

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA  
Meeting Minutes  
January 3, 2013

The Finance and Audit Committee meeting was held on January 3, 2013 in the superintendent's conference room located in the Colonial Elementary School at 230 Flourtown Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA. Trevor Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

**Finance Committee Members Present:** Kathleen Oxberry and Susan Moore

**Other Board Members Present:** Alan Tabachnick, Christina Frangiosa, Mel Brodsky, Bernie Brady, Leslie Finegold and Beth Suchsland

**Others Present:** Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Rich Hartz and student from PWHS

**Public Present:** None

**Regular Meeting:**

Mr. Jackson asked for any public comments on the agenda, there were none.

Mr. Jackson provided the committee with the 2013-2014 Budget Calendar and an update regarding the 2013-2014 Preliminary Budget. A 'first look' at the budget will take place at the Information Meeting on January 16. Mr. Jackson emphasized that the Preliminary Budget is really just a placeholder to satisfy the Act 1 requirements in order to be able to apply for referendum exceptions. Referendum exceptions will be calculated over the next week and will be factored into the Preliminary Budget as per the Act 1 guidelines. Lastly, Mr. Jackson stated that many figures in the Preliminary Budget will be adjusted as we obtain additional information as we move through the budget process over the next six months.

Mr. Jackson presented the committee with a resolution regarding Sequestration. The resolution highlights the District's position regarding the impact the Budget Control Act of 2011 will have on education. The Budget Control Act of 2011 would reduce federal funds that are directed toward education by 8.2% which would result in larger class sizes, fewer course offerings, possible four-day school weeks, loss of extracurricular activities, and staff lay-offs.

Mr. Jackson informed the committee that the 2013-2014 Montgomery County Intermediate Unit budget would be distributed on Friday, January 4 and would require board approval at the regular board meeting scheduled for January 10, 2013. Mr. Jackson informed the committee that this budget does not represent all the expenses that are paid to the MCIU. The majority of payments made to the MCIU are special ed related primarily for students that are placed in special programs and classes.

Mr. Jackson presented the committee with an agreement with Keystone Realty Advisors to serve as a consultant for defending taxpayer initiated assessment appeals and recommending properties for the District to submit an assessment appeal. This agreement is a five year

agreement; however, a review of the relationship will take place after twelve months whereby giving the district an opportunity to terminate the agreement after three years if we should so choose.

Mr. Jackson presented to the committee the first Assessment Appeal Quarterly Report. This report is a work in progress and may be modified over time in an effort to best illustrate the status of the District's outstanding assessment appeals.

As there was no further business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM and immediately following went into an executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trevor S. Jackson  
Business Administrator