

BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
JOINT BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Bucks County Technical School Joint Board Committee was held on **February 22, 2021 by Electronic Communication** 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
	Michael Pallotta	Pennsbury
	Kim Rivera	Bensalem
	John Ruszin Jr.	Bristol Borough

TOTAL MEMBERS PRESENT: 10

MEMBERS ABSENT: 2

	Heather Nicholas, 2nd Vice President	Bensalem
	Gallus Obert	Bristol Township

ALSO PRESENT:

	NAME	AFFILIATION
	Leon Poeske	Administrative Director
	Sharon Rendeiro	Bus Administrator/Board Secretary
	Patricia Cumberland	Board Treasurer
	Ellis Katz	Solicitor
	Henry DeGeorge	Assistant Director
	Karen Moyer	Human Resources Coordinator
	John Haney	Supervisor of Information Technology
	Theresa Prato	BCTSEA President
	Diane Wunder	Bucks County I.U.
	Ron Martino	School To Career
	Evan Baker	BCTHS Teacher
	Paul Lobecker	BCTHS Teacher
	John Paone	BCTHS Teacher
	April Bates	BCTHS Teacher

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA A motion was made by Cyndie Bowman, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, to approve the agenda as presented. Board members unanimously approved the agenda (10,0,0).

PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

Dr. Leon Poeske advised that a meeting of the Professional Council was held on Monday, February 8, 2021 via Zoom. The following members were in attendance: Sam Lee (Bensalem School District), Rose Minniti, (Bristol Borough School District), Melanie Gehrens (Bristol Township School District), Stephenie Russell, Director of SPED for Jason Harris (Morrisville School District), Rob McGee (Neshaminy School District), Bill Gretzula (Pennsbury School District) and Leon Poeske (BCTHS).

The following topics were discussed:

- Support Staff Assignments-Snow Days and Asynchronous and Synchronous
 - The group discussed how they are handling attendance of Support staff on snow days, asynchronous and synchronous learning days. Each of the districts are handling this differently i.e assigning meaningful tasks, virtual training assignments, repurposing staff, participating in small student group Zoom activities, adding days at the end of the school year, working from home or taking unpaid days.
- In-Person Learning Plans
 - Dr. Poeske advised the group that BCTHS is planning to increase their student attendance to 50% of the student population on March 1st. There will be a survey and commitment form going out to parents regarding their intent on sending their children to school for in-person Academic learning. There is an anticipation that not all parents will be interested in having their children come to school for in-person learning.

There was a discussion between the attendees about their current in-person attendance in their schools and their plans to slowly bring more students back into their buildings safely. There is some anticipation that the CDC may be coming out with some updated COVID health and safety guidelines.

- COVID Data
 - Dr Poeske shared a Bucks County COVID Data report indicating COVID case numbers are slowly declining.
- COVID Vaccination

- The group expressed their frustration in not being able to get COVID Vaccine information for their staff stating that it has not been readily available in the Bucks County area. Some districts have had preliminary discussions with area medical organizations for the purpose of getting vaccines for their staff.
- Capital Improvements
 - Dr. Poeske gave the group an update on the planned capital improvements to BCTHS for a Roof, HVAC system upgrade and fire suppression system. D'Huy Engineering will be making a presentation to the Bucks County Technical School Authority Members on March 2, 2021. Dr. Poeske also advised the group that Authority Solicitor, Joseph Pizzo, sent out packets to the six sending district Solicitors with the proposed Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation for the BCTS Authority.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the BCTHS Board Room.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Agenda Items)

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Cyndie Bowman, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, that the Board approve the Minutes of the January 25, 2021 meeting. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10,0,0).

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 advised that the 50% Hybrid model will begin on Monday, March 1, 2021. Dr. Poeske advised that the 9th grade placements are underway. The 9th graders will be in their chosen Tech shops on March 9, 2021.

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

A motion was made by Cyndie Bowman, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, that the Board approve the Financial Reports, subject to audit, as per pp. C1-C15. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10,0,0).

A motion was made by Cyndie Bowman, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for payment of the properly approved bills and electronic payments in the total amount of \$502,458.86 and release salaries, subject to audit, as per pp. D1-D15. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10,0,0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

P.I.A. Committee:

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

- Action items on for approval
- NOCTI Waiver
- Audit
- BCTHS's plan for moving from 25% to 50% hybrid
- Grading Process
- Preliminary Building Renovation Project
- Graduation

Audit Committee:

Mr. Gilleo, Chair of the Audit Committee, announced that a meeting of the Audit Committee was held on February 2, 2021. The audit is a clean audit with no findings.

Other Committees:

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Cyndie Bowman, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, to combine the motions and approve the following recommendations A-I pp. F1-F2:

- A. Accept the resignation of Cafeteria Worker, Beth Wyatt-Wilson, effective March 1, 2021.
- B. Approve a Sabbatical Leave of Absence for Restoration of Health for English Teacher, Maria Morrow, effective March 1, 2021 through the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
- C. Approve the unpaid leave of absence of part-time Custodian, Alan Marietta, from January 22, 2021 to January 29, 2021 (6 days).

Approve an unpaid leave of absence for part-time Cafeteria Cook, Patricia Darroch, beginning on February 8, 2021 with an anticipated day of return on March 24, 2021.

Approve an unpaid leave of absence for Cafeteria Worker, Nora Marin, beginning February 19, 2021 for a 6 to 8-week period.

Approve an unpaid leave of absence for Maintenance Technician, Mark Demschick from February 11, 2021 through February 19, 2021.

- D. Approve the employment of Brian McCrane as a long term substitute English teacher to replace Maria Morrow on Column D, Step 5 at a prorated annual salary of \$69,862 effective February 23, 2021, pending criminal background checks and completion of employment paperwork.

Approve the employment of Samantha Wilson as a regular Substitute Teacher, at a daily rate of \$100, with a retroactive date of hire of February 10, 2021.

Approve the employment of Margaret Gray as a temporary Monitor, at an hourly rate of \$12.20, effective February 23, 2021, pending criminal background checks and completion of new hire paperwork.

Approve the employment of cooperative education student, Gilberto Jerez, for the Facilities Department at the Cooperative Education Technology II rate of \$9.50/hour, not to exceed the budgeted amount, pending criminal background checks, effective February 23, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

- E. Approve a stipend for nine months at \$65/month for Colin Marsh to advise and guide Baking and Pastry Arts Teacher, Tyler Fortna, per the state approved mentor program effective February 2021 through October 2021.
- F. Approve Bucks County Technical High School apply for a waiver of its obligation to administer the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOTCI) Exams, including the National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS), to its student during the 2020-2021 school year, as allowable under ACT 136, as a result of the severely reduced in-person instructional time due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and for health and safety precautions; and authorize the Administrative Director to execute any documents required by PDE in support of the waiver.
- G. Accept the Audit Report for year ending June 30, 2020, as prepared and submitted by Major and Mastro, LLC. (Refer to Addendum #1)
- H. Award the PEPPM Mini-bid E-rate contract to ePlus Technology in the amount of \$26,256.60, split funded by BCTHS in the amount of \$10,502.64 and E-rate funding in the amount of \$15,753.96, for the upgrade of our Cisco Wireless Access Points and device licensing. The upgraded model awarded is 60 Cisco Catalyst 9105AX-EDU with 60 Cisco DNA Essential Licenses.

- I. Approve the budgetary transfers for the 2020-2021 budget in the amount of \$18,000.00. (Refer to Addendum # 2)

The Board unanimously approved the motions (10,0,0).

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Non-Agenda Items)

None

NEXT MEETING Monday, March 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

A motion was made by Cyndie Bowman, seconded by Kellie Buchanan, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10,0,0).

Sincerely,

Sharon Rendeiro
Secretary