

**THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15213  
Administration Building  
341 South Bellefield Avenue**

**SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
AGENDA  
November 14, 2007**

**[ROLL CALL]**

**A. COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

1. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh approve the submission of a required District Improvement Plan to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) in order to address the District's Corrective Action II status during the 2007-2008 school year. Accordingly, this plan includes the Pittsburgh Public Schools' priority 2007-2008 goals and strategies for addressing all matters required under the No Child Left Behind Act as delineated within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Accountability Plan. The deadline for filing the District Improvement Plan with the PDE is November 16, 2007.

**[Roll Call]**

**B. COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS / FINANCE**

1. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh authorize its appropriate officers to exercise the right of first refusal on Units 1 and 2, 121 Ninth Street Condominium and to purchase the units for \$1.4 million dollars.

**RESOLVED, FURTHER**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh authorize its appropriate officers to purchase Unit 9, 121 Ninth Street Condominium for \$600,000 and eight parking spaces in connection therewith in the basement limited common area for \$200,000, the amount per space as established when the condominium was created and renovated.

**RESOLVED, FINALLY**, That the Solicitor and other officers be authorized to prepare and execute all necessary agreements, including agreements of sale and closing documents in connection with these acquisitions.

2. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with DGGP Architecture for "on-call" architectural design services for the preliminary phase of the High School Reform projects within the District including but not limited to the provision of all necessary designs, specifications, construction bid documents, preparation of reports, cost estimates, feasibility studies, surveys, and related sub-consultant engineering/other services as required to design Pittsburgh Reizenstein High School Reform project. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2009. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates and shall not exceed \$150,000 in base fee and \$50,000 in reimbursable expenses, for a total of \$200,000, from account line 6300-357-4400-330. Based on the number of project(s) assigned and budget and designs developed, there will be a negotiated fee for the subsequent phases of the High School Reform project.
3. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with Foreman Group for "on-call" architectural design services for the preliminary phase of the High School Reform projects within the District including but not limited to the provision of all necessary designs, specifications, construction bid documents, preparation of reports, cost estimates, feasibility studies, surveys, and related sub-consultant engineering/other services as required to design Pittsburgh Frick High School Reform project. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2009. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates and shall not exceed \$150,000.00 in base fee and \$50,000 in reimbursable expenses, for a total of \$200,000, from account line 6300-357-4400-330. Based on the number of project(s) assigned and budget and designs developed, there will be a negotiated fee for the subsequent phases of the High School Reform project.
4. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with Graves Architects, Inc. for "on-call" architectural design services for the preliminary phase of the High School Reform projects within the District including but not limited to the provision of all necessary designs, specifications, construction bid documents, preparation of reports, cost estimates, feasibility studies, surveys, and related sub-consultant engineering/other services as required to design Pittsburgh Milliones High School Reform project. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2009. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates and shall not exceed \$150,000 in base fee and \$50,000 in reimbursable expenses, for a total of \$200,000, from account line 6300-357-4400-330. Based on the number of project(s) assigned and budget and designs developed, there will be a negotiated fee for the subsequent phases of the High School Reform project.

Designs submitted were evaluated by Facilities staff, High School Reform team and the Operations office.

5. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with HHSDR Architects/Engineers for "on-call" architectural design services for the preliminary phase of the High School Reform projects within the District including but not limited to the provision of all necessary designs, specifications, construction bid documents, preparation of reports, cost estimates, feasibility studies, surveys, and related sub-consultant engineering/other services as required to design Pittsburgh Peabody High School Reform project. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2009. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates and shall not exceed \$150,000 in base fee and \$50,000 in reimbursable expenses, for a total of \$200,000, from account line 6300-357-4400-330. Based on the number of project(s) assigned and budget and designs developed, there will be a negotiated fee for the subsequent phases of the High School Reform project.
6. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with MacLachlan Cornelius & Filoni for "on-call" architectural design services for the preliminary phase of the High School Reform projects within the District including but not limited to the provision of all necessary designs, specifications, construction bid documents, preparation of reports, cost estimates, feasibility studies, surveys, and related sub-consultant engineering/other services as required to design Pittsburgh CAPA High School Reform project. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 to December 31, 2009. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates and shall not exceed \$150,000 in base fee and \$50,000 in reimbursable expenses, for a total of \$200,000, from account line 6300-357-4400-330. Based on the number of project(s) assigned and budget and designs developed, there will be a negotiated fee for the subsequent phases of the High School Reform project.

Designs submitted were evaluated by Facilities staff, High School Reform team and the Operations office.

7. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with Chronicle Consulting, LLC and URS Corp. to provide all professional construction management services for the proposed construction work for the Pittsburgh Peabody High School Reform project. Services are not limited to, but include daily monitoring, construction coordination, review of construction documents, schedules, quality of construction, contractor requisitions, change orders, site safety and related services as may be required to complete project on schedule. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates submitted. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 through December 31, 2009. The total contract amount shall not exceed \$250,000 from account line 6300-357-4400-330.

If the total project(s) cost exceeds \$5,000,000, there will be a negotiated fee for the additional work services.

8. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with Management Engineering Corporation to provide all professional construction management services for the proposed construction work for the Pittsburgh Milliones High School Reform project. Services are not limited to, but include daily monitoring, construction coordination, review of construction documents, schedules, quality of construction, contractor requisitions, change orders, site safety and related services as may be required to complete project on schedule. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates submitted. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 through December 31, 2009. The total contract amount shall not exceed \$250,000 from account line 6300-357-4400-330.

If the total project(s) cost exceeds \$5,000,000, there will be a negotiated fee for the additional work services.

9. **RESOLVED**, That the Board of Directors of the School District of Pittsburgh be authorized to enter into a contract with Foreman Program and Construction Management to provide all professional construction management services for the proposed construction work for the Pittsburgh Reizenstein High School Reform project. Services are not limited to, but include daily monitoring, construction coordination, review of construction documents, schedules, quality of construction, contractor requisitions, change orders, site safety and related services as may be required to complete project on schedule. The initial fee shall be based on the consultant's hourly rates submitted. The operating period shall be from November 15, 2007 through December 31, 2009. The total contract amount shall not exceed \$250,000 from account line 6300-357-4400-330.

If the total project(s) cost exceeds \$5,000,000, there will be a negotiated fee for the additional work services.

[Roll Call]

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. Transfer of Funds (See Attachment A)

[Roll Call]

## NEW BUSINESS

[Roll Call]

BUSINESS / FINANCE COMMITTEE

November 14, 2007

TRANSFER OF FUNDS  
GENERAL FUND

DIRECTORS:

It is recommended that the following transfer be approved:

From Major Object 800	\$2,200,000
Appropriations for Contingencies	
To Major Object 700	\$2,200,000
Buildings	

To fund the acquisition of additional building space for the CAPA Facility.

Respectfully submitted,

Floyd McCrea  
Chairperson  
Business / Finance Committee

2007 APPROPRIATIONS BY MAJOR OBJECT  
ADJUSTED AS OF NOVEMBER 2007

MAJOR OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	APPROPRIATIONS	DATE OF TRANSFER	AMOUNT OF TRANSFER	ADJUSTED BUDGET
100	Personal Services- Salaries	\$198,512,196			\$198,512,196
200	Personal Services- Employee Benefits	71,937,619			71,937,619
300	Purchased Prof. & Tech. Services	80,102,551	01/24/2007	(\$3,200,000)	76,902,551
400	Purchased Property Services	7,861,090	01/24/2007	\$3,200,000	11,061,090
500	Other Purchased Services	77,146,526	02/20/2007	(\$77,151)	77,069,375
600	Supplies	18,889,738	08/22/2007 10/24/2007	(\$160,000) (\$80,000)	18,649,738
700	Property	4,667,639	08/22/2007 10/24/2007 11/14/2007	\$160,000 \$80,000 \$2,200,000	7,107,639
800	Other Objects	35,452,009	11/14/2007	(\$2,200,000)	33,252,009
900	Other Financing Uses	34,366,376	02/20/2007	\$77,151	34,443,527
	Res. for Enc.	2,500,000			2,500,000
		<u>\$531,435,744</u>		<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$531,435,744</u>

1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

2 - - -

3 PITTSBURGH BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION  
 4 SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
 5 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007  
 6 6:05 P.M.

7 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM

8 - - -

9 BEFORE:

10 WILLIAM ISLER, BOARD PRESIDENT  
 11 RANDALL TAYLOR, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT  
 12 THERESA COLAIZZI, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT  
 13 MARK BRENTLEY  
 14 PATRICK DOWD  
 15 JEAN FINK  
 16 FLOYD McCREA  
 17 DANIEL ROMANIELLO, SR.  
 18 THOMAS SUMPTER

19 - - -

20 ALSO PRESENT:

21 MR. MARK ROOSEVELT	DR. LINDA LANE
22 MR. FRANK G. CHESTER	MR. CHRIS BERDNIK
23 MR. IRA WEISS	MR. PETER J. CAMARDA
24 MR. RICHARD R. FELLERS	DR. PAULETTE PONCELET
25 MR. DWIGHT LAUFMAN	MR. DERRICK LOPEZ
MR. BUD BERGIE	DR. CHRISTIANA OTUWA
MS. LISA FISCHETTI	MS. ROBIN WENGER
DR. JERRI LIPPERT	DR. KAYE CUPPLES
MR. HOWARD BULLARD	DR. BARBARA RUDIAK

26 - - -

27 REPORTED BY: LANCE E. HANNAFORD  
 28 PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER

29 - - -  
 30 COMPUTER-AIDED TRANSCRIPTION BY  
 31 MORSE, GANTVERG & HODGE, INC.  
 32 PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
 33 412-281-0189

34 - - -

35 ORIGINAL

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 MR. ISLER: Good evening, ladies and  
3 gentlemen.

4 I would like to call the November 14th,  
5 2007 special legislative meeting to order for the  
6 Pittsburgh Board of Education.

7 Would you all please rise so we may salute  
8 the flag?

9 (Pledge of allegiance.)

10 MR. ISLER: Thank you.

11 The first part of this meeting is a special  
12 legislative meeting.

13 As soon as we adjourn that, we will take a  
14 short break.

15 So we can realign ourselves before the  
16 agenda review.

17 Mr. Weiss, could we please have a roll call  
18 vote of those in attendance?

19 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

20 MR. BRENTLEY: Here.

21 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. WEISS: Mr. Dowd?

24 MR. DOWD: Present.

25 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?



1 MRS. FINK: Here.

2 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

3 MR. McCREA: Here.

4 MR. WEISS: Mr. Romaniello?

5 MR. ROMANIELLO: Here.

6 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

7 MR. SUMPTER: Present.

8 MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor?

9 MR. TAYLOR: Here.

10 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

11 MR. ISLER: Present.

12 Would you please note there are a number of  
13 items on the agenda this evening?

14 The first is committee on education report.

15 It is the school district's submission of  
16 the district improvement plan of the Commonwealth of  
17 Pennsylvania.

18 Mr. Roosevelt, do you want to say anything  
19 about this item, sir?

20 MR. ROOSEVELT: We are fully prepared to  
21 answer any questions the board might have.

22 And I think if there are questions, we are  
23 prepared to answer them.

24 MR. ISLER: It has been submitted to all  
25 board members.

1                   Any questions, concerns or suggestions on  
2   committee on education report No. 1? The only item  
3   under education committee.

4                   Mr. Brentley?

5                   MR. BRENTLEY: A question on this item.  
6   This is tied in to the high school reform?

7                   Or parts of.

8                   MR. ISLER: Dr. Lane.

9                   DR. LANE: High school reform is listed as  
10   part of the district's improvement plan.

11                  However, the fact that it is listed in the  
12   plan does not either obligate or change any decision  
13   the board might make around high school reform.

14                  The plan is flexible.

15                  So at any point if there would be any  
16   changes the board would like to make, then that could  
17   be done.

18                  And so as I said, voting on the plan does  
19   not obligate anything beyond that or do anything  
20   directly related to high school reform.

21                  MR. BRENTLEY: There are parts --

22                  DR. LANE: Correct.

23                  There are parts of high school reform  
24   listed in the plan.

25                  MR. BRENTLEY: My other question I guess is

1 to -- everyone is well aware of the public hearing  
2 yesterday.

3 And one great suggestion that came out of  
4 the hearing was the possibility of approaching the  
5 state and asking for an extension in terms of time.

6 So that when we submit a plan, it is tight.  
7 And it would have everything sent.

8 Have we considered that at all?

9 MR. ROOSEVELT: We have no reason to seek  
10 an extension to the plan.

11 It is the district's improvement plan. It  
12 is a full plan.

13 It is ready.

14 And it is timely and submitted to the  
15 state.

16 MR. BRENTLEY: But if there are items that  
17 are still in question, that are included in this item  
18 under committee of education, it would just seem like  
19 it would make a little bit more sense that we move  
20 together once those adjustments were made.

21 The one speaker said there was some  
22 excitement on the part of the state, if we were to  
23 consider or formally request an extension.

24 I am thinking as a board member, it would  
25 make a lot of sense, if we can not piecemeal things,

1 but kind of move together as one big unit.

2                   So you say you have not explored that or  
3 you are not considering it?

4                   MR. ROOSEVELT: Mr. Brentley, there is no  
5 reason -- some of the folks who testified last night  
6 made a connection between the issues around Schenley  
7 and the district improvement plan.

8                   There is no connection.

9                   And that was a misunderstanding.

10                  An understandable one, because both are  
11 being taken in to some action, potentially by the  
12 board tonight.

13                  But the district improvement plan will  
14 always be a moving document, as we will always be  
15 adding action items to what the district is doing and  
16 try to improve student performance.

17                  But this district improvement plan is  
18 tight.

19                  It is done.

20                  It represents where the district is at this  
21 time and what the plans are for the future in terms of  
22 student achievement.

23                  MR. BRENTLEY: It is unfortunate that we  
24 would not consider an extension.

25                  We will leave it at that.

1 I am disappointed as a board member just  
2 learning of the concerns last night.

3 And if there is an opportunity to hold  
4 things, so that we are not caught almost the way we  
5 have been caught on other initiatives in this  
6 district, that here is an opportunity for us to slow  
7 the process, engage and include folks before we move  
8 forward.

9 I am disappointed we are not considering  
10 it.

11 And I would urge my colleagues, you were  
12 all there.

13 You were all witness to concerns. Why  
14 start a fight, if you don't have to?

15 And so I would only encourage my board  
16 members we have to raise some of these concerns.

17 We know what happens, when we move too  
18 fast.

19 We know what happens when we make changes  
20 and recommendations and when we leave the community  
21 out.

22 When we leave parents out.

23 When we leave all of the stakeholders out.

24 It becomes a costly ordeal to the  
25 taxpayers.

1                   And I would encourage my colleagues, I am  
2   sure most of your votes and decisions have been made  
3   already.

4                   But I want to raise those concerns.

5                   And I will not be able to support the item  
6   No. 1.

7                   MR. ISLER: Are you finished,  
8   Mr. Brentley?

9                   MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

10                  MR. ISLER: Thank you, sir.

11                  Mr. Weiss, please note Mrs. Colaizzi has  
12   arrived.

13                  Mr. Taylor.

14                  MR. WEISS: So noted.

15                  MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.

16                  I also share some of the concerns about the  
17   haste of which this is proceeding.

18                  My first question I have for the  
19   superintendent.

20                  The community meeting that was held at  
21   Schenley this past I believe this past Thursday, were  
22   there architects and others in attendance?

23                  I know Mr. Lopez was there for high school  
24   reform.

25                  Were there architects and people from our

1 facilities department at that meeting to answer  
2 questions?

3 MR. ROOSEVELT: I do not believe there  
4 were. But I am mystified by the connection that you  
5 gentlemen are drawing between that issue and the  
6 district improvement plan.

7 MR. TAYLOR: Sir, I am not talking about  
8 the district improvement plan.

9 I am speaking to --

10 MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor, the item is  
11 district improvement plan.

12 That is what we are voting on. There is  
13 only one item.

14 We are voting on the committee on education  
15 report.

16 Al.

17 Starting at the beginning.

18 MR. TAYLOR: It is a finance concern.

19 MR. ISLER: Yes.

20 MR. TAYLOR: The only question I have is  
21 there were concerns from people who do follow  
22 educational issues that they weren't completely  
23 satisfied, I think with a number of things and  
24 elements that were not a part of that plan.

25 Are you aware of some of the concerns of

1 some of the people in the education community, are you  
2 aware there were concerns?

3 MR. ROOSEVELT: Mr. Taylor, we haven't  
4 received, as far as I know -- if anybody on staff will  
5 disagree with me -- any concerns from anybody in any  
6 manner about the district improvement plan.

7 It would be a first impression to me.

8 MR. TAYLOR: Like I say, there were a  
9 couple speakers who referred to it last night.

10 Of course, this is a very important  
11 document.

12 And so I was just saying were you in any  
13 way concerned about some of the concerns that at least  
14 a couple speakers had about wanting to take a closer  
15 look at the district improvement plan that we are  
16 about to vote on this evening?

17 MR. ROOSEVELT: I apologize.

18 At the risk of repeating myself, I believe  
19 there was confusion last night on a couple speakers,  
20 because tonight the board is dealing with two issues.  
21 One is the district improvement plan.

22 The second is the hiring of some architects  
23 and construction managers on issues that do relate in  
24 some way to the Schenley matter.

25 But the district improvement plan in no way



1 relates to the Schenley matter.

2                   So I think there was confusion on some  
3 speakers' parts.

4                   Because they inferred that the decision  
5 that we are asking the board to make for high schools  
6 in coming months is somehow included in the district  
7 reform plan.

8                   It is not.

9                   MR. TAYLOR: I know Ms. Taylor spoke. She  
10 has worked actively with public education issues.

11                   To me she was clear.

12                   She did comment on the issues around  
13 Schenley.

14                   She was very clear about concerns around  
15 the district improvement plan and the haste some  
16 things omitted from the district plan.

17                   So I think she was very clear.

18                   MR. ROOSEVELT: I heard nothing on that.

19                   I did hear there was confusion on her part  
20 of the Schenley piece being a part of the plan.

21                   Mr. Taylor, this plan has not been produced  
22 in any haste at all.

23                   It has been worked on for a long period of  
24 time.

25                   And it is now due to the state.

1                   It is actually why we needed to call this  
2 special meeting tonight.

3                   Because though we could ask for an  
4 extension, we have absolutely no reason to ask for an  
5 extension.

6                   And it is now due to the state. And it is  
7 something that needs to be approved by the board  
8 before submission.

9                   MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.

10                  MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Taylor.  
11 Mr. Dowd.

12                  MR. DOWD: If we could, Dr. Lane, just a  
13 little clarity for all of us.

14                  What is the purpose of the district  
15 improvement plan?

16                  What is the process here? Why are we doing  
17 this?

18                  I think we need clarity around that.

19                  It is a regular procedural process for this  
20 administration.

21                  Is it not?

22                  DR. LANE: That's correct.

23                  Because the district is in corrective  
24 action.

25                  We are required to file this plan.

1 MR. DOWD: Corrective action means what?

2 DR. LANE: It means we are not meeting our  
3 requirements under No Child Left Behind.

4 The plan itself is a description of the  
5 steps the district intends to take in order to better  
6 meet achievement needs of students in Pittsburgh  
7 Public Schools.

8 It is an annual plan that we file.

9 The bulk of the plan is describing a lot of  
10 the Excellence for All agenda, reform agenda that the  
11 community is already familiar with.

12 We have to take the step of analyzing data.  
13 And looking at the root causes of the lack of student  
14 achievement.

15 And then delineate what our strategies will  
16 be to address those.

17 That is basically what the plan is about.

18 MR. DOWD: Is this something -- this is the  
19 first time we filed this report?

20 DR. LANE: No. It is not. It is an annual  
21 plan.

22 MR. DOWD: This is something we do on a  
23 regular ongoing basis.

24 This is a compliance document. Is that  
25 correct?

1 DR. LANE: Well, compliance -- to keep us  
2 in compliance, yes.

3 But also the intent is that it also helps  
4 shape our work for the coming year around student  
5 achievement.

6 MR. DOWD: Great. And it is again based on  
7 foundation documents like the Excellence for All plan,  
8 which the board has voted.

9 And many other pieces that we have been  
10 working on over the last several years.

11 As far as student achievement as foundation  
12 documents.

13 DR. LANE: That's correct.

14 MR. DOWD: Thank you.

15 MR. ISLER: Any other questions or  
16 concerns?

17 Mr. Brentley.

18 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

19 Dr. Lane in the plan, you mentioned there  
20 were parts in the plan that talked about high school  
21 reform.

22 Can you briefly talk about what is  
23 mentioned in there that is part of the high school  
24 reform?

25 DR. LANE: Mr. Brentley, because -- I was

1 looking through, on page 17 of 67, there is a  
2 reference to high school reform.

3 And there are other references throughout  
4 the document to high school reform.

5 But in terms of specific things that will  
6 be done as a part of high school reform, that is not  
7 necessarily a part of this plan.

8 And additionally, as I stated before, at  
9 any time, if changes are made to our reform agenda or  
10 the actions around anything we are doing, then we at  
11 any time can change our plan.

12 And there is no problem at all.

13 We did contact the Department of Education  
14 about that.

15 And they did let us know, that no, this  
16 would not be a reason to not submit.

17 Because we have the flexibility, it is not  
18 something the board locks themselves in to.

19 MR. BRENTLEY: Can you tell me, Doctor,  
20 does it have any mention as to some of the changes  
21 around Schenley school at all?

22 DR. LANE: Yes.

23 It does.

24 What I am saying, that still does not lock  
25 the board in.

1                   MR. BRENTLEY: Does it mention also the  
2 changes with the mainstream students going to the  
3 Reizenstein school?

4                   I mean, the Milliones and the IB going to  
5 Reizenstein?

6                   And the six to 12 recommendation?

7                   DR. LANE: Yes.

8                   That is in there.

9                   MR. BRENTLEY: Let me just say, and I  
10 appreciate your response.

11                   And not necessarily to you, but to you,  
12 Mark, can you see where it is a little misleading to  
13 the public to include that in any document, that we  
14 are voting on, that is going to govern this board or  
15 to be used to govern this board in its improvement,  
16 when a lot of these issues are still unanswered?

17                   It clearly gives the indication that there  
18 is an attempt to backdoor this whole high school  
19 reform.

20                   That is a little misleading.

21                   And that is why there were a lot of  
22 concerns last night.

23                   We also have to be very careful not to  
24 underestimate our parent community out there.

25                   They are very well read.

1           They are active.

2           Love the district.

3           And they also do their research as well.

4           That is where the confusion comes in.

5           Because if you are including it here, then  
6 it is misleading to the public.

7           It is suggesting a portion of this is  
8 moving forward without going through the proper  
9 channels.

10          That is where the problem is.

11          Do you understand that, Mark?

12          MR. ROOSEVELT: I do understand there would  
13 be confusion around that.

14          But as Dr. Lane said, this does not  
15 obligate the board in any way or manner. This  
16 contains, we believe Dr. Lane is looking for them now,  
17 references to it.

18          And we are trying to find them now as to  
19 exactly how they are articulated.

20          MR. BRENTLEY: Okay.

21          Then what we should do, if that is not a  
22 problem, then it shouldn't be a problem just to remove  
23 them before we vote on this document today.

24          It makes sense for us to do that, to also  
25 continue to gain the trust of this community, that we

1 are open.

2 We are willing to listen to some of their  
3 recommendations.

4 So I am willing to wait, if you can find  
5 anything that makes a reference to the high school  
6 reform.

7 And remove it before we vote.

8 MR. ISLER: Mr. Brentley, this is a  
9 legislative meeting, sir.

10 And if you want to do something like  
11 that --

12 MR. BRENTLEY: I would like to make a  
13 motion any item in the plan we are scheduled to vote  
14 on, which is under the committee on education,  
15 A, No. 1, we are asking that it would be removed  
16 completely from the document before we are able to  
17 vote.

18 That is a motion.

19 MR. ISLER: Is there a second?

20 (No response.)

21 MR. ISLER: Motion is not accepted. There  
22 is no second to the motion.

23 Any other questions or concerns?

24 Mr. Weiss, could we have roll call, please,  
25 on the committee on education report?



1 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley.  
2 MR. BRENTLEY: No.  
3 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi.  
4 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.  
5 MR. WEISS: Mr. Dowd.  
6 MR. DOWD: Yes.  
7 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink.  
8 MS. FINK: Yes.  
9 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea.  
10 MR. McCREA: Yes.  
11 MR. WEISS: Mr. Romaniello.  
12 MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.  
13 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter.  
14 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.  
15 MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor.  
16 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.  
17 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler.  
18 MR. ISLER: Yes.  
19 MR. WEISS: Motion carries.  
20 MR. ISLER: Thank you.  
21 Move to committee on business and finance.  
22 The item here on No. 1 is to purchase  
23 additional space for CAPA in the building downtown.  
24 Mr. Weiss, if you want to add anything as I  
25 go on, if you would follow me, sir, I would greatly

1 appreciate it.

2                   2 is the architects on call with Pittsburgh  
3 Reizenstein high school reform project.

4                   3 is for architects on call for the  
5 Pittsburgh Frick high school reform project.

6                   No. 4 is architects on call for the  
7 Pittsburgh Milliones high school reform.

8                   5 is architects and engineers on call for  
9 the Pittsburgh Peabody high school reform project.

10                  No. 6 is architects on call for the  
11 Pittsburgh CAPA high school reform project.

12                  No. 7 is for construction management  
13 services for the Pittsburgh Peabody high school reform  
14 project.

15                  No. 8 is construction management and  
16 engineering services for the Pittsburgh Milliones high  
17 school reform project.

18                  And No. 9 is construction management  
19 services for the Pittsburgh Reizenstein high school  
20 project.

21                  Are there any questions from the board on  
22 any of these items?

23                  Mr. Taylor.

24                  MR. TAYLOR: Back to my original question  
25 about intent at the community reform held this past

1 Thursday.

2                   Were there architects and facilities people  
3 from the district in attendance to answer questions  
4 about the condition of the building and the  
5 superintendent's recommendation?

6                   MR. FELLERS: There were no staff, that I  
7 am aware of, that were there to answer questions like  
8 that.

9                   Mr. Patil is a parent of a student at the  
10 school. But he was not there to answer questions.

11                  MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Roosevelt, the question I  
12 have to ask is do you believe the school community  
13 students who are affected by that program have been  
14 fully informed, to your satisfaction, about why your  
15 recommendation was made to close the facility in June  
16 due to health and safety concerns?

17                  Do you think again the school community  
18 students, to your satisfaction have been fully  
19 informed as to why you made this recommendation to the  
20 board?

21                  MR. ROOSEVELT: No.

22                  And I think this has been an extremely, as  
23 the board well knows, difficult and challenging  
24 situation that we are in.

25                  As the board knows, and as we did relate it

1 to the public, it was only about eight weeks ago that  
2 issues were brought to our attention that made it in  
3 my opinion impossible for us to conclude otherwise  
4 that students should not be in that building in  
5 September of 2008.

6 We do not anticipate that message, that  
7 reality.

8 And so during this time, I am apologetic,  
9 even though I am not quite sure what I could have done  
10 about it.

11 That process has not been as full as it  
12 could have been and should have been.

13 And that is both true.

14 We have given the short timeline, made some  
15 initial steps to both especially talk to students,  
16 faculty and parents and others.

17 But given the nature of construction  
18 projects in the school district.

19 And given the fact, again, we concluded, as  
20 you well know, that it would be imprudent to open the  
21 building with students in it next year, our No. 1  
22 objective had to be to provide safe facilities for  
23 these students.

24 And we wanted to do so in a manner that was  
25 in keeping with our academic objectives.

1                   And we have done that in the best way  
2 possible.

3                   It has definitely made communications more  
4 of a challenge than we would like.

5                   No question about that.

6                   For that I can do nothing but apologize and  
7 say we will be moving to enter in to dialogue around  
8 all of the issues around the move, that we possibly  
9 can.

10                  Next week we will be sharing all of the  
11 materials with folks we have in terms of the  
12 assessments of the building and the problem with the  
13 delamination of the plaster.

14                  And the potential costs of any remediation  
15 that might -- the board might want to consider.

16                  But again, we felt our core obligation to  
17 our students meant that we needed to present the board  
18 a plan for their safe keeping in the year ahead.

19                  And yes, Mr. Taylor, you are right, that  
20 has been both quicker and with less communication than  
21 in any other situation we would have liked.

22                  I would like to ask the president. I did  
23 have a small presentation to update and encapsulate  
24 for the board, if he would like me to present it.

25                  MR. ISLER: Fine.

1           Please go ahead.

2           MR. ROOSEVELT: It is very short.

3           MR. ISLER: Mr. Roosevelt, if you can, just  
4 please try to speak in to the mike.

5           MR. ROOSEVELT: I am sorry.

6           Was I not?

7           MR. ISLER: You are turning sideways.

8           MR. ROOSEVELT: I apologize.

9           I apologize.

10          I have a lousy and nonending cold.

11          And it probably makes it harder to hear.

12          The recommendations we presented to the  
13 public and to the board over the last ten days, we  
14 very strongly believe in, for creating a new learning  
15 community for our students.

16          There is a significant body of research we  
17 believe supports the creation of 6-12 learning  
18 communities, much of which we presented to the board  
19 and public.

20          And much more of which will be presented in  
21 the weeks to come.

22          As you know, and as Mr. Taylor's question  
23 suggests, we did indeed make adjustments to our  
24 planning, because of the accelerated deterioration of  
25 the Schenley facility, as well as the item in front of

1 the board to purchase the extra space downtown at the  
2 CAPA building.

3 I want to know most importantly, the  
4 community input we have had time to encompass, and  
5 especially speaking with our students, has encouraged  
6 us to provide one change tonight, that we will be  
7 apprising the board of now, which is we do believe  
8 that the current Schenley students should be moved  
9 intact to Reizenstein and allowed to graduate  
10 together.

11 Perhaps this will help show the board.

12 It is an adjustment.

13 But it keeps the core of the plan intact.

14 In 2008-2009 the 10, 11th, 12th graders  
15 from Schenley would move to Reizenstein.

16 They would graduate with Schenley diplomas.

17 Students seem to feel extremely strongly  
18 about this.

19 It seems to matter to them a great deal.

20 And we believe that we can accommodate that  
21 desire on their part within the academic goals of the  
22 plan.

23 In that same year, therefore, Frick would  
24 add a 9th grade to its program at the Frick Building.

25 The robotics program would open at Peabody

1 with 9th grade.

2 And the Milliones partnership would open  
3 instead of as a 6 to 12 immediately, would open as a 6  
4 to 9 school to expand each year to become a 6-12.

5 In '09-'10, the former Schenley students  
6 would continue to progress through and to graduate  
7 together, those who would become 12th graders.

8 In that year, we would move to the creation  
9 of the IB world program at Reizenstein by moving the  
10 Frick program there.

11 This time now with 6th through 10th  
12 graders.

13 Peabody robotics would continue to grow one  
14 grade at a time.

15 University prep partnership would grow  
16 again one year at a time.

17 And the science and technology academy --  
18 science and technology school would open as a 6-9 at  
19 Frick.

20 And the CAPA program immediately add the  
21 6th to 9th grade cohort. 6th through 8th grade cohort  
22 really downtown.

23 Again, the phased in approach allows us to  
24 move forward with our new 6-12 learning communities.

25 It also allows us to accommodate the



1 Schenley students in their very strong desire to  
2 graduate together and to receive Schenley diplomas.

3           The Frick students are able to prepare for  
4 transition to IB world at Reizenstein in '09-'10.

5           And it gives us time with the folks at the  
6 University of Pittsburgh to open our partnership in a  
7 more sequenced manner at Milliones.

8           It ultimately achieves the goal that we  
9 have, which is to open these focus learning  
10 communities and increase -- dramatically increase high  
11 school choice for our students.

12           So if that helps, I hope it does. If it  
13 does not, if it leaves questions open, I am certainly  
14 prepared, as our other folks on the staff, to answer  
15 them.

16           Thank you for allowing me the opportunity  
17 to present that.

18           MR. ISLER: I want to be clear on this.  
19 We are not voting on any of this this  
20 evening.

21           MR. ROOSEVELT: That's correct.

22           But I do think the knowledge of it informs  
23 the votes that you are being asked to make, in terms  
24 of the hiring of architects.

25           MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Roosevelt. The

1 discussion is really on business and finance items.

2 1 through 9 that are before us this  
3 evening.

4 And I think we have to confine our  
5 discussion to those items.

6 Mr. Brentley.

7 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes, Mr. President, first,  
8 with all due respect, I want to make -- clarify  
9 something.

10 I don't think it is fair to attempt to  
11 limit discussion.

12 If the items are related, every board  
13 member should have his or her right to talk about  
14 that.

15 I think it sets a very, very strange  
16 precedent for the president to attempt to limit the  
17 discussion.

18 They are related.

19 Okay?

20 And regardless of what we are hearing  
21 around this table or what is told by this  
22 administration, they are related.

23 Okay?

24 So I am hoping that you would just remove  
25 that and not attempt to limit anyone's concerns

1 raising -- or their questions.

2 It is just not a good thing to say.

3 MR. ISLER: Mr. Brentley, I made a  
4 suggestion.

5 That is all I made, sir.

6 A suggestion.

7 You make them all the time.

8 I get to make them.

9 Do you want the floor, Mr. Brentley?

10 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

11 And I am sharing with you --

12 MR. ISLER: I made a suggestion.

13 Please get to the business of the meeting.

14 MR. BRENTLEY: This is a sensitive issue.

15 And if it takes us two or three hours to  
16 discuss it and to represent our constituents, we  
17 should be allowed to.

18 You should not attempt to frame the  
19 discussion or to lock board members in to a particular  
20 corner on discussing this.

21 That is all I am saying.

22 MR. ISLER: Mr. Brentley, I have complete  
23 confidence in my fellow board members that I cannot  
24 lock them in to a corner.

25 I made a suggestion. This is a business

1 item here.

2 You have the floor, sir.

3 You may continue with your discussion.

4 But I do trust that my board members never  
5 feel locked in to a corner by anything I say, sir.

6 MR. BRENTLEY: I appreciate that,  
7 Mr. President.

8 It is not often a president frames a  
9 discussion. You don't do that.

10 These are taxpayers' dollars.

11 MR. ISLER: Thank you for your opinion.  
12 Every issue we make here is an important issue on  
13 behalf of the children and the taxpayers. I don't  
14 need to be reminded of that.

15 MR. BRENTLEY: Then you should remove your  
16 statement.

17 MR. ISLER: I will not remove my  
18 statement.

19 You may move on.

20 MR. BRENTLEY: I didn't think you would.  
21 It is misleading.

22 And to suggest that coming from the  
23 president, that these items are not related in which  
24 they are, we are voting.

25 We are moving moneys.

1                   And they are related.

2                   It is unfortunate you would not share that  
3 and be honest with the public.

4                   MR. ISLER: Do you want to make a motion,  
5 sir, on something? Please go ahead.

6                   Mrs. Fink.

7                   MS. FINK: I just wanted to make the  
8 comment that what we are looking at here, I think is a  
9 preferable way to do things.

10                  I really, as much as I love historic  
11 Pittsburgh and historic buildings, I really think we  
12 are doing the children a disservice to leave them in  
13 the Schenley building for another year.

14                  And by moving the children -- moving the  
15 student body intact to Reizenstein, I think solves two  
16 problems.

17                  It gives these young people an opportunity  
18 to finish the programs that they have become  
19 accustomed to.

20                  And it also does it safely for them.

21                  Because whether there are students or  
22 adults in the building, what I have seen of the  
23 presentations by the facility issue here, it is way  
24 beyond asbestos.

25                  It deals with ventilation.

1                   And I don't think in good conscience, we  
2   can allow adults or students to stay in that building  
3   for another year.

4                   So this seems to certainly resolve the  
5   immediate problems that we are looking at.

6                   I applaud the superintendent for presenting  
7   this.

8                   MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mrs. Fink.

9                   Mr. Sumpter.

10                  MR. SUMPTER: Thank you, Mr. Isler.

11                  With regard to the resolutions that are  
12   before us, the concern I have is regarding the start  
13   dated for all of these architects.

14                  What assurances do we have that work is --  
15   when work is going to commence, are we going to have a  
16   chance of voting on that or controlling that?

17                  And to me it would be more appropriate if  
18   we could hold off on that, at least until the next  
19   legislative meeting, which is in December, I believe  
20   December 19th, to authorize this action.

21                  Would that create any undue consequences to  
22   that action?

23                  MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Sumpter.

24   Mr. Fellers.

25                  MR. FELLERS: Yes, Mr. Sumpter.

1           The outline that we shared with the board  
2   at the business and finance committee meeting in terms  
3   of how we propose to fast track these projects did  
4   require that the architects come on board early and  
5   start their work.

6           What we have done is given you a slimmed  
7   down contract that we would come back and ask for  
8   further authority down the road.

9           But allow us at least latitude to begin the  
10   plan so we have a reasonable timeline to get the  
11   projects designed, bid and delivered for the '08-'09  
12   school year.

13           We are very, very tight on this schedule.

14           And yes, one month would make a difference  
15   in terms of our ability to guarantee completion and  
16   the schools being ready for the '08-'09 school year.

17           MR. ISLER: You have the floor,  
18   Mr. Sumpster.

19           MR. SUMPTER: Thank you, Mr. Fellers. That  
20   implies work could commence as of November 15th  
21   without fully voting on the exact plan we are going to  
22   accept.

23           Why would you have architects work on an  
24   action that may be reversed at some later point in  
25   time?

1           MR. FELLERS: There is an awful lot of fact  
2 gathering and preliminary work that that team would  
3 have to do before they start actually doing the  
4 designing.

5           A lot of that will be interacting with our  
6 team.

7           And there will be an opportunity to develop  
8 that baseline, start moving forward.

9           But in a way that will allow them to adapt,  
10 if there are changes to those facilities.

11           Remember, we have to do a design for the  
12 full project, which will be over in some cases two and  
13 some cases a three year period.

14           But we need to be ready for those things to  
15 happen, the need to happen for this coming September  
16 of '08.

17           To not get them moving now, just doesn't  
18 allow this to happen. It is work that just needs to  
19 happen.

20           And we need to speculate on this work to  
21 assure that the project could be done.

22           To hold them back, they will not have the  
23 work completed for the school year.

24           So I don't think there is a real choice  
25 there, if we want a quality facility for our students



1 to move in to.

2 MR. SUMPTER: It just makes me think that  
3 if you are saying they can make changes at some later  
4 point in time, which would be going back to the  
5 drawing board, it would be the same as if they were  
6 delayed one month and had the actual plans to work on  
7 from that point forward.

8 It is the concern of not putting the cart  
9 before the horse and not being locked in and not being  
10 in position of wasting any dollars from this point  
11 forward.

12 MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Sumpter.  
13 Mr. Taylor.

14 MR. TAYLOR: There has been some changes  
15 made to the original proposal.

16 I got a little taken aback by that  
17 presentation.

18 As of '08, the move of the Spartan program  
19 is not going to go to Milliones now?

20 MR. ROOSEVELT: That's correct, Mr. Taylor.

21 The one change, it has a few ripples.

22 But the one real change is that in  
23 listening to our students, who after all are our  
24 ultimate constituents, it seemed of great importance  
25 to them they graduate with each other in their class

1 as Schenley students.

2 And we were able to figure out a way to  
3 accommodate that while still moving forward with our  
4 academic objectives.

5 It will mean the IB world school would open  
6 one year later in its end form than it would have  
7 otherwise.

8 And it will mean that Milliones will be  
9 phased in over time.

10 There are advantages and disadvantages to  
11 that.

12 I think in the Milliones situation, there  
13 is some significant advantages.

14 And we did speak to our potential partners  
15 at University of Pittsburgh about that today.

16 And they were quite pleased with that.

17 So it is an adjustment.

18 It is an adjustment, because we heard  
19 something from the students, that we believe deserved  
20 to be honored.

21 MR. TAYLOR: First, I want to thank you for  
22 your candor earlier about the public not being and  
23 students and parents not being fully informed as to  
24 why this decision has been made.

25 And I really want to try to be as

1 constructive as I can be here as possible.

2           The change that you presented were the  
3 first that this board and the public has seen.

4           I appreciate that you are listening and  
5 attempting to make a difficult situation as easy as  
6 possible.

7           I think it would be highly irresponsible  
8 for this board to go forward tonight with this  
9 proposal, simply based on the fact that we don't know  
10 what this proposal is.

11           And I do think, as we go forward, and we  
12 continue to listen to people, I do think that there  
13 will be other adjustments, that I think can be made  
14 and should be made.

15           I wanted to ask our solicitor as to why  
16 these -- I understand the timelines as Mr. Fellers  
17 laid out.

18           But I am concerned as to why these  
19 resolutions to hire architects and construction  
20 manager must take place this evening as opposed to two  
21 weeks from tonight or three weeks from tonight or a  
22 month from tonight.

23           Why must they be voted on this evening?

24           And if there are deadlines or mandates, why  
25 can those deadlines or mandates not be waived, if we

1 say this is an emergency or health and safety  
2 situation?

3 MR. WEISS: The need to do this this  
4 evening is driven by the need to have facilities ready  
5 for the '08-'09 school year.

6 There are two principal issues with that.

7 First of all is the need to get permanent  
8 approval at the city level.

9 Second is the need to get departmental  
10 approval as Department of Education from the building  
11 division.

12 Those things are to some degree out of our  
13 control.

14 But we will try to deal with them as best  
15 we can.

16 The schedule that the board was presented  
17 and I have reviewed is very tight, because of the  
18 bidding requirements.

19 It is clear that the department will not  
20 treat these types of projects as emergencies.

21 They have a very strict -- the definition  
22 of that, and these projects don't meet that.

23 So the answer is that the deadline, if you  
24 will, is dictated by the need to have these ready for  
25 the fall.

1                   And every week is important.

2                   So facilities staff have indicated they  
3 need as much time as they can.

4                   And that is why it has been presented the  
5 way it has, with essentially a week or two being very  
6 important.

7                   MR. TAYLOR: I am saying again, if it was a  
8 need to seek waivers for emergencies, particularly  
9 with the city, there has to be things you have to go  
10 through with the city, it is within their discretion  
11 to move this up on their agenda in which to do some  
12 things.

13                   And also the state.

14                   Would that not be within their discretion  
15 to move things up, if it is seen as a health or safety  
16 emergency?

17                   MR. WEISS: Well, as far as the city is  
18 concerned, the city has its own processes. We are  
19 attempting to work with them as best we can. With  
20 these projects.

21                   The state process is dictated by  
22 regulations dealing with Plan Con.

23                   They are not subject to waiver.

24                   And these projects will not be treated as  
25 emergencies.

1                   The state has a very limited definition of  
2   that.

3                   And these don't meet it.

4                   There is consultation with the department.

5                   And we have received the response that I  
6   expected, which is you have to bid these in the normal  
7   fashion.

8                   So again, the time issue is one dictated by  
9   the fact that these facilities are needed for the fall  
10   of '08.

11                  MR. TAYLOR:  Also, Mr. Fellers, I have to  
12   ask, there are things we do -- again, this is a very,  
13   very important thing we are talking about this  
14   evening.

15                  And there are things again, because there  
16   are a lot of people who are watching this situation.

17                  So there are things that have to be put on  
18   the public record.

19                  I do have to ask you this evening.

20                  If this is delayed for just two weeks, will  
21   it prevent us from being able to successfully, if the  
22   board approves the proposals that the superintendent  
23   has raised, if this is delayed two weeks, will it  
24   prevent us from being able to meet those goals in  
25   September of 2008?

1                   MR. FELLERS: I really can't say that,  
2 because you are asking me to really look in to a  
3 crystal ball.

4                   That is just not something that I will be  
5 able to do.

6                   What I can tell you, though, if we wait two  
7 weeks, I can't guarantee you that we can complete  
8 these projects.

9                   Our only chance to complete these projects  
10 is now.

11                   We have shrunk this timeline as tight as we  
12 believe it can be shrunk, given the existing  
13 constraints that I have outlined earlier and the  
14 solicitor just covered in terms of the city and state  
15 approval process.

16                   So the answer is if you want us to deliver  
17 these projects, they need to go tonight. You can vote  
18 later on.

19                   But then there is no guarantee the schools  
20 will be ready for the start of the '08-'09 school  
21 year.

22                   MR. TAYLOR: I certainly do understand your  
23 answer.

24                   I think the point needs to be made clear.  
25 Because I do very much understand your answer, and how

1 you answered it is that it could be delayed this  
2 evening, and we could still meet those goals.

3 But as you said, you can't guarantee us  
4 that those goals will be met by 2008.

5 I think again the reason why this must be  
6 put on hold this evening, if the board is to do its  
7 duty to the city and to the students and to taxpayers,  
8 is one that we must make people aware.

9 Mrs. Fink very strongly believes that this  
10 is a safety situation, which means it should be very  
11 easy for us to explain that to the parents and  
12 students.

13 And they can be on board with this planning  
14 process of what needs to be -- what needs to happen,  
15 what changes that need to be made.

16 They can be on board with us.

17 That is the way that it should be.

18 It should be parents and us all as a city  
19 working through this very difficult situation.

20 But as you know, there are a lot of people  
21 that have called in to question whether the situation  
22 is as dire and as expensive as it has been stated.

23 I think it is our responsibility as a board  
24 to very much inform the public and our parents about  
25 this situation.



1           And again, if we are correct, then they  
2 will accept -- because everyone is going to put the  
3 safety of their children above everything else.

4           And they will accept, and we can join as  
5 partners.

6           That hasn't occurred.

7           I think we should slow down to make sure  
8 that that does occur.

9           I think we do have a small window, which we  
10 have time to do that.

11           My other concerns about this proposal is  
12 the cost of it.

13           I do think -- with changes I am not sure  
14 what exactly is the cost.

15           And exactly -- I assume since we are  
16 voting, we are continuing on with the same cost that  
17 we had.

18           Which is 14, close to 15 million dollars at  
19 Reizenstein.

20           And close to 15 million dollars to create  
21 the science and technology program at Frick.

22           MR. DOWD: Point of order.

23           Are we voting --

24           MR. ISLER: We are not.

25           MR. TAYLOR: Those are the architects.

1 They will be drawing up the plans.

2 MR. DOWD: Point of order, what is the  
3 dollar figure on these?

4 MR. TAYLOR: Those were the dollar figures  
5 that were handed out to us at the meeting last.

6 That it would be 15 million dollars for the  
7 Schenley moving.

8 MR. DOWD: Point of order.

9 MR. TAYLOR: Like I said, I assume the  
10 changes would cost the same, because we still have the  
11 same architects working on the same projects.

12 There is no change in that.

13 So Mrs. Colaizzi is telling me I should  
14 ask, is there any changes to the amount that had been  
15 proposed that we saw a week or so ago, proposed for  
16 Reizenstein and for Frick?

17 MR. ISLER: Yes.

18 MR. ROOSEVELT: No, Mr. Taylor.

19 The adjustments made in this would not  
20 affect those.

21 MR. DOWD: Point of order.

22 I just want to be absolutely clear.

23 So that I am not confused.

24 This evening we are not voting on 14  
25 million dollars worth of expenditures.

1 I just want to be clear.

2 This evening we are simply voting, if I did  
3 my math correctly, approximately 3.95 million dollars,  
4 most of which is not to exceed.

5 These are not flat expenditures.

6 These are not to exceed expenditures with  
7 the exception I believe of the purchase of the CAPA  
8 building.

9 Is that correct?

10 I just want to be clear.

11 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

12 MR. DOWD: So we are not voting this even  
13 on 14 million dollars.

14 That is not happening.

15 Is that correct?

16 MR. ISLER: Yes.

17 MR. TAYLOR: No, Mr. Dowd.

18 We are not voting on the proposed 15  
19 million at Reizenstein and 15 million at Frick.

20 Clearly, as we have been told by the  
21 administration, that this gets us on the path towards  
22 the changes and towards that eventual spending of 30  
23 million dollars that I am referring to.

24 So I don't think anybody would deny that  
25 part.

1                   This starts us on that path.

2                   So I think it is legitimate to bring that  
3 up.

4                   If there are some board members who say,  
5 "Look, there can be cheaper alternatives to that 30  
6 million dollars that has been proposed by the  
7 administration."

8                   I think now is a legitimate time to bring  
9 that up.

10                  And so I do believe that there are some  
11 alternatives to what has been proposed for Reizenstein  
12 and for Frick.

13                  And I do think we need to take time to  
14 encourage the administration to seek alternatives to  
15 that.

16                  If we assume that everything that has been  
17 presented to us is correct and the cost at Schenley is  
18 correct, then I do think that we need to work to move  
19 Schenley intact, as the superintendent has agreed with  
20 this evening.

21                  But I think that that can be done, whether  
22 it is to an existing high school that is very low on  
23 population, i.e., Peabody.

24                  And again, I do think there are some other  
25 factors that could be cheaper.

1           I think, again, I want to talk about  
2 another subject, as we talked about, the Frick school  
3 turning in to science and technology and 15 million  
4 dollars being put in to that.

5           As we talk about the passion people have  
6 for Schenley high school, and I certainly do  
7 understand that passion, there is certainly a passion  
8 we have in the East End for Westinghouse high school.

9           And it is a school that has suffered over  
10 the years.

11           It has suffered from neglect from this  
12 school board and from present and previous  
13 administrations.

14           We have had programs like the business and  
15 finance programs and others, who have not been  
16 supportive.

17           We had a Homewood Montessori program we  
18 wanted to strengthen.

19           I certainly agreed with that and voted in  
20 support of strengthening the Montessori program, now  
21 Pittsburgh Montessori.

22           We hired a consultant to come in to work to  
23 strengthen that program.

24           But where has been the support for a school  
25 like Westinghouse, where if we strengthen those

1 programs, we most likely could have attracted more  
2 students in to them.

3               Since we have not done that, we are now  
4 stuck in Westinghouse with a very small population.  
5 Though the school district and this board had voted to  
6 put in tens of millions of dollars to rehabilitate  
7 that building and to make it again the nicest high  
8 school facility in the country -- I mean in the city.

9               So when it comes to doing a science and  
10 technology academy, this board is on the road to  
11 spending 15 million dollars to create space and to  
12 create science and technology laboratories that  
13 already exist at Westinghouse high school.

14              So I ask the question, why would you spend  
15 15 million dollars to create space, when you can  
16 easily accommodate a science and technology at  
17 Westinghouse high school?

18              We have already shown we have a strong good  
19 program, i.e., the high school for performing arts  
20 located in the Homewood community for many years.  
21 People will come to it.

22              Those are the things that I think should be  
23 put on the table.

24              I also think what should be put on the  
25 table is the concern we talked about in the East End

1 now for close to two years.

2 As many board members are familiar with the  
3 East End plan, which we have called for the  
4 utilization of Reizenstein middle school, former  
5 middle school at Reizenstein building for the students  
6 of the East End.

7 But it doesn't seem like that has jumped to  
8 the agenda to accommodate those students.

9 Yes. We know we have 8th graders, who are  
10 in buildings that were never designed for students  
11 that age.

12 We know we have 8th graders, who have to  
13 have a lunch every day, that is a lunch we give to our  
14 first graders, because we do not have the facilities  
15 to give them a full and complete lunch.

16 We know they have very small gymnasiums.

17 That they can't even change clothes with  
18 locker rooms that other people have.

19 There is no swimming facilities for any  
20 student in the East End, who is under the age of 14.

21 We know they have no playgrounds to play in  
22 or to run in.

23 So they stand around at their recess  
24 periods, when they go outside, because there is simply  
25 no place at Belmar former elementary school and

1 Cressen elementary school for them to run or play or  
2 play ball.

3                   So we knows those are inequities.

4                   We know a school facility does impact on  
5 student achievement.

6                   Yet those have not been addressed.

7                   I think those should be in the equation as  
8 we talk about these programs and these expenditures.

9                   I do think if this board gave consideration  
10 to the students of the East End, which we have not for  
11 quite a while, then maybe the proposals on the table  
12 may look differently.

13                   That is why I think we should take time to  
14 look at those and include a lot of students who have  
15 been left out of these current plans.

16                   Particularly students of the East End and  
17 also students of the Hill District, I think, have been  
18 an afterthought through this whole process.

19                   So I think it is the responsibility of this  
20 board to look at cost.

21                   And to tell the superintendent we need to  
22 look more comprehensively.

23                   We need to include more students.

24                   We need to be as cost effective as  
25 possible.



1           To vote to allow this to go forward this  
2 evening, as I said many times with this board, I  
3 believe to be an abdication of our responsibilities to  
4 all our students and taxpayers of the city.

5           I will be voting no on the proposal this  
6 evening.

7           MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Taylor.  
8 Mr. Sumpter.

9           MR. SUMPTER: Thank you, Mr. Isler.

10          I think last night is an indication that if  
11 we get our community engaged within the school  
12 district, that we can at least hold the district  
13 accountable and do things that benefit students.

14          The question I have is whether or not those  
15 who did testify last night at the hearing was a  
16 representative sample of the Schenley student body.

17          I do recall the identification of those  
18 students that did testify.

19          I didn't hear from other students in the  
20 school.

21          In a sense, they were basically IB students  
22 that came out.

23          It was not a large number. But they were  
24 there.

25          I applaud the administration for at least

1 listening and hearing. And perhaps share the concern  
2 of those students.

3 And not talking negatively about the plan,  
4 but just that if that is the case, then we need more  
5 engagement from our community overall to help us  
6 through these tumultuous times of change and reform.

7 At this time I would like to make a motion  
8 that we table this item for on or before the next  
9 legislative meeting.

10 MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor, please, you don't  
11 have the floor.

12 Mr. Sumpter does.

13 MR. SUMPTER: The tabling would be of the  
14 retention of the architects only.

15 MR. ISLER: Items 2 through 8, Mr. Sumpter?

16 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

17 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

18 MR. ISLER: 2 through 9, I mean.

19 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

20 MR. ISLER: A motion on the floor to table  
21 items 2 through 9.

22 Mr. Weiss, roll call, please.

23 MR. BRENTLEY: Could we have clarification,  
24 please?

25 MR. ISLER: Yes.

1 MR. BRENTLEY: Mr. Weiss, with this 2  
2 through 9, so the section B, those three items there.  
3 This is all connected.

4 Is that correct?

5 MR. WEISS: B1 would remain.

6 The rest of them would --

7 MR. ISLER: Eight items.

8 The remaining eight items.

9 MR. WEISS: The board would still be voting  
10 ultimately on B1, which is the CAPA matter.

11 But the motion to table is items 2 through  
12 9.

13 MR. BRENTLEY: Okay.

14 Am I permitted to ask questions?

15 MS. COLAIZZU: No.

16 MR. BRENTLEY: I am asking the solicitor.

17 MR. WEISS: No debate on the motion to  
18 table.

19 So either table it and no more discussion,  
20 or you don't table it and discuss it.

21 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley.

22 MR. WEISS: No.

23 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

24 MS. COLAIZZU: No.

25 MR. WEISS: Mr. Dowd.

1 MR. DOWD: No.

2 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink.

3 MS. FINK: Yes.

4 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea.

5 MR. McCREA: No.

6 MR. WEISS: Mr. Romaniello.

7 MR. ROMANIELLO: No.

8 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter.

9 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

10 MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor.

11 MR. TAYLOR: Yes vote is to table?

12 MR. WEISS: Yes.

13 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

14 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler.

15 MR. ISLER: No.

16 MR. WEISS: Motion to table is defeated

17 three to six.

18 MR. ISLER: Any other questions?

19 Mr. Romaniello.

20 MR. ROMANIELLO: Thank you, Mr. President.

21 A couple of things I would like to -- first

22 of all, I would like to commend the superintendent and

23 the administration for the new plan.

24 I guess you listened.

25 And for whatever reasons.

1                   But if somebody would show up on our  
2   doorstep with 64 million dollars plus and hand it to  
3   you, there still would be two or three years that  
4   Schenley would not be open.

5                   Am I correct?

6                   MR. ROOSEVELT: I think the estimates we  
7   have run between two and three years it would cost  
8   from the beginning of the process to the end.

9                   And that is with those students out of the  
10   building. Were such a good natured wealthy person to  
11   appear.

12                  MR. ROMANIELLO: Bill Gates.

13                  I think we need to move forward on this for  
14   a couple of reasons.

15                  And one is as I stated before, I know this  
16   is not an easy thing.

17                  I know it is heart wrenching.

18                  I am sure this is no more heart wrenching  
19   than it was when we closed Fifth Avenue, South high  
20   school, a few of my colleagues went there. We closed  
21   South high school.

22                  It is never easy.

23                  And we have closed other schools.

24                  But there comes a time when you have to  
25   think with your head and not your heart.

1                   Because we don't have the money to do the  
2 things that people would love us to do.

3                   We would love to keep a building open.

4                   But nobody is coming up with an idea of  
5 where we will get the money.

6                   And that is one of the biggest problems.

7                   You just can't fluff -- you can't fluff  
8 that part over.

9                   We don't have the money to fix the building  
10 in the safe manner.

11                   As I stated before, if something would  
12 happen, there would be some catastrophe, something  
13 would happen in the building.

14                   There would be a roof leak.

15                   Somebody would do something in the  
16 building.

17                   They would punch a hole in the wall.

18                   Things like that.

19                   We don't know what kind of problems that  
20 could lead to.

21                   And what kind of serious danger it could  
22 put our students in.

23                   Yes, right now for the rest of the school  
24 year supposedly it is safe.

25                   But if something happens to change that, we

1 can't keep living on that.

2           The other thing I would like to ask, if  
3 anybody wants to do it, because God knows I could use  
4 the exercise.

5           I would be willing to walk to ten homes in  
6 each of my colleagues' districts, knock on their doors  
7 and ask them, "Would you be willing for your taxes to  
8 go up in order to pay for the repair of Schenley high  
9 school?"

10           We can't tax any more.

11           We can't keep going to the taxpayers. We  
12 are at the end of the financial rope.

13           So while it is going to be a heart  
14 wrenching thing, and I think actually, the new plan  
15 that the superintendent has put out actually helps  
16 with a lot of that, where the students would be able  
17 to graduate as a class.

18           That takes care of some of that part of the  
19 heart wrenching part of it.

20           But again, this is a district.

21           It is not just one neighborhood.

22           And the people of this district are taxed  
23 to the limit.

24           They don't want us in their pockets any  
25 more.

1                   So we really don't have a choice.

2                   We must move forward on this.

3                   We must do what is fiscally prudent. And  
4 what is safe for the students.

5                   It will hurt.

6                   But you just have to go on with it.

7                   Thank you.

8                   MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Romaniello.

9                   Mr. Brentley.

10                  MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

11                  I just wanted to just ask a question on

12 No. B1.

13                  The 1.4 million dollars for the two floors,  
14 three floors of the building for Rogers CAPA.

15                  That is the total figure?

16                  MR. WEISS: No.

17                  B1 calls for 1.4 million dollars for floors  
18 1 and 2.

19                  600,000 dollars for floor 9.

20                  And 200,000 dollars for eight parking  
21 spaces.

22                  So the total is 2.2 million.

23                  MR. BRENTLEY: How do we come to those  
24 numbers?

25                  Or how did we determine it is time to buy?



1                   MR. WEISS: If I may, the owner of floors 1  
2 and 2 had an offer to purchase them.

3                   Under our documents in this transaction, we  
4 have what is called a right of first refusal, which  
5 means he gets an offer to purchase.

6                   We have the right to buy it on those terms.

7                   The 9th floor is approximately two-thirds  
8 of the appraised value we received a couple of years  
9 ago.

10                  This floor is appraised at about a million  
11 dollars.

12                  And the parking spaces are what the value  
13 was, when the building was built.

14                  So we are confident that this is a sensible  
15 transaction from the point of view of value.

16                  And that is why we are recommending it.

17                  MR. BRENTLEY: Thank you, very much.

18                  Mark, I wanted to ask a couple questions to  
19 you concerning the changes in the Hill District.

20                  Have you taken in to consideration just in  
21 the Hill District alone some of the things that have  
22 happened or that have been caused by this board, the  
23 closing of the Miller school, closing of the Milliones  
24 school.

25                  Then reopening of Milliones school.

1           Then there will be the Milliones Rogers  
2 school. Now it is going to be this university  
3 program.

4           Have you given any consideration to the  
5 importance of stability in this particular community?

6           Yes. It is an African-American community.  
7 Yes. It is a community we are supposed to be working  
8 hard to target in terms of closing the racial  
9 achievement gap.

10           Have you given any consideration as to how  
11 and why we seem to target most of our changes in or  
12 near the African-American communities?

13           MR. ROOSEVELT: Mr. Brentley, we obviously  
14 do not believe that these changes are not in the  
15 interest of these students.

16           We believe what we are bringing to the  
17 Milliones building is an extremely exciting program.

18           We also believe it was important to  
19 maintain a high school presence in the Hill.

20           And this does that with the loss of  
21 Schenley, if that is indeed how it goes, the Milliones  
22 building will represent the high school presence on  
23 the Hill. We believe maintaining that was very  
24 important.

25           We are also very cognizant, we think the

1 central piece of work, as we have expressed previously  
2 in this particular series, is the Milliones project.

3 That is why we have taken one of our truly  
4 wonderful potential partnerships, that with University  
5 of Pittsburgh, and placed it in that building.

6 And we think it will offer a really  
7 terrific opportunity.

8 We hope it will become a school choice. So  
9 it will not just attract Hill District residents to it  
10 but other residents, other folks from other parts of  
11 the district.

12 MR. BRENTLEY: In this case, Mark, the  
13 concern is experimental.

14 We have no track record.

15 We know nothing about its success.

16 And once again, it places that community in  
17 a situation where they know not their future.

18 Also, the importance of the Rogers going in  
19 to Milliones in the beginning was to at least bring a  
20 magnet school to that community.

21 Now there is no magnet school in that  
22 community.

23 MR. ROOSEVELT: This will be a magnet  
24 school in a sense.

25 It will be a choice school.

1                   And again, I think it is really misleading  
2   to characterize it as an experiment.

3                   This is a wonderful opportunity. The  
4   University of Pittsburgh has had a partnership with  
5   Falk school, which I believe is a private school, for  
6   a very long time.

7                   This represents a potential, because again  
8   it is not signed, sealed and delivered.

9                   But the potential for our students to reap  
10  the benefits of a partnership with University of  
11  Pittsburgh, which we will indeed endeavor for them to  
12  do.

13                  But again, we take this partnership  
14  extremely seriously. We take the school extremely  
15  seriously.

16                  We look at it as one of the potential  
17  bright lights in the whole plan.

18                  MR. BRENTLEY: The change you just shared  
19  with us, where now the Schenley Spartans will move  
20  with the IB program to Reizenstein.

21                  That change has happened in the last 24  
22  hours?

23                  MR. ROOSEVELT: Yes, sir. Again, you are  
24  not voting on that tonight.

25                  But what we did, it was an attempt to allow

1 the folks who are now at Schenley to graduate as  
2 Schenley students with their classmates.

3 MR. BRENTLEY: Well, once again, I am still  
4 confused as to how we can just make these changes.

5 Mark, I shared with you my concerns.

6 I am still getting calls about the right  
7 sizing plan.

8 In my opinion, what we continue to see is  
9 crisis, crisis.

10 Got to do it.

11 Got to move fast.

12 Fast.

13 Fast.

14 Well, we were told that two years ago with  
15 the right sizing plan.

16 We now know a year and a half, two years  
17 later, that in that right sizing plan, we closed four  
18 successful African-American schools.

19 Those students' scores were here.

20 We forced hundreds of kids to go back and  
21 to start over again.

22 And that is unfair.

23 That is what happens, when we move too fast  
24 without getting everyone to buy in.

25 It is just amazing to me.

1                   Because we can sit here, and we can get the  
2 presentations.

3                   Questions are asked.

4                   But it is still amazing.

5                   These are taxpayers' dollars.

6                   And still to date we have not had any one  
7 organization to come here and to critically analyze  
8 its impact.

9                   And so it is amazing this administration  
10 continues to get a complete pass.

11                   We will hear a year later that "Oops, we  
12 shouldn't have made that change. We found out more  
13 students have dropped out. It is not working. It is  
14 not working."

15                   And I am sure the votes have already been  
16 lined up.

17                   I tell you, in my opinion, this is  
18 borderline -- this is borderline child abuse.

19                   No one should have to adjust to the way  
20 that we are putting out this program here today.

21                   In the Hill District, some of these kids,  
22 this will represent two, maybe three changes in two  
23 years.

24                   It makes no sense.

25                   MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Brentley.

1 Mrs. Colaizzi.

2 MS. COLAIZZl: Thank you, Mr. President.

3 I do have a few comments after last night's  
4 public hearing.

5 And I was a little disturbed as I sat  
6 there.

7 And I heard some of the things that were  
8 said to us.

9 And I got a little bit upset.

10 Mr. Roosevelt, could you indulge me for a  
11 moment?

12 And tell me for the record, when exactly  
13 was the high school reform committee put together?

14 A date is basically what I am looking for.

15 MR. ROOSEVELT: You are stretching my  
16 limit.

17 I would say July of a year and a half ago.  
18 July therefore of 2006, I believe.

19 MS. COLAIZZl: Thank you.

20 Really, what I was trying to get at is that  
21 we have been working on it for a while.

22 And we have been working on it.

23 And the point I was trying to make was  
24 there has been a time period that this has been going  
25 on.

1                   And there has been input.

2                   There has been a lot of people that have  
3 been involved.

4                   And I wanted to put that on the record.

5                   This has been an ongoing process with a  
6 great deal of input with many people.

7                   From many walks of life.

8                   And just because maybe one or two people  
9 with ideas that did not make it to this stage, does  
10 not mean that they have not been taken seriously with  
11 their considerations.

12                  Schenley has been an issue for two years.

13                  It has been a dilemma for this school  
14 board.

15                  It has been a great tax issue.

16                  It is something that this government entity  
17 has had at least tried to deal with in different ways.

18                  We had put a committee together to deal  
19 with it.

20                  And it didn't come up with very much.

21                  We have been called liars.

22                  We have been called liars in the past.

23                  South Vo Tech is the perfect example of that.

24                  And here we are still sitting with south Vo  
25 Tech.



1                   And it is not selling. It is not going  
2 anywhere. The building isn't worth very much.  
3                   Here we are sitting on it.  
4                   I am sorry, Mr. Isler.  
5                   MR. ISLER: Mrs. Colaizzi, the only thing I  
6 am trying to get across.  
7                   There are two board members that have to  
8 leave.  
9                   One has to get to work. They would like to  
10 be part of the vote.  
11                  Mr. Weiss, roll call vote, please.  
12                  MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley.  
13                  MR. BRENTLEY: No.  
14                  MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi.  
15                  MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.  
16                  MR. WEISS: Mr. Dowd.  
17                  MR. DOWD: Yes.  
18                  MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink.  
19                  MS. FINK: Yes.  
20                  MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea.  
21                  MR. MCCREA: Yes.  
22                  MR. WEISS: Mr. Romaniello.  
23                  MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.  
24                  MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter.  
25                  MR. SUMPTER: Yes on item B1.

1                   No on items B2 through 9.

2                   MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor.

3                   MR. TAYLOR: No.

4                   MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler.

5                   MR. ISLER: Yes.

6                   MR. WEISS: Motion carries.

7                   MR. ISLER: Mrs. Colaizzi, continue,

8 please.

9                   Mr. Dowd, do you have anything to say?

10                  MR. DOWD: No.

11                  MS. COLAIZZII: You allowed those two to

12 talk more than us.

13                  MR. ISLER: I apologize, Mrs. Colaizzi.

14                  MR. DOWD: I have a hard time restraining

15 myself here.

16                  I do think that -- I have a lot of things

17 to say, actually.

18                  And I think that -- I am sorry?

19                  MR. ISLER: I was reminded we have one more

20 vote.

21                  Go ahead, please.

22                  Mr. Taylor.

23                  MR. TAYLOR: This is a sad moment for the

24 Pittsburgh Board of Education we are witnessing right

25 here.

1                   It is disorganized.

2                   We have passed something.

3                   If I did not ask the question about where  
4 is the 30 million dollars, this board would have  
5 passed a resolution with no idea whether there is a  
6 change in cost.

7                   Whether it went up or down.

8                   MR. DOWD: Mr. Taylor, it is a resolution  
9 passed.

10                  MR. TAYLOR: This is a sad moment.

11                  MR. DOWD: Point of order.

12                  Is there a motion on the floor?

13                  Is there a motion on the floor?

14                  MR. TAYLOR: He recognized you to speak.

15                  MR. DOWD: What is the motion we are  
16 discussing?

17                  MR. TAYLOR: He recognized you to speak.  
18 As I said, it is a sad moment.

19                  MR. DOWD: Which motion are we discussing  
20 as a board?

21                  MR. TAYLOR: Make it a circus.

22                  MR. DOWD: Are we talking about transfer of  
23 funds piece?

24                  Point of order.

25                  MR. TAYLOR: This is a sad moment.

1                   To close this school when the  
2 superintendent admitted the public and students have  
3 not been informed is what we are doing.

4                   It is the school board --

5                   MR. DOWD: Take control of the meeting,  
6 Mr. Isler.

7                   Mr. Isler.

8                   Mr. Isler.

9                   Point of order.

10                  MR. TAYLOR: I don't blame the  
11 superintendent, this board --

12                  MR. DOWD: Point of order.

13                  MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor --

14                  MR. TAYLOR: Anything he wants to do  
15 without questioning and oversight, and to go ahead and  
16 pass this resolution, when he prespented new items,  
17 that you had never seen before, and you voted for it  
18 sight unseen.

19                  MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.

20                  MR. TAYLOR: This board ought to be  
21 ashamed.

22                  You are abdicating your responsibilities.

23                  MR. DOWD: Mr. Isler.

24                  MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.

25                  MR. TAYLOR: This school board is a rubber

1 stamp.

2 Now you are cutting off the microphone.

3 MR. DOWD: Which motion is on the floor?

4 Point of order.

5 MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.

6 MR. TAYLOR: You recognized me.

7 You absolutely did.

8 MR. DOWD: Point of order.

9 MR. ISLER: I thought you had a comment

10 about the resolution we are about to talk about.

11 MR. DOWD: Which resolution?

12 MR. TAYLOR: I can't read your mind.

13 You recognized me as you recognized

14 Mr. Dowd.

15 And he recognized me.

16 I disagreed with it.

17 I am criticizing the board on which you are

18 president of.

19 Instead of discussing it. It is shameful.

20 You would never have allowed any other

21 superintendent, I won't mention John Thompson.

22 You would not allow any other

23 superintendent to sit here and to allow something like

24 this --

25 MR. ISLER: You cannot prejudge people.

1           MR. TAYLOR:  -- to be put on the table at a  
2 legislative meeting.

3           As I mentioned to you, we don't put new  
4 items on the table.

5           I mean a presentation.

6           MR. ISLER:  You are out of line.

7           MR. TAYLOR:  We have never seen this  
8 before.

9           And the board voted on it sight unseen.  
10 Didn't know the cost.

11          MR. ISLER:  We did not -- Mr. Taylor.

12          Your fellow board members -- Mr. Taylor.  
13 Your fellow board members would like to continue the  
14 meeting.

15          We did not vote on anything --

16          MR. TAYLOR:  That is not the point.

17          You should have known before we even went  
18 down any road with high school reform.

19          Shameful moment, Mr. Isler.

20          You ought to be ashamed most of all,  
21 Mr. President.

22          MR. BRENTLEY:  I second that motion.

23          MR. ISLER:  Maybe you want to vote on it.

24          MR. BRENTLEY:  It is disgraceful.

25          MR. DOWD:  Which motion is on the floor?

1 MR. ISLER: Now voting on transfer of funds  
2 for the general fund.

3 Any questions?

4 Mr. Weiss, roll call vote.

5 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley.

6 MR. BRENTLEY: No.

7 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi.

8 MS. COLAIZZU: Yes.

9 MR. WEISS: Mr. Dowd.

10 MR. DOWD: Yes.

11 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink.

12 MS. FINK: Yes.

13 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea.

14 (No response.)

15 MR. ISLER: He is gone.

16 MR. WEISS: I didn't see that.

17 Sorry.

18 Mr. Romaniello.

19 MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.

20 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter.

21 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

22 MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor.

23 MR. TAYLOR: No.

24 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler.

25 MR. ISLER: Yes.

1 MR. WEISS: Motion carries.

2 MR. DOWD: Motion to adjourn.

3 MS. COLAIZZI: Second.

4 MR. ISLER: Meeting adjourned.

5 I apologize to the public for the outburst  
6 of the board members.

7 - - -

8 (Thereupon, at 7:25 p.m., the Special  
9 Legislative Meeting was concluded.)

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1 C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

2 I, Lance E. Hannaford, the undersigned, do  
3 hereby certify that the foregoing seventy-four (74)  
4 pages are a true and correct transcript of my  
5 stenotypy notes taken of the Special Legislative  
6 Meeting held in the Pittsburgh Board of Public  
7 Education, Administration Building, Board Committee  
8 Room, on Wednesday, November 14, 2007.

9

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lance Hannaford". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

10

11 Lance E. Hannaford, Court Reporter

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