

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance

President Charles H. Ballard called the regular meeting of the East Penn Board of School Directors to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room, located at 800 Pine Street, Emmaus, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: K. Bacher, C. Ballard, L. Donches, A. Earnshaw, F. Fuller, R. Heid,
M. Policano, S. Rhodes, J. Stolz

Solicitor: Marc S. Fisher, Esq., Worth, Magee, & Fisher

Treasurer: Lynn Glancy

Board Secretary: Cecilia R. Birdsell

Assistant Superintendent: Dr. Denise Torma

Press Present: Tyler Martin, East Penn Press Reporter
Jennifer Marangos, Emmaus.Patch.com Editor
Randy Kraft, WFMZ on line Reporter
Precious Petty, Express Times Reporter
Kelly Martin, Morning Call Reporter

2. Requests to Address the Board

Rob Hamill, 1500 Little Lehigh Drive, N., Emmaus alleged that the budget process appeared to be a complete mess. He claimed the district needed a Budget & Finance Committee to see what the district is spending its money on. He claimed that Ms. Donches was told she could not ask questions about the budget and that the people managing the budget are taking control of it. He criticized the board members for voting against a 0% increase budget. He asserted that the Board did not know what it was spending district money on, citing the increasing pension costs. He talked about the budget tripling since he was on the Board, adding there had not been that much student growth. He said a Budget & Finance Committee should be set up so the Board could understand the budget and not keep raising taxes.

Mr. Jim Rossignuolo, 1520 Shasta Lane, Macungie, read the attached statement regarding the budget and increasing taxes.

Carol Bettler, 6022 Fairway Lane, Wescosville expressed concern about the elementary class sizes. She indicated that there are 30 plus students and requested that additional teachers be hired to reduce the class sizes.

Julie Kibelbek, 435 Beechwood Street, Emmaus wanted the Board to demonstrate their support for high quality education by supporting the Superintendent's proposed budget. She thanked those members who voted in the past to preserve high quality education. She spoke about the benefits of a public education, including school districts, community college, or a state supported university. She added that a good public education prepares the work force to compete globally, raises the standard of living, and drives innovation and research. She said it is fundamentally unfair to give future generations less than what we ourselves received. She concluded that she is a supporter of public education and would support a reasonable tax increase.

Claire Kowalchick, 2980 Keystone Avenue, Emmaus thanked the Directors of the Board for their work. She noted that East Penn rates in the top 7% of school districts in the state in schools for return on educational investment. Last year the administration and Board reduced the budget from 4.6% to 1.8%. She noted that the Board is faced with balancing the needs of the children with the needs of the community. She felt the Board had done a good job of balancing those needs. Compared to what is taking place in other districts, East Penn has come through being relatively unscathed. She did criticize the fact that a gifted education teacher had been put in the classroom last year. She felt that enrichment is gone and is not happening. She said every child in the district deserves to be educated to his/her full

potential. She said she knew there were some who wanted to see a 0% increase and she spoke about the positive aspects of physical activity and how it correlates with learning as well as the arts. She touched on grants, librarians, and teachers' salaries. She was here in the spirit of community and compromise. She did not support a 0% tax increase because it is not fair, it is not balanced, and it did not illustrate coming together.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Rhodes, Seconded by Earnshaw

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the minutes for the April 23, 2012 Board Meeting with the following editorial changes:

Page 5, Paragraph 2, Line 5: Referring to East Penn's cyber charter school...Changed to East Penn's cyber school.

Page 6, Vote changed for following motion:

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors end debate.

This motion was defeated by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Earnshaw, Donches, **Fuller**, Policano, Stolz-----5

Nay: Ballard, Bacher, Heid, Rhodes-----4

Ms. Fuller was incorrectly listed as a "nay."

Mr. Stolz indicated that on Page 6, Mr. Earnshaw had stated 1.8 million dollars, not 1.9. Mr. Earnshaw indicated that he had actually stated the amount as 1.98 million dollars and later referred to it as 2 million dollars.

Corrections have been made to the permanent minutes of this meeting.

This resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.

4. Seven Generations Charter School – Charter Renewal Resolution (Exhibit 1)

Motion by Fuller, Seconded by Stolz

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors renew the charter for Seven Generations Charter School from September 8, 2012 and ending on September 7, 2017 with the contingents listed in Exhibit 1.

Mr. Earnshaw thanked Dr. Seidenberger and his administrative team for the thorough job they had done with the report. There were things that were pleasing and displeasing. He commented that the original Board did not follow open meetings act protocol by not having minutes for meetings, hiring individuals, and entering into lease agreements and contracts without any minutes. They have since rectified these issues. He was glad the Board would be approving the charter with stipulations that will improve their program. Mr. Earnshaw said he would support the charter. Ms. Donches thanked the staff for their work. She talked about her positive personal experience with the school, adding that she attended Seven Generations' Board of Trustees meetings, adding that there were dedicated trustees and amazing parents and community supporters for the charter school. The fact that the students made AYP right away was a true testament to the determination, the enthusiasm, and the teamwork exhibited. She felt education was opportunity and opportunity opens the world for each child. She said it is truly freedom when a parent has the opportunity to register a child in the school atmosphere that they feel a child will best thrive and be prepared for the future. She said she could be sad when she senses competition between East Penn schools and Seven Gen but she thinks of competition in the true sense of the word – driving each school to the best and that is a good thing. She was encouraged by the plans from Dr. Seidenberger and Mrs. Phiel and their teams for cooperation for the future. She felt that learning best

practices from each other could only lead to better opportunities and education for the students. She indicated her support for the renewal of the charter. Mr. Ballard said he expressed reservations as to whether or not the curriculum of Seven Generations, as advertised in their application, will prepare seventh and eighth graders to make the transition to Emmaus High School. The stipulations will go a long way in clarifying the development of their curriculum. He will support the renewal since there is no legal basis for any other option.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz-----9

5. Report of the Superintendent – Dr. Torma, Assistant Superintendent, reported in Dr. Thomas L. Seidenberger's absence.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Denise Torma reported on the following school activities:

- Emmaus High Teams Place First and Second at Envirothon

Ms. Fuller relayed her experience with volunteering for the Envirothon in the room where students were tested. She said it was interesting to see the teams come and go and as they left they were asked if there were any questions. The only students who had questions were the ones from Emmaus High School who wanted to know the answers. She said it was interesting to see.

2012 marks 15th consecutive year that Emmaus High School places first in annual Lehigh County environmental competition.

- EHS writers for "The Stinger" received a national award for a story on teen domestic violence.
 - Won second place and two new iPads for EHS's newsroom in the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence's statewide contest to spread awareness about domestic violence.
- East Penn schools participate in the Autism Walk every year under the Company Heading: East Penn Cares. East Penn Cares is #1 in the Top Fundraising Companies for Walk Now For Autism Speaks - Lehigh Valley. Between the registered schools, East Penn has raised a total of \$16,720.
- EHS recently held their 2nd NCAA National Letter of Intent Signing. The student-athletes signed a Letter of Intent to continue their education and athletic career at a Division I or Division II university.

In addition to the five (5) student-athletes named, 20 additional members of the Class of 2012 signed in February. This brings the total number to 25 student-athletes, with an average GPA of 3.21, earning in excess of \$2.1 million in scholarship or grant-in-aid.

- The Emmaus High School production of "Guys & Dolls" garnered 12 Freddy nominations.
- Emmaus High School placed second in the State History Day Contest. Caroline Smith will represent Emmaus High School at National History Day Competition in Washington D.C. in June. Mr. Bacher noted that each of the middle schools also had first place winners in the competition and will be moving on to the national competition.
- EHS Robotics Team placed 12th in the nation at the World Championships in Missouri in April.

1. Personnel

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Rhodes
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following personnel items:

Retirements/Resignations

- Ray Oswald, English Teacher at Emmaus HS, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 2)
- Richard Mondschein, Mathematics Teacher at Emmaus HS, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 3)
- Carol Lynn Harakal, Mathematics Teacher at Emmaus HS, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 4)
- John Burger, Grade 2 Teacher at Willow Lane School, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 5)
- Anne Sloane, Guidance Counselor at LMMS, effective July 3, 2012 (Exhibit 6)
- Sandra Drexinger, Administrative Assistant at Eyer MS, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 7)
- Betty Schraden, Administrative Assistant at Wescosville School, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 8)
- Danna Feigenbaum, Grade 5 Teacher at Willow Lane School, effective June 30, 2012 (Exhibit 9)
- Melissa Sell, Elementary Gifted teacher, effective (Exhibit 10)
- Terry Hillegass, Custodian at Macungie School, effective July 19, 2012 (Exhibit 11)
- April Peischl, Remedial Assistant, effective May 3, 2012 (Exhibit 12)
- Risa Roth, Instructional Assistant at Emmaus HS, effective May 11, 2012 (Exhibit 13)
- Christine Butz, Instructional Assistant at Emmaus HS, effective May 1, 2012 (Exhibit 14)
- Laura Fainor, Staff Assistant at Emmaus HS, effective May 11, 2012 (Exhibit 15)

Leaves as Per Collective Bargaining Agreement

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Linda Williams, ESL Teacher, Shoemaker/Wescosville	June 4-September 21, 2012

General Leave of Absence, Board Policy 539

Ellen Martin, Grade 1 Teacher, Wescosville	2012-13 School Year
Catherine Oehmke, Staff Assistant	May 4, 2012-May 3, 2013

Income Protection

Erica Petrella, Grade 5 Teacher, Wescosville	May 31, 2012
--	--------------

Compensated Professional Development Leave

Employee:	Jayne Espenshade Business Education Teacher, Emmaus HS
Effective:	2012-13 School Year
Reference:	Board Policy 438.1, Compensated Professional Leaves

Appointment of Custodian

Name/Address: Nathan Amato
47 S. Church Street, Macungie
Assignment: LMMS, Tuesday-Saturday, Second Shift
Vacancy created by death of J. M. Girard and subsequent transfers

Effective: May 15, 2012
Salary: \$18.62/hr., 40 hrs./wk.

Appointment of Instructional Staff/Assistants

<u>Name/Address</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Connie Knerr Rambo 6421 Carmel Drive, Macungie	Inst. Assistant, Shoemaker Vacancy created by E. Haag resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Michele Rodriguez 6057 Makala Ct, Germansville	Inst. Assistant, Emmaus HS Vacancy created by T. Angel resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.
Jennifer Scott 1574 Longfellow Pl, Bethlehem	Inst. Assistant, Emmaus HS Vacancy created by C. Werkheiser resignation	\$12.99/hr., 29 hrs./wk.

Effective: May 15, 2012

Appointment of PT Food Service Assistant

Arielle Pierog 3802 Churchview St, Vacancy created by L. Schilling resignation	Eyer MS Emmaus	\$14.96/hr., 22.5 hrs./wk.
--	-------------------	----------------------------

Appointment of Summer School Teachers – Emmaus HS & Eyer MS

See Exhibits 16 & 17

Extended School Year Staff

See Exhibit 18

Change in Employment Status

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Ron Wetzel Effective: May 15, 2012	Night Foreman, Wescosville	Alburtis, Second Shift
Allan Bennicoff	LMMS, Second Shift	Wescosville, Night Foreman
Michael Leverington	LMMS, Tuesday-Saturday	LMMS, Second Shift
Amy Bower Food Service, Shoemaker	2 hrs./day	3.75 hrs./day

Educational/Professional Development Conferences – Exhibit 19

That the East Penn Board of School Directors authorizes the estimated expenses for the individuals attending the Educational/Professional Development Conferences listed on Exhibit 19.

Emmaus High School Class of 2012 (Exhibit 21)

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the 2012 list of Emmaus High School seniors, noting only those who meet the graduation requirements will be graduated.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz----9

2. Athletic Trainers Services Agreement – Emmaus HS & Middle Schools (Exhibit 20)

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the Athletic Trainers Services Agreement as described in Exhibit 19.

Note: This Agreement has been reviewed by the Solicitor.

Mr. Ballard noted a change in Page 1, Paragraph one under AGREEMENT that “OAA will make available **2 qualified athletic trainers** to provide the services described in paragraph 2(a) hereof for the sports team practices and inter scholastic athletic events described in Exhibit A (“Covered Practices/Events”) for the school year set forth in Exhibit A (“School Year”). Mr. Bacher suggested that the date in the contract be updated to reflect the date of this meeting. Ms. Donches mentioned that although the increases are not high from year to year a five year contract seems lengthy.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz-9

6. Second Reading: Revision – Board Policy 250, Bullying (Exhibit 22)

Note: All districts are required, by CIPA (**Children's Internet Protection Act of 1999**) to remove the word “may” from their Internet Safety Policy (Bullying Policy). All schools are required to teach Internet Safety starting in the school year 2012/2013.

Any changes should be submitted to the Board Secretary. A recommendation for adoption will be presented at the June 11 Board Meeting.

7. Legislative

C. Ballard

Mr. Ballard noted that the Legislature is still working on the budget. This week the Senate Appropriations Committee amended and unanimously approved a 2012-13 state budget plan. The amended version was then passed by the Senate and the bill is now in the House for consideration, where additional changes are expected to be made. The bill is currently in the House Appropriations Committee. It has been suggested that additional funding for the ABG could be included by the House when the bill moves to that chamber. There are some bills regarding property taxes in committee that deal with casino revenue and increases and broadening of the sales tax or state income tax.

1. 2012 PSBA Bylaws Change Proposal – Amended Subsection 4.E

Motion by Ballard, Seconded by Fuller

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the proposal for the change in the PSBA Bylaws as stated below and that the revision be submitted to the PSBA By Laws Committee for consideration:

Current Language Section 4. Election, E

Persons who have not been slated for an office by the Nominating Committee **AND** who seek to be considered as a candidate for **AN** office of the Association may file a nominating petition not later than July 10 for an office of the Association in accordance

with the following provisions:

New subsection 4.E.8

8) Candidates nominated by petition need not have submitted an expression of interest (subsection A), nor have been interviewed by the Nominating Committee (subsection B), nor not slated for office.

Mr. Ballard explained the process that has been used by PSBA and the change that would allow the nomination of officers and the board of directors by petition so the membership could vote. The change must be voted on by the Board and submitted to PSBA. Mr. Earnshaw talked about the voting process at the state conference and the low voter turnout both at the conference and by absentee ballot.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes-----8

Abstention: Stolz-----1

Mr. Stolz reported that he had been talking to new Representative Ryan McKenzie who did not think the 30% charter school reimbursement to school districts would be restored. Even though Mr. Stolz supports charter schools like the Governor and Legislature, he did feel that the state should live up to its legislative commitment to districts and restore the reimbursement.

8. Business Operations

1. Bill List Approval

Motion by Donches, Seconded by Fuller

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the attached bill list and that the Treasurer be authorized to issue checks and vouchers in the amounts indicated.

Parent/Guardian Transportation Contracts

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors approve the following Parent/Guardian Transportation Contracts:

Parent: Angela Tyson
742 E. Tioga Street, Allentown
Effective: March 12, 2012-April 11, 2012
Reimbursement: 5.8 miles-Emmaus HS
12.1 miles-LMMS
22.1 miles per trip twice daily
\$.555/mile

Parent: Lisa Marie Kern
84 Commanche Drive, Auburn
Effective: April 16-June 12, 2012
Reimbursement: 16.6 miles-EHS
\$.555/mile

Disbursement of Funds – Exhibit 23

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors authorize the disbursement of funds from 33-2010 Series A GOB as listed on Exhibit 23.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call votes:
Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz—9

2. Informational: General School Supplies and Computer Supplies (Exhibit 24)

9. 2012-13 East Penn School District Budget

Mr. Stolz proposed the following motion:

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors shall not vote on a proposed final budget until all budgetary suggestions are heard from any member of the Board who wishes to bring a proposal forward.

Mr. Stolz said it was his understanding that there were several members of the Board who may wish to propose alternatives and he wanted to be sure that they would be heard. He wanted to be sure that Ms. Donches who had a presentation would be heard. Mr. Earnshaw said that on the debates on any matter every member of the Board is entitled to participate and debate. Also, at any time any member of the Board can call for an end of debate and, if it is adopted by a 2/3 vote, debate is ended. He said during his tenure on the Board he had not seen a time when someone was shouted down who had feedback or comments. Mr. Earnshaw concluded that it was an irrelevant motion. Mr. Stolz said Mr. Policano was prevented from making a presentation. Mr. Earnshaw, who was the Board President at the time, explained that Mr. Policano was not allowed to put his presentation up on a screen but he was allowed to make comments during the budget debate. Mr. Bacher asked about the process and Mr. Ballard explained that normally there is a motion put on the floor so there can be a discussion and it can be amended during the discussion.

The motion was defeated by the following roll call vote:

Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Rhodes-----5
Aye: Donches, Heid, Policano, Stolz-----4

1. 2012-13 Proposed Final Budget Adoption for East Penn School District/Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Rebate Program

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Heid

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors adopt the proposed final 2012/13 budget in the amount of \$125,195,028 with the following tax levies:

47.02 mills on the assessed valuation of real estate
0.5% (.005) Act 511 Earned Income Tax
1.0% Act 511 Real Estate Transfer Tax

be it further

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors continue the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Rebate Program for the 2012-13 year with the income eligibility guidelines to be established at final budget adoption.

Mr. Ballard announced that the information that was distributed by Ms. Donches immediately before the Board Meeting and has not been produced or validated by the East Penn staff, adding that this is the first time that the board members and staff are seeing this information.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Denise Torma said the budget being proposed represents a 1.89% increase to the tax rate. After tonight's vote the proposed final budget will be available for public review for 30 days on the district's website as well as at the Emmaus Public Library and the Lower Macungie

Public Library. The budget is scheduled for final adoption at the June 25 Board Meeting since by law a final budget must be in place by June 30.

Dr. Torma asked the following fundamental questions and then asked for a show of hands from the Board on who would agree with these statements:

Question #1 - If the Auditor General has identified that school districts are overpaying cyber charter schools by 86 million dollars, how many of you believe the Governor and Legislature should fix this fiscal mess? All board members raised their hands.

Questions #2 - How many of you believe the Governor and Legislature should live up to the promises of the Charter School Law and reimburse school districts up to 30% of their tuition payments? All board members raised their hands.

Dr. Torma indicated that \$375,000 represents excess payments to cyber charters schools and the district is losing approximately \$701,000 since the elimination of the 30% state reimbursement. This is a total impact of \$1,076,000. The budget process begins with the Board Policies that are found in the Budget Book and are part of the Board Policy Manual on the web site. The administrative process starts in September and involves administrators and staff members throughout the district. She asked that the staff who have worked on the budget and were in the audience to stand. She thanked them for their dedication to this work. The preliminary budget was adopted in January with a 3.2% increase that has been reduced to a 1.89% increase. The administration will continue to work on the budget and try to reduce it to the 1.7% index or lower until final adoption on June 25. The district applied for exceptions and the Superintendent held one-on-one meetings with the administrative staff. The budget book was prepared and distributed at the March 26 Board Meeting and the staff continued to make adjustments and refinements. There have been updates to the Board and the Superintendent has asked for any input from the Board. As directed and confirmed by the Board, the Superintendent makes the recommendations to the Board. A budget update was sent to the Board on May 10 and in that update the Superintendent asked for any input from board members and received none although he received some questions. As part of the presentation, Dr. Torma read the following list of items that Dr. Seidenberger had included as part of his legacy to the district:

- Downsized teaching, administrative, and support staff
- Consolidated staff positions
- Increased sports activity fees
- Changing LMES into a profit center
- Energy savings (traditional and non-traditional)
- Energy consortiums
- LEED – Silver Level
- Cutting down on paper and copying
- Benefited from Bond Refinancing
- Get capital project bids that saved a lot of money
- Cut down on cell phones
- Purchased vans to cut out using First Student busses
- Cut technology after all the department did to save money
- Cut Pupil Services
- Growing the ACCESS fund balance
- Required Special Education into using ACCESS
- Required staff to complete tons of paperwork for ACCESS Funds
- Implemented a cyber high school to offer a quality product and save money
- Cut Curriculum budget
- Cut Staff Development budget
- Cut Personnel Office budget
- Cut Operations and Maintenance budget
- Cut out the 8% reserve account for principals' budgets
- Cut the Athletic budget

- Using the Stimulus funds for one-time expenditures
- Implemented fee for Driver Training portion of Driver's Education
- \$200 charge (Simulator & Behind the Wheel)
- Cut out Jump Start program for kids who need remedial help
- Cut out summer band camps
- Reduced line item for tuition reimbursement
- Initiated Annual spending cut-offs
- Increased fee for summer school
- Cut back field trips
- Cut back textbooks
- Eliminated paper report cards and the annual school calendar
- Looking into some limited non-intrusive advertising
- Employee wage freeze
- Renegotiated contracts with employees
- Renegotiated contracts with operational and service vendors
- Saved one day of costs for transportation by opening school during a strike
- Joint purchasing when the price is better
- Health consortium
- Use of fund balance and RFP to curb increases
- Reduce appropriations for health retirements benefits
- More teachers at the high school teaching 6 periods
- Increase facility use fees
- Decrease in out of district placements for discipline cases
- Cut nursing supplies
- Reduced Superintendent and Assistant to the Superintendent budgets
- Reduced Community Liaison budget
- Save on paper through Moodle and Google Docs
- Converted New business department software to save money and time
- Eliminated the substitute caller
- Cut down on file servers
- Cut down on wires in the classrooms
- One big spending freeze in 2010-2011
- Eliminated outdated software for Business and Curriculum offices
- Using fund balance to control tax increases
- Asking the Business Office and Director of Operations to pursue Plancon J reimbursements
- Put in new lights and sensors in several schools
- Helped to get the track for half the price
- Can't fund more grade level teams at the middle schools to finish redistricting plan
- Increased class size

Dr. Torma reviewed Dr. Seidenberger's experiences in his former districts - Brick Township, NJ, Connecticut, and Pennsylvania.

Dr. Torma said the Superintendent should have been asked "What is missing from this budget." According to Dr. Seidenberger, no one asked him "Where is the district going educationally?" There are good things happening but the district is mostly treading water and hoping that more students do not move in. Currently looking at the district, the following items were listed:

- All existing academic and instructional programs in place
- Purchasing some new text books
- Instructional Rounds and Instructional Practice (problem-solving model)
- Student Portfolios
- Moodle 2
- Buy some new I-pads for experimentation in all levels
- New automated call-out system with new parent features
- Some limited work on e-books

- Building based staff development is now the norm
- Work on Common Core Standards and K-12 articulation
- Some limited work on hybrid education
- Continue with STEM
- Purchase more robotic kits for elementary and middle schools
- Continue to find ways to save money

Dr. Seidenberger would like to create a magnet schools in East Penn and make the former Kindergarten Center a STEM school, but the district is unable to follow these initiatives because of the budget/charter school costs.

Dr. Torma asked the question about what is a budget and described it in the following terms:

- A proclamation of how we invest in our children;
- Displays our value system and our collective beliefs;
- Demonstrates how we treat our most valuable resource
- Protects property values
- Value added for all citizens

Dr. Torma announced that the East Penn School District has been selected by the National School Boards Association to host a 2013 Technology Leadership Network site visit. NSBA visits classrooms where curriculum goals drive technology decisions and educators will be descending from all over the United States to see first-hand how East Penn initiatives and programs advance student learning. The visits provide an opportunity for attendees to understand how the technology decisions support the district's overall education vision and what it takes to make that vision come to life. The site visits also highlight board leadership and the essential policies needed to support such innovation. East Penn was chosen due to the district's innovation and technology advancements in the following areas:

- Moodle as a Virtual Learning Environment
- Open Source free mobile apps (Google Docs, Moodle, ePals, Mahara) for laptops, ipods, and ipads
- Digital Portfolios (Mahara)
- Online Professional Development via Moodle
- Infrastructure (wireless, Interactive Whiteboards, Projectors)
- Ipods in ESL
- Remote software installs across the network (Firefox, flash, adobe, etc.)
- Website, Intranet Project database, green initiatives (green report cards, emergency system)

Director of Operations Lynn Glancy reviewed some of the highlights of the budget, noting that they are trying to get as close to or below the 1.7% index. He noted that the current millage is at 46.15 and the Act 1 index is 1.7% representing 0.7845 mills. The district did apply for exceptions that totaled \$933,698 or 0.5608 mills or a 1.21% increase. Taking the exceptions into consideration, the increase allowed is 1.3453 mills or a 2.91% increase. The 2012-13 proposed final budget only uses 0.87 mills or 1.89% increase. He reviewed the history of East Penn's millage increases under the Act 1 index, noting that the district either was at the allowed index increase or below. Mr. Glancy reviewed the changes in the budget from the January preliminary budget to the proposed final budget. A copy of this information is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Business Manager Debra Surdoval reported that the earnings on investments are as depressed as they were last year. In 2000-01, the total earnings on investments were \$1,307,062 and in 2011-12, the earnings are only \$126,381. The Interim Real Estate Tax collections are way behind and as of the end of April the interims amount to \$247,030 as compared to 2010-11 when they amounted to \$374,233. Mrs. Surdoval explained that the Interim Real Estate Tax has varied over the years, pointing out in 2000-01, in April the amount was \$664,421 while in 2005-06, the interims amounted to \$2,065,352 (highest point). There is some optimism that this may pick up next year. Reviewing the Real Estate Transfer Tax revenue, she said at the end of April the transfer tax amounts to \$627,954. In 2006-07, the maximum was

\$2,062,629 at the end of April. The cuts proposed by the administration have been reviewed by Dr. Torma. Mrs. Surdoval did mention that transportation has been eliminated for the Willow Lane possible walkers. The Budget-to-Budget increases are reflected in benefits (mainly PSERS), salaries, Charter School funding, student transportation and other schools, including a new program started this year for autistic students. The tax impact for the median homestead assessment is \$66,800 and for the tax increase at proposed 2012-13 rate prior to Act 1 Homestead reduction is \$58.12 for the year, which equals \$.16 per day. Reviewing the senior citizen tax rebates, Mrs. Surdoval reported that East Penn gave 400 people a total of \$171,447.66 in rebates for an average rebate of \$428.62/person.

In summary, Mrs. Surdoval noted that although local revenues are down, there are some positive signs being seen by realtors and township officials and a study of Lehigh Valley businesses indicates they are planning to spend more and hire more employees in the next six months. State revenues may change over the next few weeks and, if there is a possible restoration of the ABG funds, that could amount to an additional \$214,817. The budget is still evolving and the administration will continue to monitor line items and revenues and make adjustments to keep taxes as low as possible without cutting programs. She emphasized that the budget this evening is not the final budget. Mrs. Surdoval thanked the staff for taking a pay freeze last year and for making concessions for next year. She said the process has taken place without acrimony and she thanked people for their understanding, patience and professionalism.

Through the use of a series of graphs showing historical trends in revenue vs. expenditures, ending uncommitted fund balance, difference between budgeted and actual fund balance, Ms. Donches presented her personal budget proposals for the 2012-13 district budget. She said it is also her response to people asking her why taxes go up each year and where does the money go. The three proposals that she outlined would give taxpayers a substantial tax cut; a modest tax cut, or eliminate the proposed tax increase. She indicated that these scenarios did not contain any cuts in staff, programs, extracurricular activities, athletics, transportation, or budgetary reserves, also included in her list of no cuts were charter schools. Ms. Donches was suggesting that the Plancon Reimbursement be committed to offset the 2013-14 PSERS increase. Her budget would maintain all of the administration's projected revenues and expenditures for 2012-13. Ms. Donches maintained that the only thing cut would be taxes. In reviewing her information, she noted that all budgetary amounts are directly from the administration or previous public filings with PA Department of Education, unless otherwise noted.

Proposed Budget #1 would offer a tax cut of about 6 million dollars or a 3.75 mill cut; the 5.8 million dollar Budgetary Reserve remains; and the 1.25 million dollars in Plancon reimbursement would be saved in a committed fund to offset pension contribution increases in 2013-14. Proposed Budget #2 would offer a tax cut of 3 million dollars or a 2 mill tax cut; the 5.8 million dollar Budgetary Reserve remains; the 3 million dollar excess would be retained to offset future tax increases; and the 1.25 million dollars in Plancon reimbursement would be saved in a committed fund to offset pension contribution increases in 2012-14. Proposed Budget #3 would offer a no tax increase; the 5.8 million dollars in Budgetary Reserve remains; and the 1.25 million dollars in Plancon reimbursement would be saved in a committed fund to offset pension contribution increases in 2013-14. She claimed that taxpayers have been over taxed and the money could have been circulated in East Penn. She said the taxpayers could have put the money in their own retirement fund, put it toward their own children's college fund, or to fix their own homes. Ms. Donches said that whenever the money accumulates it should be returned to the taxpayers. She did support financing the Budgetary Reserve. She said Dr. Torma mentioned a lot of cuts but there is an excess each year along with a tax increase. She asked that the administration consider her proposals.

Mr. Earnshaw called attention to the revised budget proposal that includes a 1.89% real estate tax increase with the exceptions approved by PDE. He explained how Fund Balance is derived at the end of the year, noting that money becomes available in the next budget year to appropriate for expenditures. The factors that may affect the Fund Balance could include unexpected increases in revenue and in controlling costs. At no time is the Board taking money from the taxpayers, noting that this year there was a spending freeze by the administration. Mr. Earnshaw explained that the projected revenue is \$115,173,526 while the projected expenditures are \$119,233,360. He said that means that

the district is not taxing the taxpayers to cover the expenditures of the school district. The administration has recommended that the Fund Balance be spent down by over 4 million dollars. It would leave the district with a Fund Balance of slightly under 6 million dollars. Mr. Earnshaw illustrated how spending down the Fund Balance could leave the district with insufficient funds in the future. He said, assuming there is no inflation or increases in expenditures, there would need to be a 2 million dollar increase in the 2014-15 school year. Referring to Proposed Budget #3, the district would be required to take out an additional 1.25 million dollars in addition to the 4 million dollars already being spent from Fund Balance. The district would then be out of money for the 2013-14 budget year and then in 2014-15 the taxpayers would be looking at a 4 million dollar increase. He said the law would not allow a tax increase of that size and it would be exceptionally unfair to the taxpayers. The district would be putting itself in the position that it could hope to have better revenues in the future and would be able to control spending if the Legislature does not approve additional mandates. It is an attractive option to not have a tax increase but it is not doable at this point. Mr. Earnshaw pointed out that the Pension Plan is a state mandated program where the district cannot opt out. This has got to happen in the Legislature. He talked about athletics and extracurricular activities providing a level of engagement for students who may drop out. The cost to the taxpayers is quite modest in comparison to the dropout rate. He commented on the suggestion that students who live in a three mile radius should walk to school. Mr. Earnshaw pointed out that there are state regulations on how far a child may walk. Students can walk up to 1.5 miles, unless there is an unsafe path and then we are required to provide transportation for the students. In this budget, there is no funding for hiring additional teachers. There will be higher class sizes for future years. Mr. Earnshaw thanked the administration for their diligent work and for continuing to work on the budget.

Ms. Heid said she, too, appreciated everything the district had done with reducing the budget. She said the only thing that she was concerned about was the beginning committed Fund Balance. Rather than using the 1.2 million dollars in Plancon reimbursement for the pension costs, she felt it should be used to give a tax decrease. If the funds are used for pension costs, it is not going for students but to support a pension program that is unsustainable. She said while the funds came in at one time and are arguably one time funds, it is taxpayers' money that came in over time. She felt it should be given back to the taxpayers. She understood the concept of one time money and the pension increases, but she felt that the Fund Balance was being understated and has been for several years. She talked about the increases compounding over the years, it is not just \$58.12. She proposed the following amendment to the motion on the floor:

Motion by Heid, Seconded by Stolz

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors use the \$1,250,294 million dollars of Plancon reimbursement to decrease taxes for the 2012-13 budget instead of earmarking it for the pension increase in 2013-14.

Ms. Fuller indicated that she would not support this amendment because the Plancon funds will pay a bill that will be due in the future. She said the minimal amount of tax savings will long be forgotten. She would rather have the funds for future expenditures. The \$58.12 is the cost for a median household.

Mr. Bacher said he had a problem with the amendment as well as reserving the Plancon reimbursement for a one-time expense. He said both scenarios are using one-time funds for ongoing expenses. He would prefer to use it for one-time expenses in the current budget or use it for the pension and spread it out over a number of years. There are approximately six years of high debt payments but after that time the debt service drops to about half. He would not support the amendment.

Ms. Donches said that although her budget plans show the funds being used to offset the pensions she would be willing to use the Plancon funds to reduce taxes. Mr. Policano supported the motion. He said the Plancon funds were like a rebate and the rebate comes from taxes. He felt the people should get the money back in the form of a tax reduction.

Mr. Stolz indicated his support for both Ms. Donches' model and the motion by Ms. Heid. He felt the Legislature might pass some measure to mitigate the pension problem as they did before. He said last year there was a wage freeze that helped the district and for which he was grateful to the employees.

He felt that it was not about the \$58.12 but it is about respecting the taxpayer and the increases every year. He thought there should be a tax break and it could be done without cutting programs. He said spending more each year and raising taxes is not the answer for education but getting costs under control is. He commented that no one on the Board is against education but there are some who are against tax increases. The increases in Fund Balance show a clear trend. Mr. Stolz said the Board has the opportunity to return money to the taxpayers or simply not raise taxes. He asked for support of the motion.

Mr. Ballard reiterated his belief that one-time money should be used for one-time expenses. He gave his revenue analysis regarding the revenue and expenses. He talked about depleting or adding to the savings. It is dangerous to talk about reducing taxes with one-time funds because you are not reducing expenses by that amount or increasing the revenue. The next year the revenue stream has very little change and expenses change and go up because of inflation. Every year unless something turns up in revenue – taxes have to be raised because even if you do the exact same thing from year to year expenses will increase. He talked about how inflation impacts the resources and commodities used. He talked about how Act 1 has inhibited the ability of school districts to make up revenue shortfalls. Districts are limited by the index. The district gets about 60% of its revenue from property taxes. He mentioned that other districts in the Lehigh Valley have added a PSERS amelioration fund to shield taxpayers from the increases and cautioned against thinking that cutting taxes was a quick and easy thing to do. He would not support the motion.

Mr. Stolz said that board members opposing this motion are missing the point that these funds are not district funds but taxpayers' money. He claimed that taxpayers are going from year to year without salary increases and everything is definitely going up and they cannot do it anymore. Mr. Stolz felt it was time to give the taxpayers a break. He talked about putting pressure on Harrisburg to do the right thing. He is comfortable with a referendum claiming that the taxpayers would do the right thing for the children. He concluded that the district has the money and does not need to raise taxes.

Ms. Fuller called the question, seconded by Mr. Bacher.

Motion by Fuller, Seconded by Bacher
RESOLVED, That the question be called.

There was a question about parliamentary procedure so a recess was called from 9:45 p.m. to 9:50 p.m.

Solicitor Fisher advised that a roll call vote be taken to end debate. This requires a 2/3 vote of the Board.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Donches, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes, Policano-----6
Nay: Ballard, Earnshaw, Stolz-----3

Solicitor Fisher restated the amended motion to use the Plancon reimbursement:

Motion by Heid, Seconded by Stolz
RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors use the \$1,250,294 million dollars of Plancon reimbursement to decrease taxes for the 2012-13 budget instead of earmarking it for the pension increase in 2013-14.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:

Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Rhodes-----6
Aye: Heid, Policano, Stolz-----3

The Board then returned to the original motion.

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Heid

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors adopt the proposed final 2012/13 budget in the amount of \$125,195,028 with the following tax levies:

47.02 mills on the assessed valuation of real estate

0.5% (.005) Act 511 Earned Income Tax

1.0% Act 511 Real Estate Transfer Tax

be it further

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors continue the Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Rebate Program for the 2012-13 year with the income eligibility guidelines to be established at final budget adoption.

Mr. Earnshaw started to speak when Mr. Bacher raised a Point of Order regarding the practice of having everyone speak before a board member starts a second round of debate. Due to the complexity of the meeting, Mr. Ballard said he was starting the discussion anew. Mr. Earnshaw talked about using the entire Plancon for a rebate and Mr. Bacher raised an interesting concept because of the way the debt service has been structured. He felt the administration should take that idea under consideration. There was a question about whether the Board needed to take action on the committed funds. Business Manager Debra Surdoval indicated that the Board would have to take action on a committed fund; however, the district can submit the budget to the state as proposed. It can be shown as a committed fund balance without actually committing the funds by the Board. The Board will have to decide when the funds should be used or to revoke the commitment. Mr. Earnshaw said he would support the proposed final budget.

Mr. Bacher and Mr. Ballard discussed the process to direct the administration to take a look at spreading the 1.2 million dollars over several years. Mr. Bacher said he wished he would have had more time to review Ms. Donches personal proposal before having to speak on it and pointed out some errors in the chart illustrating the difference between budgeted and actual fund balance. He also saw a discrepancy with the Historical Trends (Ending Fund Balance Breakdown) that was explained as over taxing taxpayers. Mr. Bacher said Proposed Budgets #1 and #2 said it could be done and not affect programs this year but in future years it would have a detrimental impact. He thought that the goal of a zero tax increase was a worthy goal and he was hoping the district could get as close as possible to that goal. He said talk about uncontrolled spending is not consistent with the data. If the retirement increase is taken out, the budget increase is less than the rate of inflation. Mr. Bacher said in getting from the original budget to the 5/14 budget, there have been additional cuts. He pointed out that it was a reduction of 2 teachers and one remedial assistant. He felt there needs to be a balance in the cutting. A balanced budget not only balances revenues and expenditures but also balances the needs and the pain on the various constituencies in the district. He indicated his support.

Mr. Bacher shared his personal conversation with former Representative Doug Reichley on the pension issue. He said things could be done for future recipients but nothing could be done about current benefits. He said it is a contract with state employees and the only way that can change is if the state declares bankruptcy. The only way to get rid of the problem is to pay off the debt in 20 years or address the pensions of existing state employees. It is unlikely that the state will pass a resolution of zero pensions for anyone. He believed that the pension rate would still go up to 20% or above to pay off the existing liability. He said he did not see a plan to get to something that affects the escalating cost. In addition to cuts, the administration mentioned that kindergarten enrollment has increased by 80 students and it still has not been determined if that is good marketing or more students coming in that have to be educated. Mr. Bacher questioned having over 22 students in a kindergarten class. This could be at least two teachers. He felt it was prudent budget practice to aim for the low end of the range then be conservative in the estimates so there are no surprises in the end. Mr. Bacher said he would support the budget.

Mr. Ballard addressed the pension issue by explaining that it is a Supreme Court decision that held that the present pension arrangements with state employees are a contract and the state cannot void any contract in midstream. The only possibility to decrease the payments is to go to a defined budget combination with a defined contribution for all new hires. It does not take care of anyone retiring in the next few years. He concluded unless the Supreme Court makes another ruling or the Legislature declares bankruptcy there is nothing that can be done.

Mr. Ballard said he was disappointed in getting Ms. Donches' material this evening because if it had been received earlier some of the misunderstandings in the material could have been avoided. The budget is an estimate of both revenue and expenditures and there are uncertainties in both. There are many extraneous events that can take place that impact the budget. Mr. Ballard pointed out that the worst case is to have an overly optimistic budget and then find out that the revenues have gone down or expenses have increased. He said trying to claim that there is 6 million dollars for tax relief is bogus. He said he gives high marks to the administration for keeping controls on both the revenue and expenditures. Again, trying to claim the funds are there for tax relief is leading the taxpayers on. Mr. Ballard continued to expand on the revenue stream concept and the budgeting practices that are used. He concluded that if you want less tax then you have to accept less service. He said the staff is paid to advocate for education and it is not their business to make cuts that harm education. If the Board feels it is the will of the community, then it is up to the Board to tell the administration what to cut. He cautioned about thinking there are easy ways to do this or that there are hidden funds or simple cuts because it is not true.

Ms. Donches differed with Mr. Ballard's assessment. She said that they agree that the revenues are higher than usual and expenditures are lower than revenues. They agree there is a 5% budgetary reserve and a six million dollar "bucket of money" that is there for transitions. She said if the district never dips into the budgetary reserve then why would the district have a reserve and then still keep the moneys on top of the reserve, claiming they are used for a tax offset. Mr. Stolz asked Ms. Donches if she wanted to amend the motion. He also commented on the administration asking for political positions without actually voting. He said he would not take part in any hand votes. He talked about the various scenarios that were mentioned about raising taxes and noted that the budget could go to a referendum and then be voted up or down. He was perfectly comfortable with that process. He proposed the following motion:

Motion by Stolz, Seconded by Donches
RESOLVED, That the East Penn School Board of School Directors amend the Motion, as follows:

To spend down the Fund Balance by an additional 1.45 million dollars:

To use the 1.2 million dollars of Plancon reimbursement to offset the future 5 million dollars in construction; and,

\$50,294 set aside in a committed fund to begin web casting the School Board Meetings

Ms. Donches felt it was a viable plan and the district has the money to reduce excess budgets, and take a prudent look at construction for the future. There have been motions to web cast and many other school districts are live streaming meetings. Mr. Bacher said he did not know if the projected numbers in Ms. Donches' proposal are accurate and, if they are, the Fund Balance dropped a little over one million dollars from last year to this year. He said that means we are spending more than we are bringing in in revenues. In general, he agrees with the principle that if the Fund Balance is too high then it should be returned but the difference is that he felt it was fiscally irresponsible to return it all at one time. It is reasonable for the Fund Balance to be off one million dollars. He felt there were ways to do better on the current budget and he did not think that what was proposed is fiscally responsible.

Mr. Earnshaw proposed the motion to end debate, seconded by Ms. Fuller.

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Fuller

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors end debate.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes-----6
Nay: Donches, Policano, Stolz-----3

The Board then voted on the proposal introduced by Mr. Stolz.

This resolution was defeated by the following roll call vote:

Nay: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Rhodes-----6
Aye: Donches, Policano, Stolz-----3

The Board returned to the original motion. Mr. Earnshaw moved to end debate, seconded by Ms. Heid.

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Heid

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors end debate on the original motion.

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes-----8
Nay: Stolz-----1

The Board returned to the original motion.

The resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Earnshaw, Fuller, Rhodes-----5
Nay: Donches, Heid, Policano, Stolz-----4

2. *Real Estate Tax Universal Installment Payment Plan Resolution*

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Bacher

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of East Penn School District, that a plan is adopted providing an option for installment payment of real estate taxes for all taxpayers pursuant to the Taxpayer Relief Act, 53 P.S. § 6926.1502, as follows:

Real Estate Tax Universal Installment Payment Plan
(installment payment available for all taxpayers)

For the real estate tax levied by the School District, other than interim real estate tax, taxpayers may elect an installment payment option under the following rules:

1. **Installment payment dates.** A taxpayer electing the installment payment option may pay the real estate tax in three (3) equal installment payments of one-third (1/3) of the full tax amount. The installments are due on or before August 10, October 10, and December 10 of the year in which the tax is levied. Any installment not paid in full by these dates is delinquent.

2. **Taxpayer election of installment payment option.** Payment of the first installment in full by August 10 will constitute taxpayer election to pay tax in installments. Installment payment is permitted only if the taxpayer elects by paying the first installment payment in full by August 10. If the taxpayer fails to meet this requirement, the full amount of the real estate tax is due on or before October 31, and the real estate tax is delinquent if not paid in full on or before October 31.

3. No discount. No discount applies to installment payments.
4. Penalty on delinquent installments. If a taxpayer makes the first installment payment by August 10 and fails to pay in full any subsequent installment by the installment due date, the installment not paid by the due date is delinquent, and a penalty will be added to the tax in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the amount of the installment not paid by the installment due date, without regard to any partial payment of the installment.
5. Option available for all property. Any taxpayer may elect installment payment.
6. Ineligibility. A taxpayer who is delinquent by more than ten (10) days on two (2) installment payments is ineligible for the installment payment option in the following school fiscal year.
7. This plan will become effective July 1, 2012 and will continue in effect thereafter for real estate taxes levied for the school year beginning July 1, 2012 and for real estate taxes levied for future years, until amended or repealed.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2012 by the East Penn Board of School Directors.

Attest

Signed:

Secretary

President

This resolution was duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz-----9

3. Appointment of Treasurer

Motion by Earnshaw, Seconded by Bacher

RESOLVED, That the East Penn Board of School Directors appoint Lynn A. Glancy as Treasurer for a term effective July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013; and that he be directed to perform such duties as are appropriate for the position in accordance with the Public School Code of 1949, as amended, Section 436-443; that he shall implement federal, state and local policies and regulations at the direction of the Board of School Directors and the Superintendent of Schools; and, that the Treasurer's bond be set at \$500,000 to be paid by the East Penn School District.

Mr. Earnshaw thanked Mr. Glancy for his service as Treasurer.

Designation of 2012-13 Depositories

RESOLVED, That, in accordance with Section 621, PA Public School Code of 1949, the East Penn Board of School Directors designate the following depositories for the funds of the East Penn School District for the 2012-2013 fiscal year; and that said depositories furnish a bond in an amount equal to 120% of the highest balance or comply with Act 72 of 1971 of the Pennsylvania Legislature, such bond amounts to include the amount provided by federal insurance:

Citizens Bank

Embassy Bank
First Niagara Financial Group
First Star Savings Bank (ESSA Bank & Trust)
Lafayette/Ambassador Bank (Fulton Financial)
M & T Bank
National Penn Bank
PA Treasury/Invest Trust
PA Local Government Investment Trust
Quakertown National Bank
Sovereign Bank
TD Bank
US Bank Corporate Trust Services
Wells Fargo Bank

Mr. Ballard suggested that there may be an institution that should be removed.

Authorization to participate in contracts issued by the Department of General Services for the 2012-13 year

WHEREAS, Act 57 of May 15, 1998 permits local public procurement units to participate in those contracts for supplies, services, or construction entered into by the Department of General Services (SGS) that are made available to local public procurement units . A “local public procurement unit” is defined as any political subdivision, public authority, education, health, or other institution; and to the extent provided by law, any other entity, including a council of governments or an area government; non-profit fire, rescue, or ambulance company; and any nonprofit corporation operating a charitable hospital be it

RESOLVED, That the East Penn School District hereby requests authorization to participate in DGS’s contracts for the procurement of supplies, services or construction, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the East Penn School District agrees to be bound by such contract terms and conditions DGS may prescribe.
2. That the East Penn School District agrees to be responsible for payment directly to the contractor under each contract for those supplies, services or construction ordered by the local public procurement unit.

Authorization to participate in joint purchasing for the 2012-13 year

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has enacted an act known as the “Cooperative Purchasing Act, Act 31 of July 1971, and;

WHEREAS, Act 31 of 1971 permits local governments to purchase materials, supplies, and equipment from purchase contracts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

be it

RESOLVED, That the East Penn School District hereby requests authorization to participate in purchase contracts of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit, Lehigh Career & Technical Institute, U.S. Communities, Keystone Purchasing Network, Pennsylvania Education Joint Purchasing Council, National BuyBoard, PENNCON, and PEPPM.

These resolutions were duly adopted by the following roll call vote:

Aye: Bacher, Ballard, Donches, Earnshaw, Fuller, Heid, Policano, Rhodes, Stolz—9

Ms. Heid indicated she would not be attending the May 23 LCTI meeting and Ms. Donches had volunteered to attend in her place.

10. Announcements

Monday, May 14	6:30 p.m.-Executive Session (Legal; Personnel)
	7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting
May 15	7:00 p.m.-Eyer Chorus Concert
	7:00 p.m.-LMMS Band & Orchestra Spring Concert
May 16	7:00 p.m.-Shoemaker Open House
	7:00 p.m.-Willow Lane Spring Concert
May 18	4:00 p.m.-Macungie Spring Festival
May 31	7:00 P.M.-EHS Senior Academic Awards
June 1	7:30-9:30 p.m.-EHS Annual Art Show
June 11	7:30 p.m.-Board Meeting

11. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned, upon motion at 10:50 p.m.

Cecilia R. Birdsell
Board Secretary