

BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
JOINT BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Bucks County Technical School Joint Board Committee was held on **August 30, 2021 in person** and called to order by President, Mr. Gary Sanderson at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

	NAME	
	Gary Sanderson, President	Pennsbury
	Kellie Buchanan, 1st Vice President	Bristol Township
	John Allen	Neshaminy
	Cyndie Bowman	Neshaminy
	Steve Cullen	Bristol Borough
	Donna Getty	Morrisville
	Joseph Gilleo	Morrisville
	Gallus Obert	Bristol Township
	Heather Ody-Snyder (Alternate)	Bensalem
	Mike Pallotta	Pennsbury
	John Ruszin Jr.	Bristol Borough

MEMBERS PRESENT: 11

MEMBERS ABSENT:

	Heather Nicholas	Bensalem
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MEMBERS ABSENT: 1

ALSO PRESENT:

	NAME	AFFILIATION
	Leon Poeske (in-person)	Administrative Director
	Sharon Rendeiro (in-person)	Bus Administrator/Board Secretary
	Patricia Cumberland (in-person)	Board Treasurer
	Ellis Katz (virtual)	Solicitor
	Henry DeGeorge (in-person)	Assistant Director
	Susan Schecter (in-person)	Bucks County I.U.
	John Haney (in-person)	Supervisor of IT

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Sanderson welcomed the public.

AGENDA A motion was made by Mr. Joe Gilleo, seconded by Ms. Heather Ody-Snyder, to approve the agenda as presented. Board members unanimously approved the agenda (11,0,0).

PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - AGENDA

Lori Wunder, Bensalem School District, Health and Safety Plan - supports wearing of masks.

David Stercula, Pennsbury School District, Health and Safety Plan - does not support wearing of masks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Gilleo, seconded by Ms. Heather Ody-Snyder, that the Board approve the Minutes of the June 28, 2021 meeting. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Student Accounting Dr. Leon Poeske, Administrative Director, referred to Student Accounting, the Bucks County Technical High School Newsletter and newspaper articles relative to the Technical School and upcoming events. Dr. Poeske spoke about the Health and Safety plan on for Board approval this evening. His recommendation is to require all individuals to wear masks while indoors and on buses. Dr. Poeske is happy with the strong enrollment again this year. As of now, Back to School night is scheduled to be in person this year.

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Gilleo, seconded by Gallus Obert, that the Board approve the Financial Reports, subject to audit, as per pp. C1-C15. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

A motion was made by Mr. Joseph Gilleo, seconded by Mr. Gallus Obert, that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for payment of the properly approved bills and electronic payments in the total amount of \$,992,743.57 and release salaries, subject to audit, as per pp. D1-D53. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

P.I.A. Committee:

Ms. Buchanan advised that P.I.A. met this evening. Discussed were the following:

- Employment motions
- Revised Health and Safety Plan
- School Safety and Security Coordinator
- Superintendent of Record
- Handbook
- TAP
- Enrollment and the increase in the Special Education population

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Mike Pallotta, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, to combine motions A-G, and I-U and approve the following recommendations pp. F1-F6:

- A. Accept the resignation of Special Education teacher, Beth Ann Hennegan, effective August 29, 2021.

Accept the resignation of Monitor, Margaret Gray, effective August 5, 2021.

Accept the resignation of Monitor, Debra Renner, effective August 19, 2021.

- B. Approve the unpaid leave of absence for I.T. Technician, Hunter Pennypacker from August 9 through August 12, 2021.

Approve the unpaid leave of absence for Part-time Custodian, Alan Marietta, from August 23, 2021 to August 27, 2021.

- C. Approve the increase in daily rates effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

Substitute Teachers from \$100/day to \$125/day

Substitute Nurses from \$125/day to \$200/day

Building Substitute Teachers from \$125/day to \$150/day

- D. Approve the transfer of Tara Townsend from Monitor to Building Substitute Teacher, at the Board Approved daily rate, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

- E. Approve the employment of Philip Formica as a Special Education teacher to replace Beth Ann Hennegan on Column E, Step 1, at an annual salary of \$65,073, pending receipt of Special Education Certification, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year. (Refer to Addendum #1)

Approve the employment of Joseph Brymer as a Building Substitute teacher, at the approved daily rate for the 2021-2022 school year, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the employment of Nanette Fuchs as a Cafeteria Worker at an hourly rate of \$11.47 to replace Tina Feijo, pending criminal background checks and completion of new hire paperwork, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the employment of Elizabeth Malave as a Cafeteria Worker at an hourly rate of \$11.47 to replace Irene Cartolaro, pending criminal background checks and completion of new hire paperwork, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the employment of Christine Beagen as a Cafeteria Worker at an hourly rate of \$11.47 to replace Meg Offenback, pending criminal background checks and completion of new hire paperwork, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the employment of Stephen Leedom as a Day to Day/Everyday Substitute Custodian, at an hourly rate of \$14.00, to replace Lauren DeSilva, with a retroactive effective date of August 3, 2021.

Approve the employment of the Adult Education Evening School personnel for the Fall 2021 semester, pending criminal background checks and completion of new hire paperwork. (Refer to Addendum #2)

Approve the employment of support staff for after-school and Saturday discipline; the Student Attendance Program, Security, and for after school and co-curricular evening activities, at the approved hourly rate of \$24.75 per the BCTSESPA Agreement. (Refer to Addendum #3)

Approve the employment of transition program students at the approved minimum wage rate for the 2021-2022 school year. (Refer to Addendum #4)

- F. Approve the continued employment of Dylan Patel, as an Information Technology Assistant, at the approved Technology II student rate of \$9.50/hour, effective July 1, 2021 through July 9, 2021.

Approve the continued employment of Caitlin Brasier and Jami Trexler as Building Substitute teachers, at the approved Building Substitute Teacher rate, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the continued employment of Jerry Coleman and Alesia Flanagan as Substitute teachers at the approved daily rate for the 2021-2022 school year, effective with the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the continued employment of Instructional Facilitators for the 2021-2022 school year funded through the Carl D. Perkins Grant and the General Fund. (Refer to Addendum #5)

- G. Approve the corrected hourly rate of \$13.50 for Lauren DeSilva as Day to Day/Everyday substitute Custodial, retroactive to April 27, 2021.
- I. Appoint Ryan Gregory, Assistant Principal/Dean of Students, as the School Safety and Security Coordinator.
- J. Accept the resignation of Dr. Rose Minniti, Bristol Borough School District, as Superintendent of Record, effective August 31, 2021.
- K. Approve Dr. Melanie Gehrens, Bristol Township School District, as Superintendent of Record, to replace Dr. Rose Minniti, effective August 31, 2021, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year at a prorated stipend of \$3,000.
- L. Approve the services of Jared Small as a volunteer for the 2021-2022 school year.
- M. Approve the stipends for Department Chairpersons, Academy Chairpersons and Co-Curricular Advisors for the 2021-2022 school year per the BCTSEA Salary Agreement. (Refer to Addendum #7)

Approve the stipend in the amount of \$650 for Andrea Beal to advise and guide Special Education teacher, Philip Formica, per the state approved mentor program during the 2021-2022 school year.
- N. Approve School to Career Coordinators, Walter Hansell and Ronald Martino to travel to New Jersey for Cooperative Education business during the 2021-2022 school year.
- O. Approve an educational field trip for the Drama Club and three chaperones to attend a Broadway show in New York City, NY in May 2022, pending receipt of parental permissions forms, at an approximate cost to the Board of \$375.

Approve an educational field trip for the Reading Olympics Club and two chaperones to attend a Broadway show in New York City, NY on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, pending receipt of parental permission forms, at an approximate cost to the Board of \$125.00.

Approve an educational field trip for Cosmetology students and two chaperones to attend the New York Hair Show at the Javits Convention Center in New York City on March 15, 2022, pending receipt of parental permission forms at no cost to the Board. This date is subject to change.

P. Approve the participation of the Facilities Support Services class in a community-based instruction for the 2021-2022 school year, as an educational experience for Middletown Township and the Family Service Association of Bucks County.

Q. Approve the student school breakfast price of \$2.05 and the student school lunch price of \$3.40 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Approve the adult breakfast price of \$3.00 and the adult lunch price of \$4.25 for the 2021-2022 school year.

R. Approve the 2021-2022 Bucks County Technical High School Student Handbook and Code of Conduct. (Refer to Addendum #8)

S. Approve the memorandum of Understanding for the Bucks County Technical High School's participation in the Technical Assistance Program. (Refer to Addendum #9)

T. Accept the incentive payment of \$750.00 for participating in the Pennsylvania Department of Education and Pennsylvania Department of Health Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

U. Approve the participation of the Bucks County Technical High School in the

Bristol Township School District Cartonized Milk and Juice Bid for the 2021-2022 school year. (Refer to Addendum #10)

The Board unanimously approved the motions (11,0,0).

A motion was made by Gallus Obert, seconded by Joseph Gilleo, to approve motion H and approve the following recommendation pp. F3:

- H. Approve the Revised Health and Safety Plan for the Bucks County Technical High School for the 2021-2022 school year. (Refer to Addendum #6)

Comments:

Mr. Allen - does not agree with making masks mandatory. He believes students should be making responsible choices in order to keep the school open to learn their trade.

Ms. Bowman - mask wearing is a recommendation from the CDC and County, not a mandate. She believes we should be following the language of the Bucks County Health Department.

Mr. Ruszin - believes we should err on the side of caution and make mask wearing mandatory.

Mrs. Ody-Snyder - commented on 1st public speaker's comments and stated that in Florida three teachers have died. She agrees with Mr. Ruszin to err on the side of caution.

Roll call vote on New Business H.

Heather Nicholas (Absent)

Heather Ody-Snyder (alternate for Kim Rivera) - aye

Steve Cullen - aye

John Ruszin - aye

Kellie Buchanan - nay

Gallus Obert - aye

Donna Getty - aye

Joe Gilleo - nay
John Allen - nay
Cyndie Bowman - nay
Mike Pallotta - nay
Gary Sanderson - aye

Motion fails (6,5,0)

Amended motion put forward by Mr. Allen to change the masking language in the Health and Safety Plan from “required” to “strongly recommended”. Motion seconded by Mrs. Buchanan.

Roll call vote

Heather Nicholas (Absent)
Heather Ody-Snyder, (alternate for Kim Rivera) - nay
Steve Cullen - nay
John Ruszin - nay
Kellie Buchanan - aye
Gallus Obert - nay
Donna Getty - nay
Joe Gilleo - aye
John Allen - aye
Cindie Bowman - aye
Mike Pallotta - aye
Gary Sanderson - nay

Motion fails (5,6,0)

Motion brought forward by Mr. Sanderson to change the masking language in the Health and Safety Plan from “required” to “follow the language of the Bucks County Department of Health”.

Comments:

Mr. Cullen - As we need the other things in place from the Health and

Safety plan in order to safely open, he will support.

Mr. Ruszin - Agreed with Mr. Cullen in that we need the other things in place, we will support.

Mrs. Getty - She believes this is making it very difficult for Administration, but agrees with the rest of the pieces.

Mr. Sanderson - He believes that masks should be required, but we need the rest of the plan.

Roll Call Vote

Heather Nicholas (Absent)

Heather Ody-Snyder (Alternate for Kim Rivera) - nay

Steve Cullen - aye

John Ruszin - aye

Kellie Buchanan - aye

Gallus Obert - aye

Donna Getty - aye

Joe Gilleo - aye

John Allen - aye

Cyndie Bowman - aye

Mike Pallotta - aye

Gary Sanderson - aye

Motion carries (10,1,0)

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Non-Agenda Items)

None.

NEXT MEETING Monday, September 27, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Mr. Joe Gilleo, seconded by Gallus Obert, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:33 p.m. Board members unanimously approved the motion (11,0,0).

Sincerely,

Sharon Rendeiro
Secretary