

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

August 29, 2011 Special School Board Meeting

NOTE: This Board Highlights document includes the actions of the School Board Meeting. It is not meant to be an exact reflection of the meeting's minutes.

ROLL CALL – Eight board members present. **Mr. William Krzton** was absent.

AGENDA ITEMS:

TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Heasley, Mr. Lang

Mr. Paul Hoffman, Director of Transportation, presented the process and procedure used in the summer of 2011 that assigned and created bus schedule for students. Mr. Hoffman reported that due to the budget reductions from the state level, Highlands redrew the attendance zones due to the reorganization of the four elementary schools, which caused a change in the distance designated as walking zones, the bus routes and afternoon bus stop arrivals. Because of the locations of Grandview Upper Elementary School and Fairmount Primary Center, many students were considered by the standards of the PA Department of Education (PDE) to be within the 1.5 mile distance that classifies students as walkers. The Transportation Department created bus routes based on the walking distance standard and other factors established by PDE and notified parents via letters sent to home addresses about transportation details regarding students, including those designated as walkers.

During this meeting, the following items will be addressed in response to School Board, parent and resident comments:

The Transportation Department will shorten the standard distance to the previous year's distance of 1 mile from home address to school for walkers.

The district will provide bussing for local daycare students in the Fairmount Primary Center attendance zone to Fawn Primary Center.

The district will add one bus and one van to the bus schedules, with the ratification of the additional cost by the School Board at the September voting meeting.

The Transportation Department will submit applications to the Allegheny County Department of Transportation to consider Mile Lock Lane, Morgan Street and Argonne Drive to be designated as "danger zones" for students.

The Transportation Department will continue to accept, review and, if possible, resolve transportation issues communicated to the department by parents and/or guardians as quickly as possible.

NOTE:

The School Board held an Executive Session meeting regarding Personnel Items following the adjournment of the public meeting.

2011 Highlands School Board Members

Debbie Beale - President

Carrie Fox - Vice President

Laura Thimons William Heasley

Ron Lang William Krzton

Eric Miles Karen Wantland

Judy Wisner