

March 1, 2007

BOARD (Present)

John D'Angelo	President	Joseph Ciambrello	Member
David Chichilitti	Vice-President	Joseph Fusco	Member
James Petrino	Treasurer	John Hill	Member
Anthony Mandio	Solicitor	Mary Jane Paglione	Member
Mary Antonelli	Secretary	Denise Riccio	Member

BOARD (Absent)

Steve Cullen Member (excused/family illness)

OTHERS (Present)

Dr. Broadus Davis	Superintendent of Schools
Joseph Roe	Business Manager
Thomas Shaffer	Secondary Principal
Kelli Rosado	Assistant Elementary Principal
James Esposito	Acting Assistant Secondary Principal
Residents (4)	
Teacher(s) (0)	

OTHERS (Absent)

Rosemary Parmigiani Elementary Principal - excused

The Bristol Borough School Directors held a public meeting on Thursday, **March 1, 2007**, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the District Administrative Offices.

CALL TO ORDER.

President D'Angelo called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Salute to the Flag. He informed everyone that there would be a public hearing on Local Tax Reform

AGENDA APPROVAL: Approved (8-0).

Motion:	Mr. Chichilitti
Second:	Mr. Hill
Result:	Approved 8-0

Gene Williams, Executive Director of the Grundy Foundation, shared an update on the Education Foundation recently established for the Bristol Borough School District.

➤ Members Include: Bonnie O'Boyle, Barbara Olshefsky, Philomena Quattrocchi, Ron Walker, William Pezza (who will serve as chairperson), and Dr. Davis.

March 1, 2007

- Donations thus far: \$10,000 from the Grundy Foundation, \$10,000 from First Federal Savings and Loan. District employees have committed another \$6,000 through payroll deduction. This year's goal is to raise \$50,000. Four percent of the total amount of donations and ½ of the staff donations can be spent. Two projects have been identified: math night and a media entertainment facility. The foundation's long-term goal would be to have \$100,000 in the bank.
- Mr. Williams encouraged the board to consider donating as a group or individually.
- First fundraising event will be a "Doo Wop" on March 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Riverside Theatre.

IMMEDIATE ACTION ITEM

Business

1. Approve the appointment of John Hill as representative to the Bucks County Intermediate Unit Board, effective July 2007 though June 2011.

Motion:	Mr. Chichilitti
Second:	Mrs. Paglione
Result:	Approved 8-0

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR AGENDA ACTION, MARCH 15, 2007

- Adopt the 2007-2008 Program & Services and Instructional Materials Budget.
Comment: Mr. Roe noted that this is a very small part of the I.U. budget and the only part that the district approves. The largest portion of the I.U. budget is special education services and the districts do not approve that portion. In regard to the special educations services, our costs increased by 25% over the past two years and that amounts to \$750,000.
- Add qualified candidates to the District Professional Substitute List.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- Paul Marchese (parent) requested copies of drawings and specifications for the new elementary school. Mr. Roe answered that the drawings and specifications are in the Board Room at the Snyder-Girotti Elementary School.
- Karen Riccio (parent) asked if the board would consider supporting a soccer program at the junior-senior high school. Mr. D'Angelo and Mr. Petrino acknowledged Mrs. Riccio's request, but stated that playing/practice fields were a priority at this point due to the construction of the new school.

ACT 1 – LOCAL TAX REFORM - HEARING

Mr. Roe reviewed the attached: **Act I** requires that the School Board must put a referendum question on the ballot in May, and it needs to be approved by March 15, 2007. The questions **March 1, 2007**

are: Do you want an earned income tax? Do you want a personal income tax? He shared information and answered questions regarding Act I and the Board's responsibility.

- All school districts in the state of Pennsylvania, except for 36, have an Earned Income Tax.
- Personal Income Tax – interest, dividends, rent income, wages (any income that you are presently filing with the state of PA).
- Earned Income Tax – wages and money from self employment.
- Personal Income Tax would bring in about 8% more than an Earned Income Tax.
- Earned Income Tax: A working household would be different from a retired household.
- Residents pay 2/3 of our taxes; businesses pay 1/3 of the taxes.
- 2000 Census identified the following age categories: 25-54 (45%) 65 and over (16%). Owner occupied homes is 57%; renters, 42%.
- 1667 homeowners applied and were approved for Homestead.
- 2000 Census – Household income levels (20%) - \$50,000 and \$75,000.
- **Act I** requires that the percentage rate you set must bring in a 25% reduction in tax – 25% of the medium property assessment and in Bristol Borough it is \$16,400.
- The first year the 100% will not be collected; in subsequent years we would collect 100%.
- If taxpayers were to vote for an Earned Income Tax in May, the August school tax bill would reflect the credit. The district would then collect less in real estate tax. Hopefully, the collection of the earned income tax will make up the difference.
- Renters are not entitled to any exclusion, but will be paying the Earned Income Tax.
- When gambling money comes through, our Earned Income Tax would be reduced.
- Senior Citizens Property Tax Rebates have been increased between \$18,000 & \$35,000

Mr. D'Angelo reminded everyone that the District Local Tax Commission did not make any recommendation. However, the School Board would ultimately make the decision.

ADDITIONAL IMMEDIATE ITEM:

Mr. D'Angelo read the attached resolution regarding the referendum to be placed on the May 2007 ballot for an Earned Income Tax at a rate of 1%.

Motion: David Chichilitti
Second: Joseph Fusco
Result: Passed (8-0)

Next public meeting: March 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Executive sessions are routinely held at 6:30 p.m. to discuss personnel/legal issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned – 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mary M. Antonelli, Board Secretary

