

CCSBLC Meeting Summary

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Members in attendance:

1. Bill Wood, CCSBLC Chair, Avon Grove School District
2. Stacy Stone, Tredyffrin-Easttown School District
3. Dave Kronenberg, Kennett Consolidated School District
4. Scott Overland, Phoenixville Area School District
5. Jeff Hellrung, Unionville-ChaddsFord School District
6. Brian Fox, Octorara School District
7. William Kloss, Oxford Area School District
8. Linda MacNeal, Downingtown Area School District
9. John Melniczek. Owen J. Roberts
10. Wendy Litzke, Great Valley School District

Absent: Kate Shaw, West Chester Area School District; Dr. George F. Fiore, Executive Director, CCIU

CCIU Staff in Attendance; Mary Jeanne Curley, Director of Communications and Learning Solutions
Melissa Smith, Assistant Director of Communications and Learning Solutions, Tonia Farnum,
Communications Manager and Kelsey Mattia, Communications Specialist

1. Bill Wood, CCSBLC Chair, School Director, called the meeting at 6:33 p.m. Bill Wood welcomed everyone. He then turned the meeting over to Mary Curley, Director of Communications and Learning Solutions, who reviewed the meeting's agenda.
2. 2022-23 budget
 - a. **Presented on Tuesday, February 8, 2022**
 - b. **Budget highlights:**
 - a. \$1.55 billion (24% increase) in BEF (basic education funding)
 1. \$1.25 billion distributed through fair funding formula
 2. \$300 million to 100 most underfunded districts via Level Up
 - i. Applies to Coatesville Area School District and Oxford Area School District.
 - b. \$200 million (16% increase) in special education funding
 - c. \$45 million for school safety and security grants
 - d. \$60 million (25% increase) to PreK Counts; \$10 million (15% increase) to Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program
 - e. \$6 million (6% increase) in Career/Technical Education
 - f. \$16 million (2.7% increase) in Student Transportation
 - g. Early Intervention is level-funded
 1. Early intervention is a federal mandate. School districts and Intermediate Units must provide these services. We're currently working with our legislators to increase Early Intervention funding.
 - c. **Additional proposals:**
 - a. \$45,000 minimum statutory teacher salary
 1. This does not affect Chester County anymore, as all teachers make more than this amount.
 - b. Charter school reform (est. \$373 million savings)
 1. Apply special ed fair funding formula to all brick n' mortar charter schools

2. Statewide cyber charter tuition rate of \$9,800
 - c. Lowers maximum administrative set-aside for EITC/OSTC from 20% to 5% (est. \$6 million more toward awards)
 1. 15% less to private schools.
3. Proposed Budget for School Districts
 - a. Chart shows the increase that Chester County school districts receive if the budget goes through, but the budget is not expected to go through with these amounts.
 - b. There's money in the Rainy-Day fund; however, republican leadership in the house and senate says ESSER funding is already going to schools so keep the money in the Rainy-Day fund.
 - c. Budget hearings are ongoing from now until March.
4. Jan/Feb 2022 Activity
 - a. **SB324: Foster Children & Graduation:** The bill aims to keep students on track to graduate high school who are either experiencing homelessness or are in foster care by requiring a receiving school entity to designate a point person for the student. Now *ACT 1 OF 2022*
 - a. If students don't meet school district requirements, they have support to receive a PA high school diploma. The school district works with students to help them become graduation ready and to help them graduate.
 - b. **HB232: Changing a District Name:** Requires a 2/3 vote of the School Board and approval of PDE. Only pertains to school districts of the 3rd class located within a county of the 4th or 6th class (i.e. not relevant to Chester County school districts). *Passed House and Senate and presented to Governor on February 9.*
 - a. Applies to school districts who have Native American names and would like to change their name.
 - c. **HR 163: Training Mandates.** The resolution directs the Joint State Government Commission to establish an advisory committee to study all of the training mandates for public school educators in federal and state law or regulations; prepare an assessment of all training mandates in state law or regulations and identify any duplicate federal and state training mandates; evaluate any potential negative impacts of eliminating certain training mandates in state law or regulations; and include any recommendations relating to eliminating any training mandates in state law or regulations. The Commission would be required to issue a report of the advisory committee's findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than 18 months from the adoption of the resolution. *Adopted unanimously on February 7.*
5. Calendar Session Days
 - a. **Senate:**
 - a. February 7, 8, 9
 - b. March 28, 29, 30
 - c. April 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13
 - d. May 23, 24, 25
 - e. June 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30
 - b. **House:**
 - a. February 7, 8, 9
 - b. March 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30
 - c. April 11, 12, 13, 25, 26, 27
 - d. May 23, 24, 25
 - e. June 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29 30

- f. September 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21
 - g. October 24, 25, 26
 - h. November 14, 15, 16
- 6. Legislative Redistricting (time spent in Jan)
 - a. LCR Adopts 2021 Financial Reapportionment Plan on February 4, 2022
 - a. On February 4, 2022, the Pennsylvania Legislative Reapportionment Commission voted 4-1 to approve new state House and Senate maps. These maps take effect for Pennsylvania's 2022 legislative elections.
- 7. CCSBLC Survey
 - a. 50% of all school board members have filled out the survey.
 - b. Aiming for 100% from all districts. Send out one last push to school board members.
 - c. The survey topics will be shared at the next CCSBLC meeting in March.
- 8. Mask Optional Court Hearings
 - a. Upper Perkiomen School District and North Allegheny School District
 - a. Upper Perkiomen plaintiffs claim “mask optional status effectively barred access to in-person instruction to these students, in violation of their rights under the ADA and Section 504”
 - 1. Upper Perkiomen didn’t point back to any metrics for why masks should come off.
 - b. US District Court for the Eastern District of PA:
 - a. Initially temporarily ordered reinstatement of mask mandate
 - b. Granted injunction affirming its reinstatement in Perkiomen Valley
 - 1. Preliminary and subject to further challenge
- 9. Upcoming CCSBLC meetings:
 - a. Wednesday, March 23 (in person at the CCIU ESC)
 - b. Friday, April 22 (Legislative Breakfast)
 - c. Wednesday, May 25
 - d. Wednesday, June 22
 - e. July - No meeting - Legislature Not in Session
 - f. August - No meeting - Legislature Not in Session
- 10. Roundtable Discussion
 - a. Encourage CCSBLC members to complete the CCSBLC survey
 - b. School District decisions about masking
 - c. Encouraged CCSBLC members to contact each other via email/text and discuss school district happenings and hot topics
 - d. Mental health discussion
 - a. Presentation provided to legislatures by Chester County superintendents
 - b. Mary Curley will create a resolution to be reviewed before the CCSBLC March meeting
 - c. Training for parents and students provided by the Director of the Social Dilemma (Netflix Film), Delaware County superintendent, school board members and legislators
 - d. Avon Grove School District approved a text check in alert system
 - e. Countywide interest in PSBA
 - f. Requests for books being removed in schools
 - g. Policy for resolving complaints

11. Upcoming meeting: March 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Educational Services Center (ESC)
12. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

