

January 2024

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Board President: Budget Season Is Underway



*The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors held a Work Session on January 11, 2024 and a Legislative Meeting on January 25, 2024.*

#### Board of Education

Theresa Napson-Williams  
*President*

Ken Dinitz  
*Vice President*

Hillary Fletcher

Jackie Gusic

Susan Henderson-Utis

Shelley Hunt

Robert Kelly

Karlene Krenicky

Cameron Stevens

#### Student Liaisons

Joy Chen

Carys Doyle

Jason Lanka

#### Superintendent

Dr. Joseph Meloche



*Dr. Theresa Napson-Williams, President of the Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors, read the following statement at the January Legislative Meeting about the upcoming 2024-25 budget process:*

“As president of the Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors, I want to personally thank my eight fellow board members for their time and dedication to the children, families, and staff of the district.

One of the major responsibilities that the Board of School Directors has each year is to adopt a general fund budget for the school district. The budget process is one that begins in the fall and initially focuses on the work of the administrative team, which is aligned with district goals and priorities, and then the process moves to discussions with the board at work session meetings.

Our board is committed to being responsible fiscal stewards for our community in the operation of our school district. We question and seek explanation for the planned expenditure of funds and request significant follow-up information and detail as the superintendent, and his team, develop the budget.

There will be a great deal of information shared with the board, and the public, in the next few months regarding the final stages of the budget development. Ultimately, the board will be asked to vote on and approve the general fund budget in May. As community members, we are very aware of the impact of taxes on our personal budgets. For ourselves and our neighbors, we maintain our focus on responsible spending.

I do want to encourage community members to visit the district website to learn more about eligibility for the Property Tax Rebate Program. The district website provides background information and provides a link to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue which explains the application process. There has been an expansion of the program for 2024!

Please continue to stay in touch as we develop the budget for the 2024-2025 year.”



[Learn More about the Property Tax Rebate Program](#)

More information available at  
[www.rtmsd.org/domain/60](http://www.rtmsd.org/domain/60)

## School Board Director Recognition Month

January 2024 was School Director Recognition Month in Pennsylvania. At the January Legislative Meeting, Dr. Joseph Meloche, Superintendent, recognized the nine members of the RTMSD Board of School Directors who each volunteer more than twenty hours each month “to provide governance that ensures a clear, shared vision of public education for our schools, set high standards for the education of all students, vote on budgets, adopt policies, and whatever else is needed to support the effective and efficient operation of the District.”



**HAPPY SCHOOL DIRECTOR  
RECOGNITION MONTH!**

### Points of Pride

**The Board accepted the retirement of the following employees and thanked them for their service:**

- **Michael Deleo**, Social Studies Teacher, Springton Lake MS
  - He is retiring after 28 years of dedicated service to the district.
- **Donna Simpson**, Dispatcher, Transportation Department
  - She is retiring after 24 years of dedicated service to the district.

*More information available at*  
[www.rtmsd.org/domain/60](http://www.rtmsd.org/domain/60)

## Other Board Actions

- The Board gave the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school year calendars a first reading.
- The Board approved the following capital projects as well as solicitation of proposals for architects and engineers to design specifications:
  - Penncrest High School - Upgrade HVAC and Plumbing, Replace electrical panel, Repair long jump and pole vault areas, Upgrade auditorium lighting
  - Springton Lake - Upgrade HVAC, Repair asphalt, Roof repair, Replace water heater, Track
  - Glenwood - Upgrade HVAC, Add ADA lift to stage, Add air conditioning, and update vent requirements
  - Indian Lane - Upgrade HVAC, Replace playground surface
  - Media - Upgrade HVAC, Replace skylight, Exterior waterproofing
  - Rose Tree - Upgrade HVAC, Repair stucco, Replace windows, Add air conditioning, and update vent requirements - Phase 1
  - Transportation - Vehicle purchases
  - A proposal from GKO for multiple approved capital projects.

**Please see the January work session and legislative meeting [agendas](#) for specific details about these and other action items and presentations.**

## Upcoming Board Meetings

All board meetings, work sessions, and legislative meetings are live-streamed on the District's YouTube Channel, [RTMSD Media](#).

**Legislative Meeting:** Thursday, February 22, 6:30 p.m.  
Springton Lake Middle School Auditorium

**Policy Meeting:** Monday, March 4, 5:30 p.m.  
Education Center, 308 N. Olive St., Media, PA

**Special Working Meeting:** Monday, March 11, 6:30 p.m.  
Springton Lake Middle School Library  
*This Special Working Meeting will focus on the 2024-25 budget.*

**Work Session:** Thursday, March 14, 6:30 p.m.  
Springton Lake Middle School Library

**Legislative Meeting:** Thursday, March 21, 6:30 p.m.  
Penncrest High School Auditorium

**Legislative Meetings** are the business meetings of the Board. The agenda includes recognitions, presentations, and matters that require the vote of the School Board. Seated with the Board at the conference table are the Superintendent of Schools, the District Solicitor, the Board Secretary, who records the votes of the meeting, and Student Liaisons. All items brought before the Board for vote have been presented or discussed at the Board's Work Sessions or Executive Session meetings.

**Policy Meetings** center on discussion of policies that govern the organization and operation of the school district, as presented in the [Policy Manual](#). District policies are reviewed regularly by the Administration and School Board; revisions are made and new policies are created as needed.

**Work Sessions** are the planning and discussion meetings of the Board. The Superintendent and Administration provide information regarding the management of the School District and items to be considered for approval at upcoming Legislative Meetings. The public is welcome to attend and ask questions about agenda items.