

MORRISVILLE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

In Re: PUBLIC HEARING ON POSSIBLE CLOSING
OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Hearing taken before the Morrisville
Board of School Directions, Morrisville Middle/
Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Avenue,
Morrisville, Pennsylvania, on Thursday,
January 29, 2009, scheduled for 7:00 p.m.,
taken by Lynda Scheswohl, Registered
Professional Court Reporter and Notary Public.

APPEARANCE:

BEGLEY, CARLIN & MANDIO
By: MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK, ESQUIRE
Representing Morrisville School District

BOARD MEMBERS APPEARANCES:

Bill Hellmann, President
Alfred Radosti, Vice President
Marlys Mihok, Secretary
Brenda Worob, Treasurer
William M. Farrell, Member
John Buckman, Member
Joseph Kemp, Member
Robin M. Reithmeyer, Member
Gloria Heater, Member

Also Present:

Dr. Elizabeth Hammond Yonson,
Superintendent of Schools
Paul DeAngelo, Business Administrator

Gary Pittman, VITETTA
William Corfield, VITETTA

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MR. FITZPATRICK: We're here this evening for a hearing under Section 780 of the Public School Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as amended.

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The purpose of the hearing is to have the Administration, its contracted professionals, and members of the public who determine to participate in the hearing, to comment upon the permanent closure of the M.R. Reiter Elementary School.

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As I said, this is a hearing. Everyone who presents testimony tonight will be sworn. You also will be giving your names to the court stenographer, Lynda, who is here tonight, so we'll have a full and complete record of the testimony this evening.

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We ask that each speaker limit their comments to a reasonable time, perhaps three to four minutes, so that all members of the public will be given an opportunity to present testimony.

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In addition, the School Board is willing to take additional testimony in writing; and everyone will be given until Monday, February

1 2nd, 3:00 o'clock in the afternoon to present
2 their written testimony to the secretary to the
3 School Board by delivering the written
4 testimony to the School District Administration
5 Building here at 550 West Palmer Avenue by
6 3:00 o'clock on Monday, February 2nd. And, of
7 course, the written testimony will be included
8 in the record along with the oral testimony
9 here this evening.

10 For the record, I want to state that
11 tonight's hearing was duly noticed, and the
12 Notice was posted in several prominent
13 locations throughout this building and we have
14 an Affidavit of Posting, which was executed
15 today by the secretary of the Board.

16 The Notice was posted on January 7th,
17 2009, and it has been continuously posted
18 through and up until this evening. The
19 Affidavit of Posting is being marked as Exhibit
20 1 for identification, and we're going to enter
21 it into the record this evening.

22 The Public Notice was also published in
23 the Bucks County Courier Times on January 9 and
24 January 12, 2009. The Proof of Publication, as
25 provided by the Bucks County Courier Times, has

1 been marked as Exhibit 2 for identification.

2 And both exhibits have been handed to the court
3 reporter tonight to be made part of the record.

4 I do want to note the presence of most of
5 our School Board members here this evening, in
6 addition to the president of the Board,

7 Mr. Hellmann. I see Gloria Heater is here,

8 Mr. Al Radosti, Bill Farrell, Jack Buckman,

9 Marlys Mihok, Joe Kemp, and Robin Reithmeyer.

10 I understand that Board member, Brenda Worob,
11 is in traffic but she's in transit and plans to
12 be here this evening.

13 At this point, Mr. President, I turn the
14 hearing over to you.

15 MR. HELLMANN: Okay. I'll just give a
16 brief format here. This evening's format is
17 going to be a little different than our usual
18 School Board meetings.

19 Instead, this is a hearing. Dr. Yonson,
20 of our Administration, will give a
21 presentation.

22 After that, VITETTA, who has been
23 commissioned by the Morrisville School District
24 to survey the Grandview Elementary School and
25 the M.R. Reiter Elementary School and evaluate

1 the major components of each building, will
2 also provide testimony, here to my left over
3 there.

4 After that, audience participation will be
5 taken. Any person wishing to address the Board
6 will need to complete the sign-up sheet here in
7 front of the room. I have it here for everyone
8 to sign up.

9 We ask only that you keep your comments
10 focused on the question before the Board with
11 regard to permanent closure of the M.R. Reiter
12 Elementary School.

13 All of your testimony, both verbal and
14 written, will be included in the record. If
15 you present questions, written or orally, those
16 questions will be taken down and all questions
17 will be answered in writing within a reasonable
18 degree of time and will be posted on the School
19 District Website so that everybody can have
20 access to them. Also, I believe it's going to
21 be posted, where else? The library --

22 DR. YONSON: Library, LG hall.

23 MR. HELLMANN: You may speak to the Board
24 one at a time, but we would appreciate if you
25 would keep your presentation brief.

1 Please bear in mind that there will be no
2 decision made in any way tonight. The decision
3 will be made within three months from the
4 hearing date.

5 At this time, I will turn the hearing over
6 to the Superintendent of our schools, Dr. Beth
7 Yonson.

8 Also, did you say the time limit? I think
9 we gave three to four minutes for each person.

10 Thank you.

11 DR. YONSON: The majority of our
12 presentation will be given by Mr. DeAngelo, our
13 business administrator, as well as our
14 architects and engineers.

15 But I would like just to give a little bit
16 of history. In 1999, there were 1,099 students
17 in the Morrisville School District. This
18 included the students who attended the
19 Vocational Technical High School.

20 Today in our school we have 855 children
21 in our buildings, 53 students who are at the
22 Vo-Tech, for a total of 908.

23 Now, in 1999 there were no charter schools
24 and also, there were no children in alternative
25 placements. Students usually stayed in their

1 home school for that. And that is an
2 additional 40 students that we have in
3 alternative placements and in charter schools.
4 26 in charter schools and 14 in alternative
5 placements, for a total of 40. If you would
6 add that to the total, it's 948 students.

7 Additionally, there are 17 students who
8 are I.U. students who are our students who are
9 also in the District. So 1,948, plus those 17
10 students. So as you can see, we are down a
11 little over about 100 students from 1999.

12 However, one of the things that was
13 decided by CAP -- the Community Action Planning
14 team made up of community members, Board
15 members, administrators. We met several times
16 with the facilitator, Ms. Joanne Brody, from
17 the Intermediate Unit, who facilitated those
18 meetings.

19 And during those meetings, it was decided,
20 because of the drop in enrollment, that one of
21 the elementary schools should be closed. That
22 was the consensus of that particular committee.
23 They did not make any determination as to what
24 school should be closed.

25 Another figure that is, I'm sure,

1 different from 1999 or before that is that 43
2 per cent of the residents of Morrisville are
3 renters, not just in apartments but also in the
4 homes. And unfortunately, this causes a very
5 transient population for our district. And so
6 that is currently what we are experiencing.

7 We have children coming and going every
8 single month. Not that other school districts
9 don't, but I believe that our numbers are
10 higher than other districts. And so we really
11 can't say to you whether the population will
12 grow or whether it will decrease because of the
13 transient nature.

14 As I said earlier today, I'm not
15 Nostradamus, and so I don't have a crystal ball
16 and I can't talk about that. Again, there have
17 to be many things that happen in the community
18 that you would see: Young families moving in
19 and then, of course, there would be an
20 increase.

21 But right now, we do have about a hundred
22 students less than we did in 1999.

23 At this time, I'm going to turn it over to
24 Mr. DeAngelo, who is going to talk about M.R.
25 Reiter and the condition of the building.

1 MR. FITZPATRICK: Before Mr. DeAngelo is
2 sworn and starts giving testimony, I just want
3 to make one item clear on the record.

4 Mr. Hellmann indicated tonight is a
5 hearing for the purpose of the School Board of
6 Directors to listen to the testimony of the
7 Administration, VITETTA Architectural Group,
8 and the public.

9 And as he indicated, no decision will be
10 made this evening. No deliberation will occur
11 this evening. This is just a hearing.

12 A decision will be made to either close or
13 not close M.R. Reiter, but that decision will
14 not be made until three months after tonight's
15 meeting. And so no decision can be made within
16 the next three months.

17 When three months pass, then the School
18 Board of Directors have the ability to put the
19 item on the agenda with regard to the closure
20 of the school. I just want to make that item
21 clear. Thank you.

22 MR. HELLMANN: Paul, are you ready?

23 MR. DeANGELO: Yes.

24 Good evening. On December 7th, 2006, the
25 Morrisville School District had an appraisal

1 done from Gleason Real Estate, Incorporated. I
2 want to put on the record a couple of these
3 items.

4 The property type for M.R. Reiter is
5 public elementary school on 3.096 acres. The
6 location of the school is the northwest corner
7 of Harper Avenue and Clymer Avenue, Morrisville
8 Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The tax
9 map parcel numbers are 24-009-107-001 to
10 24-009-107-003.

11 The appraisal of the gross building area
12 was 46,200 square feet. Gross land area, as I
13 mentioned, is 3.096 acres. The zoning is CS-1,
14 which is Community Service District.

15 The as-is value appraisal at that time,
16 again which was December 7th, 2006, was
17 \$995,000. Year to date, since we've had the
18 explosion at M.R. Reiter, our insurance claim
19 is estimated at 1.15 million dollars.

20 Some of the history of M.R. Reiter: In
21 1924, the Robert Morris High School was built
22 next to the historic Somerset Summerseat, where
23 the Administration Office used to operate out
24 of.

25 In 1959, the original Robert Morris High

1 School was destroyed by fire and was later
2 rebuilt as the current M.R. Reiter Elementary
3 School.

4 The age of the furnaces -- there are two
5 of them in M.R. Reiter, one of which exploded
6 on December 13, 2008, is estimated to be at
7 least from 1959. We have no record that there
8 was any work done between 1924 and 1959. But
9 we're assuming that once the renovations were
10 done to the school and it was rebuilt, the
11 furnace was at least 1959.

12 One of the things that we spoke about
13 today is usually the useful life of the furnace
14 is probably about 20 years. So this furnace
15 should have been replaced twice in this time
16 frame.

17 At this point, I would turn it over to the
18 architects.

19 MR. HELLMANN: Before the witnesses start,
20 we'll have them sworn in.

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22 WILLIAM CORFIELD and GARY PITTMAN, having
23 been duly sworn, were examined and testified as
24 follows:

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1 MR. CORFIELD: Good evening. My name is
2 Bill Corfield. I'm a VITETTA architect, a
3 licensed architect in various states, including
4 Pennsylvania. I am a licensed planner and I'm
5 a licensed interior designer.

6 Our firm was hired to do a study of what
7 we call the infrastructure of both the
8 Grandview School and the M.R. Reiter School
9 just so that a comparison could be done to what
10 school is in better condition when you're
11 looking at the building systems and some of the
12 exterior enclosure.

13 These items are such as heating units,
14 boilers, electrical and plumbing
15 infrastructure. And again, the unit
16 ventilators, which are the heaters that are in
17 the classroom, or sometimes in classrooms;
18 exhaust fans; general lighting; general
19 distribution power -- you know how there are
20 outlets around the building, et cetera; the
21 condition of the lights as far as the lighting
22 levels that are being produced by the lights;
23 and simple functioning of, you know, the
24 plumbing fixtures, et cetera.

25 Another major thing that we were supposed

1 to look at was the condition of the window
2 systems throughout the two buildings.

3 So our staff came here, engineers came
4 here, architects came here. Spent many hours
5 in the building, many days in the building just
6 doing an analysis, comparative analysis on
7 these systems.

8 And our charge was then to create
9 spreadsheets or line-item sheets that showed
10 the items that we looked at. We identified the
11 condition that they were in basically in the
12 report, and then put a prioritization of what
13 was the most important down to the least
14 important.

15 And we put a number value on what it would
16 take to address any particular concern, so that
17 it could be used as a comparison from school to
18 school and a determination could be made what
19 school, if some school was to be closed, would
20 be the more appropriate school to remain open.

21 We were not charged with looking at the
22 curriculum, the program, the size of the
23 classrooms, the functioning of the school
24 from -- you know, how classrooms are adjacent
25 to one another and should be and should not be.

1 However, when my staff came here, it
2 became apparent to us that certain concerns,
3 other than just these things, needed to be
4 looked at: Namely, barrier-free or handicap
5 accessibility to the buildings. And if there
6 were any other items that seemed to be of
7 concern to us, we noted them in this report.

8 The report that I'm referring to is the
9 report that is on your Website now for anyone
10 to see. The complete report has been there now
11 for a few weeks. I think since the end of --
12 or middle of December.

13 The idea then, I mean once we started to
14 go through the buildings -- and let me say one
15 other thing too. From a functionality point of
16 view, the way you move around a building,
17 whenever architects -- and this is as far as my
18 expertise is. Whenever I plan a brand new
19 building, when you're going to try to build a
20 building or plan a building for an elementary
21 school, for elementary school use, namely,
22 young children, PreK through fifth grade, it is
23 always more advantageous to have it on one
24 floor. You're not dealing with stairs. You're
25 not dealing with children on a second floor in

1 case of an emergency trying to get them out of
2 the building.

3 And it's just generally more accepted
4 practice that it's a better way to design a
5 school. Any school, if you can design it, on
6 one floor is better. Of course, spatial
7 consideration -- how big your site is, et
8 cetera -- will dictate that. But, in general,
9 if you can design a school on one floor it is
10 better.

11 That being said, obviously, the Grandview
12 School is a single-story building; and M.R.
13 Reiter School is actually a two and-a-half
14 story building where there's two floors, and
15 then there's an intermediate floor that has to
16 be traversed between the two floors which makes
17 it a little bit hard to get around the
18 building. Furthermore, there is no
19 accessibility for a handicapped person to these
20 spaces.

21 So when we started to look at these two
22 schools, it becomes apparent that there are
23 benefits inherent in one school over the other
24 immediately.

25 Another thing is -- and I don't have this

1 exact data, unfortunately. It was just stated
2 that the M.R. Reiter School has 3.096 acres.

3 I don't have any data on the Grandview
4 School. But it appears to be that that site,
5 based on a limited site plan that we had, is a
6 considerably larger site. But I'd have to
7 confirm that information.

8 So going down the path that we went
9 down -- and you can see this again in the
10 Executive Summary on the Website -- we looked
11 at all of the items. We did comparisons.

12 It's obvious that the M.R. Reiter School,
13 as Mr. DeAngelo mentioned, was originally built
14 in 1924. Some of the items are obviously
15 original. A lot of the items are obviously
16 original.

17 That in and of itself makes the school
18 40-years older than the Grandview School. That
19 normally starts to trigger other things.
20 Things like settling of the building. Things
21 like very hard places to access through the
22 building. The way buildings were designed
23 almost 100 years ago was substantially
24 different than what they're designed to do now;
25 taking into consideration passage of the

1 utilities through the building, being able to
2 access spaces, et cetera. Some of the walls in
3 the M.R. Reiter building I believe are near
4 2-foot thick. Very hard to get utilities
5 through, et cetera.

6 When we walked through the building in the
7 M.R. Reiter building, there was also a concern
8 that there has been and continues to be a
9 considerable amount of water entry into that
10 building on the lower floors, particularly in
11 the multipurpose room.

12 At such a point where at one point -- I
13 don't know when this was -- but the wood floor
14 in the gymnasium, where the multipurpose room
15 was, was removed because of the amount of water
16 that came into that building and continues to
17 come in. And a different type of synthetic
18 floor was put in its place.

19 We have some major concerns about the
20 amount of water that comes into that building
21 and actually where it comes from. And so
22 consideration has to be made of what to do with
23 that amount of water and how to control it and
24 stop it from coming into the building.

25 So you'll see that beyond the analysis of

1 the electrical systems, the heating systems, et
2 cetera, some of these other items have to be
3 addressed when you're looking at that school.

4 Even though we really weren't asked to
5 look at that, we felt it was important to note
6 some of these things here, and they have been
7 noted.

8 And almost in closing, you know, any kind
9 of renovation project -- and the intent here,
10 understand that one building is superior to the
11 other, in our opinion; but any kind of a
12 renovation project, meaning that if you were
13 determining that you were to going improve one
14 building, any project is challenging,
15 obviously.

16 The condition of the building will
17 certainly impact the renovation costs. There
18 are certain things that we could never know how
19 much they're going to cost.

20 We make an assumption, based on knowledge
21 and what we're seeing today in the industry,
22 about how much something is going to cost. I
23 can tell you how much a boiler is going to
24 cost, but I can't really tell you how much it's
25 going to cost to stop that water from coming in

1 without doing a lot of destructive testing and
2 finding out where the water is and what we're
3 going to do to get the water around the
4 building in some manner. So there's always
5 challenges.

6 We've always noted that probably because
7 of this water entry, some of the -- the
8 building is settling in such a fashion that
9 there's major cracks developing in the
10 building. I think they've been there for a
11 while. They're not getting any better.

12 And upon recent discussion with
13 Mr. Lastichen, Tim Lastichen, the man in charge
14 of buildings and grounds, there are separations
15 happening on the roof now at some of the major
16 walls that are directly related to where the
17 cracks are happening in the lower portions of
18 this building.

19 So something is happening here and
20 something really needs to be done about it to
21 stop it from getting any worse.

22 So generally, we believe that the
23 Grandview School is in better condition than
24 the M.R. Reiter School.

25 Some of the windows in the Grandview

1 School are newer. Maybe some of them can stay
2 in place.

3 We recommend generally replacing all the
4 windows. They're all in excess of 50 years
5 old. None of them have insulated glass. None
6 of them have insulated frames.

7 When you stand next to one of the windows
8 in either school, it's cold. There are areas
9 where you'll feel wind coming through the
10 windows even when they're closed.

11 There are things that need to be changed
12 and they should be changed. And this is the
13 type of thing that happens in any school
14 district. When a window reaches about 40 years
15 old, generally it's time to change it.

16 The technology has changed substantially.
17 The way you open a window, it would be much
18 easier nowadays. They put balancers in so you
19 don't have to pull on the window.

20 You've got windows in both schools that
21 just do not work. They've been screwed shut.
22 It's just not the right thing to do. It was
23 mentioned at the high school replacing those
24 windows because they're just not efficient any
25 longer.

1 And then, of course, you get into the
2 whole it is more efficient, you'll save energy
3 because you're stopping the air infiltration,
4 you're stopping the heat from going out in the
5 winter, you're stopping the sun and heat coming
6 in in the summer.

7 So these are beneficial things that should
8 be done on a regular basis in any school.

9 We didn't see any significant cracks in --
10 cracks in the walls or water infiltration in
11 the Grandview School. So that really set it
12 apart.

13 So based on that, we would recommend, if
14 in fact we were asked to put that
15 recommendation here, that we think if any
16 school is going to be utilized for an
17 elementary school, the more appropriate school
18 at this point in time to Morrisville would be
19 the Grandview Elementary School.

20 We have not analyzed classroom numbers.
21 We have not analyzed any type of
22 appropriateness of -- just from a physical
23 condition of the building, this is what our
24 observations are.

25 MR. FITZPATRICK: Mr. Corfield, you have

1 referenced in your testimony a report that was
2 prepared. I'm going to hand you a report that
3 I have marked Exhibit 3 for identification.

4 Is that the report you are referring to?

5 MR. CORFIELD: Yes, it is.

6 MR. FITZPATRICK: I would just ask you to
7 deliver it to Lynda, the court reporter, to be
8 made part of the record.

9 MR. CORFIELD: Right now?

10 MR. FITZPATRICK: It will just take a
11 moment.

12 MR. CORFIELD: (Complying.)

13 -----

14 GARY PITTMAN, having been previously duly
15 sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

16 -----

17 MR. PITTMAN: My name is Gary Pittman.
18 I'm the director of engineering for VITETTA. I
19 just want to add a couple things to what Bill
20 pointed out.

21 As we went through the comparison between
22 the two schools, M.R. Reiter and Grandview, we
23 also developed some estimated costs for the
24 renovations and additional work that were
25 required.

1 For the Grandview School, we came up with
2 \$2.6 million dollars to do the renovations that
3 Bill is describing here.

4 For M.R. Reiter School, similar
5 renovations plus the additional work came to a
6 little bit over \$4 million dollars, which then
7 also -- which is about 50 percent more than
8 where you were with the Grandview School.

9 Again, as Bill pointed out, there's a
10 significant number of unknowns, if you will, in
11 that number. So our expectation would be that
12 the cost could easily go higher than the four
13 million that we've estimated for M.R. Reiter.

14 MR. HELLMANN: I guess we're ready for
15 Public Session Comments.

16 We'll get them sworn as they come up.

17 We'll give three, four minutes of time.

18 The first one is Kevin Waters.

19 -----

20 KEVIN WATERS, having been duly sworn, was
21 examined and testified as follows:

22 -----

23 MR. HELLMANN: Your name and address,
24 please?

25 MR. WATERS: Kevin Waters, 546 Doloro

1 Drive, Morrisville, Pennsylvania.

2 I guess where I want to start is I'm new
3 here, maybe about five years. I was able to
4 access a lot of this information online. I
5 assume the VITETTA report you're talking about
6 is dated December 16, 2008.

7 Generally, I believe the initial
8 feasibility study options provided us five
9 different options where you could either close
10 schools, renovate schools, build a new campus
11 and such.

12 If one of these schools are closed, have
13 you decided on which option you would like to
14 move forward with at that point? Or is that
15 yet to be determined?

16 MR. HELLMANN: There is no response.

17 MR. WATERS: I'm just supposed to ask
18 questions, right.

19 MR. FITZPATRICK: Kevin, we're going to
20 note each of the questions, as I said in the
21 opening. And each of the questions will be
22 referred to the Administration and
23 professionals. They'll be answered within a
24 reasonable period of time. And all of the Q
25 and A will be posted on the Website.

1 MR. WATERS: Fair enough.

2 That means that if the resolution is to
3 close one school, I would ask: What are you
4 going to do next?

5 A long story short -- I apologize, this is
6 my first time doing this. I really wanted to
7 focus on information provided in the initial
8 report called Bid Results, Analysis and
9 Options.

10 The opportunity to build a new school
11 might be a good option here. It seemed to be
12 the most cost-effective, if we have to close a
13 school regardless.

14 As noted before, the renovation costs can
15 clearly go out of control. If you have the
16 opportunity to start from scratch, it might be
17 helpful.

18 For those that are opposed to potentially
19 building a new school, I would like to remind
20 them that good, strong school systems are very
21 important to our home values and make this area
22 a desirable school system to live in.

23 From my review of the existing systems
24 evaluations, VITETTA report, these schools have
25 functional issues. They have asbestos on the

1 floors. Neither school has sprinklers. I have
2 material concerns about the conditions of these
3 schools.

4 Moreover, to the extent that we have
5 systems that should have been replaced over 20
6 years ago, I have concerns about why they
7 weren't replaced 20 years ago.

8 Additionally, to the extent that some of
9 this information was not distributed, I think
10 it could have been distributed in a more
11 efficient manner: Giving notice that this
12 information was available, maybe distributing
13 it to the kids so they could distribute it to
14 their parents.

15 You kind of have to go out of your way to
16 find this information. I don't know how many
17 people here have actually read the reports or
18 knew where they were. You've got to dig and
19 they were materially hard to print and
20 download.

21 I don't want to take too much time. But
22 my main concern about building this --
23 potentially building this new school is: How
24 do we address the kids' safety? If you're
25 going to put kindergarteners with, you know,

1 high school kids, things happen. I think if
2 you look at the presentation that was provided,
3 the design there, there might be flexibility in
4 that design to address those concerns. So that
5 would be one of my concerns.

6 But to the extent that we have to put
7 capital into an old defunct building with, God
8 knows, how much actual renovation costs is
9 going to escalate -- and when you do renovation
10 projects, they typically do. Professionally,
11 I've either sold or financed a billion three in
12 commercial real estate, so I do have an idea of
13 how costs can get out of control.

14 I do think to the extent we can start from
15 scratch, you can mitigate those cost increases
16 because you're not -- you're starting from
17 scratch as opposed to building onto something.

18 I don't want to take too much time but I
19 do think that if you have the opportunity to
20 address the safety issue --

21 MR. HELLMANN: It's four minutes.

22 MR. WATERS: Thank you.

23 -----

24 ED BAILEY, having been duly sworn, was
25 examined and testified as follows:

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MR. BAILEY: Ed Bailey, 36 East Palmer Street. I'm here as a father and taxpayer, voter. I would kind of like to put this into perspective a little bit.

This is a matter of concern, but I really am more concerned with what goes on inside the school than I am with the buildings themselves. As long as we have, you know, safe, reasonably comfortable school buildings to accommodate our students, that's -- as long as it's adequate, I'm happy with that.

What I want is to have really good education going on inside the building. So I don't think we should be losing focus and putting so much emphasis on that, but we do need to deal with the issue.

I'm also concerned about how we decide issues in local government. I don't want there to be this seesawing back and forth. I think we should be able to come up with a reasonable compromise, a workable compromise that the majority of this Board, the voters will support.

That being said, I see there's been a lot

1 of anger and upset over this. I heard
2 people -- I think Angel Stamps commented that
3 she was losing sleep over this. And when we
4 had the new school issue, we were -- people
5 were losing sleep over it.

6 That's why I would really like to see that
7 we come together, decide as a majority of the
8 voters what we want. And of course, there's
9 going to be people at the extreme that don't
10 want it, but there will always be people at the
11 extremes that are not satisfied.

12 What I don't want is that we get all bent
13 out of shape over the issue, and then that
14 gives an opportunity for the Courier Times to
15 print the kind of articles that Morrisville
16 residents hate where we're portrayed as a bunch
17 of morons that get up and yell at the podium
18 and make fools of ourselves at these public
19 meetings.

20 Now, specifically, I would regret seeing
21 M.R. Reiter closed, because my daughter was
22 there from kindergarten to second grade. So
23 just for purely sentimental reasons I would be
24 sorry to see it go.

25 But on the other hand, I presume we're

1 going to be seeing detailed cost estimates of
2 what it would cost to keep M.R. Reiter open as
3 opposed to keeping Grandview open.

4 And I would also like to know if this
5 issue could be the subject of a referendum.
6 That's the second thing I would like to find
7 out.

8 The third thing I would like to know about
9 is then, well, if M.R. Reiter is to be
10 closed -- because it sounds as though that's
11 what the cost estimate is going to be the
12 better choice, then how is it going to be
13 disposed of? Is it going to be kept open
14 space? Is the building going to be kept
15 intact, rented out, sold, what?

16 Another thing that I heard Eileen
17 Dreisbach suggest. I was talking to her and
18 she suggested we reopen Manor Park. The point
19 that she made at the mike here at a School
20 Board meeting was that the Manor Park lease to
21 the Head Start Program could be broken if we
22 had need to have that school back. So I would
23 like to see some discussion of that as part of
24 the --

25 MR. HELLMANN: That's four.

1

2

ANN PERRY, having been duly sworn, was

3

examined and testified as follows:

4

5

MS. PERRY: Good evening. Ann Perry, 43

6

Fairview Avenue.

7

Since our questions will be answered in a

8

reasonable time period, I have a bunch.

9

Number one. What's next if M.R. Reiter is

10

closed?

11

If closing M.R. Reiter is a done-deal, as

12

it appears to be, then what will happen to that

13

property? Sale? Reconstruction? Demolition?

14

Conversion to open space? Et cetera.

15

Why does the public find out most of its

16

information about the Board from the local

17

newspaper?

18

What steps, if any, will the Board take to

19

significantly improve the transparency of its

20

actions in the future?

21

Why hasn't the Board or Mr. Fitzpatrick

22

asked parents their opinions about this

23

seven-month quest to farm out our high school

24

students?

25

What was the point of having Community

1 Action Plan Meetings, CAP meetings, as
2 Dr. Yonson spoke of, if the School Board makes
3 its decisions without the advice of parents and
4 residents?

5 What are the elements of Mr. Hellmann's
6 six-point plan that you've mentioned in public
7 but about which the public has no information?
8 If the exact number of points in the plan is
9 known, it must be relatively detailed.

10 When will this plan be shared with the
11 public? When will the plan be voted on by the
12 entire Board? How long does the Board intend
13 to let M.R. Reiter sit vacant if the Board
14 can't sell it at a reasonable price? What
15 actions will the Board take to prevent M.R.
16 Reiter from becoming a blighted eyesore if it
17 does sit vacant?

18 Mr. Farrell previously indicated that
19 there should have been devices installed to
20 prevent what happened to the M.R. Reiter
21 furnace. When will the Board be voting to
22 procure and install such devices at Grandview
23 and the middle school and high school?

24 Why was Mr. Ron Stout the only member of
25 the public invited or informed of the classroom

1 tours that were conducted by the Board in the
2 October 2008 timeframe?

3 Why has the Board elected not to pursue
4 renovations at Grandview or the Middle/High
5 School in accordance with the Pennsylvania
6 Department of Education Plan Process by which a
7 significant portion of the renovation costs may
8 be reimbursable?

9 Has the Board considered the impact the
10 current cramming situation has on the children?
11 In what ways has it considered this impact?
12 What steps has the Board made to minimize this
13 impact?

14 Why are the first graders in the hallway
15 trying to learn? How much of a fire hazard is
16 this? Why are there not adequate bathroom
17 facilities for the children that have to go in
18 shifts? Why are there still multiple
19 classrooms being held in the library?

20 How does the closing of M.R. Reiter affect
21 the busing situation if Grandview is beyond the
22 walking stone? When will this emergency
23 situation end? When will a reasonable
24 nonemergency solution be presented? As it is,
25 we traded a modern day building to building up

1 to Code and designed to segregate the grades
2 for all code buildings with makeshift
3 arrangements.

4 What is the threshold for renovations or
5 changes that forces the Board to bring the
6 existing buildings up to current code?

7 I want to make sure that everyone is aware
8 that special education classroom space has been
9 displaced at the high school. How is the Board
10 compensating for this?

11 After-school programs have been displaced
12 and will continue to be affected. Has the
13 Board considered the impact of reduced space on
14 the after-school programs? What actions are
15 being taken to address this?

16 What steps are being taken to protect the
17 safety and security of our students? I'm not
18 going to go into any more detail about that
19 because I don't want to give anyone ideas about
20 how easy it might be to harm one of our
21 children there.

22 What is being done to address the
23 absolutely perilous traffic situation of both
24 the Middle/High School and --

25 MR. HELLMANN: That's four minutes. Thank

1 you.

2 -----

3 JON PERRY, having been duly sworn, was
4 examined and testified as follows:

5 -----

6 MR. PERRY: Good evening. My name is Jon
7 Perry. I live at 43 Fairview Avenue in
8 Morrisville.

9 I hope I can get through this tonight
10 without having my First Amendment Right to free
11 speech violated, like they were last night.

12 It is unfortunate that we as a town and
13 community find ourselves in this place tonight.
14 Problems with all three existing public school
15 buildings have been well-known and
16 well-documented for years.

17 Systems in dire need of repair or
18 replacement because they reached their useful
19 lives have gone unrepaired or unreplaced.

20 No one could have predicted the precise
21 time and place, but unfortunately, it was
22 unsurprising and only a matter of time before a
23 tragic incident like the December 13, 2008
24 furnace explosion at M.R. Reiter occurred. Now
25 we find ourselves at a public hearing regarding

1 the permanent closure of this school.

2 Despite improved Morrisville scores, which
3 are in no way attributable to this Board
4 majority, the fact is that the Board majority
5 has failed to properly address the conditions
6 of the school buildings. And it's had one
7 school building experience a furnace explosion
8 and because unusable on its watch.

9 The elementary students are currently
10 jammed into the Middle-High School and the
11 other elementary school with PreK students at
12 the local YMCA. At best, these students may be
13 put into trailers for many months, maybe even
14 years. Further student shuffling is currently
15 happening, adding to the inconvenience and to
16 the disruption of educational programs.

17 Board members and supporters, who in my
18 opinion are quite hypocritical, when they
19 railed against putting younger and older
20 students into the school building, now they
21 seem to be quite fine with this arrangement.

22 The bond monies set aside by a prior Board
23 majority to build a new, energy and
24 space-efficient, secure K through 12 campus,
25 which could have been a long-term solution to

1 address building conditions, were largely
2 returned at a cost of 2.5 million dollars,
3 which was not revealed to the public or the
4 full Board prior to the January 30, 2008 vote
5 to diffuse the bonds.

6 Now in my opinion, not enough money
7 remains to properly renovate the school
8 buildings. The money was returned a year ago
9 before the Board had any reliable idea about
10 what renovations would cost.

11 I'm going to turn in this docket as
12 written testimony as well.

13 But I guess in closing, residents, parents
14 and students alike have all repeatedly asked
15 the Board for a thoughtful, coherent, properly
16 executed long-term plan to address the physical
17 condition of the school buildings and fulfill
18 its obligation to provide a quality, safe,
19 responsible education to the students of
20 Morrisville.

21 After 15 months in office, no such plan
22 exists. Unfortunately, I have no confidence
23 that this Board, with its current composition,
24 can accomplish this.

25 Four of the nine Board seats opened this

1 year -- are open this year. If you are
2 dissatisfied with the Board majority's
3 performance, the Tuesday, May 19, primary
4 election is the next big opportunity to change
5 the composition of this Board. I urge the
6 public to stay informed about what this Board
7 is doing and about alternatives to this kind of
8 performance. Thank you.

9 -----

10 JOHANNY MANNING, having been duly sworn, was
11 examined and testified as follows:

12 -----

13 MS. MANNING: I'm Johanny Manning, 449
14 Stockham Avenue.

15 What I find amazing is that the VITETTA
16 report is exactly what we thought it was. We
17 had a report done previously. You told us the
18 same thing.

19 But I find it ironic that the School Board
20 members sitting behind me, as well as
21 Mr. Hellmann in front of me, didn't believe
22 that report then; we had to spend the money to
23 do yet another one. Reiter needs work. We
24 knew that. That was the reason why we thought
25 Reiter needed to go.

1 What I didn't find in your report, the
2 VITETTA report, is that you're saying that
3 Grandview is going to cost us 2.6 million
4 dollars to renovate as is. Correct?

5 That means, like for like, that new space
6 is not large enough for the children that we
7 have. It is not capable of holding what we
8 needed to hold.

9 What are our long-term renovation plans?
10 I haven't seen one. I don't know if there was
11 a meeting, a planning meeting that I missed
12 about that.

13 We obviously cannot be in portables long
14 term. What's that going to cost us if we have
15 to stay in portables and continue to rent them,
16 Mr. DeAngelo?

17 That, you know, is a concern for me.
18 Obviously, we are using the money that we got
19 from the insurance but what's going to happen
20 past that? Once that is expended and we have
21 to start footing the bill as taxpayers, what is
22 that going to cost us to do that?

23 What things have been moved or interrupted
24 because of cramming everyone into Grandview?
25 Where is currently our nurse? I hear our

1 learning support and our gifted are now sharing
2 space. What happened to music and art? What
3 is going to happen to our library? What is
4 going on with our 21st Century programs that
5 were so much needed? And that was the reason
6 why we had gotten them as a grant, because this
7 town needs them to survive. They have provided
8 so much to these children and we need to
9 continue to provide those.

10 What about the capacity of our all-purpose
11 room, which I know previously before
12 December -- I haven't been there to verify if
13 it's still there. It said a hundred, that that
14 room, our all-purpose room in Grandview, was
15 not supposed to be more than a hundred. What's
16 going on now when we have got so many children
17 in there for our lunch periods?

18 I understand that our portables are
19 working right now, but we can't count on them
20 forever. What is happening long term at the
21 high school that we're bringing up our fifth
22 graders, but what renovations are being done to
23 isolate them from the rest of the students? I
24 know we currently have WIN, but we also have a
25 science class that is still being held there.

1 Why are we not isolating them and using our
2 funds?

3 I would also like to read for the record
4 an e-mail from Mr. Bill Hellmann dated
5 Wednesday, June 25, 2008, 10:24 a.m. It was
6 addressed to Mrs. Heater.

7 And it states, "Look, we have \$7 million
8 to renovate. No more. Whatever kids do not
9 fit in Grandview, put in high school. There is
10 no perfect solution. Too bad!" exclamation
11 point. "Put fourth and fifth in high school.
12 Make Grand View" -- and I should say it says GV
13 -- "Grandview K through 3 I still say all in
14 high school. Too bad. And tuition out nine
15 through 12. Eventually high school will be K
16 through 8. I do not care what the losers say.
17 They do not know our expense problems over the
18 next decade. They just do not get it. I will
19 be the bad guy. I need only four other votes.
20 You can abstain if you want. You can just get
21 me four other votes behind the scenes. OK."

22 I want to make sure we got that on the
23 record because the statement that was said by
24 Mr. Hellmann and Mr. Fitzpatrick that this
25 decision has not been made yet is obviously a

1 lie. Thank you.

2 -----

3 KATHRYN PANZITTA, having been duly sworn, was
4 examined and testified as follows:

5 -----

6 MS. PANZITTA: Kathryn Panzitta, 401
7 Hillcrest Avenue.

8 What I will say tonight is that of my own
9 personal opinion and in no way is affected to
10 my elected position.

11 Dear School Board members and Pennsylvania
12 Department of Education. I'm here tonight to
13 voice my opinion at this public hearing on the
14 closing of the M.R. Reiter School.

15 I have attended various School Board
16 meetings, School Board Finance Committee
17 meetings and School Board Facility meetings
18 over the last few years and have yet to hear a
19 plan as to how the School Board of Morrisville
20 plans to close a building and continue to
21 provide the educational programs and services
22 to the Morrisville residents that have been
23 provided at this facility in the past, until
24 your little presentation this evening. And I
25 still have not heard any educationally-related

1 items being addressed.

2 How can anyone make an informed decision
3 or form an informed opinion, when the entire
4 subject of closing the M.R. Reiter building has
5 never been discussed in a public meeting prior
6 to this evening as to how closing a building
7 affects the entire Morrisville Borough public
8 education system as a whole?

9 Morrisville School Board and the State of
10 Pennsylvania has a historic commitment to
11 ensuring access to education to its most
12 vulnerable citizens and we expend vast sums of
13 public resources on education.

14 Public and private initiatives are
15 underway to improve access, improve quality of
16 education, hold districts accountable for PSSA
17 scores and produce greater value for the
18 dollars spent on education.

19 These problems will not be solved
20 overnight, as the challenges facing Morrisville
21 School District developed over a long period
22 and cannot be linked to a single time, policy
23 or School Board. These challenges must be
24 addressed, as they relate to physically closing
25 an elementary school building.

1 The governor, legislature, and the
2 Pennsylvania Department of Education should
3 recognize the desired financial pressures
4 placed on property tax owners in small school
5 districts where economies of scale cannot be
6 accomplished due to the small number of
7 children being serviced with very large
8 administrative overhead and capital
9 construction costs.

10 Added to this challenge is the additional
11 financial pressure within Morrisville School
12 District to service a high disproportionate
13 number of special education need students
14 without adequate federal and state funding
15 available.

16 How would the closing of your M.R. Reiter
17 building meet these children's needs?

18 Everything must be considered before
19 making any decisions. And I truly believe the
20 Morrisville School Board members should not put
21 taxes and public opinion before the oaths they
22 took when they first sat on that School Board,
23 and when they take the vote to close or not
24 close the M.R. Reiter building.

25 I hope over the next three months the

1 Morrisville School Board gives the Morrisville
2 community more information publicly concerning
3 this issue and not force individuals, like
4 myself, to have to read personal e-mails to
5 gather information.

6 Let me state for the record, I recall the
7 Morrisville School Board placing on the agenda,
8 at an agenda-setting meeting prior to the M.R.
9 Reiter explosion, a request for advertising
10 closing M.R. Reiter School.

11 As three minutes is not adequate time --

12 MR. HELLMANN: Kathy, it's four.

13 MS. PANZITTA: -- to speak intelligently,
14 I will submit additional written comments.
15 Thank you.

16 -----

17 SUSAN SCOTT, having been duly sworn, was
18 examined and testified as follows:

19 -----

20 MS. SCOTT: Susan Scott, 108 Melvin
21 Avenue.

22 I would just like to address the Board.
23 I've been to quite a few of these meetings
24 before but never came up to speak.

25 You ran on a platform basically saying

1 that you did not want the children in a K
2 through 12 setting. The previous Board already
3 made these problems in both elementary schools.
4 They were aware of the situations and their
5 decision to fix it was to build a new school.
6 You stopped this new school and you have no
7 plan on how to rectify it.

8 What has happened since December 13 was
9 the children have been moved into the high
10 school. The hardest part is my second grader
11 comes home and constantly says, "Mommy, where
12 am I going to go to school tomorrow?" Due to
13 this, she's having various problems adjusting
14 to her school work and I have seen a decline in
15 her grades.

16 While I attend these meetings, the
17 constant focus is always on dollars and what
18 it's going to take to fix the school, not on
19 the education of our children.

20 I have heard it again tonight and
21 Mr. Hellmann has previously talked about the
22 six-step plan and the first step is closing
23 M.R. Reiter. I want to know what the other
24 five steps are going to be.

25 Also the VITETTA report talked about the

1 Grandview being the best alternative. The
2 problem is the school isn't big enough if we
3 were to move all the children in there. The
4 multipurpose room is barely big enough to fit
5 what's in there, and no more. Therefore, if we
6 were to have any type of assemblies, they
7 couldn't have those.

8 I guess that's all I have to say.

9 -----

10 DAMON MILLER, having been duly sworn, was
11 examined and testified as follows:

12 -----

13 MR. MILLER: Damon Miller, 249 West
14 Franklin Street.

15 Addressing the issue of closing M.R.
16 Reiter Elementary School. I do not believe the
17 School Board majority has thought this through
18 and what could happen to this district if the
19 school was to be closed.

20 Their constant thinking of today, instead
21 of thinking about how their actions will affect
22 tomorrow, I believe is what has brought this
23 district to the problems we are discussing this
24 evening.

25 Even Mr. Farrell, at a recent School Board

1 meeting, criticized the name of a local group
2 called Morrisville Tomorrow, saying that he was
3 thinking of the Morrisville of today.

4 If M.R. Reiter was to be closed, where
5 would the students that used to be educated
6 there be schooled? Soon grades 1 and 2 will be
7 housed in modulars placed on the Grandview
8 property, and the fifth grade will be moving
9 into the high school.

10 There's currently not enough room to house
11 more grades in Grandview. So I ask: How long
12 will grades 1 and 2 be placed in the modulars?
13 Will more grades be screened into the high
14 school?

15 If you need to fit two grades into
16 Grandview, then two grades need to move out of
17 Grandview. Where are they to go? Does this
18 mean the high school will become a 3 through 12
19 facility?

20 The Board majority, with Mr. Hellmann
21 leading the way, believes more students can fit
22 into the high school. As a matter of fact,
23 Mr. Hellmann, working off of numbers alone,
24 believes that all of the students in this
25 district can fit in this building, with no

1 thought on the effects this will have on the
2 education process.

3 And what if all of the students can't fit
4 in the high school? Will the Board follow
5 through with Mr. Hellmann's plan to tuition out
6 the high school students to make room for the
7 lower grades?

8 This Board needs to realize that our
9 children are not numbers or dollar signs but
10 they are citizens of this community, too, and
11 deserve to be treated as such.

12 Speaking of dollar signs, I understand
13 that the insurance company is willing to
14 provide one million dollars to replace the
15 heaters and chimneys in Reiter. Will the Board
16 consider this as an option, since Reiter is a
17 larger school and is centrally located?

18 Mr. Hellmann said he would not close the
19 school without holding a referendum. Will that
20 be done? 2.6 million dollars to renovate
21 Grandview. Will that be to include adding the
22 grades that are housed in the modulares?

23 A good school system is a major deciding
24 point for people when selecting a home. If
25 this Board continues on the path it is leading

1 this district on, property values will surely
2 continue to stay low, despite whatever the
3 market does.

4 For those who don't think property values
5 affect you, think of when you need to do
6 renovation to your home or sending your
7 children to college or maybe doing a reverse
8 mortgage so you can stay in your home.

9 If none of those things affect you, what
10 about your neighbors? When your neighbors sell
11 their home, are you willing to gamble on the
12 type of neighbors you will get when low
13 property values come into play?

14 I agree with Mr. Bailey. A pendulum has
15 been wildly swinging to the extremes in this
16 town for years, from having a new school to
17 making our children someone else's problem.
18 The swinging of this pendulum has to stop. And
19 it is time that we, as a community, take care
20 of our own.

21 That is why if this community so desires,
22 I will be petitioning my name to be included on
23 this May's primary election ballot. It is time
24 for our community to have a School Board that
25 will keep all of the Board's commitments in

1 mind when decisions are made and make progress
2 happen that will benefit everyone.

3 It is time to bring back the pride of
4 Morrisville of yesterday. It is time to face
5 the issues of Morrisville of today. And it is
6 time to create a better Morrisville for
7 tomorrow. Thank you.

8 -----

9 MARIZOL TIRADO, having been duly sworn, was
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 -----

12 MS. TIRADO: First, I want to say that
13 most of the parents spoke so well and answered
14 a lot of my questions, so this is going to be
15 pretty brief.

16 I wanted to say that I moved into
17 Morrisville two and-a-half years ago from
18 Trenton. I moved here so that my kids can live
19 in a safe neighborhood and be in smaller
20 schools. Boy, I was in for a rude awakening
21 when I moved here.

22 In the fall of 2006, my twins entered
23 kindergarten and my eldest entered the eighth
24 grade in the Morrisville School District.

25 Little did I know that by choosing a home

1 in this School District, I put my children in a
2 School District that, although it employs a
3 very hard-working school staff, it doesn't care
4 to provide a good quality education for its
5 children.

6 My children's education is continuously
7 threatened. One day I hear that one of my
8 children may not be able to receive the special
9 education services that he requires because the
10 School Board has decided to cut the special
11 education budget.

12 Just when I think I'm over that hurdle,
13 the news begins to circulate that the School
14 Board is considering closing the school. Then
15 it's the news of refusing to make necessary
16 repairs.

17 Then the unfortunate incident of the
18 school furnace. They're moved into another
19 school until repairs are made, which turns into
20 the thing of children going into trailers.

21 All of the changes, all the scheduled
22 changes, the children being moved around, the
23 after-school programs the children look forward
24 to, are canceled temporarily and some are just
25 plain canceled.

1 After all of that, imagine my fear when I
2 read an editorial in the Courier Times
3 yesterday that stated this School District is
4 petitioning other districts to send our high
5 schools out.

6 If I wanted my children to attend another
7 School District, I would have bought a home
8 there, not here. It amazes me how much anxiety
9 you have caused the parents and children of
10 this town.

11 How can the children of this School
12 District academically prosper when their
13 services are constantly interrupted and their
14 right to a good education taken away from them?

15 If my children can't attend school in
16 their own town, why would I continue to live
17 here? I've heard mention in other media of
18 doing what's best for the community. They are
19 the community.

20 I've watched so many young families move
21 into this town with their small children.
22 Without having a school to go to, why would we
23 continue to live here?

24 And when we go -- and we will when our
25 children are gone -- how well do you think this

1 town will survive? There will be no town.
2 There will be no community.

3 So I end with this. Since it is apparent
4 that a good education for the children and
5 future of this town is not a priority, think
6 about what is going to be left of this town
7 when the children move to another school
8 district. Thank you.

9 -----

10 LORENA YOUNG, having been duly sworn, was
11 examined and testified as follows:

12 -----

13 MS. YOUNG: This is my first meeting that
14 I've attended. I moved here a little over two
15 years ago. My son is a high school student
16 here at Morrisville High. And from
17 kindergarten -- actually, kindergarten through
18 sixth grade, he attended Ewing public school,
19 where the teacher-to-child ratio was about 27
20 to 2.

21 I think it is despicable, despicable, that
22 this Board decided to let the students of M.R.
23 Reiter sit in that school while it was a
24 ticking time bomb, a ticking time bomb, which
25 placed our students in that school in danger.

1 The fact that the furnace went on the
2 weekend was a blessing, a blessing, because any
3 of those children could have been hurt. And
4 one of those children is my nephew who's in
5 second grade.

6 And it's ridiculous that in this school
7 year he's gone from one school to another
8 document, to a TCU. And then where is he going
9 to be next year? There's no answer to that.

10 The fact that now you've said two cycles
11 have gone through, the furnaces should have
12 been fixed and they weren't, tick, tick, tick.
13 Tick, tick, tick. Any of those students could
14 have been hurt.

15 Back to the teacher-to-student ratio. I
16 pulled my son out of Ewing public school
17 because of that, and I decided that Morrisville
18 School District would be better for my son
19 because of the teacher-to-child ratio.

20 You said the drop in student enrollment
21 has dropped. But for me for a student who was
22 in that scenario and that situation, that's
23 good for me. My son is getting a better
24 education in this borough because of that
25 ratio, where he seems to be a better priority

1 than what was there where one teacher is
2 standing in the front of the room saying pick a
3 side of the room and get the directions off the
4 blackboard that you see. Tick, tick, tick. It
5 was despicable.

6 -----

7 TIM McCLEARY, having been duly sworn, was
8 examined and testified as follows:

9 -----

10 MR. McCLEARY: Tim McCleary, 53 Delaware
11 Avenue. Father of two students, both who were
12 attending M.R. Reiter when the explosion
13 happened.

14 My son is in preschool. My daughter is in
15 second grade. Since being moved up to the high
16 school, she has been struggling in school, has
17 not been doing well. She is in an
18 uncomfortable environment there.

19 With being moved to Grandview and trailers
20 possibly in a few weeks, I can assure you that
21 that situation is not going to change. It's
22 going to be an environment that's not conducive
23 for her learning and she's going to continue to
24 struggle. That's a big concern for my wife and
25 I.

1 I'm also concerned that we don't know what
2 the plan is. The community here deserves to
3 know what your plan is, what your long-term
4 plan is, not just bits and pieces. We would
5 like to hear it direct from the Board, not from
6 a newspaper, not from rumors. We want to know
7 the truth. We want to know what is going on.

8 We want a plan doesn't include farming out
9 our 9th through 12th graders to other School
10 Districts. That's a nonacceptable plan to us.
11 These other districts are not obligated to take
12 our students nor are they in any position to do
13 so.

14 All the districts in this area are looking
15 at cutting costs right now in light of the
16 current economic downturn. I work in education
17 and I'm very well aware of that.

18 Accepting our students by these other
19 districts they'll increase their costs and
20 overburden their already crowded schools.

21 Many of these districts are already
22 anticipating increase in enrollment due to
23 parents no longer able to afford private
24 school. They're not in a position to take 300
25 more students or however many are in 9th

1 through 12th in this district. It is not
2 something they can afford. We're pinning all
3 of our hopes on the charity of another
4 district, and that is clearly not the answer.

5 Nor is the answer to cram our students and
6 teachers like sardines in smaller and smaller
7 spaces. Reiter is not without its problems;
8 and as has been mentioned, it is probably the
9 school here with the most problems. We
10 understand that.

11 But we need to realize that any viable
12 solution is going to cost us money. Proper
13 solution doesn't mean just cramming more
14 students into a building, putting more and more
15 students in there, and not doing anything to
16 address the real problems and address the
17 educational needs of our children.

18 It's certainly not the best time for these
19 costs when our students require safe, stable,
20 and quality education. We can't just keep
21 moving them around like they're cattle. They
22 need to be in a stable environment, a place
23 where they feel safe, where they feel
24 comfortable.

25 We need to be thinking about the education

1 of our students and not just how we can save
2 money for this community. That's a concern as
3 well.

4 But more pressing is that we provide our
5 students with the quality education and a way
6 for them to learn where they can excel and
7 succeed in our society. Thank you.

8 -----

9 GAYLE HAUG, having been duly sworn, was
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 -----

12 MS. HAUG: Good evening. I just have a
13 couple concerns here. I'll read them out.

14 Some concerns I would like addressed by
15 the School Board regarding the possible closing
16 of M.R. Reiter Elementary School.

17 If the insurance company is willing to pay
18 for all repairs required due to the furnace
19 incident, why would there be a more urgent need
20 than there has been in the past to close the
21 school if these repairs are made?

22 Isn't it conceivable that the building
23 should remain open until an acceptable
24 long-term plan is established?

25 According to the Bucks County Courier

1 Times, Mr. Hellmann's plan is to house K
2 through 8 in the high school and send the high
3 school students to another district. Yet
4 Mr. Hellmann and the Board have no idea if this
5 plan is really feasible to another district or
6 even to the people of Morrisville at this point
7 in time.

8 Please don't charge forward with only
9 Mr. Hellmann's plan and close doors that can
10 not be reopened should his idea be
11 unattainable.

12 What will the ultimate effect of closing
13 the school have on the PreK program? Will we
14 be able to house the program in another school?
15 It would be unacceptable to see the district
16 lose or waste a grant from the state to provide
17 PreK due to poor planning on the part of the
18 district. I have the same concern about the
19 full-day kindergarten program should M.R.
20 Reiter be closed and room at other facilities
21 become scarce for whatever reason.

22 Three. There are many concerns relating
23 to what will become of this property once the
24 school is closed. If the building has to be
25 closed, it is absolutely critical that the

1 property be sold.

2 The proceeds from the sale of the property
3 belong to the School District and should be
4 used to help pay for remodeling or repairs to
5 other school facilities.

6 I am concerned that the School Board
7 majority may decide to make a park out of the
8 property rather than sell it. This is not a
9 realistic option when the district is in such
10 dire need of funds for repair.

11 Four. If M.R. Reiter is closed, will the
12 Board consider reopening the Manor Park School?
13 I certainly don't know if this is the answer to
14 some or all of our problems but it definitely
15 needs to be considered.

16 I had thought the lease of Manor Park
17 School to Head Start could not be terminated,
18 but this is not true. According to the lease
19 agreement, item number 20 of the lease
20 agreement, 20B: This lease may be terminated
21 by the landlord during any calendar year by
22 giving written notice to tenant on or before
23 March 31st of any year indicating the
24 landlord's intention to terminate this lease.
25 Notice must be sent, as per the lease

1 agreement, in writing by certified mail. In
2 order to terminate this lease agreement,
3 landlord may pay tenants the following:

4 Number 1. Tenant's actual costs less
5 depreciation for any fixtures, equipment,
6 improvements and appurtenances attached to or
7 built into the premises that will remain part
8 of the premises at the termination of the lease
9 agreement.

10 Number 2. 40 percent of all amounts
11 tenant has paid in rent to landlord.

12 If notice is given, the lease will be
13 terminated at the end of that calendar year,
14 provided landlord makes payment to tenant prior
15 to the end of that year as required above.

16 Landlord's right to terminate expires and ends
17 on December 31st, 2010. If landlord has not
18 exercised its right to terminate by that date
19 on the terms set forth above, landlord forever
20 loses its right to terminate this lease
21 unilaterally. However, this does not affect
22 the landlord's right to terminate this lease if
23 tenant is in default. If landlord exercises
24 its right to terminate this lease, tenant will
25 leave space in the same condition it found

1 space, less reasonable wear and tear. If
2 landlord terminates this lease agreement,
3 tenant shall have no further rights in the
4 premises, including any right to purchase the
5 premises.

6 According to what I just read, the School
7 District has the right to terminate this lease
8 until December 31, 2010. The minimum cost to
9 the district is 40 percent of all amounts
10 tenant has paid in rent to landlord to date.

11 Page 1 per the agreement, the tenant
12 agrees to pay to the District \$50,000 upon the
13 execution of the lease. That was in 1999.

14 MR. HELLMANN: Four minutes.

15 MS. HAUG: And 27,632 on each January 2.
16 This would be a total of 298,688 on
17 January 2nd, 2009, of which 40 percent or
18 119,000 will be due to the tenant.

19 In addition, the district will owe the
20 tenant the actual costs, less depreciation, for
21 any fixtures.

22 Manor Park School is the newest of all the
23 Morrisville schools and contains at least eight
24 classrooms. I am told that Head Start only
25 uses two of those classrooms for the children

1 they serve. If M.R. Reiter is closed and sold,
2 the district can use some of the proceeds to
3 obtain the Manor Park School.

4 -----

5 PAM VELEZ, having been duly sworn, was
6 examined and testified as follows:

7 -----

8 MS. VELEZ: Good evening. Pam Velez, 232
9 Hillcrest Avenue.

10 Pretty much the majority of the parents
11 that spoke out tonight shared my views
12 regarding the cramming of our students.

13 Ironically, on Martin Luther King Day, I
14 was in the building renovating a storage closet
15 to put our ESL teacher in so that she could
16 have space in Grandview.

17 While I was painting this room and
18 listening to my music, I was thinking about
19 just how insane this is. I pay a lot of money
20 for my taxes and I am renovating a closet for a
21 teacher to work in.

22 I understand that on paper things can look
23 real good and you can see that math and you can
24 say we only have this many children, we can fit
25 so many here, so many there.

1 I work in this school every single day. I
2 would challenge any one of you -- architects,
3 with all due respect -- to come into that
4 building and see how we're supposed to properly
5 educate these children crammed into rooms.

6 Kindergarten is eating in classrooms.
7 Cramming 80 children in a room only made for a
8 hundred to eat lunch in. Now to most people
9 saying what is she complaining about; there's
10 still room for 20 more children.

11 Come into that room. Come see what it's
12 like. It's not acceptable. We can do better.
13 I don't want my taxes to go up either. We're,
14 you know, some months just making it through.
15 But there's a bigger picture. Okay.

16 The modules, that I see out there, to me
17 are not acceptable. What I view that are
18 supposed to be for four classrooms, in my
19 opinion, should only be for two. One of them I
20 don't even see windows in, only doors.

21 I understand you need to use them as an
22 emergency situation, but they're not acceptable
23 for anything long term.

24 I would like -- if we need to close a
25 building, I would like to see the proper

1 renovations done to a building or a brand new
2 elementary school built.

3 You know, I believe that most of the Board
4 got elected because people were against the K
5 through 12 idea of a building. But I don't
6 believe that they didn't want anything for
7 their children. Or they wanted something
8 better.

9 I have three teenagers in this high
10 school. I have a junior, who shares with me
11 often his concerns after spending three years
12 building his academic résumé to go on to places
13 like University of Michigan and other schools,
14 wondering if he's going to get shipped out in
15 his senior year and what is that going to mean
16 to him to get his transcripts out.

17 These are not acceptable, but neither is a
18 building that is unsafe for our children. If
19 you're saying M.R. Reiter doesn't meet
20 everything that we need for our children, then
21 we do need to do something about it. But just
22 shoving them into buildings unrenovated
23 properly is not the answer either.

24 I'm sorry that we didn't have a bigger
25 turnout here tonight. I'm not sure that the

1 people understand the importance of what
2 happening.

3 MR. HELLMANN: Four minutes.

4 MS. VELEZ: I will submit written
5 testimony. And Mr. Hellmann, I would hope that
6 you would reconsider to remove the statements
7 you have made. Thank you.

8 -----

9 SHARON HUGHES, having been duly sworn, was
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 -----

12 SHARON HUGHES: My name is Sharon Hughes.
13 I live at 121 Mercer Avenue. I'm a life-long
14 resident of Morrisville. I graduated on that
15 stage too many years ago.

16 I am sorry there was an explosion in the
17 heater at M.R. Reiter but stuff happens we
18 don't plan on, and this School Board inherited
19 that heater and that problem.

20 I also would like to know exactly what
21 happened, why the explosion happened exactly.
22 I hope that somebody investigates that and
23 tells us.

24 I hope M.R. Reiter will be fit for
25 occupancy and continue as a school, but that

1 depends on what may have been released and gone
2 throughout the school during the explosion in
3 the boiler room.

4 Now the safety of the students and
5 teachers is paramount, even more important than
6 it was before. This was a 50-year old heater
7 that this School Board inherited. So who knows
8 what may have been used in its construction and
9 went throughout the building.

10 Health and safety of our students and
11 teachers again is the most important issue now.
12 All decisions should start from there.

13 But M.R. Reiter is a larger school
14 centrally located and it's two stories tall --
15 two and-a-half. I believe probably it can be
16 heated more efficiently than Grandview.
17 Probably for less. So there might be a savings
18 in the future. Grandview has three less
19 classrooms and has more exposure to the
20 weather, so it would probably cost more to
21 heat.

22 Obviously, M.R. Reiter was
23 well-constructed with some of the walls 2 feet
24 thick in places. I believe handicap
25 accessibility can be retrofitted, as can water

1 incursion be addressed.

2 We were told Capital View was in terrible
3 shape 20 years ago or so, so it was leased.
4 But it's still in use as Magic Cottage.

5 I trust this School Board to make
6 measured, well-thought-out decisions, because I
7 know their priorities are, first, safety of our
8 students and providing the best education that
9 this district can, while working to make the
10 district affordable by efficient, financial
11 policies and lowering taxes, while no classes
12 or sports have been cut and tests scores are
13 up.

14 I would just like to say congratulations
15 to Laurie Ruffing, our acting elementary
16 principal, who has done an exemplary job during
17 this crisis and to the teachers and the
18 administration who have managed to meet the
19 many challenges that have been presented
20 themselves.

21 But mostly to the students who continue to
22 do their job, which is to learn. Even this
23 experience is teaching about life's problems
24 and how we work together to solve them.

25 I've been speaking to one of the aides who

1 said that the children continue to learn and to
2 work hard.

3 Tom Brokaw today said: Across the
4 country, school districts are going to have to
5 start thinking about consolidating for the
6 economies of scale.

7 I think the nation is starting to
8 recognize that smaller school districts are
9 struggling. I don't know what the future may
10 hold, but I believe that across the country
11 there will be consolidation of districts. And
12 that may be in our future. Thank you.

13 -----

14 DIANE HUGHES, having been duly sworn, was
15 examined and testified as follows:

16 -----

17 DIANE HUGHES: Good evening. I do have
18 some questions.

19 I understand that there's some structural
20 problems, some cracking, in M.R. Reiter. And
21 I'm assuming that there are none at Grandview
22 because I didn't hear that. But that would
23 be -- whatever the case would be, it will be
24 stated.

25 Also, that there's water problems in M.R.

1 Reiter. And again, I'm assuming that there are
2 none in Grandview but I would like that to be
3 stated one way or the other.

4 I know when I was a kid, all up here was
5 pretty swampy, but I had no idea that there was
6 a water problem in M.R. Reiter, so perhaps I
7 had no idea that there's water problems in
8 Grandview.

9 I would also like the Board to consider
10 cost versus cost in terms of M.R. Reiter
11 costing \$4 million to bring it up to code
12 versus the Grandview, two thousand --
13 2 million -- what did I say? M.R. Reiter,
14 4 million, did I say that? Okay. Grandview
15 2 million.

16 But then once you get into Grandview,
17 you're going to have to make it bigger. And I
18 think it's going to be harder to heat. So I
19 think that perhaps looking into the -- it may
20 be cost-efficient to do 4 million; it might not
21 be, but please look at that.

22 I'm not crazy about a K through 12. I
23 never was. I really don't like that idea. I'm
24 hoping actually that M.R. Reiter can be brought
25 to life again as an elementary school. It's

1 centrally located. It's bigger. It was built
2 later, which means that the materials that were
3 used were better. I think it would be easier
4 to heat and it has been working efficiently.
5 However, I'm not an expert, so I'm going to
6 have to rely on experts to tell me the best way
7 to go.

8 And also, along with that to answer my
9 questions, I'm very sensitive when it comes to
10 smell, so I can get headaches. And I
11 understand that for years M.R. Reiter was
12 having bad smells. With the Sandy Gibson
13 Board, I asked them to please fix that
14 heater -- because I empathize with the students
15 and I empathize with the teachers -- no matter
16 what direction you're going into, please
17 address that heater, and nobody addressed it.

18 When the new Board was elected, the first
19 meeting I said: I know you don't know exactly
20 what you're going to do. You're going to have
21 to make some big plans. But before you do
22 anything, please address that heater. And I
23 didn't really see any change.

24 I know that I was very encouraged when
25 Mr. Hellmann, at a meeting, came to -- I think

1 he probably made the motion: Please let's look
2 at that heater. Let's look at the safety of
3 that heater. Let's address that heater before
4 we do anything else.

5 He lost that motion three to three. The
6 three people that voted to please address that
7 heater, probably close to a year ago, Brenda,
8 Mr. Farrell and Bill voted yes, let's do that.
9 Mr. Kemp, Mrs. Reithmeyer and Mr. Frankenfield
10 voted no. So it was three to three. It didn't
11 happen. And I'm really sorry it didn't. And
12 thank you for listening to me.

13 -----

14 PETER EISENGREIN, having been duly sworn, was
15 examined and testified as follows:

16 -----

17 MR. EISENGREIN: Good evening. Peter
18 Eisengrein, 160 West Hendrickson.

19 I would like to start tonight with
20 clarification on Dr. Yonson's comment about the
21 PAC committee. I was part of that committee
22 and the recommendation was not to close the
23 building. The recommendation was to keep at
24 least one; which means possibly closing one,
25 possibly not.

1 Beyond that, the people in this town are
2 not necessarily against closing this building,
3 I don't think. The fact of the matter is, you
4 know, closing it will probably save some money
5 or renovating can be costly. People don't want
6 to spend money needlessly.

7 But the problem is the Board has yet to
8 present the comprehensive plan on how to
9 address this.

10 How would you fit all of the students in
11 two buildings, or possibly even one, and not
12 affect their education? Safety, then
13 education, and then cost, in that order.

14 So the problem is in our current
15 situation, I understand this is an emergency
16 situation. But again, going back to safety,
17 education and cost, the first two -- the safety
18 and education -- have been compromised through
19 this.

20 And by keeping two buildings, unless
21 something changes, unless you have a plan how
22 you're going to deal with it, those two things
23 will continue to be compromised.

24 I'm speaking about classrooms in hallways.
25 I'm talking about exceeding the limits of

1 numbers of people in all-purpose rooms.
2 Multiple classes in the same room. Special ed
3 is being kept in the principal's office. These
4 are the things I'm talking about.

5 Now, if you can present a plan to this
6 town and show us how you're going to fit all of
7 these kids in one or two buildings, and do it
8 in a way that's going to be safe and is going
9 to promote strong education -- this town has
10 made great strides in the last several years
11 about education. We need to keep it going.

12 So if you can do that, I think you'll get
13 the people behind you. So far, this has not
14 been shown. There's been no plan. There's
15 too many questions. And therefore, this
16 hearing is premature. Thank you.

17 -----

18 MELISSA PETRO, having been duly sworn, was
19 examined and testified as follows:

20 -----

21 MS. PETRO: Melissa Petro, 515 Hamilton
22 Boulevard. I just have two things to say.

23 The staff has been wonderful in doing
24 everything in their power to make the children
25 comfortable. But the thing is, kids in the

1 hallway is ridiculous. My daughter took
2 pictures of the kids sitting out there with
3 their books with their aide, and seventh and
4 eighth graders are changing classes.

5 So she told me that and I told her
6 tomorrow to take a picture, which she has. I
7 think that that's disgusting. Sitting on the
8 floor is not a classroom, and in the hallways
9 while there's a possibility they can be
10 trampled on.

11 It's not the staff's problem. If this
12 would have been taken care of, we would never
13 have to worry about this so-called emergency in
14 the first place. That's all.

15 MR. FITZPATRICK: This public hearing is
16 concluded. I want to thank everybody who took
17 time tonight to give testimony -- it's part of
18 the record -- especially the members of the
19 public. And remind the public that you have
20 until Monday at three o'clock to submit
21 additional written testimony. That's not a
22 requirement of the school code but it's a
23 decision that was made by the School Board to
24 give everybody the opportunity to provide
25 public comment and time to do so.

1 So with that, I will turn this matter back
2 over to the School Board president to adjourn
3 the meeting.

4 MR. HELLMANN: We adjourn.

5 -----

6 (Deposition was concluded.)

7 -----

8 C E R T I F I C A T I O N

9 I hereby certify that the
10 proceedings and testimony by and before me
11 are contained fully and accurately in the Notes
12 of Testimony, and that the foregoing is a true and
13 correct transcript of the same.

14
15 _____
16 Lynda Scheswohl, Notary Public
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

1/29/09 – Public Hearing to permanently close M.R. Reiter Elementary School

Gayle Haug

260 Harper Ave

Morrisville, PA

Some concerns that I'd like addressed by the school board regarding the possible closing of MR Reiter Elementary School

1 – If the insurance company is willing to pay for all repairs required due to the furnace incident why would there be a more urgent need then there has been in the past to close the school if these repairs are made? Isn't it conceivable that the building should remain open until an acceptable long term plan is established. According to the BCCT Mr. Hellman's plan is to house K-8 in the high school and send the HS students to another district. Yet Mr. Hellman and the board have no idea if this plan is really feasible to another district or even to the people of Morrisville at this point in time. Please don't charge forward with only Mr. Hellman's plan and close doors that can not be reopened should his idea be unattainable.

2 – What is the ultimate affect of closing the school going to have on the PreK program? Will we be able to house the program in another school? It would be unacceptable to see the district lose/waste a grant from the state to provide PreK due to poor planning on the part of the district. I have the same concern about the Full day Kindergarten program should MR Reiter be closed and room at other facilities become scarce (for whatever reason).

3 – There are many concerns relating to what will become of this property once the school is closed. If the building has to be closed it is absolutely critical that the property be SOLD. The proceeds from the sale of the property belong to the school district and should be used to help pay for remodeling/repairs to other school facilities. I am concerned that the school board majority may decide to make a park out of the property rather than sell it. This is not a realistic option when the district is in such a dire need of funds for repairs.

4 – If MR Reiter is closed will the board consider reopening the Manor Park School? I certainly don't know if this is the answer to some or all of our problems but it definitely needs to be considered. I had thought the lease of Manor Park School to Head Start could not be terminated but this is not true. According to the lease agreement (see #20B of the lease agreement attached) the School District has the right to terminate this lease until December 31, 2010. The minimum cost to the district is 40% of all amounts tenant has paid in rent to landlord to date. Per page 1 of the agreement the tenant agrees to pay d the district \$50,000

upon the execution of the lease and \$27,632 on each January 2nd, thereafter. That would be a total of \$298,688 as of January 2, 2009. Of which 40% or \$119,475 would be due to the tenant. In addition the district would owe the tenant the actual costs, less depreciation, for any fixtures, equipment, ...etc as state in # 20 of the agreement (see attached).

The Manor Park School is the newest of all of the Morrisville schools and contains at least 8 classrooms. I am told that Head Start only uses two of those classrooms for the children they serve. If MR Reiter is closed and sold the district can use some of the proceeds to obtain the Manor Park school.

- 5 This is a meeting that has addressed ^{only} the structures in the School district. What is your specific plan if any, for placement of the children, and where can we see this plan? How much square footage do we need for current student level? Where do these kids go now & why are we using 3 schools if we really don't need them? What is the expansion contingent for future student levels?

LEASE AGREEMENT

THIS LEASE AGREEMENT ("Lease"), is made this ____ day of _____, 1999 by and between the School District of the Borough of Morrisville, a school district of the third class, organized and existing pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Landlord") and Bucks County Head Start, Inc., a non-profit corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ("Tenant").

WITNESSETH:

1. **BACKGROUND**

Tenant wishes to occupy approximately 16,300 square feet (including multipurpose room and basement), and exclusively use the building and land, formerly known as Manor Park Elementary School. The lot size for this property is 1.69 acres. The Premises is located on Penn Avenue in Morrisville, Bucks County, PA. The Landlord wishes to lease the Premises to the Tenant on the terms and conditions set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, and intending to be legally bound hereby, Landlord hereby leases to Tenant, and Tenant hereby takes from Landlord, the Leased Premises as per the terms and conditions set forth below.

2. **TERM**

This Lease is for a period of twenty (20) years, commencing on May 1, 1999 and ending on December 31, 2018.

3. **MINIMUM RENT**

At the execution of this Lease Agreement, the Tenant will pay Landlord \$50,000. Thereafter, on or before January 2nd of each succeeding calendar year, beginning on January 2, 2000 and ending on January 2, 2018, Tenant will pay Landlord; the sum of \$27,632. This annual installment payment of \$27,632 is due and payable on January 2nd of each year this Lease Agreement is in effect. As per the Agreement, the final annual payment is to be paid on January 2, 2018.

provides at least 8 classrooms

5/1/99 50,000
12/00 12/08 =
27632 X 9 = 248,688
248,688 X 40% = 99,475

20
damage to the Premises will be repaired prior to the end of the calendar year. The Landlord is given express permission to enter upon the Premises to ensure compliance with this paragraph. All fixtures, equipment, improvements and appurtenances attached to or built into the Premises at the commencement or during the term of the Lease, whether or not by or at the expense of Tenant, shall be and remain part of the Premises and shall not be removed by Tenant. If the Lease is terminated by Tenant, Tenant forever loses and forfeits any rights as contained in the Agreement to purchase said Premises. Tenant also acknowledges and agrees that it has no right to seek reimbursement or repayment of any amounts it paid as rent under the Lease Agreement.

B. This Lease may be terminated by the Landlord during any calendar year by giving written notice to Tenant on or before March 31st of any year indicating the Landlord's intention to terminate this Lease. Notice must be sent as per this Lease Agreement in writing by certified mail. In order to terminate this Lease Agreement, Landlord must pay tenant the following:

- have
unf.
3/31/10
to term
- (1) Tenant's actual costs, less depreciation, for any fixtures, equipment, improvements and appurtenances attached to or built into the Premises that will remain part of the Premises at the termination of the Lease Agreement;
 - (2) Forty percent (40%) of all amounts Tenant has paid in rent to Landlord.

If notice is given, the Lease will terminate at the end of that calendar year, provided Landlord makes payment to Tenant prior to the end of that year as required above. Landlord's right to terminate expires and ends on December 31, 2010. If Landlord has not exercised its right to terminate by that date on the terms set forth above, Landlord forever loses its rights to terminate this Lease unilaterally. However, this does not affect Landlord's right to terminate this Lease if Tenant is in default. If Landlord exercises its right to terminate this Lease, Tenant will leave space in the same condition it found space, less reasonable wear and tear. If Landlord terminates this Lease Agreement, Tenant shall have no further rights in the Premises, including any right to purchase the Premises.

21. DEFAULT BY TENANT

A. The following events shall be deemed to be events of

Mrs. Carol J. Bargery
613 Taft Avenue
Morrisville, PA 19067

February 1, 2009

Dear Morrisville School Board Members;

I should like to express a few of my ideas about the possibility of your closing the M.R. Reiter School.

First, why not use the million plus amount of money from the insurance company along with some of the seven million dollars that we have in our budget toward the renovation of M.R. Reiter?

I was at your last meeting when the architect was selling the idea to not renovate. He is a business man and it certainly would be in his best interest not to renovate, but possibly try selling us on the idea, if not today down the road, to build a **new** school. Is this not the same architectural and engineering firm that had been selected to build the new K-12 school as I have been told? The people of Morrisville voted against this with the thought that **this** school board would act quickly with at least the most needed repairs. We saw what happened.

This town has drawn people to move here and buy homes here because it is small and we have offered more of a one-on-one relationship between teachers and students. Our children are our most valuable assets. We must think what is best for them, not just for today or tomorrow, but for years to come. This is part of the problem here in Morrisville. Had we thought ahead and maintained our schools, we wouldn't be in this mess.

I think the renovation of M.R. Reiter even with all of it's ills would make the most sense. We wouldn't need to raise taxes, at least for awhile. We could possibly sell Grandview School. Send K-8th grade to the high school and send 9th thru 12th to M.R. Reiter.

When the people of this community wanted a playground in Williamson Park, they all got together and made a playground. Maybe if you would be more open and forthright with the community the community would reach out, and when American's work together there is nothing we can't do.

Please take a long look at our problem and think about our future. Our children are being hurt every day in so many ways. Not having any of their after school 21st Century programs is just one. Might we not lose that so much needed and enjoyed grant?

Without our having schools, **not modular units**, no one will want to move into Morrisville.

Isn't it about time we unite as a unit and work for our children and town? There are many ways in which we could help the schools make money. Look around at some of our neighboring communities and what they do. Everyone must work together and we can and will succeed.

Most Sincerely,

Carol J. Bargery

Mrs. Carol J. Bargery

P.S. I suggest we have a referendum on the closing of M.R. Reiter and also on any other schools you might decide to close or sell.

I want to thank our solicitor, Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick in suggesting to send our written comments.

To The Morrisville School Board,

My name is Rita Lee Bratton, my family & I have lived in Morrisville for almost 10 years. Our children have been attending the Morrisville school district for 2 years for our 2 oldest daughters and 1 year for our youngest daughter. My husband & I enjoy living in Morrisville and take great pride in our home and community. Our children were attending a private school in Bensalem but when it suddenly closed down we had two choices: 1) send them to another private school or 2) send them to public school. After praying and meeting with the principal of the private school and meeting with the principals of Morrisville School District, our decision was made to send them to Morrisville Public School. We know we made the right decision and have no regrets.

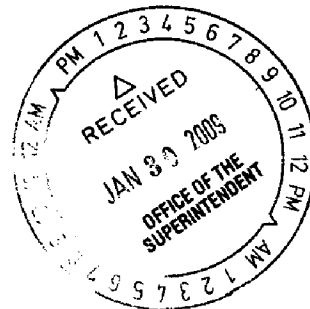
Our daughters are getting a quality education because the teaching staff and administration are dedicated. However, our hearts are very heavy over the fact that the current school board has no vested interest in the children that attend Morrisville public school. It is sad to see our children crammed into classes and moved from building to building. This is taking a toll on the children & the staff. Not once has the school board come during the day to see how the children are doing or for that matter how the teachers are doing. I just cannot believe that your hearts can be that cold. I don't want to believe it. I want to believe that you really care and that you are vested in education. My husband & I pay our taxes so our children can live and be educated in a beautiful small but caring community. This is what Morrisville is about. I want your heart to be touched by these children. I want them to know that they are cared for and not just by us the parents but by the people who are making decisions for the education.


I don't know what your goals or plans are for this school district, but think hard and if you believe in the power of prayer. Pray before you make any decisions that could effect us all.

Sincerely,



Rita Lee Bratton





Admin Area
Jeanne Corrigan | Feb 2, 2009 3:43 PM

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Feedback Information
CATHY DUFFY

Email:
ken marie @comcast .net
**** Note - this email address is not valid!!**

Phone: 215-295-7031

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Monday 2/2/2009

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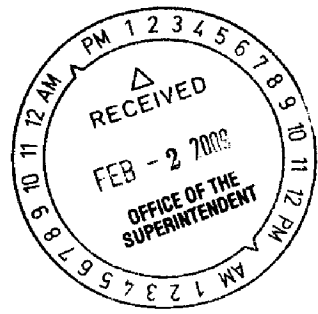
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cathy duffy's Comments:
it is a shame that i have to sell my home in morrisville because the people we eleted to this new school board are being forced to spend more money on our schools just to try to keep happy those rich sour grape losers from the previous boards and their rich cohorts who think the town people have to supply their children with over the top activities. do these same parents provide for them at home like that? SO MUCH MONEY DOLED OUT TO THE TEACHERS AND PRINCIPAL AND OTHERS FOR SUCH A SMALL NUMBER OF STUDENTS. WHAT TYPE OF LOWLIFE UPPER CLASSMEN ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT COMING INTO CONTACT WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN? YOUNG CHILDREN HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO ALOT DUE TO THE LACK OF MORAL PARENTAL AUTHORITY. IN THAT CASE BY ALL MEANS MAKE SURE THE TEACHERS ETC. WHO MONITOR ALL OF THEM DURING THE DAY KEEP THEM IN LINE AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THEM BEING IN THE SAME BUILDING. LASTLY,THE SCHOOL TAX SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE REVISED ,WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND AND THIS TOWN OFFERS NOTHING INCLUDING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES SOOO I WILL BE GLAD TO MOVE ON

Note: cathy duffy **did not** request a response.

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Written comment and testimony on closing of
M. R. Reiter Elementary School, Morrisville PA

Our family chose to live in Morrisville because of the great potential we saw here and the great school system we have experienced. Strong schools build strong communities. A strong school district is defined by quality, efficiency, communication and community. Schools build local economies by preparing young people and attracting jobs of the future. Schools become the hearts of their communities and provide a place for all of us to come together.

Good schools can be found everywhere - so long as parents and communities are willing to work for them. We all have a stake in quality education, even those who don't have children in school. Providing our children with a high quality education is an investment in our future, and an investment in our community. Our children are our greatest assets and we need to provide them with the best educational opportunities we can.

It is important that our schools run as efficiently as possible and utilize community resources wisely. Our school district needs to operate in a manner that is both beneficial to the school and the community. The district should make decisions based on long term planning and priorities, including financial stability and oversight.

This board has shown time and again that it does not act with a publicly discussed, debated, and enacted long-term strategic plan in place. It acts in fits and starts without an overarching goal. At this moment, as we debate the closure of M. R. Reiter Elementary, the board is actively seeking to tuition out grades 9-12 and is also spending money to refurbish Grandview Elementary, a school it will close if a tuitioning out plan is successful. Clearly, these opposing avenues of action point toward separate and different goals.

The high school, in its current configuration, is not suited to be a school for the younger students. Business Manager Paul DeAngelo has reported that the current bathroom and play area mandates required by Pennsylvania state law for younger students cannot be fulfilled without renovation. We already know that the younger grades cannot be completely segregated from the older grades. Yet, renovation is scheduled to start on the high school this summer. Will it be a grade 5-12 building or a K-8 building? No one knows, yet we are spending vast amounts out of a dwindling bank account without a coordinated and defined goal in mind.

Communication is vital for success and for building trust. Building strong, positive relationships based on open communication and trust is essential to building strong schools and in bringing the community together. This board has acted with clear disregard for the input of the community, even to the point of needlessly shutting off public comment at the January 28, 2009 business meeting.

Accordingly, I am requesting that the following questions be answered and the following actions be taken:

- 1) Provide the public with a copy of the written feasibility studies that have looked at the current high school being transformed into a grade 5-12 building and a K-8

Written comment and testimony on closing of
M. R. Reiter Elementary School, Morrisville PA

building, and describing where these building configurations are similar or different and the specific renovation actions that can safely be taken because they are identical in both plans. If a feasibility study is not available, copies of notes and other strategic planning should be provided. If a plan or notes are not available, then please provide the reason for the lack of a strategic plan and the planned remediation actions to ensure that an overarching strategy has been discussed and evaluated.

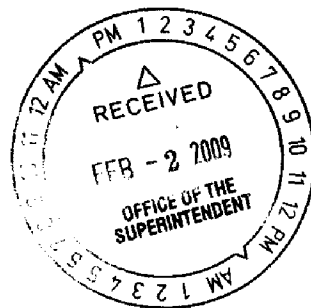
- 2) Provide the public with a copy of the strategic plan discussing the closure and sale of M. R. Reiter Elementary school. The items that it should cover are the remediation of contamination from the December 13, 2008 furnace explosion and the long term impact this would have on the salability of the existing building; the plans for a quick sale as well as the contingency plans if a protracted sales period is encountered; a full disclosure of the land use discussions that have occurred with local, county, state, and/or federal officials, as well as private citizens and/or companies, and a comparison between the differing suggested post-educational uses so that informed review can occur. If a strategic study is not available, copies of notes and other strategic planning should be provided. If a plan or notes are not available, then please provide the reason for the lack of a strategic plan and the planned remediation actions to ensure that an overarching strategy has been discussed and evaluated.
- 3) If it exists, provide the public with a copy of the "six point plan" that Mr. Hellmann has alluded to on several occasions. Since it has not been shared with the public, provide details on notes and/or discussions that occurred prior to 02 February 2009 that involved using the "six point plan" as a district strategy and plan for action including, but not limited to, the closure and/or renovation of M. R. Reiter, the closure and/or renovation of Grandview, the renovation of the high school, and the tuitioning out of grades 9-12.
- 4) If it exists, school administration, state government, and/or federal government studies and/or estimates on the expected enrollment in each grade in Morrisville district schools. If these estimates are not available, copies of notes and other estimates should be provided. If a plan or notes are not available, then please provide the reason for the lack of a strategic plan and the planned remediation actions to ensure that an overarching strategy has been discussed and evaluated.
- 5) If it exists, school administration, state government, and/or federal government studies and/or estimates of known, scheduled, and/or expected increased school budget costs over the next five budget cycles and how school closures and/or renovations will impact these estimates. If a plan or notes are not available, then please provide the reason for the lack of a strategic plan and the planned remediation actions to ensure that an overarching strategy has been discussed and evaluated.
- 6) If it exists, school administration, local government, county, government, and/or state government studies and/or estimates of known the applicability of federal, state, local codes on a renovated school building including known grandfathering and/or the loss of grandfathering. If a plan or notes are not available, then please provide the reason for the lack of a strategic plan and the planned remediation actions to ensure that an overarching strategy has been discussed and evaluated.

Written comment and testimony on closing of
M. R. Reiter Elementary School, Morrisville PA

Community involvement is our number one tool to build a strong school district. Working together, we can build and maintain a community based on strong values and our own sense of identity. As a team, we can overcome the obstacles we face and build a sense of pride in our schools and in our community.



Kevin Leather
480 Hamilton Blvd
Morrisville, PA 19067



Please Someone address this ✓ ^{page 1}

I am writing this in a very upset and concerned state. I have no trust in who reads this will care or do anything about these issues. But I do have trust in God to make things right for the children in Morrisville. I am begging someone to stand up and help these poor kids and put safety and education before taxes or money, money, money!!! I do not want my wonderful child thrown around from a run down unsafe school (Reiter) to a High School library, with walls made out of a divider! How insane is this. - 6 and 7 years old in high school size desks!! NO outside recess since before Christmas its now feb 2!!! We were told 5 days of this non sense - "a temporary fix" and now look at this mess. These kids are going to be behind in their grade level! Now You want to Put my

child in a beat up windowless trailer! This is unsafe! 4 classes in 1 trailer?? Is this legal?? Do you know how bad these trailers will smell with no fresh air and all their lunch boxes etc!! How will all these kids fit in Gardview? Its way pass the capacity in the lunch room?? How about assemblies? These kids lives were and still are so disrupted its a sin!! Please someone have a heart and start doing for the children! Now, once again more, talk about farming out high schoolers! Stop we don't want our children anywhere, but in the town we live! As a parent and a tax payer I Demand to know what is in store for my children's Education and most importantly their proper safety?! Whats happening to this school district is absolutely disgusting and a disgrace! Someone help these →

Kids please! It is the School board we are supposed to be able to count on! We are not supposed to be scared to death of your next heartless move!! How do you Sleep knowing you do this to our kids education? How? How do you Sleep knowing you risked our Babies lives knowing how unsafe.
Reiter was before school even started in Sept???. We deserve Some one to Help our Kids not hurt them !!!!!



from
Tammi Bresnen
571 Elbridge Rd
Monroeville, PA 15146

Questions/Issues Pertaining to M.R. Reiter Closure

1. What's next if M.R. Reiter is closed? If closing M.R. Reiter is the done deal it appears to be, then what will happen to that property? Sale, re-construction, demolition, conversion to open space, etc.?
2. Why does the public find out most of its information about the Board from the local newspaper? What steps if any will the Board take to significantly improve the transparency of its actions in the future?
3. Why hasn't the Board or Mr. Fitzpatrick asked parents their opinions about his 7-month quest to farm out our High School students?
4. What was the point of having Community Action Plan (CAP) meetings if this School Board makes its decisions without the advice of parents and residents?
5. How is this Board different from the Board headed by Dr. Sandy Gibson? Isn't this Board doing many of same exact negative things it accused the Gibson Board of?
6. What are the elements of the six (6) point plan Mr. Hellmann has mentioned in public, but about which the public has no information? If the exact number of points in the plan is known, it must be relatively detailed. When will this plan be shared with the public? When will the plan be voted on by the Board?
7. Has the Board decided that the assets of the school system (buildings, land, borrowed money) are things to be cashed out rather than invested in?
8. Following this logic, aren't teacher, administrators and students a drain on taxpayer monies? Doesn't this Board have its duties completely backwards? Aren't they supposed to invest in the students and not cash out whatever they can liquidate?
9. How long does the Board intend to let M.R. Reiter sit vacant if the Board can't sell it at a reasonable price?
10. What actions will the Board take to prevent M. R. Reiter from becoming a blighted eyesore if it sits vacant?

11. When will a more detailed evaluation of the cost savings from closing M. R. Reiter be performed and available to the public?
12. Has the M. R. Reiter "asset" been assessed recently? If not, why not? If so, what is the approximate assessed value of this "asset"?
13. Is there sufficient insurance money available to repair or replace the damaged furnace and associated ductwork and chimney? If not, why not? If so, will the Board authorizing performing this work. If not, why not?
14. How desirable will M. R. Reiter be to potential buyers if it has an unusable furnace and chimney?
15. Mr. Farrell previously indicated that there should have been devices installed to prevent what happened to the M. R. Reiter furnace. When will the Board be voting to procure and install such devices at Grandview and the Middle-High School?
16. Have all necessary licenses and permits been obtained to install the trailers at Grandview? If not, why not?
17. Mr. Hellmann in a 6/25/08 email characterized putting M. R. Reiter kids into Grandview or the Middle-High School in an emergency situation as "good"? What is good about this? What is good about an emergency situation?
18. Mr. Hellmann, why before 7/15/08 Board meeting did you personally drop M. R. Reiter from the bids to repair its heating system?
19. When is the Vitetta report for the Middle-High School going to be available to the public?
20. Why was Mr. Ronald Stout the only member of the public invited or informed of the classroom tours that were conducted by the Board in the October 2008 timeframe?
21. Why has the Board elected not to pursue renovations at Grandview or the Middle-High School in accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) PLANCON process, by which a significant portion of the renovation costs may be reimbursable?
22. Has the Board consider the impact that the current cramming situation has on the children? In what ways has it considered this impact? What steps in the Board taking to minimize this impact?
23. Why are the first graders in a hallway? How much of a fire hazard is this?
24. There are not adequate bathrooms and the children now have to go in shifts
25. Why are there still multiple classes in the library?

26. The art and music rooms have been lost.
27. Kids do not have adequate time to eat their lunches now that they have to share their time in line.
28. What will the Board do if the same or a similar problem happens at Grandview?
29. How does the closing of M.R. Reiter affect the busing situation? Grandview is beyond the walking zone.
30. When will this " emergency" situation end?
31. When will a reasonable non-emergency solution be presented? As it is, we traded a modern K-12 building up to code and designed to segregate the grades for off-code buildings with makeshift arrangements. What is the threshold for renovations/changes that forces the Board to bring the existing buildings up to current code?
32. Special Education classroom space has been displaced at the High School. How is the Board compensating for this?
33. After School programs have been displaced and will continue to be affected. Has the Board considered the impact of reduced space on the After School programs? What actions are being taken to address this?
34. What steps are being taken to protect the safety of the students? Current security appears inadequate. One of the doors at the Middle-High School has been continually open for some time and anyone can walk in. The coming and going of more people, and elementary students, makes it almost impossible to manage with the current system. It' s common knowledge that it is relatively easy to get in the building. If the Board disagrees with this assessment, please explain how the Board feels that security is indeed adequate.
35. What is being done to address the perilous traffic situation at both the Middle-High school and Grandview? There is a traffic committee that Ms. Ruffing formed, but it cannot take action - it is up to the borough and the district. The borough and the school district both could be liable if someone is hurt.
36. There are two (2) first grade classes in the middle/high school library.

37. Play space and bathrooms are not up to code. The Board may be able to get away with this temporarily under "emergency" banner, but is this acceptable to the community? And secondly, how long can the Board "get away with it"? What other school code issues fall into this category – (systems or spaces that are not up to code, but are persisting under the "emergency" banner?
38. Middle School students (maybe High School also) have "Library" class in their classrooms and cannot check out books.
39. There are issues with Grandview and the Middle-High School buildings as addressed in all the recent engineering studies, and the Board appears to be moving forward without addressing those issues. How can students' educational needs be met in the event of another "emergency"?
40. Will the Board hold a referendum, as promised by Board President Hellmann, if the Board wishes to merge with Pennsbury or any other district or entity, or engage in a tuition-out program for any Morrisville Public School students?
41. Why have the Vitetta reports not considered any reconfigurations?
42. Why did the Board on January 30, 2008 defease all but a small portion of the school construction bond monies, leaving only about \$7 million to perform repairs or renovations at all three (3) existing school buildings, before studies had been performed to determine which specific renovations were needed and what they would cost?

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
JON D. PERRY
43 FAIRVIEW AVE.
MORRISVILLE, PA 19067
PUBLIC HEARING
CLOSURE OF M.R. REITER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
January 29, 2009**

Good evening. My name is Jon Perry, and I live at 43 Fairview Avenue in Morrisville. I am the parent of a 6 year old daughter who attended M.R. Reiter Elementary School, at least until last month's furnace explosion.

It is unfortunate that we as a town and community find ourselves in this place tonight. Problems with all three (3) existing school buildings have been well-known and well-documented for years. Systems in dire need of repair or replacement because they reached or exceeded their useful lives have gone unrepaired or unreplaced. No one could have predicted the precise time and place, but unfortunately, it was unsurprising and only a matter of time before a tragic incident like the December 13, 2008 furnace explosion at M.R. Reiter occurred. Now we find ourselves at a Public Hearing regarding the permanent closure of this school.

I believe that in its 15 months or so in power, the current Morrisville School Board majority has done tremendous, lasting damage to this school district and its reputation. Despite improved Morrisville test scores, which are in no way attributable to this Board, the fact is that the Board majority has failed to properly address the conditions of the school buildings, and has had one school building experience a furnace explosion and become unusable on its watch. Elementary students are currently jammed into the Middle-High School and the other elementary school, with pre-K students at the local YMCA. At best, these students will be put into trailers for many months, maybe even years. Further student shuffling is currently happening, adding to the inconvenience and to the disruption of educational programs. Hypocritical Board members and supporters who previously railed against putting younger and older students into the same school now seem to be quite fine with this arrangement.

Bond monies set aside to by a prior Board majority to build a new, energy and space efficient, secure K-12 campus, which could have been a long-term solution to address building conditions, were largely returned, at a cost of \$2.5 million, which was not revealed to the public or the full Board prior to the January 30, 2008 vote to defease the bonds. Now not enough money remains to properly renovate the school buildings – the money a year ago before the Board had any reliable idea about what renovations would cost. The Board went against professional recommendations and deliberately underbudgeted special education, alternative schools, charter schools, and other educational programs.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
JON D. PERRY
43 FAIRVIEW AVE.
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January 29, 2009**

Month after month, we have seen the actions an arrogant, hostile School Board majority whose President tells people not to invest in Morrisville, despite its desperate need to increase non-residential tax rates. A Board majority that has been showered with well-deserved bad press that has further tarnished Morrisville's already dubious reputation in the region. Its hostile, unresponsive, and punitive attitude towards concerned parents has probably succeeded in driving young families out of town, and prevented others from moving here.

Regarding the December 13, 2008 furnace explosion at M.R. Reiter, I would like to rebut for the record what several Board members, including but not limited to, Board President William Hellmann, Board Treasurer Brenda Worob, and Board Secretary Marlys Mihok have insinuated at recent Board meetings about the furnace explosion at M. R. Reiter. These Board members have strongly implied that Board Members Robin Reithmeyer, Joe Kemp, and the late Ed Frankenfield were to blame for the M.R. Reiter furnace mishap and the predicament we are in now. They have claimed that they and their Board allies Al Radosti, Bill Farrell, and, to a lesser extent, Gloria Heater, were "on the side of the angels" because they tried to vote to fix M.R. Reiter's heating system at the February 27, 2008 Board meeting, but the vote failed because Mrs. Reithmeyer, Mr. Kemp, and Mr. Frankenfield voted no.

What actually happened, and it is well-documented in the minutes of the January 30, 2008 and February 27, 2008 Board meetings, is that the problems at all three (3) existing schools (M.R. Reiter, Grandview, and Middle-High School) were already thoroughly documented in detail in a 2005 buildings report. Exhibits A, B, and C contain the January 30, 2008 Board minutes, the February 27, 2008 Board minutes, and relevant excerpts from the 2005 buildings report, respectively.

There really was no need to have additional studies performed to assess the levels and types of repairs needed, especially not cheap, half-baked studies not authorized in advance by a Board vote. However, in January 2008, Board President Hellmann, on his own and without prior Board authorization, ordered a \$2,500 study by the firm Wick Fisher White (WFW) to look at the Middle-High School only, not M.R. Reiter or Grandview. In the resulting report (see Exhibit D), WFW states:

" Our observations were limited to those portions of the building which were viewed during the walk-thru. Wick Fisher White did not remove covers of any electrical panels, switchboards, take any samples, perform any tests on

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January 29, 2009**

building materials or equipment, or perform any calculations to verify the capacity of existing equipment.”

Board President Hellmann publically admitted at the January 5, 2009 special Board meeting that the WFW study was "cursory". And remember, it was only for the Middle-High School, not M.R. Reiter or Grandview. At the January 30, 2008 Board meeting, the Board had to bail Mr. Hellmann out of this improper action by voting to pay WFW for the cursory report WFW had just produced, or risk a potential lawsuit by WFW. The WFW report was dated January 30, 2008, the same day as the Board meeting, and it had not even been properly distributed to the full Board at the time of the vote. This is an untenable position in which to place an ethical Board member.

However, Board President Hellmann and his Board allies did not learn anything from this experience. At the February 27, 2008 Board meeting, they attempted to:

1. Go out to bid for repair items mentioned in WFW's cursory January 30, 2008 report - again, for the Middle-High School only;
2. Order two (2) more similar, cursory WFW walk-through reports for M.R. Reiter and Grandview, for a total of \$8,000.

Both motions were defeated 3-3. Board members Hellmann, Farrell, and Worob cast the yes votes. Reithmeyer, Kemp, and Frankenfield cast the no votes. Mihok, Radosti, and Heater were absent. Mihok and Radosti vote in near lock-step with Board President Hellmann, so if either one of them had been present, the two above-referenced motions would likely have passed. Yet Mrs. Mihok has had the audacity to infer that Mrs. Reithmeyer, Mr. Kemp, and Mr. Frankenfield (who passed away in May 2008 and is unable to defend himself) somehow bear responsibility for the December 13, 2008 M.R. Reiter furnace explosion because they voted against this ill-conceived initiative.

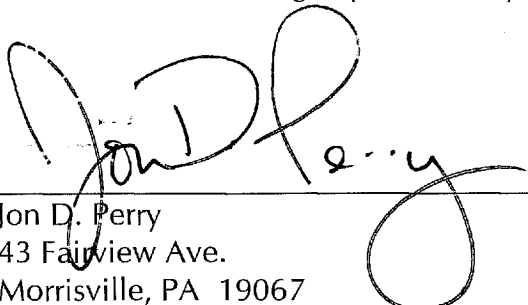
I note with irony that in the June-July 2008 timeframe, in the Board majority's 8th month in office, Board President Hellmann took 12 bids to study repairs or renovations at all three (3) schools, and personally tossed aside nine (9) of them, dropping M. R. Reiter from consideration entirely by the July 15, 2008 Board meeting. Furnace work at M. R. Reiter was resurrected at the July 15, 2008 Board meeting only because even some of Mr. Hellmann's Board allies saw how dangerous and irresponsible it would be to do absolutely nothing about the

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JON D. PERRY
43 FAIRVIEW AVE.
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CLOSURE OF M.R. REITER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
January 29, 2009**

condition of M. R. Reiter' s furnace for another heating season. And then on December 13, 2008 M.R. Reiter' s furnace exploded, and here we are.

Residents, parents, and students alike have all repeatedly asked the Board for a thoughtful, coherent, properly executed long-term plan to address the physical condition of the school buildings, and fulfill its obligation to provide a quality, safe, responsible education to the students of Morrisville. After 15 months in office, no such plan exists. I have no confidence that this Board, with its current composition, can accomplish this. Four (4) of the nine (9) Board seats open this year. If you are dissatisfied with the Board majority' s performance, the Tuesday, May 19th Primary Election is the next big opportunity to change the composition of the Board. I urge the public to stay informed about what this Board is doing and about alternatives to this kind of performance.

I attach as Exhibit E a list of questions and issues associated with the closure of M. R. Reiter, as compiled by myself and many other concerned residents and parents. I believe the Board owes it to the public to respond to these legitimate questions and concerns before voting to permanently close M. R. Reiter.



Jon D. Perry
43 Fairview Ave.
Morrisville, PA 19067

EXHIBIT A

Minutes of the Board of School Directors
January 30, 2008

These minutes were tabled at the meeting of 4/23/08 for correction. Suggested corrections are contained in these revised minutes.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

A special meeting of the Morrisville Board of School Directors was held in the LGI Room located in the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, January 30, 2008, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. William Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. with the following members present on roll call:

Mrs. Heater, Mr. Kemp, Mr. Hellmann, Mr. Farrell, Mr. Radosti, Mrs. Mihok, Mrs. Worob, Mr. Frankenfield and Mrs. Reithmeyer.

Quorum Present

Also attending this evening's special meeting was Dr. Elizabeth Hammond Yonson, Superintendent; Mrs. Reba Dunford, Business Administrator and Thomas Kelly, Esq., Solicitor.

PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Hellmann stated that comments from the public should only be to discuss any items on tonight's agenda and that they have 3 minutes to speak.

Mark Coassola – 229 Melvin Avenue South Morrisville, PA

Mr. Coassola discussed body language used by students, parents and the Superintendent when a frustrated taxpayer walked out at the last Board meeting. He said that this was inappropriate and an apology is in order.

Gayle Haug - 260 Harper Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mrs. Haug asked the Board to further research defeasement of the bond before making any decisions. She stated that the taxpayers feel they have been left in the dark and asked the Board to work with the community to decide the best long-term plan. She asked that the community be given a detailed cost estimate for repairs or renovations or replacement that the Board promised. Mrs. Haug feels that the bond defeasement is a short-term fix to keep an unreasonable and irresponsible promise that will have to be corrected at the taxpayer expense by a future Board. She asked the Board to take their time and research before making the decision to defease the bonds. She asked where Mr. Hellmann came up with the \$6 to \$7 million dollar figure to correct the buildings in the school district and what plan of action he plans to take. She asked that all information be shared with the public and to table this issue until it can be figured out properly.

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Kevin Leather – 480 Hamilton Blvd. Morrisville, PA

Mr. Leather discussed the bond defeasement. He stated that after discussion with the Strategic Planning Committee and the Board Facilities Committee, all that is available at the present time is a verbal estimate of the costs involved from friends brought in to consult with the Board without documentation. He asked that the Board provide copies of the studies and/or cost analysis that show \$7 million is enough to cover the costs. He stated that the 2005 feasibility study suggested \$14 million. He also asked the Board to lay out the plan to obtain additional financing beyond that \$7 million, should that become necessary. Mr. Leather stated that he is puzzled by the Board's speed in this area due to the fact that the interest rates are expected to fall. He stated that this administration has accomplished much in raising the district's test scores and that they deserve a great deal of credit. He asked the Board to follow the advice of the Superintendent and Business Administrator and table this item tonight and give this matter the time and public review that it deserves.

Jack Buckman – 617 Rutland Road Morrisville, PA

Mr. Buckman congratulated the Board regarding their decision to defease the bonds.

Johanny Manning – 449 Stockham Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mrs. Manning stated that at the last agenda meeting there was a presentation of the defeasement of the bonds. She asked that the public be made aware of future presentations will take place at agenda meetings so the public knows that they should also be in attendance at these meetings. Mrs. Manning asked what the fee would be to maintain the bond and what the interest was with our previous bond counsel and what is it now with Curtin and Heefner. Mrs. Manning stated that they have not received Exhibit A and B as part of the Board packet tonight. She asked that the public be supplied with the Board's future plans for the district. She stated that the public is still asking for the resignation of Mr. Radosti.

Pete Eisengrein – 160 W. Hendrickson Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mr. Eisengrein asked that the Board table defeasement of the bonds at this time. He wants to know what the Board's plans are and what they are going to cost.

John Perry – 43 Fairview Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mr. Perry stated that he liked some of the things that Mr. Farrell and Mrs. Reithmeyer had to say at the last meeting. He urged the Board to table the vote tonight to defease the bond. He doesn't think it is a bad idea, but to make a decision tonight on this amount of money so quickly would be a mistake and he would like it presented to the public in an understandable way prior to a vote taking place. Mr. Perry asked for detailed engineering studies and financial analysis that show that defeasement is the financial winner that some people think it is, and to not go against the advice of the Business Administrator and Superintendent on this issue.

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Jim Martin – 205 Stockham Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mr. Martin asked the Board to slow down and take their time regarding defeasement of the bonds.

Mr. Miller – 249 W. Franklin Street Morrisville, PA

Mr. Miller requested that the Board table the bond issue this evening until more information is obtained and all estimates are reviewed. He reminded the Board members their promise to the children, parents and educators of the district to provide a quality education including a quality education environment. He stated that a yes vote, even with reservations, is a yes vote and that the Board will be turning their backs on the students of this district.

Ron Stout – 149 S. Delmorr Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mr. Stout asked the Board members to please defease the bond. He stated that he feels the Board is doing an excellent job.

William Martin – 315 Osborne Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mr. Martin stated that we are not the only district that is having problems. He is in favor of defeasing the bond, but wants the Board to be sure that we are doing the right thing and not hurting the district financially in the future. Mr. Martin stated that this district needs to stop the fighting and the bickering. He asked the Board to consider everyone and get everyone involved when making the decision to defease the bonds.

Sharon Hughes

Mrs. Hughes thanked the Board for calling a meeting to defease the bonds tonight. She stated that if the Board doesn't act on this item this evening, the district will lose lots of money due to the interest rates. She discussed how defeasing bonds has been done in the past and it did not finically harm the district in any way. She stated that we need to watch our pennies in this district and defeasement of the bonds is the right move for this Board now or this town will dissolve.

Diane Hughes – 143 Osborne Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mrs. Hughes thanked the Board for hopefully defeasing the bonds this evening. She reassured the Board that the people of this town will not neglect the responsibility of educating their students. They have done it for many, many years for top dollar. Mrs. Hughes stated that this town is made up of wonderful people and is sick to death of the negative comments in the newspaper about our schools and the Morrisville residents.

Suzanne Zefferi – 124 Harper Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mrs. Sefferi thanked the Board for tonight's meeting and for keeping the public updated. She stated that with the low interest rates, now is the time to defease the bonds. Morrisville does not have a strong tax base and we need to stop the bleeding by defeasing the bonds and then do the studies, get estimates and begin the work that needs to be done.

Steve Worob – 101 Grandview Avenue Morrisville, PA

Mr. Worob believes that the Board should return all of the bond money. He stated that the administrators desire to hold such funds only serves to perpetrate the deception onto the people of Morrisville. He urged the School Board to return as much of the bond money as possible and correct the situation of last years illegal tax increase, and after the slate has been wiped clean, work with the community on the plan for our buildings. With interest rates falling and a new School Board watching the money, safe and affordable schools are possible. He stated that the newspaper failed to state that 3 out of 4 of our recent graduates failed math and reading on their state assessment tests.

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Hellmann read a statement at this time. Statement is attached to these minutes for your review.

Mrs. Mihok stated in the Courier Times today it stated that the \$2 million dollars did not come out of the bond fund. She asked Mrs. Dunford where this money came from. Mrs. Dunford stated that this money did come out of the bond fund. Mrs. Mihok stated that she agrees with what Mr. Hellmann said tonight and that every day we are losing money by not defeasing the bonds. She stated that approximately six months ago she had asked the Business Manager if defeasement of the bonds was possible and she was told no and that it would take about 5 years to do it.

Mr. Kemp stated that he does not know what the Board's plan is at this time regarding the repairs, etc. to be done at our schools. He stated that he would like to defease the bonds once the Board knows how much money is going to be needed to fix up the schools.

Mr. Farrell stated that he agreed with the comments made this evening by Mr. Martin. His concern is not only for the people of this town, but also for the students. He has the same concerns as the people of Morrisville, but with the low interest rates at this time now is the time to defease the bonds and move forward. He stated that no one can predict what will happen in the future and doesn't want the district to pay any more in high interest payments for the bonds. He agrees that the people of this town need to get together and talk and decide where we need to start. From this point on, Mr. Farrell stated that the first priority will be the safety of our children in our buildings.

Mr. Frankenfield stated that at this point in time, the Board does not have the information they need and to defease the bond this evening would be a mistake. He feels it is too soon to make a decision.

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Mrs. Worob stated this the bond monies were slated towards building a new school, and since this Board has stopped the building of a new school, she would like to see the slate wiped clean, the bonds defeased, and the community get together and decide what should be done.

Dr. Yonson spoke on the comment made by Mr. Coassola regarding her supposed inappropriate body language used at the last Board meeting when a frustrated taxpayer walked out of the meeting. Dr. Yonson said that she does not laugh at anyone and the students at this meeting were very emotional and upset and it was not a laughing matter. Dr. Yonson asked that it go on record, especially for those who may not have been at this meeting, that she in no way laughed at anyone during the last meeting. She also discussed the comment made during public session regarding the squandering of money. Dr. Yonson said that Mrs. Dunford told her that before she came to the Morrisville District, money had been taken out by members on the Board two elections ago, they did not spend it, and the last Board had to take care of the matter. She stated that the administrators did not squander it. Dr. Yonson stated that she and Mrs. Dunford do not believe that the bonds do not need to be defeased, but want as much information as possible before making a decision to defease the money. Dr. Yonson stated that she hides nothing from this community and has openly discussed test scores with the public. She has reported the fact that we are number one in Bucks County in our elementary schools and the fact that students that have gone through our schools from their early years do well on the State tests, but many students moving into our districts in the older grades come to us with very low reading and math levels and, therefore, bring our scores down.

Mrs. Dunford agreed that she is not against the defeasement, but feels that we need more information to know what monies we will need to renovate our schools. She stated that our money is sitting in an investment account. Ten million is in fixed income that will not change and the rest of it is in a term investment account. The money that is sitting in the fixed income investments, when the interest rates go down investments go up. We are not losing that much money if we wait a month or two until we can get the information that we need to make the right decision.

Mr. Hellmann asked Mr. Walker to respond to Mrs. Dunford's comments regarding the financial investments. Mr. Walker stated that the fixed investments total eight million dollars are not at a fixed interest rate. These monies are coming due and will be either be left in the money market fund or reinvested in lower interest funds. He stated that anything you earn over 4.06 you have to give back to the IRS in year five, which will be 2011. Mr. Walker discussed the fees and costs for the bonds and the facets involved with defeasing these bonds.

AT THIS TIME MR. HELLMANN CALLED FOR AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO
DISCUSS A MATTER REGARDING PERSONNEL.

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Mr. Hellmann read the following motion which had not been placed on the original agenda for tonight's meeting:

A motion is in order to authorize, ratify and confirm the retention with the cost not to exceed \$2500 to Wick Fisher White in the acceptance of the engineer's report dated January 30, 2008 providing preliminary analysis and cost estimates for various school building improvements and renovations.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mr. Farrell and passed by a roll call vote of 8 ayes and one nay. Member voting nay was Mr. Kemp.

Mr. Kelly stated that he spoke with the bond counsel from Curtin and Heefner this morning on the bond resolution. Mr. Kelly felt that the above motion needed to be approved this evening to approve this firm since this firm has already taken steps and done things and are ready to issue a report on their findings. Mr. Kelly also felt it was necessary to put a cap on the cost of the charges and included that in the above motion. Mr. Kelly felt that by voting on this resolution would clean matters up and avoid confusion by ratifying what has already been done.

It was discussed that the Board had already approved a motion in December to advertise for bids from an engineering firm. Mrs. Dunford stated that she had prepared a RFP conforming to PDE and PLANCON standards, and gave this proposal to Mr. Hellmann. Mr. Hellmann contacted Mrs. Dunford and said that he did not want that RFP to be sent out because it was too complicated. At a meeting in January, this matter was discussed and Mr. Hellmann and Mrs. Heater were going to get together with Mrs. Dunford to rewrite the RFP. Mr. Hellmann chose not to include Mrs. Dunford in the rewriting of the RFP or hiring of the firm hired. Mr. Kelly stated that bids should have been received and then brought back to the Board for their review and vote. Mr. Kelly stated that whenever public money is spent it must come before the Board at a public meeting prior to any decisions being made. Mr. Farrell stated that when these reports come in from the engineering firms, safety must be the first priority.

Mrs. Reithmeyer stated that in December when the Board passed the motion to advertise for bid, it was very clear as to what the Board was looking for. She referred to the report by Wick Fisher White and discussed the items in their report that they did not perform, and stated that their services did not accomplish what the approved motion in December had asked for.

Mrs. Worob asked if the district was obligated to pay this bill. Mr. Kelly stated that if the district does not pay this bill there would be a lawsuit and someone would have to pay it. She stated that procedurally she does not like how this turned out and that it should have gone out to bid and that the Board needs to do things as they should be done.

Dr. Yonson stated that the fact that the Board did not vote for this service releases the district from any liability to pay this bill. Mr. Kelly stated that Mr. Hellmann hired the firm and that he would have to pay the bill if not approved by the Board this evening for

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payment. Mr. Kelly stated that we are trying to clean this up at this point so that it doesn't happen again. Several Board members asked if this item could be tabled at this time and voted on at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Frankenfield made a motion to table this motion until the next Board meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Kemp. This motion was defeated by a roll call vote of 6 nays and 3 ayes. Members voting aye were Mr. Kemp, Mr. Frankenfield and Mrs. Reithmeyer.

Mrs. Reithmeyer asked if this item will now go out for bid as approved at the December board meeting. Mrs. Dunford stated that she has the RFP ready to go out for bid. Mr. Hellmann stated that he did not want the RFP to go out that Mrs. Dunford had originally prepared. Dr. Yonson and Mr. Kelly both agreed that this must be a Board decision on how this bid goes out. Mrs. Dunford stated that the study they received today would never qualify for reimbursement from PDE. She stated that it would be irresponsible for the Board not to go through the PLANCON process in order to get money back for every payment we make. She prepared the RFP so that the engineer's involved would have to comply with the PLANCON process and so that the district could be reimbursed. The RFP will be distributed to all Board members in their Friday packets for their review. Dr. Yonson stated that the RFP is very difficult to understand unless you are an engineer. Mr. Kelly advised the Board to get back to Mrs. Dunford after reviewing the RFP. Mrs. Dunford advised the Board that in the feasibility study done in 2005, the costs to renovate the high school was \$14,697,000 and the district would receive back in reimbursement over 2.5 million dollars. Copies of this information will also be sent to the Board members in their Friday packets.

Mr. Hellmann read the following motion:

A motion is in order to adopt a resolution as per bond counsel authorizing defeasance of a portion of the capital project series bond and the expenditure of remaining bond proceeds on a revised capital project.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann, seconded by Mrs. Mihok.

Mr. Klausser, Bond Counsel from Curtin and Heefner, discussed how the district must comply with debt act purposes and how they must define any projects to be done and the allocations assigned to each project.

Mrs. Dunford stated that Mrs. Heater asked her to call Pennsbury today to get information about what costs they incurred to renovate a building in their district similar in size to our high school. Mrs. Dunford read the following quotes that Pennsbury received: General Contractor \$3.8 million; heating and ventilating \$7.9 million; plumbing \$1.1 million; electrical \$2.9 million; asbestos abatement \$352,000; structural and steel work \$740,000; architect \$1.3 million; contingency fund \$1.7 million, for a total of \$20,500,000. She again stated that this cost was for renovations done similar to the size of our high school. The Business Manager from Pennsbury stated that this prices were from 2004 and we should add 10% for every year after that due to price increases.

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Mrs. Reithmeyer stated that she would be in favor of defeating the bonds if she had any idea what we needed to spend for any renovations, etc.

The motion passed by a roll call vote of 6 ayes and 3 nays. Members voting nay were Mr. Kemp, Mr. Frankenfield and Mrs. Reithmeyer.

Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:30 p.m.

William Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok, Secretary

Transcribed by Karen McQuillan

EXHIBIT B

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOROUGH OF MORRISVILLE
Morrisville, Pennsylvania

The regular monthly meeting of the Morrisville Board of School Directors was held in the LGI located in the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School, 550 West Palmer Street, Morrisville, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, February 27, 2008, after due notice of the meeting had been given as required by law. Mr. William Hellmann, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm with the following members present on roll call:

Mr. Frankenfield; Mrs. Reithmeyer; Mrs. Worob, Mr. Kemp; Mr. Hellmann; and Mr. Farrell.
Mrs. Heater, Mr. Radosti and Mrs. Mihok were not in attendance.

Quorum Present.

Also attending this evening's meeting was Dr. Elizabeth Hammond Yonson, Superintendent; Mrs. Reba Dunford, Business Administrator; Mrs. Melanie Gehrens, Secondary Principal; Mr. William Ferrara, Secondary Assistant Principal; Mrs. Karen Huggins; Elementary Principal; Mrs. Kimberly Myers, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services/School Psychologist; Thomas Kelly, Esq., Solicitor; MEA representation, and media.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Student Representative to the Board

Speaker: Michael Leather

Co Speaker: Gabriela Argueta

- This month, students celebrated Black History Month in a variety of ways in many classrooms. Events included essays, reading novels, and short stories, weekly current events, learning facts, and doing projects. Some teachers have even instilled these events over the course of the entire school year.
- The PSSA Writing tests were given to all students in grades 8 and 11.
- Report cards were distributed on February 8th.
- On February 9th, the BAL Cheerleading Championship was held here at Morrisville High School. Our cheerleaders placed second in the event.
- Course selection for the 2008-2009 school year took place for the students in grades 8 through 11 beginning on February 15th. Counselor met with all students to arrange their schedules for next year.
- The Varsity Girls Basketball team began the 1st round District 1 Playoff series on February 15th versus Jenkintown High School at Upper Moreland High School in Willow Grove, PA at 6:00 pm.
- Schools were closed in observation of President's Day on February 18th.
- Last week students had a presentation on Wave Boarding. It involves a combination of surfing, snow boarding, and skateboarding in one board. Students were able to participate in the presentation with a parent consent form. Many prizes, including wave boards, were given away throughout the presentation.
- The Parents Advisory Meeting was held on February 20th. The follow items were discussed at the meeting: course selection, and a discussion with board members and the superintendent.
- The Student of the Month breakfast was held this morning in the cafeteria.

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- Both middle and high school students are preparing for Gym Night on March 7th. This year the theme of Gym Night is Board Games. All community members are invited to attend.
 - Ten high school students were invited to attend the Delaware Valley Minority Student Achievement Consortium in Philadelphia on March 10th. Students will interact with other students from local area schools.
- Thank you for your continued support for our student activities*

District Enrollments as of February 21, 2008

Elementary Students.....	451
Secondary 6-12.....	488
Technical School.....	47
Home Schooled	17
Out-of-District Placements.....	97
Total	1082

(18 students in out-of-district placements are housed in our district and are included only once in the total)

District enrollments	28
District withdraws	1

1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

⇒ This week in our Schools

- On February 26, 2008 the Strategic Plan Steering Committee met and accomplished a lot. At the next agenda meeting, Mrs. Joanne Perotti will attend to elaborate on the progress of the Strategic Plan.
- Dr. Yonson welcomed Michael Leather as the Student Representative to the Board.
- Mrs. Gehrens reported that the high school is working with the 21st Century to develop some summer programs for our students entering senior year that will help our students in their career goals. They will be developing essays for college entrance applications, working on the ACT and SAT tests.

Elementary Report

- The M.R. Reiter PreK – 2nd grade students presented a wonderful musical for parents and friends, entitled “This Old Gingerbread House”. The turnout of family and friends was phenomenal.
- Lindsey Sides from the I.U. worked with teachers as they continued work on science curriculum.
- Second quarter report cards were distributed to all students/parents on February 6th.
- 5th grade students took the PSSA writing test during the week of February 11 through 15th.
- The PTO sponsored the program “Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughter” presented by the Walnut Street Theatre. The program was an enactment of the book of the same title which develops the value of kindness.
- The grant program Kinder-Garten has begun this week with Snipes visiting the kindergarten classes and then the kindergarten’s visiting Snipes Farm.

Secondary Report

- Report cards were distributed on February 8th.
- On February 9th, the BAL Cheerleading Championship was held at the high school. Our cheerleaders placed second in the event.
- PSSA Writing tests were given to students in grades 8 and 11.
- The Varsity Girls Basketball team will begin 1st round District 1 Playoff action on 2-15-2008 versus Jenkintown High School at Upper Moreland High School (Willow Grove, PA) at 6:00pm.
- Schools were closed in observance of President's Day on February 18th.
- The Parent Advisory Meeting was held on February 20th. The following items were discussed at the meeting: course selection, and a discussion with board members and the superintendent.
- The Student of the Month Breakfast will be held on February 26th.
- Course selection for the 2008-2009 school year took place for the students in grades 8 thru 11 beginning on February 15th. Counselors met with all students to arrange their schedules.
- Black History Month was celebrated in a variety of ways in many classrooms. Events included essays, reading of novels and short stories, current events weekly, learning facts, and projects. Some teachers have instilled these events over the school year.

The Board held an executive session on February 20, 2008 to discuss real estate.

PUBLIC SESSION

Drew King & Kevin Jones, Morrisville Education Association

Messrs. King and Jones presented books recently collected through a service project sponsored by the Morrisville Education Association. Staff members and other individuals were asked to contribute a "new" book to the Morrisville School libraries. One Hundred Eighteen books were donated to our libraries.

Eric Christensen, 105 W. Maple

Mr. Christensen outlined his professional experience and qualifications. He offered to perform an energy efficient lighting survey in the high school building at no cost to the district. He will be looking for energy conservation opportunities. Expectations are that there would be a 40% energy savings with a 2.5 year payback.

Steve Worob, 101 Grandview Avenue

Someone who plays the race card for self gain is more despicable than a racist. Mr. Worob believes this is happening in Morrisville and the Courier Times is using this to discredit the new school board and to sell newspapers. The BCCT is clueless when it comes to investigative reporting but they know how to control politics in Bucks County. They are your enemy and will unravel you if you allow it. Please just tell them no comment.

Morrisville is a racially diverse town that has remained free of racial tension. We have enough issues to tend to without the Courier Times and the NAACP creating racial strife for their own gain. We don't need to see you when it benefits race card players like John Jordan popping up every couple of years tooting their own horn. Mr. Jordan vowed to be a fiscal watchdog as he was resigning from the board, voting to build a \$30 million school that practically no one wanted. Where was he over the past two years when \$2 million was squandered on bankers, lawyers and architects? In a just world there would have been an investigation how this tiny Borough was cheated out of \$2 million.

The same people who pushed a \$30 million school are the same people who are trying to push Borough Council to rush a complex land development issue. When will these people learn? These people should be shunned in this town. Shame on you.

Now these people wait 2 years to accuse Mr. Radosti of using the N-word. Didn't they care when they had control? Or are they just lying now? Sure Mr. Radosti is in trouble for using the N-word – the n word Al is in trouble for is NO. Al said no to a \$30 million dollar school that the people didn't want. Al said no to lame duck contracts that tied the hands of the new school board. Al said no to outrageous tax increases. Al said no to administrative bonuses for substandard test scores. Al says no to any board corruption. I urge this board to stay the course, ignore the Courier Times and restructure this school into something we can afford and be proud of.

Jack Buckman, 617 Rutland

I have brought this subject up before. The funding formula is flawed. People who live in a 19067 zip code mark their tax returns Morrisville when they actually live in Lower Makefield and Falls. I believe we should hire an enumerator as the school code allows taking a census and purging these people who do not live in Morrisville. This would bring the average income down which in turn would increase our funding formula. In addition, the enumerator could check residency of students. It is important that we find a way to get more funding in and students that are not residents out.

Ed Bailey, 36 E. Palmer St.

The Courier Times printed that I was a member of the school board; they stated they would print a correction. Mr. Hellmann, at this month's agenda meeting you apologized for exceeding your authority by spending \$2500 to obtain professional advice on the state of our school buildings. While you may have exceeded your authority it seems you were saving us money. I understand that your action was part of a cost savings proposal as part of the RFP that Mrs. Dunford was sending out which would have restarted the process that gave us the 2005 Feasibility Study. I don't see any sense in spending millions more just to get funding from PlanCon.

In an effort to keep meeting times at a minimum I suggest you vote on the amount of time allotted for discussion on each agenda item.

On the matter of researching alternatives to our high school, I would like to have more information rather than less. People are premature opposing this board's efforts to provide a quality education. I can not support or oppose any plan until there is a plan. I would not support a plan that does not provide a quality education for my daughter.

Jon Perry, 43 Fairview

Mr. Perry asked why all the former minutes were not included in the agenda packet and if there was a time limit for reporting the minutes.

Has the bond been defeased? What was the cost to do this? At the January meeting Mr. Hellmann stated it was \$2,900 now I am hearing it is in excess of \$2 million. This was not disclosed at the January 23 or January 30 meeting. How many board members were aware that the cost was in excess of \$2 million? Several members of the public spoke at the meetings, not to oppose the defeasement, but to wait until all the facts were available to the public. With the exception of Messrs. Kemp, Frankenfield and Mrs. Reithmeyer the board chose to go in another direction. Now the taxpayers will be left with the debt of \$2 million for nothing. I don't think the board is providing good information.

Sharon Hughes, 121 Mercer

It's a shame that the old school board didn't defease the bond in May when the rates were better and when the community told them we were not going to build this school. What Mr. Hellmann did was to expedite the defeasement of the bond and save the costs of a feasibility study. The problem is what the old school board did cost us \$2 million and because they didn't defease the bond in May it's going to cost us another \$2 million. That's a lot cheaper that \$30 million that it was going to cost our town to build a school that is not going to educate our students. We're all here for better education for the kids. If this school can't do it we need to look at other options.

Ron Stout, 129 S. Delmorr

All we have to show for \$2 million is that little book from the architects. The Superintendent gets bonuses when 3 out of 4 kids fail math and reading.

Damon Miller, 249 W. Franklin

I did not receive a letter from QSRE but my neighbor did and shared it with me. In addition, a picture was taken of his house by Mr. Bailey. The letter says Did you Know . . . 71% are not proficient in math; high school math performance is down, SATs and so forth. I went to the websites listed on the letter – our SAT scores were better than Bristol Boro, Truman H S and the Technical School. Six hundred forty-one high schools in the state reported results, in verbal testing Morrisville ranked 310, math scores are disappointing, but we've heard this information from our administration, ranking at 162, and in writing we ranked 425.

For AYP Bensalem is under corrective action 2, Bristol Borough – warning; Council Rock South – warning for 3 years; Neshaminy – corrective action 2, Pennsbury corrective action 2. Morrisville is making progress. If you are considering tuitioning the students out, you might want to do your homework on what other schools are doing.

Gayle Haug, 260 Harper

Mrs. Haug congratulated Andrew Brake as a scholarship finalist chosen from 300 applicants. When will the minutes for the past meetings be published?

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the Board of School Directors will take this opportunity to respond to comments recently brought to the attention of the School Board.

Mr. Hellmann

I'd like to have Mr. Christensen investigate the electrical study further, and get some costs for the process. Mr. Christensen stated he'd like to do this in the evening. Mr. Hellmann asked for a consensus of the board to pursue this study. All members present agreed.

Defeasement

Mr. Hellmann offered to sit down with Mr. Perry and go over the defeasance numbers. It is too complicated to go through it tonight. There is \$4.1 million left to spend by November 2009 or it will have to be given back. This defeasement also freed up \$1.1 million in the budget.

Mrs. Dunford commented that it cost \$2.4 million to defease the bond. We have almost \$5 million spent over the last 2-1/2 years and nothing to show for it.

Mr. Kemp asked Mr. Hellmann if he could put together a spreadsheet and place it on the website. He will work on it after April 15.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Kemp asked Mr. Kelly if minutes were necessary for agenda meetings and special meetings. Mr. Kelly stated there is a requirement to have minutes for all public meetings. There is no requirement in preparation time. However, Mr. Kelly believes that the state auditors may penalize the district if minutes are not maintained in a timely manner.

Since the transcription of the minutes is falling behind, Dr. Yonson suggested that the board consider paying someone to transcribe the minutes. Mr. Hellmann and Mrs. Worob would like to hear what Mrs. Mihok has to say on this matter before a decision is made. Mr. Kelly informed that he spoke to Mrs. Mihok and she understood the importance of getting the minutes done. Mrs. Reithmeyer added that this issue was discussed previous to tonight's meeting. Mrs. Reithmeyer made the following motion.

The Board approved a motion to hire someone whether it is a secretary or an outside person to type the minutes for our agenda and special meetings.

Moved by Mrs. Reithmeyer; seconded by Mr. Frankenfield; passed by a roll call vote of 4 ayes; 2 nays. Members voting nay were Mr. Hellmann and Mrs. Worob.

Bond Issue

Mr. Farrell read the following statement. "Let me take people back. I along with my son questioned this bond issue a couple of years ago. I asked the board at that time if they really understood what the penalties were and the incentives were. Nobody responded. I asked if anybody had any idea what it would cost to do it at that time. I believe Corinne Martin said \$50,000-\$100,000. I have a statement from my son in regard to the bond defeasement. First of all, my son works on the New York Stock Exchange. He's into numbers much more than these. My son detailed the pitfalls of the bond over two years ago. He outlined how the bond lacked a call motion for 10 years. He calculated an applied call rate that he detailed for the board. He brought along copies of the spreadsheet that he offered to distribute to anyone who was interested. There was no interest on the part of the board members or anyone else in the audience. As he spoke, Mrs. Walkup sat there and shook her head no. I was there at the time. Apparently she knew a lot more than my son. My son overnighed a copy to a partner at his firm who is a former managing director at Bear Stern commented on how the rate charged by the underwriter was too high and that he knows that the rates were tinkered with to allow additional capital to be raised. My son brought up these points as well, even giving his business card to Ms. Sandy Gibson to pass along to the underwriter at the RBC. No call ever came. At one of the meetings, Mr. Woods, the bond guy never showed. After the primary election last year the board could have easily defeased the bond at little or no cost to the school district due to high interest rates. Instead they did nothing and interest rates fell. Again, I guess, they knew better than my son. That was an ongoing theme with the previous board. They always knew better than anyone else in town."

Mr. Kemp -- We didn't go into that lightly. We had legal support. We had experts to explain things to us when we had questions. That money was borrowed to build a school, and to deal with facilities problems that this district has. That is what we decided it should be spent on, not giving it back. I took a lot of notes and asked a lot of questions which were answered to my satisfaction.

Mr. Farrell -- My son asked specifically about the bond. He never got any reply from Dr. Gibson or from the bond guy. How come he never contacted my son? He never got any answers.

ACT 80 Report

Mrs. Dunford -- Every year we are asked about Act 80. Each year we receive the report and we go over every name on the report. We probably eliminate 900 names from this report.

Mrs. Worob -- Have we had any problems in the last couple of years in this reporting?

Mr. Hellman -- I have several sheets in my office that show the numbers are way out of wack. There are over 12,000 tax returns and we don't even have that many people in this town.

Dr. Yonson -- Because of the concerns last year we had several people working on this checking and double checking.

Mrs. Dunford reported that she called the state about individuals reported on our report that are not our taxpayers and the state advised there is nothing we could do about it. The Executive Director at PASBO agrees that the system needs to be revised but he has gotten no where. Some of those reported may be kids attending college in other states.

Mr. Kelly

Mr. Kelly does not recommend allotting specific times for board members to speak on agenda items. The purpose of the agenda is to allow board members to express their ideas on issues.

PlanCon

Mrs. Reithmeyer asked what the PlanCon contribution would be on a building project. Mrs. Dunford advised that it varies according to calculations. On the \$14 million dollar project it was projected to be 13% or \$2.5 million.

Mrs. Reithmeyer read the following statement

"At the last school board meeting a community member commended this school board for saving two thirds of the estimated cost of repairing a door at M. R. Reiter by using a local company to do the repairs.

There are two problems with that statement.

First the original estimate was given by the same local company that did the work, and second the entire scope of work estimated was not completed. My understanding is that the local company was called and told to "*do only what you absolutely have to*" and therefore only charged about 40% of what they estimated.

Please keep in mind that this work will still have to be done at some point. Now, I have to tell you, this board has already spent about the same amount of money advertising special meetings and corrected resolutions as we would have to completely and correctly fix those doors.

I'm sure there aren't many people in this room that realize that every time we change signers on our checking accounts, like when this board was seated in December and there was a change in Presidency, or when the officers were changed in January that we have to pay a programmer to make changes in our computer system.

Well, here we go again, tonight we will be voting on changing the bank, and if this motion is passed *again* we will be paying a programmer to make changes in our computer system.

I haven't received anything from the finance committee justifying this change. And I feel any research a committee has to support the findings should be shared, make an argument, and give me the basis of your reasoning.

Whether you do it through e-mail or Friday packets, give me *something*.

And by something I don't mean "in my opinion they substantially overcharged this school district", *even if they have*.

I have to ask – Is this how we want to spend our money?

Will any savings be realized by making this change?

I was and still am against the idea of building a new school – for several reasons – that doesn't mean I have to agree with the majority of this board on all issues.

Many of you may remember that the previous school board was accused of "group think" - of blindly following behind Sandy Gibson without thought as to what they were doing.

I won't give anyone the opportunity to accuse me of following anyone blindly.

I'm sure all of you understand that there is quite a bit of communication between the board members via e-mail? And, I have to tell you I was quite surprised - when - in a recent e-mail I was told to "Just Cooperate".

I truly hope that none of you voted for me expecting me to "Just Cooperate", because my answer to that e-mail is an emphatic NO. I was no less elected than any other member on this board and I don't intend to let others make decisions for me based on there opinions.

I believe that this board needs to pay closer attention to the information provided us by the administrators and solicitor; plan better and have a lot more patience."

ACTION ITEMS:

Table Items 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5

The Board approved a motion to table items 2.1, 2.2, 2.4, 2.5. Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Kemp; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

2.1. Approval of Minutes

The Board TABLED a motion to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2008 special meeting of the Board of School Directors.

2.2. Approval of Minutes

The Board TABLED a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2008 monthly agenda meeting of the Board of School Directors.

2.4. Approval of Minutes

The Board TABLED a motion to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2008 special meeting of the Board of School Directors.

2.5. Approval of Minutes

The Board TABLED a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2008 agenda meeting of the board of school directors.

2.3. Approval of Minutes

2.3.a. Amend January 23, 2008 Minutes

The Board approved a motion to amend the minutes of January 23, 2008 as requested by Mr. Farrell (this change has been made to the official minutes of January 23, 2008).

At the meeting of the Board of Directors on February 27, 2008, the Board approved an amendment to the January 23, 2008 minutes to include "I am a resident of this town and I care about these babies right here. Tonight I am here as the President of the Bucks County NAACP. I am here tonight as the Vice President of the entire board of the state NAACP which represents 47 branches across this commonwealth. I am here tonight to address the alleged racial comments of a school board member. This school member looked to another school board member and he said you know if we build this new school we are going to turn Morrisville into N-ville. Words were exchanged and I am also told that he threatened this other school board member and her children. And the police had to be called. The community doesn't know about this. She may be scared of you, Mr. Radosti but John Jordan is not. But I am not afraid to address the issue." *Mr. Farrell requested this statement be added to the minutes because he is appalled that a member of the NAACP would use the N-word.*

Amendment moved by Mr. Farrell; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a voice vote of 5 ayes; 1 abstention. Mr. Frankenfield abstained.

Mr. Frankenfield stated that he was abstaining because he was not happy with the direction this is going. If anything, Mr. Radosti should have defended himself.

Mr. Hellmann questioned why Mr. Kemp and Mrs. Reithmeyer were appointed co-chairs of the committee. Mrs. Reithmeyer advised that no one else showed up for the meeting. Dr. Yonson advised that she heard from Mrs. Heater and agreed with this appointment. Mrs. Worob stated that she could not be at the meeting because she was ill; people appointed themselves; that's fine.

2.3.b. Approval of Amended Minutes of January 23, 2008

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2008 regular monthly business meeting of the Board of School Directors – AS AMENDED.

Moved by Mrs. Worob; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a voice vote of 5 ayes; 1 abstention. Mr. Frankenfield abstained.

3. HUMAN RESOURCES

INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Mrs. Reithmeyer asked the following questions of Mrs. Myers, Pupil Services Coordinator:

- How many special needs students have enrolled since the beginning of this school year?*

Thirty-one students identified with special needs have enrolled since July 2007.

- How many students are currently in the process of evaluation?*

Currently we have between 36 and 40 students in the process of evaluation.

- Do you anticipate additional students moving into the District?*

Currently we are expecting 5 additional students with significant special needs.

- What is the average cost to educate a special needs student?*

Services depend on the needs of the student. Students receiving speech & language

supportive services = \$15,000 to \$20,000. More specific needs = \$30,000 - \$50,000. These

amounts do not include transportation costs and additional therapies, such as physical or occupational therapy.

- ***What is the highest amount we are currently spending to education a special needs student? \$80,000.***
- ***Mrs. Worob asked how many students we currently have with special needs. There are currently about 220 identified students which is 20% of our population. Last year 18% of the population was identified with special needs. Currently, 12% of new enrollments are entering with special needs. These new enrollees are coming from all over the country, Texas, California, Kansas, New Jersey.***

ACTION ITEMS

Items 3.1 to 3.5 were voted on in one motion. Moved by Mr. Kemp; seconded by Mrs. Worob; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

3.1. Approval, Acceptance of Resignations

The Board approved a motion to accept the resignations of the following individuals, with regret.

3.1.a. Christine Tokugawa – mathematics teacher – effective February 3, 2008

3.1.b. Stefanie Baehr – LTS special education teacher – effective February 1, 2008

Mrs. Reithmeyer noted that she was told by a student that Mrs. Tokugawa will be missed.

3.2. Approval, Leave of Absence

The Board approved a motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Mr. Tim McCarthy, effective February 13, 2008 for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year.

3.3. Approval, Appointments

The Board approved a motion to approve the appointments listed below:

- 3.3.a. **Summer Taylor** as a long term substitute elementary teacher, effective February 19, 2008. Compensation in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement with placement on salary schedule at B level, step OA pro-rated = \$41,661. This is a replacement for Mr. Tim McCarthy.
- 3.3.b. **Shirley Mallino**, a per diem substitute, to be reassigned as a floater substitute effective February 19, 2008. Compensation is \$104/day in accordance with policy 429 governing substitute teachers. This is a replacement for Ms. Summer Taylor.
- 3.3.c. **Elizabeth Basdeo** as full time one-on-one paraeducator, effective February 19, 2008. Compensation in accordance with Group II policy at \$11.42/hour. This position was approved at the January 23, 2008 board meeting.
- 3.3.d. The Board approved a motion to approve the hiring of per diem substitutes, as needed, during the 2007-2008 school year. Compensation will be in accordance with district policy #429 and Group II policy.
Edward Richmond Serena Pellitteri Carol Degnan
Shannon Maicher Robert Hirsch

All appointments are contingent upon completion of district employment requirements and verification of PA Department of Education Certification.

3.4. Approval, Tuition Reimbursements

The Board approved a motion to approve payment of tuition reimbursement to the individuals as listed below.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>College/School</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mark Kwartnik	International Issues in European Education	IUP	3	\$800
Mark Kwartnik	Teacher Leadership & Management	IUP	3	\$800
Pam Montanya	Mean Boys & Girls	Gratz	3	\$835
Demetrius Roberts	Styles of Teaching	Gratz	3	\$835
Kevin Jones	Differentiated Instruction	Gratz	3	\$835
Jessica Bateman	Teaching for Success	Gratz	3	\$835

3.5. Approval, Tenure Eligibility

The Following individual is eligible for a Professional Contract/Tenure, having received satisfactory evaluations and having served three years under a Temporary Professional Contract.

Individual
Julie Habel

Date of Tenure
January 11, 2008

The Board approved a motion to approve the above individual for tenure and to direct the Administration to issue a Professional Employee Contract.

Mr. Hellmann asked if an employee receives a pay increase with tenure. No, salary remains the same.

4. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The following items are presented by the Education Programs Committee for discussion/approval upon their recommendation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

This committee met tonight before the meeting. Mr. Kemp accepted the chair position for this committee.

ACTION ITEMS:

Items 4.1 to 4.3 were voted on in one motion. Moved by Mr. Kemp; seconded by Mr. Frankenfield; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

4.1. Approval, Renewal of United Parcel Service-Morrisville Internship/Cooperative Education Program

The Board approved a motion to approve the renewal of the United Parcel Service-Morrisville Internship/Cooperative Education Program. This program will be offered to four (4) students entering their senior year. The cost of this endeavor is \$800/student.

Mr. Kemp explained that this program runs throughout the school year; however, this portion allows students to take catch-up classes at the UPS facility during the summer for which they earn credit. Mrs. Worob added that we have had this program for years and it is a very good program.

4.2. Approval, Donation of Books

The Board approved a motion to accept the donation of books from the Morrisville Education Association.

4.3. Approval, Trip to Harrisburg

The Board approved a motion to approve the 21st century overnight trip to Harrisburg for Promising Practices Conference on March 4, 2008. There will be no cost to the District.

Dr. Yonson advised that this is a state grant and the representatives of the grant periodically attend these conferences. Because we are a model program we have been asked to bring several students who will be introducing the Governor or Secretary of Education. The children will be able to interact.

5. BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Ms. Reba Dunford, Business Administrator, presents the following items upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Contracts approved by the Board are available for viewing in the Business Office.

ACTION ITEMS:

5.1. Approval, Acceptance of 2006-2007 Audited School District Financial Statements

The Board approved a motion to accept the 2006-2007 Audited School District Financial Statements as prepared by Maillie, Falconiero & Company, LLP, the District's local auditing firm.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Kemp; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

5.2. Approval, Tax Refund

The Board approved a motion to refund \$262.53 for tax parcel #24-008-451 effective 3/1/07. Change in assessment was not corrected by the County until July of 2007 and taxpayers paid the 2007-2008 tax on the prior assessment.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Kemp; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

Mrs. Dunford informed that she is also notified when tax parcels are increased.

5.3. Approval, Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 Programs and Services Instructional Materials Budget for 2008-2009

The Board approved a motion to approve the 2008-2009 Intermediate Unit Operating Budget. This budget covers the costs of operation of the programs and services part of the Intermediate Unit Budget. This includes such services as curriculum development, staff development, and film and video tape rentals. The District's total expenditure to the Intermediate Unit will be \$11,741 representing an decrease of \$338 from the 2007-2008 budget.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Frankenfield; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

Mr. Hellmann made a motion to table items 5.4., 5.5., 5.6. because he would like to have all 9 board members present for the vote. Motion seconded by Mrs. Worob. Motion to table defeated by a roll call vote of 5 nays; 1 aye. Member voting to table was Mr. Hellmann.

Mr. Farrell and Mrs. Worob voted no to table stating it is time we start moving on this.

5.4. Approval, Go Out For Bid on Immediate Action Items from Existing Systems Evaluation prepared by Wick Fisher White January 30, 2008

The Board **DEFEATED** a motion to direct the Business Administrator to go out for bid on the following items evaluated in the January 30, 2008 Existing Systems Evaluation by Wick Fisher White.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Kemp; motion fails by a 3-3 roll call vote. Members voting no were Mr. Kemp, Mr. Frankenfield and Mrs. Reithmeyer. Members voting yes were Mr. Hellmann, Mr. Farrell and Mrs. Worob.

Mr. Frankenfield commented that this is definitely putting the cart before the horse. We have no plan whatsoever what we are going to do with our students or our 3 school buildings. This is very premature.

Mr. Hellmann was adamant that these items are safety issues. Wick Fisher are the experts and they are making the recommendations.

Mrs. Reithmeyer advised that the engineer's report was incomplete and a thorough inspection did not take place. Many of these items are grandfathered and do not have to meet code.

Mrs. Worob agrees that if these are emergency items we need to go forward with the corrections. There were emergency items in the past that never were corrected.

Mrs. Dunford and Dr. Yonson advised that those past items were corrected, in fact, some of the items listed here are already corrected. Mrs. Dunford has sent reports to Wick Fisher that many of these items have been corrected. Many of the items listed are to bring us up to code which is not necessary until we start to renovate. They are not safety issues. Dr. Yonson advised that administration wanted to speak with Wick Fisher and include Mr. Kelly in the conversation. Wick Fisher refused to speak with us unless we gave them more money. How can a company write a report and refuse to speak to the client? They want us to do things and they won't even talk to us about it – that's where we have a problem. Wick Fisher acknowledged that they did a cursory examination – not removing coverings from items – a walk-around inspection. These children are my first priority and if I thought the building was unsafe I would close it.

Mrs. Reithmeyer read from page 2 of the report "Our observations were limited to those portions of the building which were viewed during the walk-thru. Wick Fisher White did not remove covers of any electrical panels, switchboards, take any samples, perform any tests on building materials or equipment, or perform any calculations to verify the capacity of existing equipment." We put out a RFP which was voted on in December. Mr. Hellmann, you decided not to advertise it, you didn't bring it to the rest of us and then you went and talked to Wick Fisher. We have a RFP out with bids due next week. There is no reason we can't wait and see what we can do. There is no sense in putting patches on stuff.

Dr. Yonson advised that during the past week we had 15 firms walk-through the building in response to the RFP.

Mr. Hellmann again stated his concern that these are safety issues and the district is liable. Everybody is going against the engineers, who are the experts. I want to go on record that I am not going against the engineering experts.

Mrs. Dunford informed that the elementary buildings were not even looked at and these are some of the worse conditions we have in the district.

Mr. Lastichen advised that the kitchen is all electric and is grandfathered in by code. We have no grease, no gas; we don't need a fire suppression system. They are not needed. It is not a safety issue neither are the S traps. I asked everyone of the 15 engineers who walked through and everyone of them agreed until we renovate it is not needed. My main concern is the heating system at M. R. Reiter; that scares me. That is what we should be looking into.

Mr. Farrell accompanied Mr. Lastichen on the walk-through. There were major problems with the exhaust system. Isn't that a safety issue? I was impressed with these engineers. Let's table this, wait the week and see where it goes.

Mrs. Dunford advised that Wick Fisher also has the RFP and we expect a response from them by next week.

Mr. Kemp will be voting no since this is based on an incomplete study.

- 5.4.a. Recondition the primary 5 kV breaker and replace trip units of secondary distribution breakers. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$40,000.

- 5.4.b. Additional branch panels shall be added in the original building to minimize overloading on the existing panels. Further investigation and design is needed. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$50,000.
- 5.4.c. Install automatic fire suppression systems in the kitchen exhaust hoods. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$15,000 each.
- 5.4.d. Install emergency gas shutoff station and solenoid of natural gas supply to science classroom. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$5,000.
- 5.4.e. Add fire alarm system pullstations and strobes to building exits to comply with fire alarm code. Order-of-magnitude cost to be determined.
- 5.4.f. Correct mounting height of fire alarm system devices to comply with ADA requirements. Order-of-magnitude cost to be determined.
- 5.4.g. Replace existing generator exhaust stack and insulate. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$10,000.
- 5.4.h. Correct plumbing code issues in kitchen. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$30,000.
- 5.4.i. Perform maintenance and conduct a coordination study of the proper setting for breakers in the main substation. Order-of magnitude cost -- \$50,000.
- 5.4.j. A complete electrical single line diagram should be generated so that electrical emergencies can be acted on faster. Order-of-magnitude cost -- \$5,000.

5.5. Approval, Conduct Engineering Study of Elementary Schools

The Board DEFEATED a motion to approve an engineering study for the two elementary schools by Wick Fisher White at a cost not to exceed \$8,000 plus reimbursement expenses.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; motion fails by a roll call vote of 3-3. Members voting yes were Mr. Hellmann, Mr. Farrell, and Mrs. Worob. Members voting no were Mr. Kemp, Mr. Frankenfield, and Mrs. Reithmeyer.

Mrs. Dunford noted that we do not have a proposal.

Mrs. Reithmeyer asked where the proposals are. An RFP is out. Approved in December; advertised in February; due in March 7. We already spent \$237.65 to advertise. I would hope the report is more thorough than the one we have.

Mr. Frankenfield commented that there have been studies done in the past. Mr. Kemp added that the studies were pretty recent. We covered everything that is a safety issue.

Mr. Hellmann stated that the board is completely neglecting the engineering experts.

Mr. Farrell has been looking at the Gilliam and Reuter Haney studies to derive some reasoning from them. He suggested that the 3 reports be cross-referenced for agreement.

Mrs. Reithmeyer expressed concerns that Mr. Hellmann is acting without input from other board members. Mrs. Reithmeyer wanted the record to show that the board has not seen this proposal.

Mr. Hellmann wanted the record to show that these are safety issues and the nay votes are not following – these are safety issues that should be fixed immediately.

5.6. Approval, Move Bank Balance Out of PA School District Liquid Asset Fund

The Board DEFEATED a motion to approve the removal of the remaining bond proceeds from the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF) to another financial institution.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; motion fails by a vote of one yes (Mr. Hellmann); five nays.

Since Mr. Hellmann is the individual asking for this motion, Mr. Kemp asked him to present the information to the Board. Mr. Hellmann advised that this fund is run by the RBC Group that overcharged us quite a bit on the bond. They charged us 850 per thousand and charged Neshaminy 375 per thousand.

Mrs. Dunford advised that if this change is made, the computer program will have to be reprogrammed at a cost of \$600-\$1,200 plus we will lose the interest if we transfer the money now. If we start to renovate, this money will be gone in a few months anyway. It makes sense to leave it there for now.

Mr. Farrell suggested that we remain the same and not use RBC in the future.

5.7. Approval, Agreement with American Red Cross

The Board approved a motion to approve an Agreement with American Red Cross to allow the Morrisville Middle/Senior High School be used as a shelter in case of emergency.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Frankenfield; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

5.8. Approval, Disposal of Excess Items

The Board approved a motion to approve the disposal of the excess items as presented by the Administration as Addendum A on the next page.

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Kemp; passed by a unanimous voice vote of 6 ayes.

School District of Borough of Morrisville

EXCESS ITEMS

February 2008

BOOKS

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
19	Concepts & Challenges Life Science (out dated, no longer used)	HS, H-2
12	Concepts & Challenges in Earth Science (out dated, no longer used)	HS, H-2
10	A Survey of World Cultures (out dated, no longer used)	HS, H-2
19	Focus on Latin America & Canada (out dated, no longer used)	HS, H-2
3	American Adventures (out dated, no longer used)	HS, H-2

FURNITURE

<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
15	Chairs with tablet arms (chairs are broken, cannot be fixed)	HS, E-5

Note: Items will be discarded or sold, based on the condition of the item.

ADDENDUM A

5.9. Payment of Bills

The Board approved a motion to approve payment of bills, as listed, subject to final audit by the Business Administrator in the amount of:

Miscellaneous Disbursement: (1/23/08 – 2/13/08)	\$ 512,396.53
Cafeteria Fund: (2/28/08)	43,015.16
Athletic Fund (1/25/08 – 2/11/08)	3,011.00
Accounts Payable (2/28/08)	208,643.55
Capital Reserve	-0-
Capital Projects	-0-
Procurement Cards (January)	5,143.34
Payroll & Benefits (January)	<u>1,152,001.53</u>

TOTAL BILLS \$1,924,211.11

Moved by Mr. Hellmann; seconded by Mr. Farrell; passed by a unanimous roll call vote of 6 ayes.

Heating oil for this month was \$31,431 and the Bucks County Technical School installment (of 4) was \$98,876.

6. POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT

INFORMATION ITEMS:

ACTION ITEMS:

7. LIAISON REPORTS

- a. Lower Bucks County Vocational-Educational School – Mr. Frankenfield
Mr. Frankenfield reported that the technical school was the only vo-tech school in Pennsylvania that met AYP. Technical schools are not getting the funding needed – please write your legislators. In the recent Skills USA competition Morrisville students won the silver and bronze medals.
- b. Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 – Mrs. Mihok
Mrs. Mihok was not in attendance this evening.
- c. Pennsylvania School Boards Association/Legislative – Mrs. Worob
 - This is a legislative report for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, filed on Feb. 1, 2008.

This week the General Assembly took action on a number of important bills, including proposals on open records, tax reform and statewide health care for public school employees.

Open records

The Senate unanimously approved the open records legislation under **SB 1**, but not before making several changes to the amended language that was inserted by the House in December.

Tax reform

The House amended but did not take final action on tax reform provisions under **HB 1600**. It is anticipated that the House will return to the issue of property taxes when it returns in early February.

- This is a legislative report for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, filed on Feb. 21, 2008.

The General Assembly remains in recess until March 10 while budget hearings take place.

The state Department of Health is proposing to amend regulations relating to immunization requirements for children following review of the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. The proposed amendments recently were published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and are now in the first stage of the regulatory review process. The proposed amendments would:

- **Add hepatitis B immunizations and chickenpox (varicella) immunity, now required for entry into kindergarten or first grade, to requirements for school attendance in all grades.** In 1998, the hepatitis B immunization requirement and the fourth dose of tetanus/diphtheria immunization requirement were added to school entry into kindergarten or first grade. In 2002, the chickenpox (varicella) immunity requirement was added to school entry into kindergarten or first grade and the hepatitis B immunization and varicella immunity requirements were added to entry into the seventh grade. Those children initially affected by the 1998 requirements are now in grade 8, and those children initially affected by the 2002 regulation are now in grades 4 and 11. Therefore, there are not many children that remain to catch up with one or both of these requirements.
- **Change the existing requirement for varicella immunity upon school entry and for entry into the seventh grade into an all-grades requirement, but would phase in the two-dose requirement.** Children entering school in kindergarten or first grade would be required to have two properly spaced doses of the vaccine. The department's requirement that children who are 13 years of age or older have two properly spaced doses for entry into the seventh grade would become a requirement for school attendance for those children. The department would then require two properly spaced doses of the varicella vaccine for all grades beginning school year 2010-11. The proposed amendments would not alter the existing option that varicella immunity may be proven by either a written history from a parent, guardian or physician or by laboratory confirmation of the disease.
- **Add two new immunization requirements for entry into the seventh grade.** Students entering the seventh grade would have to be immunized with the tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccine, if at least five years has elapsed since their last tetanus and diphtheria immunization, and be immunized with the meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV).
- **Add new dosage requirements relating to diphtheria/tetanus and mumps.** The existing rules require three doses of diphtheria/tetanus; the department proposes to require a fourth dose after the child's fourth birthday. The existing rules require only one dose of live attenuated mumps vaccine for children at 12 months of age or older for attendance at school. In response to recent outbreaks of mumps in school-age children who previously had been vaccinated, ACIP recently revised recommendations for mumps immunizations to recommend **two doses of mumps vaccine instead of one dose for school-aged children**, that is, children attending school in kindergarten through the 12th grade.

- **Clarify immunization requirements for children under the age of five years who are attending childcare group settings located in a school.** The proposed rules clarify that such children attending childcare group settings located in schools are to follow the immunization requirements geared toward children younger than five years of age. If a child attending a childcare group setting is older than five years of age, the school immunization requirements would apply regardless of the child's location. Children younger than five years of age attending childcare group settings located in schools are not to follow the immunization requirements for school attendance, but are to follow the requirements for immunizations in childcare group settings. These rules are directed specifically at children younger than the age of five years and require immunizations appropriate to those younger age groups.
- **Make it clear that children in kindergarten, prekindergarten, early intervention programs and private academic preschools are required to comply either with the immunization requirements for school attendance or those required for attendance at childcare group settings, depending upon the age of the child.** Children younger than five years of age would be required to comply with the requirements for immunizations in childcare group settings. Children five years of age or older would be required to comply with the immunization requirements for school attendance.
- **Add a new four-day grace period for vaccine administration.** The department notes that there is no scientific basis for concluding that if a vaccine is not given with a strict interval between doses or at an exact age, the vaccine is ineffective or unsafe.
- **Make no change to the regulation that permits provisional enrollment of students who have received at least one dose of a required immunization.** A child may enter school with one dose of a vaccine series but is then required to obtain all the necessary doses to continue attendance.
- **Revise current rules for school reporting of immunizations by requiring schools to report the number of doses of individual antigens that have been administered to students.** The department is proposing to amend this section to allow it to meet the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's reporting requirements and to ensure that the department continues to receive grant funding for immunizations. The department believes that the additional paperwork requirements would be minimal since school districts already complete this annual report regarding the number of immunizations and follow up on provisional enrollment. School nurses, who perform recordkeeping and reporting requirements in the schools, currently maintain and report this information. The department would provide reporting forms to schools, as it currently does, and the reports would be sent to the same department office as the current reports. Schools also have the option of electronic reporting.

In other news, PSBA is announcing that its spring round of county legislative meetings will begin next month. School directors and PSBA Governmental and Member Relations staff will meet with local legislators to discuss priority education issues and their impact on school districts. Official notices of the meetings will be mailed to superintendents, board president and secretary and each school board's PSBA liaison, but all school board members are urged to attend these very important meetings.

PSBA's Legislative Advocacy Conference will be held on May 18-19 at the Hilton Harrisburg.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Reithmeyer asked Mr. Hellmann why he needed to meet privately with Mr. Klein regarding the health insurance.

- Mr. Kelly advised that school board members should not go out and meet with vendors and contractors on their own. There is a process. It should come through the Administration. The Board should go to Administration and ask them to bring the individual in to talk. Therefore, all board members would know what the issue is and what you are talking about – not randomly, independently going out to vendors.*
- Mr. Hellmann explained that he obtained a third party data sheet from a vendor. He gave them to Mrs. Dunford to forward to Mr. Klein. I asked you for Mr. Kline's contact information and I called him and said I'm interested in saving money for the school district. Our health care costs are outrageous and I wanted to get a third party competition rate. He talked to the third party and the third party was higher. At least now they know we are looking and competing. That's why I did it. He came to my office and we talked; I made no deals; I did not contract for anything.*
- Dr. Yonson reminded that she had spoken to Mr. Hellmann about this, and as Mr. Kelly said, this is not the way it should be done. You said you spoke to the Health America representative – the problem is that this is Mrs. Dunford's job. The Board should have discussed this and directed Mrs. Dunford to contact these agencies and report back.*
- Mr. Kelly stated that the problem is other board members are sitting here tonight quizzically. They didn't know anything about this. You need to understand that you are a board and information should be provided equally.*
- Mr. Farrell asked who supplied the name of the third party. Mr. Hellmann advised he gave them the name.*
- Mrs. Worob suggested that in the future items like this should be brought up at an agenda meeting and discussed as a board.*
- Mr. Kelly suggested that the new board members attend the PSBA new board member orientation. Dr. Yonson has been looking into this with the option of having the trainer come to the District. Mr. Hellmann advised he can not do this before April 15.*
- Mr. Hellmann stated that one of the reasons he did this was because he has requested a breakdown on the health care costs from Mrs. Dunford and has not gotten it. Mrs. Dunford advised she has not had time. She has been working on Act 80 for 3 weeks and attended training for 3 days for the new software program. She is working on it, but it is not finished. In addition, I was on vacation for a week.*
- Mr. Farrell asked what the state is doing about the proposed statewide insurance coverage. Mrs. Worob suggested that, as a board, a letter is sent on this matter.*
- Mrs. Reithmeyer stated that in December the board voted that Mr. Hellmann send a letter on a litigation issue. She asked if this has been done. Mr. Hellmann will draft a letter outlining what litigation the board is contemplating (on a contingency basis) and forward this to Dr. Yonson to complete.*
- On behalf of the Board, Mr. Farrell asked Dr. Yonson to send condolences to Ms. Taylor on the death of her brother.*

Minutes of the Board of School Directors
February 27, 2008

Future Meetings and Items of Interest

Tuesday, March 4, 20087:30 pm – Joint Board/Council Meeting at Borough Hall
Wednesday, March 12, 20086:30 pm – Infrastructure/Facilities Committee
7:00 pm – Finance Committee
7:30 pm -- Board Agenda Meeting
March 20, 21, 24, 2008Spring Break/No School
Wednesday, March 26, 20086:30 pm – Education Committee
7:00 pm – Human Resources/Negotiations Committee
7:30 pm – Monthly Business Meeting

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10. Adjournment

The Board approved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

William R. Hellmann, President

Marlys Mihok

EXHIBIT C

SEARCH BLOG

FLAG BLOG

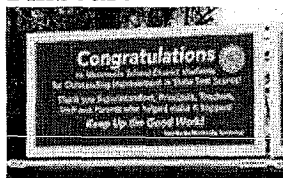
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Save The Morrisville School

Morrisville, in Lower Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is a colonial era town in the midst of transition into the 21st century. Taxes, personalities, and development all combine in a sometimes explosive mix. Come on in and join the discussion Email: savethemorrisvilleschool@yahoo.com

Student Achievement Billboard



Congratulations!

Board Job Approval December 2008

Do you support the current board of education?

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I approve of the current board completely.

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I somewhat approve of the current board.

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I somewhat disapprove of the current board.

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I do not approve of the current board at all.

☐ I voted for the community group. I approve of the current board completely.

☐ I voted for the community group. I somewhat approve of the current board.

☐ I voted for the community group. I somewhat disapprove of the current board.

☐ I voted for the community group. I do not approve of the current board at all.

☐ Other:

View Results



SPECIAL MEETING of MVSb Thursday January 29, 2009 to PERMANE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2008

Start From the Beginning: Reiter

In the wake of the noxious fumes closing of Reiter, maybe we should take another look at the 2005 buildings report to see how things looked almost four years ago.

This tells us why we needed to do something drastic. The school board then decided to build anew. The current school board stopped that.

The fault and responsibility, therefore, lies directly at the feet of not only the voters who placed them there, but the Emperor and each of his board of chosen accomplices. They stopped the solution without providing one of their own.

1.0 M.R. Reiter Elementary Executive Summary

With the exception of the: Main Sanitary; Fire Alarm; Security; Public Address; Clock and Program Systems; Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC); Plumbing and Drainage (P&D); Fire Protection (FP); and Electrical Power Transmission and Distribution (EPT&D).

1.1 Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Systems and Equipment Air Handling Units

1.1.1 General:

- Two, oil-fired air handling units, located in the first floor mechanical room, distribute air throughout the building. Refer to Photograph A1 in Appendix "A".
- Supply air to the occupied spaces is distributed through a combination of underground trenches and galvanized steel ductwork located above the ceilings.
- Combustion air for oil-fired HVAC equipment and fresh air for ventilation are obtained through exterior wall louvers. Refer to Photograph A2 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- The air handling units and ductwork are over forty years old, are unreliable, have far exceeded their useful service lives, and are, in part, unsafe for continued use.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The air handling units and ductwork systems are not acceptable for reuse, or continued use, and must be removed.

1.1.2 Cooling System General:

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M. R. Reiter Poll

Does today's news concerning the inferior oil furnace at M. R. Reiter surprise you? Multiple answers are accepted.

☐ I've heard about this problem for years.

☐ This is the first I've heard of it.

☐ This is a one time incident being overblown.

☐ This is a long term issue being ignored.

☐ The school board is handling our buildings well.

☐ The school board is NOT handling our buildings well.

☐ The borough council is blameless in this matter.

☐ The borough council has some responsibility in this matter.

☐ New Answer
Other:

View Results
Polladdy.com

**Farming Poll Part II:**

What do you think of tuitioning out the high school students?

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. Farm out the kids!

☐ I voted for the community group. Farm out the kids!

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. Keep the kids here!

☐ I voted for the community group. Keep the kids here!

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. I want what's best for the kids. (Tell us what that is.)

☐ I voted for the community group. I want what's best for the kids. (Tell us what that is.)

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. I just want lower taxes.

- Cooling systems consist of several ductless split systems in various locations.
 - Window air conditioners are incidental, have been added as piecemeal appliances at selective locations, and are not addressed further within this report.
- Age/Condition:
- Ductless split system units do not provide code required outside fresh air of ventilation, and are not acceptable under applicable Pennsylvania State design guides.
- Code Issues:
- Not applicable.
 - The ductless split systems are not suitable for reuse and must be removed.

1.1.3 Underground Oil Tanks

General:

- A 6,000 gallon underground oil tank, located on the northeast side of the building, serves the two air handling units.
- An oil pump set, located in the mechanical room, transfers oil from the underground tanks to the oil-fired air handling units.

Age/Condition:

- The oil tank and pumps are over forty years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Any repair work resulting from leaks will subject the overall system to compliance with stringent, expensive Federal Environmental Requirements. Prudent evaluation of existing tank/piping system integrity and lead free performance is recommended.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The oil tank and oil pumps are not suitable for reuse or continued use, and must be replaced.

1.1.4 Automatic Temperature Control System

General:

- The automatic temperature control system is pneumatic and served by an air compressor located in the first floor mechanical room. Refer to Photograph A4 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- The control system appears to be over twenty years old and has far exceeded its useful service life.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The control system is not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.

1.1.5 Exhaust Systems

General:

- General and toilet room exhaust is provided by roof and wall mounted fans.

Age/Condition:

- The exhaust fans are over forty years old, have far exceeded their useful service lives, and are not meeting standard performance requirements.

Code Issues:

- Systems are unable to meet Pennsylvania State System Performance Requirements.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The exhaust systems are not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.

1.2 Plumbing Systems and Equipment

☐ I voted for the community group. I just want lower taxes.

☐ Other:

[View Results](#)
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Secret Meetings??

How important is it to you that the new school board members, who promised 'open and transparent governing' are holding secret meetings?

☐ Level 10+ This is huge

☐ Level 9

☐ Level 8

☐ Level 7 They shouldn't be doing this

☐ Level 6

☐ Level 5 Uncomfortable with the idea

☐ Level 4

☐ Level 3 No big deal

☐ Level 2

☐ Level 1

☐ Level 0 Meetings?

☐ Other:

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Labels

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[Archives 2007](#) (2)

[arrogance](#) (21)

[bad construction](#) (3)

[Bailey](#) (3)

[bankruptcy](#) (3)

1.2.1 Plumbing Fixtures

General:

- Plumbing fixtures consist of water closets, lavatories, water coolers and hand sinks located throughout the school. Refer to Photographs A5, A6, and A7 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- The majority of the plumbing fixtures appear to be at least thirty years old, have far exceeded their useful service lives, are in part faulty, and not capable of repair.

Code Issues:

- Systems are unable to meet Pennsylvania State System Performance Requirements.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- A majority of the plumbing fixtures are not suitable for continued use, much less reuse in an upgraded schoolhouse facility, and must be replaced.

1.2.2 Sanitary and Vent Piping

General:

- The visible piping is cast-iron and appears to be of original construction. Refer to Photograph A8 in Appendix "A".
- There are no reported problems with the main building sewer.

Age/Condition:

- Sanitary and vent piping system is over forty years old and has far exceeded its useful service life.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The sanitary and vent piping is not suitable for reuse in an upgraded facility with modern space program, and must be replaced.
- Reuse of the existing main building sewer under a modernized program of space should be reviewed with the Municipal Sewer Authority.

1.2.3 Domestic Water Piping

General:

- The visible piping is copper and appears to be of original construction.
- A 3-inch Municipal water service supplies the property via an entry at the garage on the northeast side of the building. There are no reported problems with the Municipal service entrance.

Age/Condition:

- The majority of the domestic water piping is reported to be over forty years old and has exceeded its useful service life.
- The Municipal Water Service Entrance Piping System appears to be at least twenty years old, and is unreliable at best.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable. Water tests should be conducted to determine lead content and quality of potable water.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The domestic water piping is not suitable for reuse in an updated, modernized program of space use, and must be replaced.
- The Municipal Water Company should be consulted to determine suitability of overall property water service entrance for expansion of useful capacity.

1.2.4 Domestic Water Heaters

General:

- Three, 120 gallon electric water heaters, located in an attached garage, provide domestic hot water to the building. Refer to Photograph A9 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- The water heaters appear to be less than 5 years old and are in good

BCCT (59)
BCIU (3)
board vacancy (7)
Bolos (6)
Borough Council (22)
Bristol (3)
Buckman (5)
Bucks Tech School (14)
budget (64)
budget in other districts (19)
bullying (1)
Burger (4)
Center Area-Monaca merger
 (3)
charter schools (1)
Cicero (1)
Citizens Action Plan (2)
comics (37)
Community Justice Project (
 1)
Curtin and Heefner (2)
DeAngelo (1)
defeasement (20)
development in other towns (
 9)
distress in other districts (47)
Dreisbach (4)
DRJ/TBA (1)
DRJTBC (1)
drugs (2)
Dunford (6)
DVHS (8)
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farming (36)
Farrell (16)
federal education policy (1)
federal funding (2)
First Suburbs (2)
Fitzpatrick (6)
Frankenfield (16)
Frankenfield Question (1)
Fratti (22)
free lunch (1)
free lunches; poverty (1)
Galloway (5)
Gateway (15)
Gehrens (1)
general education (6)
George Clymer (1)
Gibson (4)
Good Schools Pennsylvania (
 1)
Gould (1)
grade inflation (1)
Grandview (7)
grants (4)
Gym Night (1)
Halifax-Millersburg merger (
 1)

condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the water heaters.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The water heaters are suitable for reuse, depending on capacity to serve an expanded program of space use. The need for additional capacity must be determined.

1.3 Fire Protection Systems and Equipment

Automatic Fire Suppression

General:

- If substantial renovation is planned, a trade off cost study will be required to compare fire isolation affected by general construction barriers to full building fire sprinklering at \$4.00 per square foot.

1.4 Electrical Systems and Equipment

1.4.1 Electric Service Metering and Disconnects

General:

- An underground 4160 VAC Utility Company electrical service extends from a utility pole on Clymer Avenue to a transformer and distribution equipment located on the north side of the building. The 120/208 VAC 3-phase secondary, low voltage line feeds a fusible distribution panel that serves panels throughout the building. Refer to Photographs A10 and A11 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- Electrical service equipment, including the main transformer, is approximately forty years old and in poor condition, and a potential safety hazard. The transformer is assumed to contain "PCB's", and must be tested undercurrent, Federal Department of Environmental requirements.

Code Issues:

- A primary service disconnect switch required by applicable National Electrical Code sections for the building service is not present.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Electrical service equipment is not suitable for continued use, much less extension or reuse in a modernized program of space use. Transformer must be disposed of as an environmental, hazardous material, to conform with Local, State, and Federal Regulations.

1.4.2 Branch Circuit Panelboards

General:

- System includes recessed and surface mounted panelboards with branch circuit breakers located on first and second floor for general lighting and power.

Age/Condition:

- Branch circuit panelboards are approximately forty years old and are in poor condition.

The ability to safely interrupt fault current upon short circuit, or overload is highly suspect. Replacement circuit breakers are not available for these panels. The overall condition is unsafe for future use.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- All Electrical panelboard equipment throughout the building is not suitable for reuse, or continued use.

1.4.3 Interior Lighting Fixtures

[Heater \(14\)](#)
[Hellmann \(67\)](#)
[Hellmann 6 part plan \(1\)](#)
[Hellmann building report \(15\)](#)
[Historic Morrisville Society \(2\)](#)
[Huggins \(1\)](#)
[illegal students \(2\)](#)
[impeachment \(4\)](#)
[integrity \(15\)](#)
[Jones \(1\)](#)
[Jordan \(2\)](#)
[K-12 \(2\)](#)
[Kelly \(6\)](#)
[Kemp \(14\)](#)
[lame-duck \(1\)](#)
[Landmark Towns \(1\)](#)
[Lastician \(3\)](#)
[lawsuit \(1\)](#)
[leadership \(15\)](#)
[Ledger \(4\)](#)
[local business \(1\)](#)
[Magic Cottage \(1\)](#)
[Manning \(1\)](#)
[McIlhinney \(4\)](#)
[meeting reminder \(20\)](#)
[merger \(5\)](#)
[Mihok \(20\)](#)
[mo \(1\)](#)
[Morrisville Business Development \(3\)](#)
[Morrisville Community Events \(19\)](#)
[Morrisville Comprehensive Plan \(2\)](#)
[Morrisville District Reorganization \(1\)](#)
[Morrisville Tomorrow \(3\)](#)
[MSD students in action \(11\)](#)
[MV building survey \(4\)](#)
[Myers \(3\)](#)
[NCLB \(2\)](#)
[Neshaminy \(3\)](#)
[news from other districts \(18\)](#)
[North Penn \(1\)](#)
[NYT \(1\)](#)
[open records \(1\)](#)
[out of district students \(1\)](#)
[PA State law \(4\)](#)
[Panzitta \(6\)](#)
[PDE \(7\)](#)
[Pennsbury \(12\)](#)
[Pennsylvania School Funding Campaign \(2\)](#)
[Philadelphia Inquirer \(8\)](#)
[PJP \(2\)](#)
[PJRP \(3\)](#)
[poll \(7\)](#)
[poverty \(1\)](#)

General:

- Each classroom has three rows of recessed 1x4 two lamp T-12, fluorescent light fixtures.
- Morrisville School District Page 7 of 34 G&H No. 2005-224
- 2' x 4' recessed fixtures were added to increase light levels. Refer to Photograph A12 in Appendix "A" for typical classroom light fixtures.
- Corridor lighting is generally 2 x 4 lay-in with prismatic lens and T-12 lamps. Multi-purpose room lighting is 1 x 4 recessed with prismatic lens and T-12 lamps.

Age/Condition:

- Fluorescent light fixtures are approximately forty years old and are in poor condition with the exception of several 2 x 4 fixtures recently added to each classroom. All original fixture ballasts contain PCB, and are classified as HAZMAT.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Fluorescent light fixtures are not suitable for continued use, much less reuse in a modern program of space use.

1.4.4 Emergency Lighting

General:

- Battery powered 32 volt incandescent emergency lights are used in the corridors and are supplemented by emergency lighting units. Refer to Photograph A13 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- The 32 volt emergency lighting system is approximately forty years old, in poor

condition, of limited capacity, and may not now be operational.

Code Issues:

- The 32 volt emergency-only circuits are no longer permitted by the National Electrical

Code and applicable Pennsylvania State Regulations.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The 32 volt emergency lighting system is not suitable for reuse or continued use.

1.4.5 Exterior Lighting Fixtures

General:

- Wall mounted, photocell controlled HID fixtures are positioned around the building perimeter. Front entrance fixtures are recessed incandescent type with drop opal lens.

Age/Condition:

- HID exterior light fixtures are in good condition. The recessed front entrance lights are in poor condition.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- HID exterior lights are suitable for reuse, depending on the new program of space use.

The incandescent entrance lights are not suitable for reuse.

1.4.6 Fire Alarm and Fire Detection System

General:

- The fire alarm system is a zone coded system with pull stations and notification devices.
- Audio/visual alarm units are located in corridors and toilet rooms, but not in classrooms.
- Fire alarm control equipment is manufactured by Silent Night Company, and replacement parts are available. All alarms report to a central station. Refer to Photograph A14 in Appendix "A". The Owner reports no problems with false alarms.
- Smoke detectors are located in all corridors and toilet rooms.

[privacy](#) (3)
[propaganda](#) (2)
[PSBE](#) (1)
[PSSA scores](#) (1)
[PSSA Scores 2008](#) (10)
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[unethical, immoral](#) (2)
[Vitetta](#) (11)
[Wisnosky](#) (3)
[Worob Brenda](#) (18)
[Worob Steve](#) (17)
[Yonson](#) (18)

Morrisville Links

Age/Condition:

- Fire alarm and detection system equipment is approximately five years old and is in good conditions.

Code Issues:

- Classrooms must be equipped with audio/visual (AV) alarm units in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Fire alarm and detection system is suitable for extension, and reuse. The system must be expanded for addition of code required A/V alarm units.

1.4.7 Public Address System

General:

- The Public Address (PA) and communication equipment was manufactured by Bogen Company, and includes: control panel in the administration office; speakers in all classrooms, corridors and offices; and handsets that provide intercommunication between classrooms and the main office.

Age/Condition:

- PA system equipment is in fair condition and approximately eight years old.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the PA system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- PA system equipment is suitable for reuse.

1.4.8 Computer Data Network System

General:

- There are individual computers in the classrooms. A centralized network system does not exist.

1.4.9 Clock and Change of Class Program System

General:

- The original master clock has been replaced with a Lathom Corporation clock system. Replacement parts are available for this system. The clock control panel is located in the administration office and clocks are located in all classrooms. Refer to Photograph A15 in Appendix "A".

Age/Condition:

- Master clock is relatively new, but classroom clocks are forty years old and in poor condition.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The overall system is not suitable for reuse.

1.4.10 Security and Intrusion Detection System

General:

- Classrooms and entry corridor are protected with motion detectors and an audio alarm output device. The motion detectors are wired back to a central control panel. The motion detection system equipment is manufactured by Ultraguard, replacement parts are available.

Age/Condition:

- The intrusion detection system equipment is approximately two years old and is in good conditions.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the security system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Intrusion detection system is suitable for reuse and expansion.

Posted by Save The School at 8:02 AM

Labels: [Reiter](#)

► Jan 11 (4)

- ▶ Jan 10 (2)
- ▶ Jan 09 (5)
- ▶ Jan 08 (3)
- ▶ Jan 07 (2)
- ▶ Jan 06 (2)
- ▶ Jan 05 (3)
- ▶ Jan 04 (1)
- ▶ Jan 03 (1)
- ▶ Jan 01 (1)
- ▶ 2008 (842)
- ▶ 2007 (55)

About Me

SAVE THE SCHOOL
MORRISVILLE,
PENNSYLVANIA,
UNITED STATES

Concerned parent who
wants a future for this town
and its residents Mail to
savethemorrisvilleschool@ya
hoo.com

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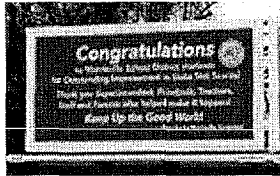
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Save The Morrisville School

Morrisville, in Lower Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is a colonial era town in the midst of transition into the 21st century. Taxes, personalities, and development all combine in a sometimes explosive mix. Come on in and join the discussion Email: savethemorrisvilleschool@yahoo.com

Student Achievement Billboard



Congratulations!

Board Job Approval December 2008

Do you support the current board of education?

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I approve of the current board completely.

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I somewhat approve of the current board.

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I somewhat disapprove of the current board.

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I do not approve of the current board at all.

☐ I voted for the community group. I approve of the current board completely.

☐ I voted for the community group. I somewhat approve of the current board.

☐ I voted for the community group. I somewhat disapprove of the current board.

☐ I voted for the community group. I do not approve of the current board at all.

☐ Other:

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SPECIAL MEETING of MVSBS Thursday January 29, 2009 to PERMANE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2008

So What's Grandview's Condition?

Let's take a look at the the 2005 buildings report to see how things looked almost four years ago at Grandview, where our kindergarteners are now temporarily housed. Keep in mind, every single person on the current board has seen this report. Angry Al Radosti, Brenda Worob, and Gloria Heater were members of the previous board who refused to believe this report was accurate and helped to bring conditions to where we are today.

2.0 Grandview Elementary

Executive Summary

Original 1954 Building: With the exception of the recently replaced clock system, the HVAC, P&D, FP, and EPT&D must be replaced.

1968 Addition: With the exception of the electrical service, wiring, main sanitary, fire alarm, public address, security and clock systems, HVAC, P&D, FP, and EPT&D.

2.1 Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Systems and Equipment

2.1.1 Air Handling Units

General:

- Two air handling units, with electric cooling and hot water heating, were installed in 1968. The air handling units, each dedicated to one large classroom in the 1968 Addition, have been abandoned in-place.
- An oil-fired air handling unit, located in the first floor mechanical room, serves offices and classroom in the original 1956 Building. Refer to Photograph B1 in Appendix "B".
- Air is distributed through a combination of galvanized steel ductwork and underground asbestos cement pipe. The asbestos cement pipe is limited to the original 1956 Building. Refer to Photograph B2 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- The air handling units and ductwork are approximately forty years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The air handling units and ductwork systems are not acceptable for reuse or continued use, and must be removed.

2.1.2 Boilers

General:

- Two oil-fired boilers, which generate space heating hot water for classroom and corridor heating, serve the HVAC equipment in the 1968 Addition. Refer to Photograph B4 in

Polladdy.com

M. R. Reiter Poll

Does today's news concerning the inferior oil furnace at M. R. Reiter surprise you? Multiple answers are accepted.

- ☐ I've heard about this problem for years.
- ☐ This is the first I've heard of it.
- ☐ This is a one time incident being overblown.
- ☐ This is a long term issue being ignored.
- ☐ The school board is handling our buildings well.
- ☐ The school board is NOT handling our buildings well.
- ☐ The borough council is blameless in this matter.
- ☐ The borough council has some responsibility in this matter.
- ☐ New Answer
- Other:

View Results
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**Farming Poll Part II:**

What do you think of tuitioning out the high school students?

- ☐ I voted for the stop the school group. Farm out the kids!
- ☐ I voted for the community group. Farm out the kids!
- ☐ I voted for the stop the school group. Keep the kids here!
- ☐ I voted for the community group. Keep the kids here!
- ☐ I voted for the stop the school group. I want what's best for the kids. (Tell us what that is.)
- ☐ I voted for the community group. I want what's best for the kids. (Tell us what that is.)
- ☐ I voted for the stop the school group. I just want lower taxes.

Appendix "B".

• Two base-mounted pumps circulate heating water throughout the 1968 Addition. Refer to Photograph B5 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- The boilers are approximately thirty-seven years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives;
- The base-mounted pumps appear to be approximately five years old and can be expected to last another ten to fifteen years. The space heating hot water system may not be the best system choice to serve an upgraded facility with modern space program.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the base-mounted pumps.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The boilers are not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.
- The pumps are not suited for the new HVAC systems and must be replaced.

2.1.3 Cooling System**General:**

- Classrooms in the 1968 Addition are equipped with through-wall units with direct expansion cooling coils, hot water heating coils and ventilation air provisions. Refer to Photograph B6 in Appendix "B".
- Supplemental cooling systems consist of several ductless split systems in various offices and classrooms. Refer to Photograph B7 in Appendix "B".
- Window air conditions are not addressed within this report.

Age/Condition:

- The through-wall air conditioning units are over thirty years old and beyond their useful service lives.
- Ductless split system units do not provide code required ventilation air and are not suitable for a schoolhouse occupancy.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The through-wall air conditioning units and ductless split systems are not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.

2.1.4 Underground Oil Tanks**General:**

- A 10,000 gallon underground oil tank, located on the west side of the 1968 mechanical room, serves the two hot water boilers. Refer to Photograph B8 in Appendix "B".
- An oil pump set, located in the first floor mechanical room, supplies oil from the underground tank to the boilers. Refer to Photograph B9 in Appendix "B".
- A 6,000 gallon underground oil tank, located on the south side of the 1956 mechanical room, serves the oil-fired air handling unit.

Age/Condition:

- The oil tanks and pumps are over forty years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Any repair work resulting from leaks will subject the overall system to compliance with stringent, expensive Federal Environmental Requirements. Prudent evaluation of existing tank/piping system integrity and lead free performance is recommended. Suitability for General Reuse:

- The oil tank and oil pumps are not suitable for reuse or continued use, and must be replaced.

2.1.5 Automatic Temperature Control System**General:**

- Automatic temperature control system is pneumatic and is served by

☐ I voted for the community group. I just want lower taxes.

☐ Other:

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Secret Meetings??

How important is it to you that the new school board members, who promised 'open and transparent governing' are holding secret meetings?

☐ Level 10+ This is huge

☐ Level 9

☐ Level 8

☐ Level 7 They shouldn't be doing this

☐ Level 6

☐ Level 5 Uncomfortable with the idea

☐ Level 4

☐ Level 3 No big deal

☐ Level 2

☐ Level 1

☐ Level 0 Meetings?

☐ Other:

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an air compressor located in the 1968 Boiler Room. Refer to Photograph B10 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- The control system appears to be over twenty years old and has far exceeded its useful service life.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The control system is not suitable for reuse, continued use, and must be replaced.

2.1.6 Exhaust System

General:

- General and toilet room exhaust is provided by roof mounted fans.

Age/Condition:

- The exhaust fans are over thirty years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The exhaust systems are not suitable for reuse and must be removed.

2.2 Plumbing Systems and Equipment

2.2.1 Plumbing Fixtures

General:

- Plumbing fixtures consist of water closets, urinals, lavatories, water coolers and hand sinks located throughout the school. Refer to Photographs B11 and B12 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- The majority of the plumbing fixtures appear to be at least thirty years old, have far exceeded their useful service lives, are in part faulty, and not capable of repair.

Code Issues:

- Systems are unable to meet Pennsylvania State System Performance Requirements.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- A majority of the plumbing fixtures are not suitable for continued use, much less reuse in an upgraded schoolhouse facility, and must be replaced.

2.2.2 Sanitary and Vent Piping

General:

- The piping is concealed in the construction and was not directly observed. For the purposes of this report, it is assumed the piping is cast-iron and of original construction.

- There are not reported problems with the main building sewer.

Age/Condition:

- Sanitary and vent piping system is over forty years old and has far exceeded its useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The sanitary and vent piping is not suitable for reuse in an upgraded facility with modern space program, and must be replaced.
- Reuse of the existing main building sewer under a modernized program of space should be reviewed with the Municipal Sewer Authority.

2.2.3 Domestic Water Piping

General:

- The visible piping is copper and the majority appears to be of original construction.

- A two-inch Municipal water service supplies the property via an entry

BCCT (59)
BCIU (3)
board vacancy (7)
Bolos (6)
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Burger (4)
Center Area-Monaca merger
 (3)
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Cicero (1)
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Community Justice Project (
 1)
Curtin and Heefner (2)
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development in other towns (
 9)
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Dunford (6)
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federal education policy (1)
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Frankenfield (16)
Frankenfield Question (1)
Fratti (22)
free lunch (1)
free lunches; poverty (1)
Galloway (5)
Gateway (15)
Gehrens (1)
general education (6)
George Clymer (1)
Gibson (4)
Good Schools Pennsylvania (
 1)
Gould (1)
grade inflation (1)
Grandview (7)
grants (4)
Gym Night (1)
Halifax-Millersburg merger (
 1)

at the mechanical room on the south side of the building. There are no reported problems with the service entrance.

Age/Condition:

- The majority of the domestic water piping is reported to be over forty years old and has exceeded its useful service life.
- The Municipal Water Service Entrance Piping System appears to be at least twenty years old, and is unreliable at best.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The domestic water piping is not suitable for reuse in an updated, modernized program of space use, and must be replaced.
- The Municipal Water Company should be consulted to determine suitability of overall property water service entrance for expansion of useful capacity.

2.2.4 Domestic Water Heaters

General:

- One small electric water heater, located in the 1956 mechanical room, provides domestic hot water to the plumbing fixtures in the original building. Refer to Photograph B13 in Appendix "B".

- A propane-fired water heater, located in the Boiler Room, serves plumbing fixtures in the 1968 Addition. Refer to Photograph B14 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- The electric water heater appears to be less than five years old and in good condition.
- The propane-fired water heater appears to be over twenty years old and beyond its useful service life. The system may be unsafe in view of the age of the existing system, and original safety devices now required of equipment manufacturers.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the electric water heaters.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The electric water heaters are suitable for reuse. The need for additional capacity must be determined.
- The propane-fired water heater is not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.

2.3 Fire Protection Systems and Equipment

2.3.1 Automatic Fire Suppression. If substantial renovation is planned, a trade off cost study will be required to compare fire isolation affected by general construction barriers to full building fire sprinklering at \$4.00 per square foot.

General:

- There are no automatic fire suppression systems in the building. If substantial renovation is planned, a trade off cost study will be required to compare fire isolation affected by general construction barriers to full building fire sprinklering at \$4.00 per square foot.

2.4 Electrical Systems and Equipment

2.4.1 Electric Service

General:

- An underground 4160 VAC electrical service runs from a PECO utility pole on Grandview Avenue to a 150 KVA unit substation with 120/208 VAC secondary located off the new boiler room. The electric service is metered "PD" rate. Refer to Photograph B15 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- Electrical service equipment is approximately thirty-five years old, and

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[poll \(7\)](#)
[poverty \(1\)](#)

is in fair condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the electric service.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The electrical service equipment is suitable for reuse, assuming that electrical load resulting from an expanded program of space use, does not exceed existing capacity.

2.4.2 Branch Circuit Panelboards

General:

- Branch circuit panels throughout the building supply lighting and general power circuits.

The majority of the panels are circuit breaker type except for the original fuse equipped main distribution panel.

Age/Condition:

- Branch circuit panelboards are approximately thirty-five years old, are in poor condition, and have far exceeded their useful life. Spare breakers are not available.

Code Issues:

- Panels in the main electric room have insufficient clearance, thereby failing to meet the National Electrical Code.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Panelboards are not suitable for reuse, or continued use.

2.4.3 Interior Lighting Fixtures

General:

- Each classroom has three rows of stem mounted, two lamp T-12, fluorescent direct/indirect light fixtures. Refer to Photograph B16 in Appendix "B" for typical classroom light fixtures. Corridor lighting is generally 2 x 4 lay-in with prismatic lens and T-12 lamps. Office lighting is 2 x 4 stem mounted with wrap around lens and T-12 lamps.

Age/Condition:

- Fluorescent light fixtures are thirty-five years old, are in poor conditions, are not energy efficient and contain "PCB" (HAZMAT) ballasts.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Light fixtures are not suitable for reuse, or continued use.

2.4.4 Emergency Lighting

General:

- Battery powered emergency light units are used in the corridors and lobby in the original building. The newer building has a 15 Kw emergency generator with automatic transfer switch, plug fuse panel, and incandescent lights.

Age/Condition:

- Emergency lighting units are in fair condition. The 15Kw emergency generator is about forty years old, and parts are unavailable.

Code Issues:

- The emergency-only circuits are no longer acceptable under applicable life safety code. Suitability for General Reuse:

- The entire emergency lighting system and generator are not suitable for reuse, or continued use.

2.4.5 Exterior Lighting Fixtures

General:

- External lighting fixtures are generally wall mounted incandescent floodlights and lights over exit doors.

Age/Condition:

[privacy](#) (3)
[propaganda](#) (2)
[PSBE](#) (1)
[PSSA scores](#) (1)
[PSSA Scores 2008](#) (10)
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[Worob Brenda](#) (18)
[Worob Steve](#) (17)
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Morrisville Links

- Exterior light fixtures are in poor condition and are not energy efficient.
- Code Issues:
- Not applicable.
- Suitability for General Reuse:
- Exterior lights are not suitable for reuse.

2.4.6 Fire Alarm and Fire Detection System

General:

- The fire alarm system is a non-coded addressable system with pull stations and notification devices.
- Audio/visual alarm units are located in corridors but do not serve toilet rooms or classrooms.

• Fire alarm control equipment is manufactured by Silent Night Company, and replacement parts are available. All alarms report to a central station. Refer to Photograph B17 in

Appendix "B". The Owner reports no problems with false alarms.

- None of the areas were equipped with heat or smoke detectors.

Age/Condition:

- Fire alarm and detection system equipment is approximately two years old and is in good condition.

Code Issues:

- Classrooms and toilet rooms do not have audio/visual alarm units, which does not comply in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act. Smoke detectors must be added to comply with latest codes.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Fire alarm system equipment is suitable for reuse. The system must be expanded for addition of code required smoke detectors and audio/visual alarm units.

2.4.7 Public Address System

General:

- The Public Address (PA) and communication equipment was manufactured by Bogen Company, and includes: control panel in the administration office; speakers in all classrooms, corridors and offices; and handsets that provide intercommunication between classrooms and the main office.

Age/Condition:

- The PA system is in good condition and is eight years old.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the PA system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- PA system equipment is suitable for reuse.

2.4.8 Computer Data Network System

General:

- There are individual computers in the classrooms. A centralized network system does not exist.

2.4.9 Clock and Change of Class Program System

General:

- The original master clock has been replaced with a Lathom Corporation clock system. Replacement parts are available for this system. The clock control panel is located in the administration office and clocks are located in all classrooms. Refer to Photograph B18 in Appendix "B".

Age/Condition:

- The master clock is approximately three years old and is in good

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► Jan 17 (4)

► Jan 16 (3)

► Jan 15 (2)

► Jan 14 (4)

► Jan 13 (3)

► Jan 12 (3)

► Jan 11 (4)

condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the clock system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The overall system is suitable for reuse.

2.4.10 Security and Intrusion Detection System

General:

- Classrooms and entry corridor are protected with motion detectors with an audio alarm output device. Ultraguard manufactured the equipment, replacement parts are available for this system.

Age/Condition:

- The intrusion detection system equipment is approximately three years old and is in good condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the security system

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Intrusion detection system is suitable for reuse and expansion.

Posted by Save The School at 7:10 AM

Reactions: [interesting \(\)](#) [boring \(\)](#) [tell me more \(\)](#)

3 comments:

Jon said...

They seem to prefer the \$2,500 Wicke Fisher White-style "walk-through quickly & don't open anything up" reports that Bill Hellmann orders up on his own, with only barn-door-already-open after-the-fact board majority authorization.

With this board majority, it's gotta be THEIR idea, even if it's terrible.

December 17, 2008 8:09 AM

Save The School said...

POSTED FOR A READER

Sorry - can't get my google account to work. This is a meant as a comment in response to the code issues you reported on at Grandview, not a separate posting. Thank you for putting that out there.

At last night's parent meeting it was mentioned that the borough will require M.R. Reiter to be in compliance with 2006 building code before re-entry. Past feasibility studies indicated that M.R. Reiter was not to code, and would require significant expenditures to get it there. The latest study from 2005 also pointed to significant code issues not just with Grandview but with the Middle/Senior High School as well. Of great concern to me at that time was the engineer's report that the airflow at the middle senior high was essentially backward from what it should be- in the event of a fire, smoke flows into the hallways, where students would be evacuating. It will take major renovations to fix this.

The bottom line is, all three of our buildings have potential health

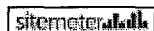
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About Me

SAVE THE SCHOOL
MORRISVILLE,
PENNSYLVANIA,
UNITED STATES

Concerned parent who
wants a future for this town
and its residents Mail to
savethemorrisvilleschool@ya
hoo.com

[View my complete profile](#)



and safety issues. We are between a rock and a hard place, and without some significant expenditure, it will not be fixed in a way that is acceptable to students or the learning process. There is no fairy godmother coming to make it better. The community needs to take responsibility. Are we going to wait for the next explosion?

[December 17, 2008 10:39 AM](#)

Jon said...

The clocks seem to work, so we've got that going for us. Time is marching on ...

[December 17, 2008 10:45 AM](#)

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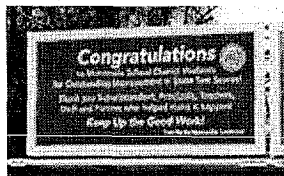
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Save The Morrisville School

Morrisville, in Lower Bucks County, Pennsylvania, is a colonial era town in the midst of transition into the 21st century. Taxes, personalities, and development all combine in a sometimes explosive mix. Come on in and join the discussion Email: savethemorrisvilleschool@yahoo.com

Student Achievement Billboard



Congratulations!

Board Job Approval December 2008

Do you support the current board of education?

☐ I voted for the stop the schoolers. I approve of the current board completely.

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☐ I voted for the community group. I do not approve of the current board at all.

☐ Other:

View Results



SPECIAL MEETING of MVSb Thursday January 29, 2009 to PERMANENT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2008

Is the High School Safe?

The 2005 buildings report also addressed the Middle-Senior High School, the building where most of our children are now located.

We anxiously await the (drum roll please) VITETTA REPORT! Yes, the answer to all our problems, Vitetta will swoop in and tell us what to do.

Let's see if this report gets distributed.

UPDATED: The Vitetta Report is available at the district website.

3.0 Morrisville High School

Executive Summary

With the exception of the main sanitary, fire alarm, security, public address, data and clock systems, the mechanical and electrical systems have exceeded their expected service lives and require replacement. Depending on the new program, portions of the emergency lighting and electrical distribution systems can be retained.

3.1 Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Systems and Equipment

3.1.1 Unit Ventilators and Air Handling Units

General:

- The majority of the classrooms, both in the original 1958 Building and the 1972 Addition are served by unit ventilators with hot water heating coils and ventilation air provisions. Ventilation is obtained both through the roof and through louvers on the exterior walls.
- Larger spaces, such as the gym, kitchen and the Instructional Materials Center are served by ducted air handling units with a hot water heating coil and outdoor air louvers.

Age/Condition:

- The unit ventilators, air handling units and ductwork are over thirty years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The unit ventilators, air handling units and ductwork systems are not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.

3.1.2 Boilers

General:

- Two oil-fired boilers, which serve HVAC equipment in the original 1968 Building, generate heating water for classroom and corridor heating. Refer to Photograph C1 in Appendix "C".
- Two oil-fired boilers, which were installed during the 1972 Addition, generate steam to serve heat exchangers. The heat exchangers use the boiler steam to provide heating water for the classrooms, corridors, and

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M. R. Reiter Poll

Does today's news concerning the inferior oil furnace at M. R. Reiter surprise you? Multiple answers are accepted.

☐ I've heard about this problem for years.

☐ This is the first I've heard of it.

☐ This is a one time incident being overblown.

☐ This is a long term issue being ignored.

☐ The school board is handling our buildings well.

☐ The school board is NOT handling our buildings well.

☐ The borough council is blameless in this matter.

☐ The borough council has some responsibility in this matter.

☐ New Answer

Other:

View Results
Polladdy.com

**Farming Poll Part II:**

What do you think of tuitioning out the high school students?

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. Farm out the kids!

☐ I voted for the community group. Farm out the kids!

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. Keep the kids here!

☐ I voted for the community group. Keep the kids here!

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. I want what's best for the kids. (Tell us what that is.)

☐ I voted for the community group. I want what's best for the kids. (Tell us what that is.)

☐ I voted for the stop the school group. I just want lower taxes.

office spaces. Refer to Photograph C2 in Appendix "C".

- Two base-mounted pumps circulate the heating water throughout the 1968 Building.

Refer to Photograph C3 in Appendix "C".

Age/Condition:

- The boilers and heat exchangers are all over thirty years old and at the end of their useful service lives.

- The base-mounted pumps appear to be approximately five years old, in fair condition, and can be expected to last another ten to fifteen years.

Code Issues:

- There are not apparent code issues related to the base-mounted pumps.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The boilers and heat exchangers, have exceeded their useful lives, are not suitable for reuse or continued use, and must be replaced.

- The pumps are not suited for new energy efficient HVAC systems required by a new program of space use, and must be replaced.

3.1.3 Cooling System

General:

- An existing air handling unit, which serves the Instructional Materials Center was retrofitted with a cooling coil and remote condensing unit in 1996. The dedicated condensing unit, rated for 30 tons cooling, is located in the open courtyard adjacent to the Instructional Materials Center.

- A 5-ton rooftop unit, installed in 1995, serves a conference room and the Business Manager's Office Area.

- A 10-ton split system, installed in 1997, serves several offices on the west side of the open courtyard.

- Window air conditioners are incidental, have been added as piecemeal appliances at selective locations, and are not addressed further within this report.

Age/Condition:

- The existing air handling unit serving the Instructional Materials Center, as mentioned previously, is beyond it useful service life. Refer to Article 3.2.1 above.

- The 30-ton condensing unit, 5-ton rooftop unit and 10-ton split system are approximately ten years old and can be expected to last another five to eight years.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the cooling system equipment.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The 30-ton condensing unit, 5-ton rooftop unit and 10-ton split system, depending on the planned renovations and new program of space use at the existing unit locations, could be reused.

3.1.4 Underground Oil Tanks

General:

- There are two 12,000 gallon underground oil tanks, one located adjacent to each boiler room. Refer to Photograph C4 in Appendix "C".

- Oil pumps, located at each boiler, supplies oil from the underground tank to the boilers.

Refer to Photograph C5 in Appendix "C".

- A 5,000 gallon underground oil tank, which originally served an emergency generator, has been abandoned in-place.

Age/Condition:

- The oil tanks and pumps are over forty years old and have far exceeded their useful service lives.

Code Issues:

- Any repair work resulting from leaks will subject the overall system to compliance with stringent, expensive Federal Environmental Requirements. Prudent evaluation of existing tank/piping system integrity and lead free performance is recommended.

☐ I voted for the community group. I just want lower taxes.

☐ Other:

[View Results](#)

PollDaddy.com



Secret Meetings??

How important is it to you that the new school board members, who promised 'open and transparent governing' are holding secret meetings?

☐ Level 10+ This is huge

☐ Level 9

☐ Level 8

☐ Level 7 They shouldn't be doing this

☐ Level 6

☐ Level 5 Uncomfortable with the idea

☐ Level 4

☐ Level 3 No big deal

☐ Level 2

☐ Level 1

☐ Level 0 Meetings?

☐ Other:

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[Bailey \(3\)](#)

[bankruptcy \(3\)](#)

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The oil tanks and oil pumps are not suitable for reuse or continued use, and must be replaced.

3.1.5 Automatic Temperature Control System

General:

- Automatic temperature control system is pneumatic and served by multiple air compressors located in each Boiler Room.

Age/Condition:

- The control system appears to be over twenty years old and has far exceeded its useful service life.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The control system is not suitable for reuse or continued use, and must be replaced.

3.1.6 Exhaust Systems

General:

- General and toilet room exhaust is provided by roof mounted fans.

Age/Condition:

- The exhaust fans are over forty years old, have far exceeded their useful service lives, and are not meeting standard performance requirements.

Code Issues:

- Systems are unable to meet Pennsylvania State System Performance Requirements.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The exhaust systems are not suitable for reuse and must be replaced.

3.2 Plumbing Systems and Equipment

3.2.1 Plumbing Fixtures

General:

- Plumbing fixtures consist of water closets, urinals, lavatories, showers, water coolers and hand sinks in various locations throughout the school. Refer to Photographs C6 and C7 in Appendix "C".

Age/Condition:

- The majority of the plumbing fixtures appear to be at least thirty years old, have far exceeded their useful service lives, are in part faulty, and not capable of repair.

Code Issues:

- Systems are unable to meet Pennsylvania State System Performance Requirements.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- A majority of the plumbing fixtures are not suitable for continued use, much less reuse in an upgraded schoolhouse facility, and must be replaced.

3.2.2 Sanitary and Vent Piping

General:

- The piping is concealed in construction and was not directly observed. For the purposes of this report, it is assumed the piping is cast-iron and of original construction.

- There are no reported problems with the main building sewer.

Age/Condition:

- Sanitary and vent piping system is over thirty years old and has far exceeded its useful service life.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The domestic water piping is not suitable for reuse in an updated, modernized program of space use, and must be replaced.
- The Municipal Water Company should be consulted to determine suitability of overall property water service entrance for expansion of

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[grants \(4\)](#)
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useful capacity.

3.2.3 Domestic Water Piping

General:

- The visible piping is copper and the majority appears to be of original construction.
- A four-inch Municipal water service supplies the property via an entry at the 1973 mechanical room on the south side of the building. There are no reported problems with the service entrance.

Age/Condition:

- The majority of the domestic water piping system is over thirty years old, has far exceeded its useful service life.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The domestic water piping is not suitable for reuse in an updated, modernized program of space use, and must be replaced.
- The Municipal Water Company should be consulted to determine suitability of overall property water service entrance for expansion of useful capacity.

3.2.4 Domestic Water Heaters

General:

- Two propane-fired water heaters with storage tank, located in the 1973 Boiler Room, serve plumbing fixtures in the 1973 Addition. Refer to Photograph C8 in Appendix "C".

Age/Condition:

- The propane-fired water heaters are approximately eight years old and are in fair condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the propane-fired water heaters.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The water heaters are suitable for reuse, depending on capacity to serve an expanded program of space use. The need for additional capacity must be determined.

3.3 Fire Protection Systems and Equipment

3.3.1 Automatic Fire Suppression

General:

- There are no automatic fire suppression systems in the building. If substantial renovation is planned, a trade off cost study will be required to compare fire isolation affected by general construction barriers to full building fire sprinklering at \$4.00 per square foot.

3.4 Electrical Systems and Equipment

3.4.1 Electric Service

General:

- Three-Phase underground 4160 VAC electric service conductors originate from PECO utility pole located next to Palmer Street. The service conductor conduits enter the building and into a 500 KVA unit substation with 120/208VAC secondary located off the old boiler room. Refer to Photograph C9 in Appendix "C". The electric service is metered at the Utility Company Primary Distribution, "PD" rate.

Age/Condition:

- The original District owned, 1958 vintage Federal Pacific Main Dry Transformer failed within the past five years. Temporary emergency service expenses alone, including premium time, and a rental transformer over several months is reported to have cost more than \$9,000.00. The permanent, new replacement is said to have cost more than \$30,000.00, again based on premium time, and tight space constraints in the electrical vault.
- Electrical service equipment, with the exception of the transformer

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which was just recently replaced, is more than thirty years old, in poor condition, and the manufacturer is no longer in business.

Code Issues:

- The transformer secondary is not protected by a main circuit breaker, as required by applicable life safety sections of the National Electric Code.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The Electric service equipment (Federal Pacific) lost UL Certification in 1981, the existing equipment is unsafe for continued use, much less future use.

3.4.2 Service Entrance Switchboard

General:

- The switchboard's six (6) air circuit breakers supply the entire building. These breakers (Federal Pacific) are no longer manufactured and the company is out of business. Refer to Photograph C10 in Appendix "C".

Age/Condition:

- Electrical service switchboard is more than thirty years old and in poor condition, manufacturer is no longer in business and parts are unavailable.

Code Issues:

- The switchboard does not meet current life safety codes.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Service entrance switchboard is not acceptable for present use, much less extended use for a new space program.

3.4.3 Branch Circuit Panelboards

General:

- Breaker circuit panels throughout the building supply lighting and general power circuits. There is a lack of available spaces for additional branch circuit breakers in these panels. Refer to Photograph C11 in Appendix "C" for a typical branch circuit panelboard.

Age/Condition:

- Branch circuit panelboards are more than thirty years old, and the manufacturer (Federal Pacific) is no longer in business. Replacement circuit breakers are not available for these panels.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Panelboards throughout the building are not acceptable for present use, much less in a new space use program.

3.4.4 Interior Lighting Fixtures

General:

- Each classroom has three rows of stem mounted, two lamp T-12, fluorescent direct/ indirect light fixtures. Refer to Photograph C12 in Appendix "C" for typical classroom light fixtures. Corridor lighting is generally 2 x 4 lay-in with prismatic lens and T-12 lamps. Office lighting is 2 x 4 lay-in with 1/2" parabolic louvers and T-12 lamps.

Age/Condition:

- Fluorescent light fixtures throughout the building are between thirty and forty years old and are in fair condition, but are not energy efficient and contain "PCB" ballasts.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Interior light fixtures and exit signs, located throughout the building, are not suitable for reuse.

3.4.5 Emergency Lighting and Power Distribution

General:

[privacy](#) (3)
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[PSSA Scores 2008](#) (10)
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[Rivella](#) (6)
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[Sandy Gibson rule](#) (3)
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[teachers union](#) (15)
[teaching vacancies](#) (2)
[testing in other districts](#) (4)
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[Trenton Times](#) (2)
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[Vitetta](#) (11)
[Wisnosky](#) (3)
[Worob Brenda](#) (18)
[Worob Steve](#) (17)
[Yonson](#) (18)

Morrisville Links

• A diesel fueled 35Kw Onan Emergency generator and automatic transfer switch is located in the new boiler room and supplies power to life safety systems, emergency lighting, and one boiler and pump.

Age/Condition:

• The generator and transfer switch is less than two years old and in good condition.

Code Issues:

• There are no apparent code issues related to the generator and transfer switch.

Suitability for General Reuse:

• The generator and transfer switch are suitable for reuse.

3.4.6 Exterior Lighting Fixture

General:

• Pole mounted HID lighting fixtures are used in the parking lot using photocells for control. HID lights are mounted around perimeter of building for security lighting.

Age/Condition:

• Exterior HID light fixtures are in acceptable condition.

Code Issues:

• There are no apparent code issues related to the exterior lighting fixtures.

Suitability for General Reuse:

• Exterior Light fixtures are suitable for reuse.

3.4.7 Fire Alarm and Fire Detection System

General:

• The fire alarm system is a non-coded addressable system with pull stations and notification devices.

• Audio/visual alarm units are located in corridors and toilet rooms.

• Fire alarm control equipment is manufactured by Silent Night Company, and replacement parts are available. All alarms report to a central station. Refer to Photograph C13 in Appendix "C". The Owner reports no problems with false alarms.

• Only a few smoke and heat detectors were observed.

Age/Condition:

• Fire alarm detection system equipment is less than two years old and in good condition.

Code Issues:

• Audio/Visual alarm units are not located in each classroom and office space, which fails to meet regulations of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Suitability for General Reuse:

• Fire alarm and detection system equipment is suitable for reuse. The system must be expanded for addition of code required smoke detectors and audio/visual alarm units.

3.4.8 Public Address System

General:

• The Public Address (PA) and communication equipment was manufactured by Bogen Company, and includes: control panel in the administration office; speakers in all classrooms, corridors and offices; and handsets that provide intercommunication between classrooms and the main office.

Age/Condition:

• PA system equipment is approximately ten years old and in fair condition. Replacement parts are available for this system.

Code Issues:

• There are no apparent code issues related to the PA system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

• PA system equipment is suitable for reuse.

3.4.9 Computer Data Network System

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► Jan 17 (4)

► Jan 16 (3)

► Jan 15 (2)

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► Jan 13 (3)

► Jan 12 (3)

► Jan 11 (4)

General:

- Minimal data network outlets are located in each classroom. The data outlets are wired to a central data network patch panel. The data network system components are Category 5 rated.

Age/Condition:

- Data network system equipment is in good condition and is approximately seven years old. The data network file server equipment is approximately five years old.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the data network system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Data network system equipment is suitable for continued use.

Extensions will be required to suite the new program of use.

3.4.10 Clock and Change of Class Program System

General:

- Lathom Corporation manufactured the clock system. Replacement parts are available for this system. The clock control panel is located in the administration office and clocks are located in all classrooms. Refer to Photograph C14 in Appendix "C".

Age/Condition:

- Clock control panel and all clocks are between five and ten years old and in good condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the clock system equipment.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Clock system equipment is suitable for reuse and expansion.

3.4.11 Security and Intrusion Detection System

General:

- Building intrusion detection system equipment includes motion detectors in corridors and selected classrooms wired to control equipment in the first floor Small Group Instruction Room. Audio alarms are located on each floor in the corridor. Napco manufactured the motion detection system equipment and replacement parts are available.

Age/Condition:

- Intrusion detection system equipment is two to three years old and is in good condition.

Code Issues:

- There are no apparent code issues related to the intrusion detection system.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- Intrusion detection system equipment is suitable for reuse and expansion.

3.4.12 Auditorium Lighting and Dimming System

General:

- Lighting in the auditorium is recessed incandescent fixtures connected to the dimming system. Lighting level is generally poor and lamps are continually being replaced at significant expense.

- The dimming panel and remote control unit are forty years old, substantially inoperative, no longer in production, and parts are unavailable. The sound system is also of the same vintage. Both Sound and Stage Lighting Control Systems are not suitable for present use, much less extended use in an upgraded facility with modern space program.

- The stage lighting appears to be adequate, but the stage spotlights are forty years old and not energy efficient.

Age/Condition:

- The lighting and dimming system is approximately forty years old, and

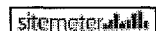
- Jan 10 (2)
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- Jan 07 (2)
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- Jan 03 (1)
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About Me

SAVE THE SCHOOL
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wants a future for this town
and its residents Mail to
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hoo.com

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in poor condition.

Code Issues:

- There is insufficient working space around the dimming rack.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The lighting and dimming system are not suitable for reuse.

3.4.13 Gymnasium Lighting

General:

- Lighting fixtures are twin hi-bay lighting fixtures with one mercury vapor lamp and one incandescent lamp on separate circuits.
- The mercury vapor lamp is inefficient compared to the newer HID light source.

Age/Condition:

- The lighting fixtures are approximately forty years old, and no longer made. Spare parts are not available.

Code Issues:

- Not applicable.

Suitability for General Reuse:

- The lighting system is not suitable for reuse.

Posted by Save The School at 9:02 AM

Labels: [Vitetta](#)

Reactions: interesting (0) boring (0) tell me more (0)

2 comments:

Peter said...

Since lighting hasn't really been discussed much, I am including a link to the EPA that discusses the risk of PCB's (i.e. the aforementioned PCB ballasts)

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/toxic/pcb/index.html>

This can be problematic as the ballasts age they can crack and leak.

December 18, 2008 10:11 AM

Jon said...

Last night Vitetta confirmed what I suspected:

Vitetta studied the windows, electrical, lighting, piping, heating/cooling systems at the 3 schools AS THEY CURRENTLY EXIST, and provided "budgetary" cost estimates for the various items/systems studied. In the engineering world, "budgetary" normally means + or - 30%, something I'm wondering if Hellmann & Co. is considering? Remember how new school Architect Bink's budgetary estimates were crapped on as way too low, even though the final actual bids were pretty much right on target?

HOWEVER, Vitetta DID NOT study or investigate any additional renovations, design or configuration changes, logistical considerations, regulatory or code issues, etc. associated with putting elementary school students into the Middle-High School.

I'm not knocking Vitetta, they performed the scope of work they were

directed to perform by the board. The board just didn't give them the right scope. It wasn't comprehensive enough.

So, 13 months into this new board, THE BOTTOM LINE is:

THESE STUDIES STILL DON'T ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT PUTTING ELEMENTARY STUDENTS LONG-TERM INTO THE MSHS. And that's really sad. Because it could have been done right starting in December 2007, when this board 1st took office. Hellmann & Co. squashed it - too complicated, too expensive, too much red tape.

Unfortunately, the board voted 5-3 last night (with Kemp, Reithmeyer, and Heater against) to move ahead with the permanent closing of MR Reiter. There will be a public hearing soon. Does anyone think it won't be closed?

The 5 who voted yes (Hellmann, Mihok, Worob, Buckman, Farrell) did so WITHOUT EVEN HAVING (OR AT BEST HAVING A VERY SHORT TIME TO REVIEW) VITETTA'S REPORT, A REPORT THAT DOESN'T EVEN ANSWER SOME IMPORTANT FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE ANSWERED BEFORE DECIDING TO CLOSE A SCHOOL.

Why, why, oh why can't this board majority realize that it's OK and not a sign of weakness to admit that you don't know everything (nobody does), and try to do the right thing instead of half-a**ing it all the time?

December 18, 2008 11:20 AM

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EXHIBIT D

EXISTING SYSTEMS EVALUATION

AT

MORRISVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
550 WEST PARK AVENUE
MORRISVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

FOR THE

Morrisville School District
Home of the Bulldogs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PREPARED BY



COMMISSION NUMBER 080018
JANUARY 30, 2008

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Appendix

Table 3 - Estimates of Service Lives of Various System Components
Table 6-1 - Minimum Ventilation Rates in Breathing Zone

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Appendix

Table 3 - Estimates of Service Lives of Various System Components

Table 6-1 - Minimum Ventilation Rates in Breathing Zone

Section 1 - Purpose

Wick Fisher White was engaged by Mr. William Hellmann, President, of the Morrisville School District Board of Directors, to evaluate the major infrastructure components of the existing high school. Specifically he asked that we look at the HVAC (boilers), plumbing, electrical and windows to determine if they should be repaired, replaced, or left as is.

Section 2 - Summary

Wick Fisher White made a site visit on Thursday January 17, 2008 to the Morrisville High School. We met with Mr. Tim Lastichen, Maintenance Supervisor, School Board members Ms. Marllys Mihok and Mr. Bill Farrell and Mr. Woody Shull, an invited guest of Mr. Farrell. We discussed known issues and problems that the School has been experiencing.

We then reviewed some of the drawings that were available and toured the building. We did not have access to complete sets of as-built drawings. Our drawing review was limited to only those that were accessible.

Our observations were limited to those portions of the building which were viewed during the walk-thru. Wick Fisher White did not remove covers of any electrical panels, switchboards, take any samples, perform any tests on building materials or equipment, or perform any calculations to verify the capacity of existing equipment.

We did not perform any environmental investigations, such as asbestos audits, insect infestations, hazardous or toxic materials survey or monitoring and, therefore, assume no liability for the work or opinions of any other independent consultants engaged to perform those investigations.

We did not perform any investigation in regard to potential building code issues, such as building egress or accessibility.

Section 3 - Description of the Existing Facility

Mechanical Systems

The Morrisville High School encompasses approximately 170,000 square feet. The building is comprised of two distinct sections, the original building, constructed in the early 1960's, and the addition, completed in 1974.

Heat for the school is provided by oil-fired, hot water boilers, manufactured by Superior Boiler. Two boilers serve the original building, and two boilers serve the addition. All four of the boilers and their associated pumps, piping, power and controls are original to their specific building. The original building and addition heating systems are completely independent of each other. According to School District personnel, each building is adequately heated by of its associated boilers, "on all but the coldest days."

There are two single wall, underground, steel tanks for storage of the #2 oil utilized by the boilers. Both underground tanks, and their associated piping, pumps, power and controls original, specific to their respective buildings.

The heating hot water pumps in each building send heating hot water to various unit heaters, finned tube radiation, classroom ventilators, and hot water heating coils throughout the school. A weighted bypass valve is installed between the supply and return to maintain water flow and prevent dead heading of the pumps

The auditorium, gymnasium, lockers rooms and other spaces are served by various H&V units, equipped with hot water coils.

Typical classrooms are conditioned via a classroom ventilator, located on the outside wall of each classroom. The classroom ventilators are designed to provide the classroom with the code required amounts of ventilation (outside) air, and provide heat via a hot water coil. Each classroom ventilator has a fan speed selector switch to allow the instructors some level of local control. Transfer grilles are located on the interior walls of the classrooms and are ducted to a

central exhaust fan to relieve the space of the pressure from the introduction of ventilation air. Typical classrooms are not air-conditioned. Window air conditioning units have been added to some rooms, and dedicated direct expansion split system air conditioners were added to the Library and a computer classroom.

A single make-up air unit serves the kitchen. It has a hot water heating coil to temper the outside air prior to delivering it to the space. There are multiple kitchen exhaust hoods served by dedicated rooftop exhaust fans. A dedicated rooftop exhaust fan also serves the dishwasher exhaust. The cafeteria is equipped with ceiling fans.

Gang toilet rooms in each wing are served by dedicated rooftop exhaust fans. Door louvers are utilized to obtain make-up air from the common corridors for the toilet rooms.

The buildings are equipped with Pneumatic controls.

Plumbing Systems

The plumbing systems in each of the building has remained largely unaltered since their installation. There is a single domestic water service that was extended to the addition. Two gas fired domestic water heaters provide the entire building with domestic hot water. There is also a domestic hot water storage tank with a capacity of approximately 250 gallons.

Natural gas is piped to the science classrooms serving burners at the teachers desk as well as student lab stations around the classroom.

Group toilet rooms in each wing are equipped with floor mounted water closets, floor mounted urinals, and wall mounted lavatories. Flushometers in the original building are concealed in common chases, between the toilet rooms. The addition utilizes some exposed flushometers.

Electrical System

The existing main electrical system of the school consists of a 500kVA, 4160V-208/120V single ended substation in the main electrical room in the original building. The substation was installed in 1960 when the school was built, and was manufactured by Federal Pacific. It serves both the original building and the addition. The secondary switchgear of the substation is rated 1600A, with a 1600A main breaker and five distribution breakers. All circuit breakers are draw-out type.

All the branch distribution panels throughout the facility are manufactured by Federal Pacific. They are a mix of fusible and circuit breaker panelboards.

Classrooms throughout the facility have very limited wiring devices. Additional power wiring devices were added to accommodate present needs.

The school has a 35kW standby diesel generator manufactured by Cummins power Generation to serve emergency lighting throughout the facility. It also serves the fire alarm main control panel, and one boiler with its associated pump in the addition.

Lighting

All the luminaires within the facility are with T12 lamp and manual control switches. High Intensity Discharge (HID) type fixtures are utilized in the gymnasium. Incandescent lights and spotlights are utilized for the stage in the auditorium. The stage lighting is controlled by its dedicated dimmer control panel.

Fire Alarm System

The fire alarm system has been replaced recently by school personnel. It is a Silent Knight IFP-1000, an analog addressable system. Smoke detectors are provided in the electrical room, or above the main distribution panel. Pullstations and strobes are provided throughout the facility.

Clock System

The clock system is a Lathem model LTR6-128 program time controller located in the main office area. Secondary clocks in instructional areas and offices have been replaced by school personnel.

Public Addressable and Intercom System

The public addressable and intercom system is a Bogen model TPS-4, self-contained system located in main office area.

Section 4 - Observations

Boilers - Original Building

The Original Building boilers are of the original construction and have been in service for nearly 50 years. They are in fair to poor condition, and have well exceeded their anticipated service life of 25 - 30 years. Maintenance reports of leaks in the shell and pipe connections have been repaired, requiring reinspection for certification. Insulation on the shell is failing.

Boilers - Building Addition

As with the original building boilers, the building addition boilers are of the original 1974 construction and have been in service for nearly 35 years. They are in fair to poor condition, and have well exceeded their anticipated service life of 25 - 30 years. Maintenance reports that leaks in the shell and pipe connections have been repaired, requiring reinspection for certification. Insulation on the shell is failing.

Heating Hot Water Pumps - Original Building and Addition

As with the boilers, the existing heating hot water pumps are of the original construction and have been in service for nearly 50 and 35 years, respectively. They are in fair to poor condition, and have well exceeded their anticipated service life of 20 years.

Automatic Temperature Controls - Original Building and Addition

The pneumatic control system in both buildings has numerous failures and become nearly inoperable. This is a source of wasteful consumption of electricity and fuel for the boilers. The boilers are turned on and off manually. Temperature setpoints are also adjusted manually.

Heating Hot Water Piping - Original Building

The existing heating hot water piping is of the original construction and has been in service for nearly 50 years, and has approached the end of its anticipated service life. Lack of isolation valves restricts maintenance options. Repairs cannot be made without draining the entire system. Failed control valves compromise the comfort of the classroom occupants.

Heating Hot Water Piping - Addition

The existing heating hot water piping is of the original construction and has been in service for nearly 35 years. Lack of isolation valves restricts maintenance options. Repairs cannot be made without draining the entire system. Failed control valves compromise the comfort of the classroom occupants.

Classroom Ventilation Units - Original Building and Addition

The existing classroom unit ventilators are of the original construction and have been in service for nearly 50 and 35 years, respectively. Their respective outside air dampers are not functioning. The dampers are closed, or stuck in one position. With no control of the heating temperature, teachers turn their unit ventilator fans on to provide heat, or off when the room is too warm. Turning off the fan eliminates any ventilation air to the space, which makes it impossible to deliver the code required amounts of ventilation air to an occupied classroom.

Common Relief Air Fans - Original Building and Addition

The common ventilation fans are intended to relieve the outside air, which is brought into each classroom by the classroom ventilator. The exhaust fans are not running. This reduces the amount of ventilation air that is delivered to each classroom. This is in violation of current code requirements, and can lead to sick building syndrome.

Kitchen Make Up Air Unit

H&V unit does not operate. The kitchen hood exhaust fans draw air from the rest of the school, creating infiltration of untreated outside air.

Auditorium H&V Unit

The flexible connection on the return air duct is torn the length of the unit. This creates a negative pressure situation in the closet in which it is located, creates increased noise from the unit, and reduces the airflow to and from the auditorium. Operating in this manner greatly reduces the unit efficiency, and compromises the comfort of the occupants.

Emergency Generator

The emergency generator exhaust piping appears to be installed using conduit, which is suited to protect electrical wiring. Temporary repairs to duct connections appear to have been made with duct tape, and present a potential fire hazard.

Plumbing/Fire Protection

Kitchen Exhaust Hoods:

The kitchen exhaust hoods are not equipped with automatic fire suppression systems.

Natural Gas to Science Classroom(s):

The shutoff for the gas to the science classroom is located within the base cabinet, under the teacher's desk. There is no emergency shutoff or solenoid at the door.

Domestic Water Service:

There is no backflow prevention device on the domestic water service. The installation includes a bypass around the water meter, and there is a hose valve piped off of it. This is in violation of most water utility requirements.

Sanitary and Waste Piping:

Multiple flushometers were observed to be leaking and failing.

Wastes from the emergency eye wash receptor and the hand sink in dishwashing room are not individually trapped.

No ADA compliant plumbing fixtures were observed.

Food prep and other sinks in the kitchen utilize "S" traps, and are hard connected to the sanitary system, therefore, not protected from backflow. This can lead to the potential contamination of food in the sinks. This is in violation of current plumbing codes.

Windows

The existing windows in both the Original building and the Addition are single pane glass in metal frames. The concern expressed by the school board was that the size of the windows allows too much heat gain, (and loss). The seals around the older windows have deteriorated and allow increased amounts of outside air infiltration.

Electrical System

The substation is in fair condition. The school has recently replaced its original installed transformer with a dry-type. It is presently loaded to about 80% of its capacity based on the maximum history demand of this facility. The maximum recorded demand (obtained from PECO) was 386kW at almost unity power factor in November, 2007. The substation is loading at its capacity. Furthermore, the main electrical room has no room to grow. The main electrical system would need to upgrade if building load is increased (i.e. air conditioning the building).

Both the primary and the secondary switchgear were cleaned and tested in August, 2006 by Reuter Hanney, Inc., electrical testing specialists. It was reported that the 5kV breaker failed on insulation resistance test, and that all the distribution breakers on the secondary switchgear failed to trip at its ratings. The existing 5kV primary breaker should be reconditioning, and the defective trip units of the secondary distribution breakers should be replaced to ensure the electrical system is safe and reliable.

Most of the branch panels installed in the original building have no spaces or spare circuits for additional loads, and they are in poor to fair condition. Federal Pacific manufacturer is no longer active in this sector of the industry. Replacement of parts is expensive, and they are becoming more difficult to obtain. Hence, additional loads were added to the existing circuits. It creates nuisance tripping on the circuits, hot spots in the panel, and could lead to fire hazards. Branch panels in the addition have spaces for growth, and are in good condition.

The school does not have an up-to-date electrical single line diagram showing the complete distribution system through out the building.

The 35kW existing standby diesel generator is about three years old, and is the replacement of its original unit. It is in very good condition.

Lighting

In general, all spaces have adequate lighting level and they are in fair to good condition, with the exception of the cafeteria. Luminaires in the cafeteria area are with straps to secure the prismatic lens, and they should be replaced.

The school is gradually replacing the high intensity discharge type fixtures in the gymnasium.

The lighting and its dimming control for the stage in the auditorium are the original installed units. It was reported that the sockets of the luminaires are wearing out. Parts of the dimming control system are obsolete, and repairs and part replacements have become a source of concern.

Fire Alarm System

The fire alarm system is approximately three years old. It is in very good condition. However, the location of pullstations and strobes are not in compliance with fire alarm code. Pullstations are not installed within 5-feet from all entrances. Some strobes are installed too high and fail to comply with ADA requirements. The system is functioning, but code issues need to be addressed.

Clock System

The clock system is in good condition. It is the original clock system since the school was built. It is an obsolete system and parts are hard to obtain. Secondary clocks in instructional areas and offices have been gradually replaced by school personnel. The system is functioning.

Public Address and Intercom System

The public address and intercom system is in good condition. Speakers throughout the facility have been replaced by school personnel.

Section 5 - Recommendations

Our recommendations assume the Morrisville School District is intending to make a commitment to occupy and utilize the school for the foreseeable future. We have arranged our recommendations in order of decreasing priority. The more urgent actions are listed first. Associated costs are intended to represent an order-of-magnitude estimates only. There are many variables that will impact the actual costs of this work that are beyond the scope of this study, such as general construction or other trade work associated with the listed tasks, school programming, and construction phasing. Major work may require the entire building, or significant portions of the school, to be closed for extended periods of time until the work is completed.

Immediate Action

1. Recondition the primary 5 kV breaker and replace trip units of secondary distribution breakers.
2. Additional branch panels shall be added in the original building to minimize overloading on the existing panels. Further investigation and design is needed.
3. Install automatic fire suppression systems in the kitchen exhaust hoods.
4. Install emergency gas shutoff station and solenoid of natural gas supply to science classroom.
5. Add fire alarm system pullstations and strobes to building exits to comply with fire alarm code.
6. Correct mounting height of fire alarm system devices to comply with ADA requirements.

7. Replace existing generator exhaust stack and insulate.
8. Correct plumbing code issues in kitchen.
9. Perform maintenance and conduct a coordination study of the proper settings for breakers in the main substation.
10. A complete electrical single line diagram should be generated so that electrical emergencies can be acted on faster.

Short Term Actions (within the next 3-5 years)

1. Replace the existing boilers and associated heating hot water pumps. Replace the boiler with new natural gas-fired boilers.

Note: This work may required a new, larger gas service from the local utility company. Demolition of the existing boilers would have to include decommissioning of the existing underground #2 oil tanks. Decommissioning may include either removal or abandoning the tanks in place, but will include testing of the soil for any contamination and remediation if required.

2. Replace classroom ventilators.
Repair/replace common ventilation fans.
3. Provide isolation valves on piping distribution to classroom ventilators.
4. Install new DDC automatic temperature control system. Replace existing inoperative pneumatically controlled valves and dampers.

5. Repair and re-energize kitchen make-up air unit.
6. Initiate a program of water treatment to reduce corrosion in piping systems.
7. Renovate existing toilet rooms to provide ADA compliant facilities.
8. Repair damaged flexible duct connection to auditorium H&V unit.
9. Investigate the application of tinted reflective and insulating film, along with resealing the perimeters of the existing window systems.
10. Perform a complete building system evaluation. Identify all systems in the building and determine their function and the present condition of each. Once there is a complete set of system drawings available, a comprehensive evaluation can be completed.

Additional Observations/Recommendations

The school does not have central air conditioning. If the School District would opt to install air conditioning throughout the building,

The school is not equipped with automatic fire protection sprinklers. These may be required by the local authority having jurisdiction.

APPENDIX

Table 3 Estimates of Service Lives of Various System Components^a

Equipment Item	Median Years	Equipment Item	Median Years	Equipment Item	Median Years
Air conditioners		Air terminals		Air-cooled condensers	20
Window unit	10	Diffusers, grilles, and registers	27	Evaporative condensers	20
Residential single or split package	15	Induction and fan-coil units	20	Insulation	
Commercial through-the-wall	15	VAV and double-duct boxes	20	Molded	20
Water-cooled package	15	Air washers	17	Blanket	24
Heat pumps		Ductwork	30	Pumps	
Residential air-to-air	15 ^b	Dampers	20	Base-mounted	20
Commercial air-to-air	15	Fans		Pipe-mounted	10
Commercial water-to-air	19	Centrifugal	25	Sump and well	10
Roof-top air conditioners		Axial	20	Condensate	15
Single-zone	15	Propeller	15	Reciprocating engines	20
Multizone	15	Ventilating roof-mounted	20	Steam turbines	30
Boilers, hot water (steam)		Coils		Electric motors	18
Steel water-tube	24 (30)	DX, water, or steam	20	Motor starters	17
Steel fire-tube	25 (25)	Electric	15	Electric transformers	30
Cast iron	35 (30)	Heat exchangers		Controls	
Electric	15	Shell-and-tube	24	Pneumatic	20
Burners	21	Reciprocating compressors	20	Electric	16
Furnaces		Package chillers		Electronic	15
Gas- or oil-fired	18	Reciprocating	20	Valve actuators	
Unit heaters		Centrifugal	23	Hydraulic	15
Gas or electric	13	Absorption	23	Pneumatic	20
Hot water or steam	20	Cooling towers		Self-contained	10
Radiant heaters		Galvanized metal	20		
Electric	10	Wood	20		
Hot water or steam	25	Ceramic	34		

Notes: 1. ASHRAE makes no claims as to the statistical validity of any of the data presented in this table.

2. Table lists base values that should be adjusted for local conditions (see the section on Service Life).

Source: Data obtained from a survey of the United States by ASHRAE Technical Committee TC 1.8 (Akalin 1978).

^a See Lovvorn and Hiller (1985) and Easton Consultants (1986) for further information.

^b Data updated by TC 1.8 in 1986.

TABLE 6-1 MINIMUM VENTILATION RATES IN BREATHING ZONE
(This table is not valid in isolation; it must be used in conjunction with the accompanying notes.)

Occupancy Category	People Outdoor Air Rate R_p		Area Outdoor Air Rate R_a		Notes	Default Values			Air Class
						Occupant Density (see Note 4)	Combined Outdoor Air Rate (see Note 5)		
	cfm/person	L/s-person	cfm/ft ²	L/s·m ²		#/1000 ft ² or #/100 m ²	cfm/person	L/s-person	
Correctional Facilities									
Cell	5	2.5	0.12	0.6		25	10	4.9	2
Dayroom	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		30	7	3.5	1
Guard stations	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		15	9	4.5	1
Booking/waiting	7.5	3.8	0.06	0.3		50	9	4.4	2
Educational Facilities									
Daycare (through age 4)	10	5	0.18	0.9		25	17	8.6	2
Daycare sickroom	10	5	0.18	0.9		25	17	8.6	3
Classrooms (ages 5–8)	10	5	0.12	0.6		25	15	7.4	1
Classrooms (age 9 plus)	10	5	0.12	0.6		35	13	6.7	1
Lecture classroom	7.5	3.8	0.06	0.3		65	8	4.3	1
Lecture hall (fixed seats)	7.5	3.8	0.06	0.3		150	8	4.0	1
Art classroom	10	5	0.18	0.9		20	19	9.5	2
Science laboratories	10	5	0.18	0.9		25	17	8.6	2
University/college laboratories	10	5	0.18	0.9		25	17	8.6	2
Wood/metal shop	10	5	0.18	0.9		20	19	9.5	2
Computer lab	10	5	0.12	0.6		25	15	7.4	1
Media center	10	5	0.12	0.6	A	25	15	7.4	1
Music/theater/dance	10	5	0.06	0.3		35	12	5.9	1
Multi-use assembly	7.5	3.8	0.06	0.3		100	8	4.1	1
Food and Beverage Service									
Restaurant dining rooms	7.5	3.8	0.18	0.9		70	10	5.1	2
Cafeteria/fast-food dining	7.5	3.8	0.18	0.9		100	9	4.7	2
Bars, cocktail lounges	7.5	3.8	0.18	0.9		100	9	4.7	2
General									
Break rooms	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		25	10	5.1	1
Coffee stations	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		20	11	5.5	1
Conference/meeting	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		50	6	3.1	1
Corridors	—	—	0.06	0.3		—			1
Storage rooms	—	—	0.12	0.6	B	—			1
Hotels, Motels, Resorts, Dormitories									
Bedroom/living room	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		10	11	5.5	1
Barracks sleeping areas	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		20	8	4.0	1
Laundry rooms, central	5	2.5	0.12	0.6		10	17	8.5	2
Laundry rooms within dwelling units	5	2.5	0.12	0.6		10	17	8.5	1
Lobbies/prefunction	7.5	3.8	0.06	0.3		30	10	4.8	1
Multipurpose assembly	5	2.5	0.06	0.3		120	6	2.8	1

EXHIBIT E

Questions/Issues Pertaining to M.R. Reiter Closure

1. What's next if M.R. Reiter is closed? If closing M.R. Reiter is the done deal it appears to be, then what will happen to that property? Sale, re-construction, demolition, conversion to open space, etc.?
2. Why does the public find out most of its information about the Board from the local newspaper? What steps if any will the Board take to significantly improve the transparency of its actions in the future?
3. Why hasn' t the Board or Mr. Fitzpatrick asked parents their opinions about his 7-month quest to farm out our High School students?
4. What was the point of having Community Action Plan (CAP) meetings if this School Board makes its decisions without the advice of parents and residents?
5. How is this Board different from the Board headed by Dr. Sandy Gibson? Isn' t this Board doing many of same exact negative things it accused the Gibson Board of?
6. What are the elements of the six (6) point plan Mr. Hellmann has mentioned in public, but about which the public has no information? If the exact number of points in the plan is known, it must be relatively detailed. When will this plan be shared with the public? When will the plan be voted on by the Board?
7. Has the Board decided that the assets of the school system (buildings, land, borrowed money) are things to be cashed out rather than invested in?
8. Following this logic, aren't teacher, administrators and students a drain on taxpayer monies? Doesn't this Board have its duties completely backwards? Aren't they supposed to invest in the students and not cash out whatever they can liquidate?
9. How long does the Board intend to let M.R. Reiter sit vacant if the Board can't sell it at a reasonable price?
10. What actions will the Board take to prevent M. R. Reiter from becoming a blighted eyesore if it sits vacant?

11. When will a more detailed evaluation of the cost savings from closing M. R. Reiter be performed and available to the public?
12. Has the M. R. Reiter "asset" been assessed recently? If not, why not? If so, what is the approximate assessed value of this "asset"?
13. Is there sufficient insurance money available to repair or replace the damaged furnace and associated ductwork and chimney? If not, why not? If so, will the Board authorizing performing this work. If not, why not?
14. How desirable will M. R. Reiter be to potential buyers if it has an unusable furnace and chimney?
15. Mr. Farrell previously indicated that there should have been devices installed to prevent what happened to the M. R. Reiter furnace. When will the Board be voting to procure and install such devices at Grandview and the Middle-High School?
16. Have all necessary licenses and permits been obtained to install the trailers at Grandview? If not, why not?
17. Mr. Hellmann in a 6/25/08 email characterized putting M. R. Reiter kids into Grandview or the Middle-High School in an emergency situation as "good"? What is good about this? What is good about an emergency situation?
18. Mr. Hellmann, why before 7/15/08 Board meeting did you personally drop M. R. Reiter from the bids to repair its heating system?
19. When is the Vitetta report for the Middle-High School going to be available to the public?
20. Why was Mr. Ronald Stout the only member of the public invited or informed of the classroom tours that were conducted by the Board in the October 2008 timeframe?
21. Why has the Board elected not to pursue renovations at Grandview or the Middle-High School in accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) PLANCON process, by which a significant portion of the renovation costs may be reimbursable?
22. Has the Board consider the impact that the current cramming situation has on the children? In what ways has it considered this impact? What steps in the Board taking to minimize this impact?
23. Why are the first graders in a hallway? How much of a fire hazard is this?
24. There are not adequate bathrooms and the children now have to go in shifts
25. Why are there still multiple classes in the library?

26. The art and music rooms have been lost.
27. Kids do not have adequate time to eat their lunches now that they have to share their time in line.
28. What will the Board do if the same or a similar problem happens at Grandview?
29. How does the closing of M.R. Reiter affect the busing situation? Grandview is beyond the walking zone.
30. When will this " emergency" situation end?
31. When will a reasonable non-emergency solution be presented? As it is, we traded a modern K-12 building up to code and designed to segregate the grades for off-code buildings with makeshift arrangements. What is the threshold for renovations/changes that forces the Board to bring the existing buildings up to current code?
32. Special Education classroom space has been displaced at the High School. How is the Board compensating for this?
33. After School programs have been displaced and will continue to be affected. Has the Board considered the impact of reduced space on the After School programs? What actions are being taken to address this?
34. What steps are being taken to protect the safety of the students? Current security appears inadequate. One of the doors at the Middle-High School has been continually open for some time and anyone can walk in. The coming and going of more people, and elementary students, makes it almost impossible to manage with the current system. It' s common knowledge that it is relatively easy to get in the building. If the Board disagrees with this assessment, please explain how the Board feels that security is indeed adequate.
35. What is being done to address the perilous traffic situation at both the Middle-High school and Grandview? There is a traffic committee that Ms. Ruffing formed, but it cannot take action - it is up to the borough and the district. The borough and the school district both could be liable if someone is hurt.
36. There are two (2) first grade classes in the middle/high school library.

37. Play space and bathrooms are not up to code. The Board may be able to get away with this temporarily under "emergency" banner, but is this acceptable to the community? And secondly, how long can the Board "get away with it"? What other school code issues fall into this category – (systems or spaces that are not up to code, but are persisting under the " emergency" banner?
38. Middle School students (maybe High School also) have "Library" class in their classrooms and cannot check out books.
39. There are issues with Grandview and the Middle-High School buildings as addressed in all the recent engineering studies, and the Board appears to be moving forward without addressing those issues. How can students' educational needs be met in the event of another "emergency"?
40. Will the Board hold a referendum, as promised by Board President Hellmann, if the Board wishes to merge with Pennsbury or any other district or entity, or engage in a tuition-out program for any Morrisville Public School students?
41. Why have the Vitetta reports not considered any reconfigurations
42. Why did the Board on January 30, 2008 defease all but a small portion of the school construction bond monies, leaving only about \$7 million to perform repairs or renovations at all three (3) existing school buildings, before studies had been performed to determine which specific renovations were needed and what they would cost?