

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
September 13, 2022
Administration Center Board Room and Via Zoom
5:30 PM
Minutes**

- I. The Chairperson,** Rebecca Bear, called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Secretary, Patricia Rosado called the roll.
- II. Board Committee Members Present:** Rebecca Bear, George Andrews, Wayne Rohner and Richard Schlameuss.
- III. School Personnel Present:** Brian Baddick, Fred Mill, Craig Neiman, William Riker, Patricia Rosado, William Vitulli and Timothy Vrael.
- IV. Community Member Present:** Larry Dymond and Jacob Morris.

Other Via Zoom: Jimmy Hillman – Progressive Energy Consultants
Ondrei Ronhaar – Progressive Energy Consultants
Kay Sterling – Tradition Energy
Bob Wooten– Tradition Energy

V. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by George Andrews to approve the agenda for September 13, 2022 and with members of the Committee reserving the right to add to the agenda and take further action in the best interest of the District. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by Richard Schlameuss to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2022 meeting. Motion was seconded by George Andrews and carried unanimously, 4-0.

VI. Items for Discussion:

Mrs. Bear said the first item on the agenda is something we have been talking about for a while. We heard from two groups so far. Mr. Neiman was nice enough to invite two others tonight for us in order to compare them and hopefully move one of them forward to the Board.

a. Electricity Consortium Purchasing

i. Presentation - Progressive Energy Consultants

Mr. Jimmy Hillman said Mr. Neiman should have given the Committee members a packet that I sent to him earlier today. The price quote that I showed you on the left-hand corner is for Progressive Energy Consultants. As you can also see there are the services of Progressive Energy Consultants that are bulleted in the handout. That is who we are and what we do. On the top right-hand corner is me. That is who I am. Below that is the start date, because I understand that the expiration date to be June of 2023 on your current contract. The contract with us won't interfere with your current contract. It would start in July of 2023. The pricing you see below are from the top three suppliers that provided this pricing. Engie came in at the best at a 48-month term and it is all increase of rates except for GRT (Gross Receipt Tax). There are other terms and other rates from other suppliers. However, we always present the fixed, all-inclusive price from the lowest supplier. Going down the page, you can see that Progressive Energy's main purpose for the entities, companies, and school Boards. We have over 4,000 active clients. We want them to make an educated decision on their energy. We have been doing this since 2009; for 13 years so we are good at it. I would like to open up conversation on any documents that you received on the services of Progressive Energy and the basic information on the deregulation in choosing an alternate supplier. There is also benefits of using fixed rate supply products. I noticed on your last contract that you had a pass through. Ours is a different type of product line. There is fixed pricing or all-inclusive pricing, which is what we offer. There is also a pass through for just the raw energy. I want to make sure that you guys understand how that works and that there are different products for the supply charges. Mrs. Bear asked Mr. Hillman to explain what the differences are. Mr. Hillman said I am going to turn it over to my Pricing Specialist. His name is Ondrei Ronhaar. I am going to have him explain that to you. Mr. Ronhaar said to make it really simple, your utility company is Met Ed. They own the polls, the wires and the meters on the property. They bill you each month for your energy. Currently, you have the supplier, Constellation New Energy. who is very good company. We work with them a lot. Your product right now, based on your bills, your energy is fixed. You also have what is called capacity and transmission passed through. Without seeing your physical contract that was signed however many years ago, I can't tell exactly if that is the exact product that you have. That is what it looks like. It looks like your energy is fixed at about 3.5 cents and then you have your final price being just over five cents per kilowatt hour, because of the other items that are passed through. Essentially you can have a hybrid product which is portions of your energy is fixed meaning that the wholesale cost of our energy is fixed, while the other things are passed through at cost. It is a great product and there is nothing wrong with it whatsoever. It is really important to consider the various products when you are getting offers, because the product that we are giving you is fully fixed outside of tax. We are offering you an 0.08530. If you get an offer from another company, and it is significantly lower like in a five cent range, it's more than likely something is not included. There is nothing wrong with that. You can pass through those items at cost. It is just important to make sure that you are not comparing an apple to an

orange. Don't think that on your bill you are going to be seeing five cents when in reality you are seeing nine cents or something of that nature. Mr. Andrews asked if we are using Met Ed right now. Mr. Ronhaar said Met Ed is the utility company. They are your support. If there is a power outage or anything like that, since they own the meter properties, they are essentially the monopoly for your area. They own the infrastructure to support the electrical grid in your area. Now the physical electricity that goes through those wires that you are using each month that you get billed for, that is where you have a choice. You can choose an alternate supplier. If you do not choose a supplier, Met Ed will supply your electricity at cost. This means in any deregulated State, the utility company cannot profit from the actual electricity or the gas itself. They profit from the delivery. They own the pole, the wire and the meter on the property that they profit from each month. You have a choice as a consumer to try to find a product or rate that will benefit you. In doing that, in this last term, you selected Constellation New Energy. A really good company. You guys made a great decision. Met Ed bills you each month and then you'll see on the bottom right-hand corner of each of your bills, it shows the Constellation charges there. Essentially what we are proposing to you is when your contract expires with Constellation, to take Engie for your next term. Mrs. Bear asked do you offer any other services besides negotiating prices for electricity, i.e. consulting on alternative energy consumption. Mr. Ronhaar said we can do that if you want to go green. We have partnerships with other companies if you would like to explore solar energy and other things like that. We can help you in all aspects of your energy. We do more than electricity. We can do gas as well. We can help you find a company that will go through the entire process with you such as quote you, install you, etc. We can also sell you green energy without going solar if you wanted to. It would need a deeper conversation. Mrs. Bear asked what would the fee structure look like if we were to look at alternative sources with you. Or is it all inclusive in the services that you offer. Mr. Ronhaar said it is fully inclusive. Our fee structure is one mill. We have .001 built into that rate that we are offering you through Engie. The way that we are paid is we have a small margin built into the price so when you pay your electric bill to Met Ed each month, they send us our portion. You never get a bill from us. To answer your question, the fee is .001. Mr. Andrews asked Mr. Neiman how long have we used Constellation. Mr. Neiman said he does not know how long but they have been with us since we had the current contract with Provident Energy. Mrs. Bear asked did Provident choose Constellation? Mr. Neiman said Provident chose Constellation as a result of their last bid. Mr. Andrews asked if we have a fixed cost with Met Ed. Mr. Neiman said Met Ed is the same. Mr. Andrews asked so we are constantly negotiating the price of the energy like I do at home. Mrs. Bear said exactly. Mr. Schlameuss said what you guys do at Progressive is you'll look across the whole marketplace and say these are the best prices. At this moment you are doing your shopping basically as I understand it. Is that correct? Mr. Ronhaar said that is correct. What we are doing is shopping essentially one year in advance for your renewal. We typically start shopping renewals 18 months in advance. These big supply companies, they can hedge the power. They can hold a price up to four years in advance. Actually, what we try to do is we are trying to essentially

in theory time the market, which right now to be straight forward with you, is really high due to inflation. I don't know when you signed up but you have an amazing price. You are well below the utility and current market. You made an excellent decision last time when you locked in your price. You have saved the district thousands and thousands of dollars. Our goal is to basically purpose this offer to you. As time progresses and as the market changes, we can educate you and we can also tell you if there is a dip in order to renew now so you can take advantage of market conditions as they come. This is just one of the many things we do. We shop that renewal well in advance so that you can take advantage of it when it is available. Mr. Andrews asked if we used Constellation through the IU 20. Mr. Neiman said Provident Energy is our Energy Consultants. The district has worked in the current program for at least 15 years. Provident Energy works with the vast majority of all school districts that are aligned with us. Mr. Andrews asked if Progressive is not Provident. Mr. Ronhaar said Provident is our competition. Mr. Schlameuss said the difference is that Progressive goes shopping on the market where Provident is going to take a bunch of our organizations together and shop as a unit. Mr. Ronhaar said the district is part of an aggregation. Mr. Neiman said we are part of a consortium. In Pennsylvania, we are structured as an Intermediate Unit with about 14 school districts that participate. Within our intermediate unit they also bring in other districts. Mr. Ronhaar said just like anything, there are pros and cons to that. Every school has its own what is called a low profile which is how you guys use your energy. Shopping on your own may produce a price and then the consortium may produce another price so you can compare. The only major difference between us and Provident is that we can price an account on its own outside of the consortium where they are pricing you within the consortium. We can also give you individual contracts or offers outside of the consortium. Let's say the market was to dip as opposed to trying to get 18 different school districts to take advantage of a lower price, you can take advantage of it on your own. It is a little more flexible as opposed to being connected to every single school. Another thing I just would like to stress is the product type. I know you are going to get quotes from other companies, which is totally good. We actually like that our consumers shop around so we can compare. It is important that we are comparing the same thing to the same thing. If you get offered something that is significantly lower that means something is not included. Our rates include everything except tax. Mr. Neiman said to be frank, you are the first organization that is proposing a price. We are not comparing prices on any contracts yet at this point here. Mr. Ronhaar said we are very early in the process here. Mrs. Bear said we are looking are the services that are furthered offered right now. That is why I asked what else do you offer. As a Board, we want to look at the whole picture holistically rather than what is in front of us today as well as the future. Mr. Ronhaar said some of the key talking points I would say for us is that we are like a go to person for all of your energy needs meaning not just shopping for you. For instance, if you want a bill audit done so that you are sure that you are being priced correctly, you can send us your bills. We can shop for alternative solutions if you are interested in that. If at any time you want to go to solar, we can help with that. I would say those are some of the key things. The biggest thing with using a broker on an individual basis

outside of a consortium, is that it is again the ability to shop in advance so that you can take advantage of market dips which can result in a significant savings for the school district. Mr. Andrews asked if the price goes up can our price go up. Mr. Ronhaar said the product we are proposing is a fixed, all-inclusive rate. Your price is protected against market increases. Mrs. Bear said what Progressive is proposing is locking the rate in for 48 months at the 0.08530 fixed rate. If in twenty-four months energy costs kind of recovers and it goes lower can we? Mr. Ronhaar said yes. There is an option called the blend and extend. What we can do is we can go to Engie and we will say the market is favorable. We want to blend and extend this customer. They are going to offer you a lower price for and immediately start and extend the term. You can then review the different offers and see what makes sense for you. This way you can take immediate advantage of a better market dips. You are not handcuffed. There are options in the event of that occurring. Mrs. Bear said thank you so much for your presentation. It was very informative. We will keep everything you said in mind and if we have any questions, we will definitely reach out. Mr. Ronhaar and Mr. Hillman said thank you for the opportunity. The presentation will be placed on the website following the minutes.

ii. Presentation - Tradition Energy

Ms. Kay Sterling said she has been in the energy industry for a little over 20 years. I will let Mr. Bob Wooten say a few words. Mr. Wooten said I am the head of our National Accounts Group and have been in Tradition Energy since 2007. I was in the purchasing world before that where I managed large governmental entities purchasing. One of the key roles I served is also managing some of our key strategic partnerships which include a lot of our large corporate currency programs. We have been on contract through U.S. Communities, which is now part of the Omnibus Group, which I know, the school district here is a member of. We exclusively won that public RFP since 2013. That is a very significant channel that we have served all forms of local government through Municipal K-12 through Higher Education. It has been wonderful method to utilize where it assures you not only the competitive process but assures you that Tradition Energy has been vetted and compared to other energy consulting firms around the county leading us up to the award that we are in. I wanted to provide a little bit of that context. We do have some of those slides. As Ms. Sterling explains the background of who we are and the service that we provide, I wanted you to keep in mind the deep breath of experience that we have on the public sector side. Ms. Sterling said we are the nation's largest and most experienced independent energy risk management, and sustainability solutions advisor. Different names are Energy Consultant and Energy Broker. We do feel that we are unique in the market having been in it since 1986. We have an industry acclaimed market research group that sits behind me. We are also part of the Tradition Group, which is a top three institutional broker of financial products and commodities for many years. Why does that make us unique? We feel that we can time the market a little bit better for you because we have our pulse on the wholesale market. We have commodities for that right on the other floor of me here in Stamford, Connecticut, which is our headquarters. We also have 6-7 offices around the country and about eighty consultants. We provide our

clients with the full range of resources, whether it is energy procurement and pricing, whether it is bill management, bill audits or client management resources, etc. You have a whole account team that sits behind me as your relationship manager. We feel that brings you better market timing and increases competition. We have a lot of clients that say we have been making a lot of positive contributions. We are in this to be your partner. We are in this for a long-term relationship. If you are signing, you are looking at long-term partnership. I know the broker before us was presenting you with a four-year pricing but we are in this as a long-term partner. We are constantly looking at the market for you and we are constantly looking at trends and providing you with the most up to date, market research and intelligence that we can to make sure that you are making the right decisions and that your timing of the market is best and most competitive for you. I won't spend too much time on this slide, The Government Purchasing Channel, since Mr. Wooten already went through that. I do want to take a pause to see if the Board members have any questions. Mrs. Bear said we have no questions at this time. Ms. Sterling asked Mr. Wooten did you want to add any more comments on this slide? Mr. Wooten said no, I think we provided a nice overview of it. If no one has any questions, it does appear that the district does utilize a number of contracts through the cooperative sets. That is very good. Ms. Sterling said we meet all the bid requirements on those contracts, which is good. Again, I won't spend a lot of time on the Strategic Solutions slide. I did want to make sure you understand all that we are offering. We do lead with the energy procurement piece. We do go out to the market and we do collect pricing. We have over 86 vetted suppliers that we work with. We work in all markets whether they are deregulated for natural gas or electricity. We go to those markets and we talk to those suppliers to get you different bids. A lot of time since we have worked with those suppliers for so long. They are very familiar with their contracts in terms of conditions. We, obviously, negotiate those terms and conditions on your behalf. Again, here are some of the solutions that we provide like I mentioned client services. We do a lot of educational webinars. We just hosted a five series summer assisting ability webinar. I would be happy to send the links over to you if you'd like. They were very short, fifteen to twenty-minute, webinars that we did over a course of three months. We talked about how to purchase REC, which stands for Renewable Energy Certificates. We talked VPPA which are Virtual Power Purchase Agreements. We talked about EV Charging and on-site solar, behind the meter solar and different things. I'm happy to send any of that over to you. We also have a bill processing and payment departments. We can look at your invoices. We can always look and make sure you are being charged the right rate by your utility, which I hear is Met Ed. Why do clients choose Tradition? It is really the experience level and our wholesale market knowledge. We are unbiased and transparent. We go through this process for you, but that ultimately is your decision at the end of the day as to what supplier, what product and what price or what service you want to move forward with. We want to make sure that you are comfortable with that and that you make the right decision for your schools. The Experience slide Mr. Wooten alluded to some of this. We do work with a lot of K-12 as well as larger state universities and different districts. This gives you a

glimpse as to how many clients we serve. It is probably over 1,300 C & I Government clients. We've priced about 1,300 accounts weekly, and our ratio of clients' tradition is 19 to 1. She asked if anyone had any questions. The Board members said, no. The next slide is just a list of more retail, large commercial, industrial and municipal clients. The next slide is a photo of the wholesale energy market floors. Like I said, we have a very robust team of people that provide market research and intelligence. We have news resources such as Bloomberg or Reuters, especially with all the market volatility you have seen in recent days with everything that is going on in the country and overseas with liquefied natural gas exports. I'm trying not to use short acronym terms, because I know that is kind of confusing but LNG Exports stands for Liquefied Natural Gas. You can see that we have been exporting that a lot from overseas, which has led to some supply and demand issues here domestically. You have probably seen a lot of price volatility in the markets. The next slide if just kind of gives you an example of some of that and how we can improve your purchase timing. Like I said, we understand that you are probably trying to set budgets and you need to be on some sort of fixed-price product to give you budget certainty. We would, of course, present you with all of those options. I mean, we would take a look and come back to you with about eight different suppliers and sort of what they can do. We would make a recommendation to you with what we thought might be good for you. Mr. Wooten said I would like to interject here. It is very important to understand that the key differentiator between Tradition and any other energy consulting firm out there is that we are involved directly in both the wholesale energy markets, which is where the price is determined, and the retail energy markets, which is what all energy consultants do. The retail price that the district pays for electricity and natural gas is what you sign a contract with an energy supplier for whether you do it as part of an aggregation or on you own and it is more of a customized solution. Where the price comes from is a direct result of all the buying and selling of those contracts on the wholesale market. Let's say, if I heard right, your current supplier is Constellation. Constellation, before they can provide you with a contract, they are able to do so because they went into the wholesale market and bought wholesale power for the period to serve you at a lower amount in order for them to make that contract available to you. All of the buying and selling the Constellation's trading group do, goes through brokerage firms, banks, hedge funds and other financial players. They are all buying and selling these forward contracts. Tradition is one of the key wholesale brokerage firms that consummates those contracts. It gives us a unique view in terms of how the market's moving that nobody else has. What we are trying to do is get as close as we can to what causes and creates the price so that when we work with you long term, we are really working with you through a partnership type of arrangement. This means it is very different than an aggregation where they set a date, move forward and do it. Many times we are reaching 24 or 36 months ahead of time to secure additional terms to either take advantage of downward movements in the market to achieve savings or keep your cost under control long term. It is definitely differentiated that nobody else is able to do this. That is really what has made us so successful over the years. I just wanted to interject this information here in order for you to understand when we talk about

wholesale and market intelligence and timing, it all comes back to that key. Does anybody have any questions? I gave you a lot of information. You may not be familiar with the wholesale brokerage market in the New York Mercantile Exchange and so forth. Mrs. Bear said I understand it but the other Board members may not. Mr. Wooten said if any Board members have any questions, please ask them at any time. Ms. Sterling said I'm going to keep moving along in the interest of your time. This next slide just gives you sort of a sampling of what types of reports we could provide to you and to your district on a weekly basis or monthly basis. We do different types of reporting just depending on regulatory news and market trends and so forth. We do try to stay abreast of everything that is going on in the market. The next slide has other examples of some other market reports that we can provide you. We improve your price by providing supplier competition. It ensures that accountability and it safe guards your budget. The next slide is just a sample of a pricing report. I don't have exact pricing for you. Obviously, we can provide that. This is just an example of what you would receive in terms. Once we took a look at your invoices and reached out to our supplier community, we would come back to you so that you could see exactly what the best prices are and what the commercial terms are. We make sure you just receive the best solution and see exactly what you are buying to make sure there are no conflict of interest. We have 80 or 90 different supplier relationships that we reach out to in order to compete for your business. What that does is keep prices low. I know that you are being served currently by Constellation. They are very good suppliers. We work with them a lot. We also work with a lot of good suppliers and we would make them all compete on the same playing field for your business so that does drive the price down. I am going to just wrap this up with. Tradition provides a premier client experience. You would have a single point of contact. You would have customized reporting, continuous education and just basically a higher level of service just based on, our time in the market and the wholesale experience we have here as well. The rest of the presentation has information about our reporting portal. I can always provide you with extra information on this. You have the ability to go on the online portal where we can put your invoices and track your data usage and track your costs. We can definitely get into more of that later. I want to end this presentation by saying that we hope that you enjoyed our presentation. We hope that you find a lot of unique difference here. We appreciate your time. Mrs. Bear asked can you also elaborate on other the services you offer besides just wholesaling prices? Because what we said before, is it is not just the wholesaling prices but we want someone to partner with us to look at not just our energy bills but how to be better consumers when it comes to alternative sources of energy. What would the cost be to the district for doing an analysis for us? Is this something that you do? Do you have engineers on staff to work with us to discuss solar, wind or anything like that? What is it going to cost us to become energy efficient and how long will it take us to recoup this expense? Ms. Sterling said Mr. Wooten can chime in if he wants. We do have a sustainability team that is at your beck and call. Yes, we would bring them in and we would take a look at whatever it is you are looking at whether, it's renewable energy or solar. Mr. Wooten said that a really good way of looking at this is that there is a really a three-key

component to the integrated holistic approach we work with a client. When we first engage, we sit down to really understand what your goals and objectives are. We look at things from the standpoint of what I would kind of call the low-hanging fruit, which is the rates that you are paying for electricity and natural gas, which is what you seem to be, you know, focused on right now. There are other very important areas. One is sustainability where we look at things like demand side activities, energy efficiency activities, solar panels either on side or offside. Putting together a Power Purchase Agreement is one method of looking at that community. Solar opportunities are another thing to look at. Another very important bucket has to do with really the reporting of your data and the understanding of it from a data management standpoint. From there we look at things such as conducting a tariff rate tax analysis where we actually go through all of your accounts and then it goes beyond just the retail contract price. You have Constellation but it gets into what your utility is charging you. It then goes back to sustainability from the stand point of are there activities you can do to lower your peak or demand which would lower what the utility is charging you. Then looking to see are there actually mistakes that might have been made and how the utility has been billing you. You can see if you do a refund or are there more optimal tariff rates you can be on that would save you money. We look at all those different aspects. We had one slide that touched upon what our team view system does in terms of really tracking your electricity and natural gas usage that can be extremely helpful, especially to facility managers so they can truly understand how the usage changes month to month, year over year, how maybe one facility may compare to another one even though they have the same square footage. It gives you access to a lot of tools to look at. Like we said, the breadth of the resources, we have is tremendous. There are over eight professionals that are part of the Traditional Energy Group which is who we are with. We are then part of the Global Tradition Group which compasses about 2,400 people in thirty countries. Out of this core group of eighty people, we have a very good sustainability team. If you need to have on-site audits done, we have partners in relationships teams. We are able to bring them in to do that. If you need to have your utility bills reviewed to see, like I said a moment ago, the optimal rate. We have teams that can perform that as well, and a whole host of other services. It's kind of a long answer to a short question but we do provide significantly more than the brokerage and electricity contract and then we go away after three years when the contract is ready to expire. We are constantly making you aware of what is happening in the market and how it is impacting you so that you can be continually proactive in terms of how you manage your energy exposure. Does that help with your questions? Mrs. Bear asked how are you compensated for your services. Is it a-la-carte? Is it built into the energy purchasing? Mr. Wooten said it depends on which services. Access to our view system comes along with on board as one of your clients. Everything that I've mentioned is either a low cost or a no cost service, because there are services that we provide to our existing clients. For example, a team that gets in there and conducts a tariff rate or tax analysis and forensic audit of your utility bills to see if there have been any mistakes that have been made. This includes not just gas and electricity but water and other utilities. That is a service in looking at it in terms of your contract. It is only \$75 an account

that we audit. It is very low cost service. It is not something that you can on the open market. If you approached a Bill Audit Service provider, they would charge you some type of success fee, meaning that they would say, we'll take 40% of what we identify for you in terms of savings. If you get in there and identify a million-dollar worth of savings. They are going to build you \$400,000. That is not our services work. There are all small or no cost to our existing clients because you are already on board as one of our clients since we would be handling your electricity and natural gas contracts. Mr. Schlameuss asked what is the fee per kilowatt hour. Mrs. Bear said like the .001 that the other companies charge. Mr. Wooten said we would utilize our most aggressive fees, through the Omni Contract. We would need to know the amount of energy that we are managing and the number of transactions that we are going to be involved in. That ties directly again to a transparent fee schedule that we have, which we can give to you which ranges from .0003 up to .003. It depends on where that is. It is always a fraction of a cent per kilowatt hour. It is determined by the amount of energy we are managing. Ms. Sterling said to Mr. Neiman, you might have sent me some usage files. I'll take a look. Did that also have gas on it? I don't recall. Mr. Neiman said yes that had natural gas and electricity. Ms. Sterling said we will take a look at that. We can get you that pretty quickly. Mr. Wooten said we can provide you with the Traditional Energy Contract but you might find it on the Omnia Website. You will see all of the contract information; the public RFP that was issued, our response, all of our services and our fee schedule. It is all very transparent. Mrs. Bear asked can you add in services as needed? What if we don't know we need something and our contracts is based one thing and we decide we need something else. Mr. Wooten said that is exactly why you would want to use the services that you just want. I use the bill auditing as an example, where it is \$75 an account. You would not want to incur that unless you want to use it. We would not charge you for it unless you said you want a team to look over these particular water account, electricity or gas accounts. We are not going to put any services on your account. We would tell you what the cost would be before you move forward with it. Mrs. Bear said my question is if we do not know if we want a particular service this year can we add it in next year. Ms. Sterling said yes you can do that. Mr. Wooten said it can be done at any time. For example, you can decide that you want us to work on the electricity contract and don't want us to work on natural gas until a later time. It can be two years later. We are always able to do that for you whenever you want. We are not going to charge you for anything until you decide that you want us to do that. Ms. Sterling said it is also a standard broker order in terms of the embedded fee. Whatever price we give you our price is included in that and we are paid by the supplier as well on just the energy. At any time you want to go 50% green or with some sort of solar, you would just add that onto your supply agreement. Mrs. Bear asked will there be cost to that. Mrs. Sterling said there would be additional cost for the solar renewable part. Mr. Wooten said it would not be out of pocket. The cost of the green energy itself and using green energy as an example actually our office in Manhattan is the manager of green energy. They are the wholesale broker office of green products in the US meaning things like R.E.C which stands for Renewable Energy Certificate. If you just get a green contract from a supplier it

may not be 100%. I am not sure what the current contract with Constellation Green would be. Mr. Neiman said he does not believe Constellation is 100% green. Mr. Wooten said if you did not want to do a green contract, you could just simply have a supplier quote. The would mean that the supplier is going on a wholesale market buying those R.E.C.s and they are putting their margin on it and adding it to the contract. You are not paying out of pocket for it. Given the current state of renewable energy certificates right now would probably add about two-tenths to three-tenths of a cent per kilowatt hour to your cost. Let's say, if you are able to secure an electricity rate of six cents, that was just standard regular brown power. If you wanted to make that green and it would probably be 6.2 or 6.3 cents. You can choose to go that route or you can just secure the regular brown energy contract. You can then competitively procure the R.E.C.s separately, which will drive the price down usually even further. That will get other suppliers that just sell those R.E.C.s competing head-to-end to provide that. Again, there would be no out of pocket cost for doing that. I would say we are doing that more and more nowadays as a popular way of doing that because it gives you a little bit more control over that. Those are all the things that we can do. Going back to your original question, you would not be overpaying. You would not be paying for anything that we weren't actually doing for you. The presentation will be placed on the website following the minutes.

iii. Committee Discussion

Mrs. Bear said we had four very different providers come to speak to us. Each were offering us different options. I believe two were in a consortium, correct? We had Penn State and Provident that were in a consortium. It sounds like Progressive and Tradition are not in a consortium. They go out on their own for us. Is that correct? Mr. Neiman said that is how I understood it. Mrs. Bear asked is that everyone else's understanding. The Committee members agreed. Mrs. Bear said what we need to consider is do we want a consortium or do we want more of an individual plan. Mr. Schlameuss said everyone knows I have been thinking about this and putting my pros and cons list together. I wouldn't even think about going with companies like the ones that spoke today. With the volatility in the market, it actually gives us a little more lead way. In 24 months from now if the market changes, we can adjust at that time. That is one pro to that. Mrs. Bear said I was also trying to see what else they do. Mr. Schlameuss said I don't think they are at the further steps yet. Mrs. Bear said between Provident and Penn State, they seem to appear to do more services. I was trying to lead today's presenters but I couldn't get them to tell me what they do. I don't know if I was asking the right questions. Mr. Schlameuss said I think they are focusing on selling the energy. If you are going to go with solar, you are reducing the quantity of energy that you are using as in the kilowatt hours. Mrs. Bear said that is how they get paid and the price may go up if we use less. Mr. Schlameuss said I don't think the amount would matter to Penn State or Provident. I don't think they will have the right skin in the game because they are looking at the whole 40 units or 120 organizations. Mr. Neiman said the .001 for the natural gas and electricity works out to be about \$15,000 a year for us. In my opinion, unless that fee is, you know, significantly higher, we don't even feel that because

it's built into our energy class. It is not like we are writing a check out. My point is, when you are paying your utility bill it is kind of when we choose our secondary energy providers. Mrs. Bear said we don't write a check to that provider. It goes through Met Ed. Met Ed pays Constellation. Mr. Andrews said we have to watch the fees with Progressive and Tradition vs if we are in the consortium. Mr. Schlameuss said we still pay a fee but it is built in. Mr. Andrews said we would have to pay more with the non-consortium companies. Mrs. Bear said we still pay if we go through the consortium. Mr. Schlameuss said today's companies will give us an offer where with the consortium the rate is already set. Mrs. Bear said we don't have to micromanage the company because it is not our specialty. Mr. Schlameuss said the power is in the market of the group. They are not just going out on the market for us but for the whole group. I think with our electricity contract through Penn State it is for two years. You are locked in two years but then they do it again. Penn State will review the bills for free and not charge \$75. Mr. Neiman said there is a meeting on Thursday at the IU and Provident Energy will be there and will lay out their strategy. Part of the consortium and their plan is to go forward to look for our electricity rate. I will need to know by Thursday who we are choosing for our energy rate. What I am trying to say is that I would like a motion from the Board authorizing the Administration one way or another either through a consortium or through the free market. Once we are in a consortium we cannot back out. After Thursday, I will know a better timeline. Mrs. Bear asked if all of the IU school districts are part of Provident Energy. Mr. Neiman said if not all of them most of them. I know that Pleasant Valley left but I believe the vast majority of the districts are part of the Provident consortium. Mr. Schlameuss said my recommendation would be Penn State. Mrs. Bear said she believes that Penn State's recommendation was more robust. They offer extra services at no cost. I was trying to compare Provident and Penn state when they were doing their presentation like I was doing today. I didn't hear the same from Provident. Mr. Schlameuss said it is his recommendation to go with Penn State but it will be a decision for the committee to make. Mrs. Bear asked would you want us to wait to make this decision or do you want a motion on the agenda? Can you email us after your meeting on Thursday and let us know how it goes? We will then have to make the motion in public. Dr. Riker suggested that the motion be placed on the agenda, since it is done tomorrow, to read for the Board to pick one of two. I think what I am hearing is that you at least narrowed it down to one that we used Provident and for the other to be Penn State. The motion would allow for that choice to be made in case there are other questions from the Board, then Mr. Neiman can speak on it if he has any more information after Thursday. Mrs. Bear asked that the Board packet include the presentations that Provident and Penn State spoke to the Committee members about so that the other Board members can look at both options. Mr. Andrews asked if we are choosing Provident or Penn State? Are we saying that they are less expensive? Mrs. Bear said not less expensive but offer more services. They are both going out to the market to get the best price. Mr. Schlameuss said I believe that Provident and Penn State will get us a better price than the open market because they are going to search on behalf all of their customers at once. Mrs. Bear said if you hear from what Tradition said they want to look at our bills and to use

how much we utilize, then the spread can be anywhere from .000 to 003. By going through a consortium, it is not just our energy they are looking at but other districts and municipalities all together. It is more energy being bid out so it is less expensive. Mr. Andrews said out of Provident and Penn State who is the larger of the two of them. Mr. Schlameuss said Penn State has is larger since they have municipalities and counties. Mr. Andrews said they would be larger and have a better price. Mr. Schlameuss said you would assume that. Mr. Neiman said it is my understanding that is not the kilowatt hour stack that is going to get us the price. It is more about what is available in the market. Mrs. Bear said exactly. Mr. Neiman said it is about if our stack fits in that slot. We might be a small slot or big chunk and they will place us in there. It is not how many brokers or the kilowatt hours but it is the timing of the market. The other piece I heard what separate them is about customer service. If I have to advocate for Provident, they are right in front of me through the IU. To me in terms of customer service that is ideal. Mrs. Bear said and you have that also from Penn State but you like that in-person better. Mr. Schlameuss said I want to make clear that with Penn State I have very little interaction with them. Once they submit a bid, we are done. We use the energy, we pay our bills and two years later we go back and do it again. For us that works. I don't know if there is going to be more interaction with the district, because we have ten buildings. Mrs. Bear said I think interaction is going to be key because we may decide to do something more. Mr. Schlameuss said it would just be a different department or unit that will handle the other items. Mr. Andrews asked if Penn State is going to be for two years or can they be more. Mr. Schlameuss said you are locked in at that price for two years. Mrs. Bear said our Provident contract was a long one. Mr. Schlameuss said Penn State is two years. Mr. Neiman said we are not in a contract with Provident. We can terminate at any time. The contract is with Constellation. Mr. Neiman said it has been standing since 15 years ago. Mr. Rohner asked is it critical for the Board to make this decision in 2022. Mr. Neiman said we are getting very close of when the supplier would like to go out to the market for energy suppliers. This is done typically in the fall. Mrs. Bear said we heard today's companies say they hedge out 18 months in advance based on trends. Dr. Riker asked if the committee members would want the motion on the agenda. Mrs. Bear said it should read for the Board to pick either supplier. Dr. Riker asked would you like for a representative from Provident and a representative from Penn State to be present at the meeting to be available to answer any questions. Mrs. Bear said that would be great. Mrs. Andrews said it would behoove them to do that. Mr. Schlameuss said the only thing I would like to say is that no matter who we pick energy is going to go up in price. Mrs. Bear said everything is more expensive now.

b. Food Service Update - Community Eligibility Provision

Mr. Neiman said I know the committee and the Board is aware about the status of the district and the application for the community eligibility, provision, and that's through the good work of our Food Service Department. It's an excellent opportunity for the district and the community to be receiving free breakfast and lunch every day when schools are in session. This was important because the waivers that were in place

through the pandemic expired at the end of last school year. We kind of spent the summer wondering what was going to happen. As we closed in on the first day of school, looking like there would be no announcement from the Federal Government or State Government, we pivoted and rolled into the CEP Program in order to provide the students with free meals. The reason we can do this is based on the need and the poverty rates within our community, which allowed us to do this. It's a great program, and I want to have a formal motion for the Board officially authorizing the district to formally participate in it. The new news is, as timely as the State always is, this past Friday, the Governor announced that there will be free breakfast for all Pennsylvania students this school year. The news there is that, because it's obviously for everyone across the State, it doesn't change anything with our program. It will actually enhance the reimbursement rate we get for those meals in that in those terms it will be a slightly better financial improvement for the district. That will basically take place of the reimbursement. Mr. Andrews asked if this will be for ESACA and all students. Mr. Rohner said it says all. Mrs. Bear said if they want to pick it up. Mr. Andrews asked if this includes home schooled students. Dr. Riker said no home -schooled students but it is for homebound students. Dr. Riker said we are not delivering meals. Mrs. Bear said it would be anyone that is enrolled in the ESASD. Dr. Riker said that is correct. Mr. Rohner asked if this is fully funded. Mr. Neiman said the CEP Program will reimburse approximately 85% of the cost in order for us to provide those meals. I believe the advantage for the district is the student who can afford may buy a second meal or buy from the a la carte meals/snacks. Mr. Neiman said we have the trend from last year that with the free meals, the students a la carte purchases were through the roof. It was a windfall for the Food Services Funds. Part of the strategy of doing this is, we can take advantage of the program and give food to the kids that can't afford it. We know we are not going to compensated fully but we do feel very good about that 15 percent that we need to make up and we will receive that from the ala carte sale. Mr. Schlameuss said that his children like the vegetables that are being served. Mr. Rohner said he never had an issue with the school district's lunch. Mrs. Bear asked if a lot of children eat breakfast. Dr. Riker said he does know how many students eat breakfast. Mr. Schlameuss said as of October every student will be receiving free breakfast. Mrs. Bear said we spoke about that and that we are getting double reimbursement. Mr. Neiman said it will be 100% for breakfast and 85% for the lunches. Mr. Rohner asked so no students are being denied any food. They will not be told that they do not have money in their account. Mrs. Bear said only a la carte food would need to be purchased. Mr. Neiman said every student will receive a basic meal. Mr. Rohner said no one will get a cheese sandwich. Dr. Riker said we have done away with that. Mrs. Bear said it probably helps students with graduation because they will not owe for any lunch. Mr. Neiman said that was the concern from the beginning of the school year because students were accustomed to not paying lunch for the last year and a half; therefore, we did not want students having negative accounts. Mr. Rohner said it is nice to know that what the community is saying out there about students having to pay for breakfast and lunch is inaccurate. He is now creating minutes saying that both meals are getting fully funded. Mr. Rohner said am I correct? Dr. Riker said and the incorrect information is not being passed out from the district. Mr. Rohner said I did not say that. Dr. Riker said you did not say it wasn't so I am clarifying that information

for the minutes. Mr. Andrews said we didn't have all of this information last week. Mrs. Bear said we knew about the free lunches because we were notified about it through email and we were approved for the program. It is fully funded through grant funds. We are going to place this motion on the agenda to move forward for approval.

c. Financial Information System Update

Mr. Neiman said this item is just for your information. At this moment there is no Board action nor is there any Committee action that is needed. I am just sharing this information. You are probably all aware of our current financial information and the human resource information system Munis by Tyler Technology. We've had that in place for the last several years. The contract for that system is set to expire on December 31, 2023. We also know that as the modern ERP system works, you need to update your current system so that it functions appropriately. We know that in this next year and a half, there is some pretty significant upgrades that we have to make to the system. In consultation with the Information Technology Department, we are recommending that we explore the possibility of replacing the system. We have zeroed in on a particular system at this point which is known as the CSIU, which is the system that the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit produced and sells to school districts across the Commonwealth. That is our leading product at this point. We have some informational meetings scheduled over the next month or so that we can begin to explore the capabilities of this system. We would like to make a decision on this fairly quickly. If there is a change, we would like to recommend something to the Board in the next month or two to confirm the direction that we want to go. Mr. Andrews said if there will be upgrades now is the time to do this. Mr. Schlameuss said I see that it has a tax billing package. Mr. Neiman said that is my understanding from what is in the packet of information. We have not had any conversations with them yet. Mr. Schlameuss said one of the things I would be interested in what base software they have and do they write their own code or is it like a system. Mr. Neiman said they develop their own code. It says they are a home bread system. What is appealing to me is that it says that it is designed specifically for K-2 districts in Pennsylvania. Munis is a software organization out of Texas which is more marketed for large municipality county and runs school districts across the country. My perception of this is that we are working with a round peg in a square hole. Without getting into the weeds this is the reason that is driving our decision. We do know that many local districts are using the software that we would like to explore. For me that is wonderful because if we are having problems, I can call any Business Manager in the IU since they been on it for a while and they can be like our help desk. Right now with our system, we put a ticket in and maybe they get back to us quickly sometimes they don't. Mrs. Bear said I noticed that the student information system has issues too. Will we be looking at this area too? Mr. Neiman said currently we are dealing with our financial system and HR. Mr. Andrews asked how many years have they been in use. Mr. Neiman said they have been around for years. Mr. Andrews said it says they have been here for 45 years but I am asking about the current update on the system. Mr. Neiman said it is well used at this point by many. Mrs. Bear said at some point after we see how it works and enjoy how it works in the business office, we can add services and look at the student system at well. Mr. Neiman said I don't want to get ahead of ourselves. Mrs. Bear said can

you add later on if you want. Mr. Neiman said we don't see doing all the functions at one time. Mrs. Bear said not all at once but later on. Mr. Andrews said it seems to have a large number of the districts using the CSIU program. Dr. Riker said I don't have all of the information but in our current system only three school districts use it in Pennsylvania vs 200 who use the CSIU System that we would like to explore. Mr. Neiman said all of the reports that the Board would like to see would be easily available in the CSIU program as well as all of the PDE mandated reports that they require for the budget.

- d. Portable Metal Detectors - Protective Technologies International, Quote \$23,393.82
Dr. William Vitulli said recently we have become recipients of the PCCD Grant. This grant provides for two areas; one is physical safety. We had to go through all areas of PDE's physical safety requirements. We went through all tiers and there is one area we need to do some work on. We are using the grants to fill in the gaps where we need some assistance. One area that Chief Mill and Dr. Riker suggested were to get metal detectors. We are also looking to get interior door locks for the classrooms. There are other devices, too, like door jamming devices and alarms. These are all for protection in our schools. Metal detectors are the first thing we ordered through this grant. Chief Mill said the metal detectors are not going to be all around. It will help us to do random searches. Since they are portable, we can use them at games, events and Board meetings. We can use them on the buses. It will make all students think that their bus may be next. We already found a weapon on a student this year, which was a box cutter. Mrs. Bear said it can be used at any game. It can be moved to the entrance of a game. Chief Mill said they are placed in a box so they can be taken anywhere and set up. Mrs. Bear asked will North, South and J.T. Lambert have one. Chief Mill said we are ordering six. Mr. Andrews said we may use more than one at a time since there may be a crowd at a game. Chief Mill said we can set them up anywhere anytime. Also the door alarms will help when the students let other students in through a locked door. Mr. Andrews said we are putting locks on interior doors. Dr. Riker said these are exterior doors that are locked and students are letting kids in. Mrs. Bear said they sometimes prop open doors that are locked. Years ago, we had removed someone and that person was let in and an incident happened. Dr. Riker said just to be clear not all of these items are here before you but you will be seeing them in the future. Dr. Vitulli is getting different samples so that we can try them to see which one can serve us best. As we select those items, we will bring them to the committee. Mrs. Bear said with regards to metal detectors, will there be training for those who will be using them. Chief Mill said the School Police will be trained. It is not that difficult to use. Mrs. Bear asked what happens if you have a metal belt on will you be patted down. Chief Mill said we have the wands, too. Dr. Vitulli said this is just one part of the grant and the first of the numerous items that we will be bringing forward to the committee shortly.
- e. Elementary SEL Curriculum - Brain Pop, Quote \$14,768.78
Dr. Vitulli said Brain Pop is a renewal which serves particularly our Science and Social Studies elementary teachers. It is the one and only really additional resource that we have to provide them to use in their classrooms. It's been highly sold for a long time.

We are in need to redo it for the next year. Mr. Andrews asked if this is for SEL. Dr. Vitulli said no it is for Science and Social Studies. Mr. Neiman said he wrote it incorrectly on the agenda.

VII. Recommendations by the Property & Facilities Committee

a. D'Huy Engineering Invoices

- i. High School North and Smithfield Elementary Flooring Replacement – Invoice #55631 \$8,714.41
- ii. High School South Turf Field Replacement – Invoice #55632 \$1,035.91
- iii. Bushkill Elementary HVAC Replacement – Invoice #55633 \$990.02
- iv. High School North Natatorium HVAC Replacement – Invoice #55634 \$1,070.01
- v. North Campus Storm Pipe Replacement – Invoice #55635 \$1,375.00
- vi. East Stroudsburg Elementary Sprinkler Replacement – Invoice #55636 \$2,565.00

b. Applications for Payment

- i. High School North Flooring - H&P Construction - App#4 \$83,337.82
- ii. High School North/Lehman Intermediate School Window - D&M Construction - App#15 \$8,456.40
- iii. Smithfield Elementary Flooring - Cope Commercial - App#5 \$95,372.55
- iv. High School South Turf - Sprinturf - App#2 \$396,288.90

Mr. Schlameuss asked if we are applying for the refund for the turf on the days that were missed. Dr. Riker said I have not had a conversation with D'Huy since we said we wanted to do that. I will reach out to them again. Mr. Rohner asked what was that for. Dr. Riker said there is a \$1,000 per day penalty for not finishing on the deadline date. Mrs. Bear asked how many days were they late. Dr. Riker said probably a week. It depends on what deadline date they use. Mrs. Bear said neither date was met. Mr. Andrews asked if we were able to use the field when we had the first football game of the season. Dr. Riker said yes. Mr. Schlameuss said some practice games were not able to be held on the turf. Mrs. Bear said they were not able to hold the first football game on the turf. Mr. Schlameuss said they did but not the soccer game. They had to play at East Stroudsburg University. Mr. Rohner asked if we own the material that is left over that was left down there in the parking lot. Dr. Riker said they do give us turf so that when it is weathered, they have some to replace for a match. Mr. Schlameuss said your point is if it stays there it is not going to stay there for long. Mr. Rohner said correct.

c. Current Project List

Mr. Schlameuss asked did we approve new score boards. Mrs. Bear said, if I remember correctly, they spoke about that and it was going to be explored. The Athletic Director said they were going to explore it with a new company for the advertisement to be on there. Dr. Riker said that item was brought before the Property/Facilities Committee but it did not go any further. Mr. Schlameuss said he recalled they spoke about this topic but it was more for the timing items. Mrs. Bear said they did speak about the score board, too. I read that information in one of our Board packets. Mr. Andrews said it was for half of a million dollars but they would not give us any guarantee although they would receive their fees. Mrs. Bear said I noticed that we are only 14% paid on the turf.

How much more do we owe? It says we have \$500,000 left on the contract. Mr. Neiman said I believe that we owe \$396,000. Mr. Rohner asked what page are you on. Mrs. Bear said she is on page 5. Mr. Andrews said the only thing that has been approved by the Board except for the High School North storm pipe replacement and the Smithfield Elementary Sprinklers. Mr. Rohner asked what is outstanding on the gym floor at the high school and intermediate school. Mrs. Bear said it says 97% has been paid. Mr. Neiman said the last time I spoke with them they were doing some finishings. Mrs. Bear said they have been saying that for two years. The issues are by the water fountain and by the doors. Mr. Rohner asked do they not want their final payment or what? Dr. Riker said we do not like it because there is exposed metal that someone fell on. It could present a problem. Mr. Rohner said that is a liability. Dr. Riker said that has been like that for two years. Mr. Dailey showed it to me and it is by the water fountain and the doors. Mr. Rohner said that is the ramp and we may not get an answer to that. Mr. Schlameuss said they may not want to do the work. Mrs. Bear said then they will not get their final payment. Mr. Schlameuss said but we are left with the problem. Mr. Rohner said the pool repair should be at 100% now since we have the corking in the corners. Dr. Riker said it should be 100%. Mr. Andrews said we are waiting to get the bids on the storm pipe replacement at High School North. Mrs. Bear said I feel that we continue to have the roof natatorium every month. It looks like we added more payments for that, too. Mr. Andrews asked if the Property/Facilities Committee added more funds for the natatorium for next year. Mr. Rohner said not yet.

- d. District Generator 3-year Service Contract - Critical Systems, Quote \$27,345
- e. High School South Elevator #4 Cylinder Replacement- Otis Elevator, Quote \$83,646
Mr. Schlameuss said as I understand on the cylinder replacement, once it is installed, we will not be warrantied for any period of time because it is in concrete. Dr. Riker said and it is in water, too. Mr. Andrews said in talking to Mr. Gullstrand and Mrs. VanWhy at MCTI, is there a way to move the water from underneath where the cylinder is because we have to get it going. Mr. Schlameuss said it is a critical elevator. Dr. Riker said one of the items we explored was whether we want a cable elevator instead of a cylinder one. We do have a flat roof there. The price of the cost to install something like that would be \$700,000, which will fit the current cable pool that eliminates the entire need for that piston in the ground underneath. To divert water there is a cost. Mr. Rohner asked what is the depth of the water. Dr. Riker said I don't know because we pump it. We cannot allow any water in there but my understanding of that is that we built the school over a stream. How that ever happen, I will never understand. I don't think the water problem in that particular shaft is every going away. It has been shared with me that it is not uncommon in elevators. I think they have changed the material to PVC in an effort to extend the life of it. Mr. Schlameuss asked does this have a piston cylinder in the ground. Dr. Riker said yes. Mr. Schlameuss said the elevator in my office is not in the ground so it does not have a piece that extends in the ground. How many floors does this elevator serve? Dr. Riker said two. I don't know if we should invest in infrastructure that does not sit inside the well but on top of it. It sounds that is not set inserted into a casing but sits above the foundation. Dr. Riker said it is not a cable pull. Mrs. Bear said the issue is the cost. Mr. Schlameuss said we do not want to delay

the repair because it is an important piece of infrastructure. Mrs. Bear said maybe we can do this and look for grant to upgrade the elevator for our students. Dr. Riker said this project is projected to take 15 weeks for materials, supplies and the work involved. It also comes with the potential need to redrill. If when they remove that piston, the ground collapses around it because it is wet, that work is not part of the cost you see before you. We may look at it and if the cost escalates, we may look at other options. Mrs. Bear said we can explore other options now, too. Mr. Rohner asked if this is the same elevator that we spent money on years ago. Dr. Riker said I do not recall that. It is the one that if you come into the front doors, it is all the way in the back on the left-hand side. Mr. Rohner said we spent money on it. Mrs. Bear said I do not think it was that one. Dr. Riker said my understanding is that when we did the renovation project on the building, the elevators were worked on. Mr. Rohner said when I spoke to Mr. Daryle Miller after the meeting last week, I'm pretty sure he told me it was the same elevator. Dr. Riker said we did some of the plumbing. Mr. Rohner said maybe that is what we spent money on. Dr. Riker said Mr. Ihle contacted Labor and Industry because there were questions as to whether having the pump in there would be something that would not pass inspection from the Labor and Industry. You are not supposed to have anything in there according to their guidelines. We thought if that is an issue, then we need to do something different. That is when we started exploring the cable option or something else. If that is going to be an issue and we are going to fail inspection, they will shut the elevators down because we have a pump in there. We would then need an alternate option to explore before doing this project. Labor and Industry indicated that it would not be an issue. Mr. Schlameuss said the cable would not probably take any more time to do. Dr. Riker said we do not know if the roof would hold the cable because all we know at this time is that it is a flat roof.

- f. High School North Storm Water Pipe Replacement - Rutledge Excavating, Quote \$256,760

VIII. Recommendations by the Education Programs & Resources Committee

- a. None

IX. Public Participation - Limited to Items of Discussion

- A. Jacob Morris said his comment is in regards to the energy consultant decision making process. I want to thank Mr. Neiman for bringing in the two consultants today, even though they were eliminated and rightfully so they were eliminated. I found their presentations to be informative and quite educational. Several of the reports they offer to the district and the Board members have a lot of potential in terms of improving decision making. The Board seems to be, in my opinion rightfully so, seems to be tending towards the consultants that deal with the consortium based approach. I agree with that. It seems to be the better way to go. Back to the choice between Provident and Penn State. Again I am going to build on what Mrs. Bear said, which is that Penn State seems to have a more robust capability in terms of other services, quality and the engineers. I am definitely in favor of Penn State's resources. The size of the Consortium pool, again, Penn State is larger and the strongest foundation of all for profit versus non-profit.

Non-profit will offer its multiple services not from making a profit on the district. I think that is better for the school district and for the taxpayers.

- B. Mrs. Bear said I had spoken to Mr. Neiman about placing on next month's agenda adding our rates because savings rates have gotten better. I just want him to present what we are currently getting so that we have transparency. I wanted to let you know tonight so that you are aware of what Mr. Neiman and I discussed. Mr. Neiman said when I spoke to PSDLAF it looks like they won't be available for the October meeting but for the November meeting. Mrs. Bear said what I have been hearing personally in the industry, is that it is going to be another $\frac{3}{4}$ of a point. There was disappointing news today that inflation numbers went up from last month. They thought all the rate raising was going to lower inflation. It did not do that so that is why they are going to increase it again.

X. Advisory Recommendations for Consideration by the Board of Education

1.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by George Andrews to recommend that the Board consider for approval either Provident Energy Consulting Procurement Program or Penn State Facilities Engineering Institute Electricity Procurement Program. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

2.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to recommend that the Board consider authorizing the Administration to complete the Community Eligibility Provision application with the Pennsylvania Department of Education with the intention of providing a free breakfast and a free lunch to all students each school day during the 2022-23 school year. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

3.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to recommend that the Board consider for approval the quote from Protective Technologies International for Portable Metal Detectors in the amount of \$23,393.82. Motion was seconded by George Andrews and carried unanimously, 4-0.

4.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by George Andrews to recommend that the Board consider for approval the quote from BrainPOP for School Combo 24/7 subscription renewal for the 2022-23 school year in the amount of \$14,768.78. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

5.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by George Andrews to recommend that the Board consider for approval the following D'Huy Engineering invoices, which were recommended by the Property & Facilities Committee. Motion was seconded by Wayne Rohner and carried unanimously, 4-0.

6.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by George Andrews to recommend that the Board consider for approval the following Applications for payment, which were recommended by the Property & Facilities Committee. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

7.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by George Andrews to recommend that the Board consider for approval the quote from Critical Systems for a Districtwide generator service contract in the amount of \$27,345, which was recommended by the Property & Facilities Committee. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

8.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to recommend that the Board consider for approval the quote from Otis Elevator for High School South elevator #4 cylinder replacement in the amount of \$83,646, which was recommended by the Property & Facilities Committee. Motion was seconded by Richard Schlameuss and carried unanimously, 4-0.

9.

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by Wayne Rohner to recommend that the Board consider for approval the quote from Rutledge Excavating for High School North storm water pipe replacement in the amount of \$256,760, which was recommended by the Property & Facilities Committee. Motion was seconded by George Andrews and carried unanimously, 4-0.

XI. Next Meeting - October 10, 2022

RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE:

Motion was made by Richard Schlameuss to adjourn. Motion was seconded by George Andrews and carried unanimously, 4-0.

XII. Adjournment: 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia L. Rosado
Board Secretary