in a minute, but this Saturday, please mark your calendars. We have a Youth and Family Summit. Focuses on health and wellness. We are partnering with Making a Change Group as well as the Boys & Girls Club. So it's here Chester Park, right outside of Chester High School. It'll be lots of fun activities. We will implement all the social distancing and guidelines that have been set forth by the CDC. So please come out and have some fun that evening. We'll have a Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council will meet on April 27th and I will send out a notice to parents if we didn't already. But we will have that meeting, it begins at 6:00 PM. And then we have a unique opportunity and this is the last thing I liked to share this evening. And then I may, if we have questions, I'm just teeing up Dr. Murrin and Nurse Selby to answer questions if anyone has any questions.

So as a district, we are partnering with the Pennsylvania Department of Health, as well as other school districts within Delaware County to provide our students with an opportunity... The students who are 16 years old or older to be vaccinated with the Pfizer Vaccine. It is a two dose vaccine and our target date... We are partnering with Ridley, as well as Interboro. And our targeted date is for May 3rd. Now families, if you see a phone number, if your child is 16, 17 or 18 or older and you see a number from Chester Upland School District between now and next week, please answer the call because we want to know if you want to enroll your child. It is free. You do not have to have insurance to have the vaccine. If you need transportation, if you indicate that on the survey, we will provide it. But parents you must... as part of this, it is required that a parent accompany a child who is under 18 years old to the vaccination center. There are some questions that they will ask. And additionally, you have to bring some form of ID. So your child needs some type of ID. So if you bring their birth certificate or a student ID to the vaccination center. But please, the survey will reopen, if it's not there already. Is it reopened already, Dr. Marin, do we know? Yes. So thank you very much. The survey is on our website. We also will put it on Facebook if it's not there, but it's for parents of students who are 16 through 18 to sign up, to indicate to us that you want to have your child vaccinated. Dr. Baughn, do you want me to move into the financial aspect of my report?

Dr. Baughn - Thank you, Dr. Birks.

**Dr. Birks** - Thank you. So a part of my report is our financial report for the month. And so I'd like to ask Mr. Smith and Mr. Fazio to join me with this presentation. And if all of our IT team could please upload the presentation. And since I've done the most talking this evening, I am going to have Mr. Fazio and Mr. Smith do the talking tonight as it relates to the budget.

Rich Fazio, Interim CEO and Clifton Smith, Comptroller gave a presentation on the preliminary budget for the 2021-22 FY.

**Dr. Birks** - Thank you, Mr. Fazio and thank you, Mr. Smith. Dr. Baughn, should I ask are there questions before I have one more comment. I know I said that before.

Dr. Baughn - Go ahead.

**Dr. Birks** - Are there any questions from the board or the community regarding the budget presentation?

**Dr. McCook** - Dr. Birks, I think I'm seeing a couple of questions in here. One question is how much money do we need to save to remove us from this deficit problem we continue to experience?

Mr. Fazio - At this point, this budget does not reflect a deficit. We have some commitments that we're addressing, but the 2021-22 budget is a positive one where revenues should exceed expenditures. And we hope that to be the case when we finish the year.

**Dr. Birks -** Any more questions Dr. McCook?

**Dr. McCook** - Yes, there is one other. We'd like to have a public presentation on the CCIU contract, including the cost we have agreed to pay them. Also, include a list of lawyers and their contracted services. We are spending a great deal on these for our district, looking to cut costs. Would like to see organization chart to know who reports to Dr. Birks and you, Dr. Baughn.

**Dr. Baughn** - We are in the process and in the final throes of analyzing the CCIU cost comparison. We should have that available within the next week to seven days. So that will be a part of our presentation at our next board meeting because I think that's a terrific question. It's a question we have been asking ourselves as we transitioned from the CCIU. So we are in the throes of the analysis that's referenced there. Dr. Birks, will have to deal with the organizational chart.

Dr. Birks - Yes, I will present an organizational chart to the public in the next receiver's meeting.

Dr. Baughn - Okay. Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Fazio and Mr. Smith. Dr. Birks, what's left?

**Dr. Birks** - The final word. Please mark your calendars for April 26. We will have coffee and conversation with Dr. Birks and distinguish men from Chester. The last month we had distinguished women from Chester, this month is distinguished men. So I just wanted to mark your calendars. Our announcement will go out April 26th, 6:00 PM. Thank you. That concludes my report, Dr. Baughn.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF March 15, 2021

Receiver Dr. Baughn approved.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dr. Juan Baughn - I'm opening the floor now for public comments as it relates to the agenda this evening. When you comment, please give your name and address for the record. Thank you.

#### Via Q&A:

**Dr. Murrin** - Dr. Baughn, good evening. Good evening everyone, the question that I saw was pertaining to, A-3 and A-5, so I think that was referring to settlement agreements and it looks as though the question is what are we not doing for students that result in us going to court and settlement hearing? So obviously I wouldn't be able to speak to the details of the settlement agreements, given that they're confidential.

## **EDUCATION AGENDA**

#### A-1 Approval to adopt and approve Determinations from Student Hearings

Student #	<b>Date of Hearing</b>		
21265	3/16/2021		
212169	4/7/2021		
213716	4/7/2021		
213453	4/7/2021		
90654	4/7/2021		
1001296	4/7/2021		

## A-2 Approval of the Tuition Agreement for Student #80839 with Elwyn

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval of the Tuition Agreement for Student Numbers: 80839 (CB) for the 2020-2021 school year between the Chester Upland School District and Elwyn.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

**Cost:** \$63,300/SY (Not to exceed \$25,000 for remainder of 20-21 SY)

**Executive Sponsor:** Christine Murrin

### A-3 Approval of the Settlement Agreement and Release for Student #080809

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval of the Settlement Agreement and Release with reference to Student Number #080809 (GW) for legitimate educational expenses and attorney's fees.

Pavable From: General Fund Budget

**Cost:** \$75,000 (\$66,000/Settlement Agreement, \$9,000 Attorney's Fees)

**Executive Sponsor:** Christine Murrin

#### A-4 Approval of Education Funding for Student #1001132 with Abraxas

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval of the education funding for #1001132 (NC) for Abraxas Southern Peaks Regional Treatment Center.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

**Cost:** Not to Exceed \$6,000 (\$151.90/day for remainder of 2020-21 SY)

**Executive Sponsor:** Christine Murrin

#### A-5 Approval of the Settlement Agreement and Release for Student #1000479

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval of the Settlement Agreement and Release with reference to Student Number #1000479 (MID) for legitimate educational expenses and attorney's fees.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: \$30,000 (\$25,000/Settlement Agreement, \$5,000 Attorney's Fees)

**Executive Sponsor:** Christine Murrin

EDUCATION AGENDA ITEMS #A-1 THROUGH A-5 WERE APPROVED BY DR. JUAN BAUGHN, RECEIVER.

## PERSONNEL AGENDA

B-1 Approval of appointments, resignations, leaves of absence, return from leaves of absence, and spring coaches.

RESOLVED, that the following **appointments** be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

<u>Name</u>	Position/ Location	<u>Salary</u>	Level/ Step	Effective Date	New/ Replacement
Robinson, Christopher	Temporary Interim Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Admin	\$20/hr.	n/a	3/16/2021	Replacement Temporary
Boswell Mary	Lunch Aide Toby Farms	\$11/hr.	n/a	4/19/2021	Replacement
LoFurno Nicole	Payroll/HR Specialist	\$53,500	n/a	5/1/2021	Replacement

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following  $\underline{resignations}$  be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

Name	Position/Location	<b>Effective Date</b>
Kratochvil, Carrie	Temporary Interim Executive Assistant To the Superintendent/ Admin	3/19/2021
Montgomery, Deborah	Teacher's Assistant/ Toby Farms	3/25/2021
Weathers, Tavon	Custodian/Toby Farms	4/2/2021
Robinson, Kinya	Interim Executive Assistant To the Superintendent/Admin	4/6/2021
Robinson, Christopher	Temporary Interim Executive Assistant To the Superintendent/ Admin	4/6//2021

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following <u>leaves of absence</u> be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

Name	Position/Location	Effective Date
Stewart, William	Teacher's Aide/CHS	9/8/20202-12/1/2021 FMLA
Stewart, William	Teacher's Aide/CHS	12/2/2020-4/27-2021 Medical
Stanford, Derek	Teacher/CHS	2/6/2021-4/27/2021 FMLA
Fletcher, Sundae	Teacher/CHS	2/3/2021-4/30/2021 FMLA

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following <u>return from leaves of absence</u> be approved on the effective date respectively noted:

Name	Position/Location	Effective Date
McLuckie, Susan	Teacher/Toby Farms	3/9/2021
Morales-Brito, Julissa	Truancy Assistant/CHS	3/15/2021
Weatherly, Aliesa	Teacher/CHS	3/22/2021
O'Connell, Elizabeth	Teacher/Toby Farms	3/22/2021
Pawlowski, Melanie	Teacher/CUSA	4/6/2021
Orr, Christopher	Teacher/Main Street	4/13/2021
Laws, Darren	Teacher/Toby Farms	4/26/2021

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following  $\underline{\textbf{Spring Coaches}}$  be approved for the 2020-2021 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Terry, Lafennis	Assistant Track Coach - Boys	\$3,151.97
Clayton, Juwan	Assistant Track Coach - Girls	\$3,151.97
Wharton, James	Head Cross Country Coach – Boys	\$4,202.50
Allen, Jamal	Head Cross Country Coach – Girls	\$4,202.50

Wharton, James

Head Outdoor Track Coach – Boys \$4,202.50

Allen, Jamal

Head Outdoor Track Coach – Girls \$4,202.50

## **B-2** Approval of Tuition Reimbursement

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grant approval for employees listed below to receive tuition reimbursement for the 2020-2021 school year

#### **Administrators:**

<u>Name</u>	Credits Submitted	Credits Approved	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Bell, Brendan	6	6	\$5,734.80	\$5,734.80

**Executive Sponsor:** Lakiyah Chambers

## B-3 General Fund Budget: \$2,766,000.15. Approval of payrolls

RESOLVED, that the payrolls dated in March, 2021 of the various accounts totaling for all accounts and funds the grand sum of \$2,766,000.15, be approved by the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors.

**Executive Sponsor:** Lakiyah Chambers

#### B-4 Approval to Purchase an account with GetSelected.com

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval for the HR Department to purchase an account with <a href="https://www.getselected.com">www.getselected.com</a>.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: Not to Exceed \$6,000

**Executive Sponsor:** Lakiyah Chambers

## B-5 Approval of stipend for Christina Coleman for overtime services for Committee Meetings

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval for a stipend to be paid to Christina Coleman for overtime services for Committee Meetings at a rate of \$31.25/hr.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: Not to Exceed \$250.00

Executive Sponsor: Lakiyah Chambers

PERSONNEL AGENDA ITEM #B-1 THROUGH B-5 WERE APPROVED BY DR. JUAN BAUGHN, RECEIVER.

## **BUSINESS AGENDA**

#### C-1 Reports of the tax collectors: \$178,929.64

RESOLVED, that the reports of the City of Chester, Borough of Upland, and Chester Township for the period March 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$178,929.64 be received, be noted upon the Minutes and filed.

Executive Sponsor: Rich Fazio

## C-2 Approval of the Treasurer's Report/Budget Report

RESOLVED, that the attached Treasurer's Report/Budget Report for the fiscal month ended March 31, 2021 be approved by the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors.

Executive Sponsor: Rich Fazio

#### C-3 General Fund Budget: \$8,670,875.72. Approval of list of payments

RESOLVED, that the attached list of payments of the various accounts totaling for all accounts and funds the grand sum of \$8,670,875.72, a copy of which has been given to the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, be APPROVED, and that said list of payments be incorporated into the Minutes.

General Fund	\$8,619,830.98
Food Services Account	51,044.74
Capital Project Fund Account	0

Total Disbursements \$8,670,875.72

**Payable From:** General Fund Budget **Executive Sponsor:** Rich Fazio

# C-4 Approval of Chester Upland School District's STEB share of the Delaware County Community College 2021-22 Budget

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval for Chester Upland School District's STEB share of the Delaware County Community College for the 2021-22 Budget.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: \$331,799

Executive Sponsor: Rich Fazio

#### C-5 Approval of Bond Resolution – 2021 for the Issuance of 2011A Bonds and the 2011C Bonds

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval for the issuance of Bonds 2011A and 2011C. Full Resolution is posted on Chester Upland School District Website.

Executive Sponsor: Rich Fazio

## C-6 Approval to enter into a contractual agreement with Maillie LLC to provide Audit services

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grant approval to enter into a contractual agreement with Maillie LLC to provide Financial Audit services for the years ended June 30, 2020 and June 30, 2021in the amount of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) per year.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: \$150,000

Executive Sponsor: Rich Fazio

#### C-9 Approval of the election of the DCIU Board of Directors

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grant approval for the election of the following individuals to serve as members of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors:

For the Term July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024

Chichester

**Edward Cardow** 

Penn-Delco

M. Colleen Powell

Rose Tree Media

Hillary Fletcher

Upper Darby

Rachel Mitchell

Wallingford-Swarthmore

Lawrence Kutys

**Executive Sponsor:** Carol Birks

### C-7 Approval to enter a contractual agreement with Gallagher Benefit Services

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grant approval to enter into a contractual agreement with Gallagher Benefit Services to provide Employee Benefit evaluation services for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of twenty-four thousand dollars (\$24,000.00).

Payable From: General Fund Budget

**Cost:** \$24,000

Executive Sponsor: Rich Fazio

## C-8 Approval for the increase of internet bandwidth for RWAN

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval for the increase of internet bandwidth as indicated in the Second Addendum to Service Order for Regional Wide Area Network Services RWAN (Regional Wide Area Network) Consortium from Delaware County Intermediate Unit, from April 15, 2021 – June 30, 2022.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: \$22,440

Executive Sponsor: Byron McCook

#### C-9 Approval of the election of the DCIU Board of Directors

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grant approval for the election of the following individuals to serve as members of the Delaware County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors:

For the Term July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024

Chichester Edward Cardow
Penn-Delco M. Colleen Powell
Rose Tree Media Hillary Fletcher
Upper Darby Rachel Mitchell

Wallingford-Swarthmore Lawrence Kutys

**Executive Sponsor:** Carol Birks

## **Business Agenda (Supplemental)**

# C-10 Approval of the Special Education Intergovernmental Funding and Service Agreement for 2021-22

RESOLVED, that the Receiver, acting as the Board of School Directors, grants approval of the Special Education Intergovernmental Funding and Service Agreement for the 2020-2021 school year between the Chester Upland School District and Delaware County Intermediate Unit.

Payable From: General Fund Budget

Cost: \$1,247,292

**Executive Sponsor:** Christine Murrin

BUSINESS AGENDA ITEMS #C-1 THROUGH #C-9 AND SUPPLEMENTAL BUSINESS AGENDA ITEM #C-10 WERE APPROVED, WITH THE CORRECTION TO ITEM #-6, FROM \$75,000 PER YEAR TO \$70,000 PER YEAR FOR TOTAL COST OF \$140,000, BY DR. JUAN BAUGHN, RECEIVER

Dr. Baughn - Other business?

In the Q&A:

Pace Chess said that they would like to teach chess to those impacted by autism. So Ms. Parker, you may want to get in touch with them about that and maybe some of the other schools.

Carla Beaver asked when the CCIU's last day with the district is?

**Dr. Birks -** So the CCIU, we are phasing out our relationship or partnership with CCIU in two phases. Beginning, April 30th, the technology services, human resources, the business office, our finance office, those and operational offices, including transportation will be phased out. And the second phase will begin June 30th. We'll commence on June 30th and end on June 30th, I should say. And that will include special education services or student support services and the federal programs.

There's another question. It said did the district get rid of ServPro? And if so, who is deep cleaning the schools?

**Dr. Baughn -** ServPro or rather, Service Master, has been let go. Our employees are deep cleaning the schools and we are in the process of finding someone else to help supplement what we are in fact doing. And that is a very high priority for us to find someone else to help us with that.

Ms. Arnold asks, for each building, what is our attendance for students, one, in the classroom, two, still at home and three, truant or unaccounted for?

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**Dr. Birks-** So Ms. Arnold, I will send out, I have our total enrollment as well as through the dates of March 12th, but I need the schools to send me... they did send me and we just have not analyzed those data overall so I can put it in the public on our website and Facebook for you. But the schools did send it to us and we're just reconciling, making sure that we have one report. But our overall attendance for the district to date is 68.9%. And the most recent report I received that includes in-district as well as out-of-district, but those numbers just aggregated. I will have and I'm sorry I don't have it for you this evening. It's just that I had a little transition in my administrative support, so I didn't get to that, but I will make it a public document.

Ms. Arnold also asks, what are we planning to make up the learning gap caused by the pandemic?

**Dr. Pearson-** So this summer we are basically preparing a summer program that not only helps to address the summer slide that students typically experience, but also incorporates extra work around areas that students really did not have enough time to explore this year. So we're making sure that our English language arts, our math and our science programs are rich and robust. And we're also making sure that we have materials that we can send home with our students to assist our families. So those are just some of our efforts. Dr. Birks did mention that we have a survey that will be made available for our families and we're going to use that information as well to determine things such as the length of the school day, as well as the week. So we really encourage our parents to complete those surveys.

**Dr. Baughn -** And I have asked administration to provide as much academic as we can this summer for anyone who will come. I have this incredible wish that 100% of our students spend six weeks in school this summer, but we are going to work hard to get as many students as we can in the school for the summer. And we're not talking about just remedial work. We're talking about academic work that makes sense for our young people. So thank you. Thank you folks. Good question. Is there another question?

Ms. Arnold also asks are the after-school program for cook at home is still on hold? When will it resume?

**Dr. Birks -** That program should be underway. And so we will talk with the director of our 21st century. I did bring her attention. It was a question last month and most recently about ShopRite and us all still needing to reconcile our relationship. And our finance team has done their due diligence and we do not have any outstanding payments to ShopRite. And we also heard that we have many resources in district to get access to food as well. And when I met with the director, I asked her to leverage those resources, but there is no outstanding bill and I have Mr. Fazio and Mr. Smith are in this meeting to attest to that. We do not have an outstanding. So if there's something outstanding at ShopRite, if you're listening, please submit it to us. We do have an email that we do not have any outstanding bill with ShopRite.

Ms. Beaver asks, what is going to happen to the special education students?

**Dr. Murrin -** I'm just going to speculate maybe a little bit and may align to services over the summer. So I can speak a little bit to that. And if not, if I'm off base, then it's still good information to receive. So in terms of special education students we will still have ESY eligibility as we typically do for our special education students. And there are criteria that students must meet for the extended school year

program. In addition to that, we also have COVID compensatory services that will be offered to our special education students. And that will not be an eligibility criteria, that will simply be due to the COVID-19. So similar to what Dr. Baughn was saying, we really want to make sure that we're reaching out and we're providing services to our students that were obviously impacted as we all were by the pandemic. So not sure if that's what the question was, but I can assure you that that will be occurring over the summer.

**Dr. Birks -** Yes and I think she responded and thank you, Ms. Beaver for clarifying for us. And thank you Dr. Murrin for hearing that we are really feverishly planning for our special ed programming for the summer. And they're a little ahead of our general heads. So I want to thank you, Dr. Murrin and your team for being proactive about planning. And so we have posted positions for various roles within our special education department. And we've done that early in anticipation of the transition. And so we will have individuals on staff. We do have some candidates and I'll let Dr. Chambers speak to that. Who have applied, if there's additional questions to assume some of the roles in special education post June 30th.

Ms. Arnold asks C-4 is what is the benefit we receive for spending \$331,000?

**Ms. Coleman -** I guess that's the STEB payments that we make to DC, the community college. That's our share for the kids to go to school half price. Which means that our children that graduate and go to Delaware County Community College gets half price tuition when they go.

**Dr. Baughn -** Okay. That's right. So we have two programs with Delaware County Community, guys. One, is the program for dual enrollment with students who have not graduated and every school district in the county that becomes a part of Delaware County Community College can have their students go to Delaware College for 50% off. Mr. Riley is our Board Representative to Delaware County Community College.

Ms. Arnold asks can we include COVID spending in our updates? And how much is in budget and allocated for what areas?

**Dr. Baughn -** I'm going to speak to that in a second. That's in my other business.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### Dr. Baughn -

Most of you, if not all of you know that we had a situation where we were hacked at the school district. We reported to the district attorney's office. We reported it to PDE and the attorney general. And we were hacked, I think in total amount of close to \$14 million. I want to report that as of this date, \$10.2 million of that \$14 million has been recovered and we're working on recovering the remainder.

We're extremely excited that that has been recovered. We also have taken tremendous steps to secure our system to assure that there was anything that we did or that we can do to keep that from happening, that we're doing it. So we've hired experts in the field. The district attorney's office has been here. We've hired cyber people who look at these things and we're doing everything that we can to keep us safe. But we're excited to announce that \$10.2 million has been recovered and sent to us. So we appreciate that.

In terms of the COVID funding. I have created a tasks force and I'll be sending out letters tomorrow to the task force members asking for suggestions, comments, dreams, or wishes in terms of what we should do with the COVID money that is in the pipeline for us. I will be asking the task force members to be in touch with their constituents so that they can provide input to that the task force members so that we have a broader perspective of input as I can possibly get. Dr. Birks will be in charge with the responsibility of contact with her staff and with community as well as other members of the task force.

So I'm excited about the opportunity. I will have more to say about that in terms of how much and when, but rest assured that every dime of this... it's called ESSERS Two and ESSERS Three. Every dime of it will be spent wisely and the public will be well aware of what we're doing. And I, again, I'm seeking input. So put your dream hats on, put your dream hats on and we're going to dream big about how we can best use this money to help our students learn more and better. This money is about helping our students learn more and better. So put your thinking caps on. Dr. Birks has taken suggestions and the task force will be taking suggestions. There is a list that will be going up on the website in terms of what we can allocate these funds to doing. So we will make sure that you have that as well.

There being no further business *Receiver*, *Dr. Juan Baughn* adjourned the meeting at 8:06 pm.

CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL RECOVERY RECEIVER

Dr. J⁄yan Baughn 🛚

Date