

DRAFT PENDING COMMITTEE APPROVAL  
**BOARD EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 5, 2018**

Tredyffrin/Easttown Administrative Offices  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Attending all or part of the meeting:**

**Board Committee Members:** Roberta Hotinski (chair), Kyle Boyer, Katharine Murphy, Tina Whitlow

**Other Board Members:** Michele Burger, Scott Dorsey, Todd Kantorczyk, Heather Ward

**TE School District Representatives:** Wendy Towle (Administrative Liaison), Michele Staves, Richard Gusick, Nancy Adams, Todd Parker, Diane Cohle, Stephanie Demming, Chris Connolly, Jeanne Braun

**Community Members:** Amy Alvarez, Sarah Culbert, Jerry Henige, Karen Vadner, Jean Tripper, Xavier Arnault, Tracy Johnson, Amanda Wollick, Christina Maloney, Jen Gallagher, Chris Bernholdt, Jacy Rider, Emily Phelan, Ghada Bistanji, Heather McConnell, Sean Cannon, Kate Miller, Nicole Scherer, Emily Spring, Wendy Brooks, Tom Nagle, Karen Huang, Dalia Osman, Alison Vachris, Phil Eisenberg, Jessica Schneck

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** The January 10, 2018 minutes were approved.

**Public Comment:**

Kate Miller commented on the **Redistricting Transition Plan.**

Jean Tripper commented on the **Redistricting Transition Plan.**

Chris Bernholdt commented on the **Redistricting Transition Plan.**

Emily Spring commented on the **Redistricting Transition Plan.**

Amanda Wollick commented on the **Redistricting Transition Plan.**

Jacy Rider commented on the **Redistricting Transition Plan.**

Karen Huang commented on the **Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration.**

Tom Nagle commented on the **Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration.**

Nicole Scherer commented on the **Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration.**

Heather McConnell commented on the **Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration.**

Jerry Henige commented on the **Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration.**

Jerry Henige commented on the **Class Size Discussion.**

Alison Vachris commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Emily Phelan commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Karen Vadner commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Nicole Scherer commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Jessica Schneck commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Heather McConnell commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Xavier Arnault commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.  
Paul Eisenberg commented on the **Class Size Discussion**.

### **Committee Discussion and Recommendations:**

The Committee reviewed the **Redistricting Transition Plan**. There were no Committee recommendations.

The Committee reviewed the District's Elementary Redistricting Transition Plan. Dr. Wendy Towle, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Staff Development and Planning shared information on the District's plan to support families, students, and staff during the transition to new attendance boundaries in the fall of 2018 for Devon, Hillside, and Beaumont Elementary Schools. Dr. Towle provided dates for upcoming transition activities and events at both Hillside and Beaumont. Additionally, Dr. Towle described various communication tools that will be used with families and the community at large to aid in a positive transition for students. Instructional transition activities including consideration of appropriate classroom groupings and collaboration among staff members at both sending and receiving schools were highlighted as strategies to ensure that students' needs continue to be met. Building principals from all three impacted schools were present. Dr. Towle and Dr. Gusick answered several questions from Committee and community members.

The Committee reviewed the **Update on Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration**. There were no Committee recommendations.

The Committee reviewed the Middle School Advisory Initiatives: Technology Integration. Curriculum Supervisors, Dr. Nancy Adams and Michele Staves updated the Committee on the newly implemented advisory initiatives in grades seven and eight at TE and Valley Forge Middle Schools. Dr. Adams and Mrs. Staves shared connections to the District Strategic Plan that are emphasized through the technology-based lessons in Science, English, and Social Studies Advisory Initiative sessions. Examples of student work in coding, advanced computational thinking, and infographic designing were provided. Dr. Adams, Dr. Gusick, and Mrs. Staves answered several questions from Committee and community members. The Committee expressed support for the District's work to embed new uses of technology in various curricular areas.

The Committee reviewed the **Class Size Discussion Report**.

The Committee reviewed the Class Size Discussion Report. Dr. Gusick provided context for the discussion by providing the District's historical perspective on class size. Dr. Towle then shared information on Policy 6151 as it relates to staffing the educational program and the upper targets of class size. She explained that the upper target is used as a guideline in allocating staff prior to

the start of the school year. Dr. Towle shared the potential budget strategy of adding one student to the targets in grades K-8 as a cost-saving measure. Dr. Towle and Dr. Gusick answered several questions from Committee and community members. If the Finance Committee chooses class size as a budget strategy, the Education Committee recommends suspending the class size policy for one year and adding one student per grade to the target in grades K-8.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Next meeting: **March 5, 2018**