

**West Chester Area School District Board Meeting Highlights**  
**Meeting Held Monday, November 25, 2019**  
**Summary of Action Taken:**

The West Chester Area School Board held its monthly meeting on Monday, November 25, 2019 at the Spellman Education Center. The meeting began with a pledge of allegiance led by Alexa Rogers and Nishant Dube of Fugett Middle School. The school board heard reports from High School Board Representatives for 2019-20: Samantha McHugh, East High School; Vijay Anne, Henderson High School; and Brent Long, Rustin High School. The board also recognized Mr. Chris Tabakin for his four-years of service on the school board, as this was his final meeting. In addition, Sue Tiernan was presented a plaque from PSBA for her 8 years of service to the board.

In addition to its regularly scheduled business, the board approved the following actions:

- 1. Approval of the 2020-21 school calendar, Second Reading** - The board approved the final draft of the 2020-21 school calendar. The first day of school for students will be Monday August 31, 2020. The first day for staff will be Monday August 24, 2020. The last day of school for students will be Wednesday June 16, 2021, while the last day for teachers will be Thursday June 17, 2021. The calendar includes four built in snow days. *If no snow days are used, the last day of school for students will be June 10, and June 11 for staff.*
- 2. Approval of four new high school courses for the 2020-21 school year** - The board approved the following new courses to be place in the course planning guide for the 2020-21 school year: 3 Unified Art Electives: Innovative Coding, Junior Entrepreneur, and Guitar as well as a Future Readiness course.
- 3. Approval of the Employment Contract for Dr. Robert Sokolowski** - The board approved the contract of employment for Robert Sokolowski, Assistant Superintendent for the period beginning July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2025.
- 4. Approval of an amendment to the 20-year Capital Plan** - The board approved a revised capital plan to address overcrowding in southern part of the district. The plan eliminates the two-classroom addition at Penn Wood Elementary School, and increases the classroom addition at Westtown-Thornbury Elementary School from two to six classrooms. This does not affect the renovations schedule for other elementary schools.
- 5. In addition to its regularly scheduled personnel report action items, the board approved the following:**
  - **Two retirements:**
    - **David Moore, 1.0 Custodian at Hillsdale ES, effective 1/4/20.** 23 Years of Service
    - **John H. Thomas, 1.0 Custodian at Stetson MS, effective 6/30/2020.** 20 Years of service.
- 6. The board approved the following revised policies for a first reading, they will appear on the December Consent Agenda for second reading approval:**
  - New Administrative Guideline 217AG1 - Application for Diploma for Eligible Veterans
  - Revised Policy 217 – Graduation Requirements

Revised Board Policy 705 – Safety  
Revised Board Policy 709 – Building Security  
Revised Board Policy 805 – Emergency Preparedness  
Revised Board Policy 805.1 – Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies  
New Board Policy 805.2 – School Security Personnel

**7. The board approved the following revised policy for a second reading; it is now active:**

Policy 333 – Professional Development

For more information about the West Chester Area School District Board meetings, please visit the School Board Webpage.

**The next meeting is on Monday, December 16, 2019 - 7:00 pm at the Spellman Education Center**