

**BUCKS COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL
JOINT BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
October 28, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Bucks County Technical School Joint Board Committee was held on Monday, October 28, 2019, in the Board Room (K108) at the Technical High School and called to order by President, John Allen, at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Allen, President	Neshaminy
Joe Adamson, First Vice-President	Bristol Borough
Christian Schwartz, Second Vice-President	Pennsbury
Kathleen Lesnevec	Bensalem
Heather Nicholas	Bensalem
John Ruszin	Bristol Borough
Gallus Obert	Bristol Township (alternate for Stacy Gerlach)
Joseph Gilleo	Morrisville
Cyndie Bowman	Neshaminy
Gary Sanderson	Pennsbury

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kellie Buchanan	Bristol Township
Donna Getty	Morrisville

ALSO PRESENT

Samuel Lee	Superintendent of Record
Leon Poeske	Administrative Director
Henry DeGeorge	Assistant Director
Sharon Rendeiro	Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Ellis Katz, Solicitor	Sweet Stevens Katz and Williams
Patricia Cumberland	Board Treasurer
Todd Breuer	BCTSEA Treasurer
Susan Schechter	BCIU#22 Representative

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION Mr. Allen announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the start of this meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA A motion was made by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Gilleo, to approve the agenda as presented. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT Nyeji Blay, Isabelle Brodbeck and Ana Zeferino read the attached report.

PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL REPORT Dr. Samuel Lee, Superintendent of Record, announced that a meeting of the Professional Council was held on Monday, October 21, 2019. The following members were in attendance: Sam Lee (Bensalem), Rose Minniti

(Bristol Borough), Melanie Gehrens (Bristol Township), Jason Harris (Morrisville), Joe Jones (Neshaminy), and Leon Poeske (BCTHS).

Discussed were the following items:

- Recent threats made against BCTHS, Neshaminy and Pennsbury. Discussed ways to manage these types of events, communication methods, public awareness and ways to improve.
- Later start times for high school students.
- School lunch debt: BCTHS is withholding participation in extra-curricular events as a way to leverage collecting outstanding debt.
- Security personnel training: the new mandate that states all security personnel need to be trained. The closest training being offered is in Reading and Doylestown.
- Impact of upcoming elections with many Board members either not seeking re-election or running for office again.
- Grants: BCTHS is the recipient of a \$25,000 Safe School Grant; and the new guidelines for the Perkins V grant that need to be met.
- Schools and employers have come together to form the Bucks County Career Pathways Partnership to collaboratively explore strategies intended to provide students with the preparation needed to enter and thrive in today's workforce.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - AGENDA ITEMS None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES A motion was made by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Gilleo, that the Board approve the Minutes of the September 23, 2019 meeting. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT Dr. Leon Poeske, Administrative Director, referred to Student Accounting, the Bucks County Technical High School Newsletter, newspaper articles relative to the Technical School and upcoming events.

Dr. Poeske discussed the 9th grade enrollment that is currently at 417.

Dr. Poeske reminded everyone of the Open House scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT A motion was made by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Gilleo, that the Board approve the Financial Reports as of August 31, 2019, subject to audit, as per pp. C1-C16. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

A motion was made by Mr. Schwartz, seconded by Mr. Gilleo, that an order be drawn on the Treasurer for payment of the properly approved bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$539,261.46 and release salaries, subject to audit, as per pp. D1-D35. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

P.I.A. COMMITTEE Mr. Adamson, Chairperson, advised that the PIA Committee met this evening. Items discussed were: sabbatical leave, new hires, continued employment, transfers; field trips; Professional Development; Summer Exploratory Program dates; electricity purchasing; Safe School Grant (\$25,000); attachment for Policy #626 – Federal Fiscal Compliance Procurement Code of Conduct for School Food Authorities reviewed this evening; Safety Grant update – approve applying for electronic locksets and digital cameras; new guidelines for the Perkins V Grant; and a later start time for high school students.

A motion was made by Mr. Adamson, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, to approve the submission of a grant through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) for \$85,838.98, to purchase sixty (60) new network surveillance cameras and to purchase fifty (50) electronic classroom lockets. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS A motion was made by Mr. Sanderson, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, to combine motions A-P and approve the following recommendations:

- A. Accept the resignation of cafeteria worker, Miranda Kish, effective October 14, 2019.
- B. Approve the sabbatical leave of absence for restoration of health for Guidance Counselor, Kathryn Eby, for the second semester of the 2019-20 school year.
- C. Approve the revision to the approved Compensation Plan for the Exempt Support Staff (Confidential and Coordinators Groups) to revise the salary and benefits for the Administrative Secretary – Business Administrator, effective upon hire, through June 30, 2023, as attached.
- D. Approve the transfer of Philip Formica from a day to day/everyday substitute teacher to a regular substitute teacher, at a daily rate of \$100.00, effective September 23, 2019.
- E. Approve the employment of Diane Palotta as an Administrative/Financial Services Secretary to the Business Administrator, to replace Nancy Durkan, in accordance with the approved agreement with the Confidential Support Group, at a prorated salary of \$52,800.00, effective November 12, 2019.

Approve the employment of Austin Brown as a day to day/everyday substitute teacher at a daily rate of \$125.00, effective October 29, 2019.

Approve the employment of Danielle DiCampello as a part time Monitor at an hourly rate of \$11.89, effective October 29, 2019.

Approve the employment of Stacey Sigmon as a cafeteria worker at an hourly rate of \$10.80 effective October 29, 2019, pending criminal background checks and new hire paperwork.

Approve the employment of Brian Wurtz as a regular substitute teacher at a daily rate of \$100.00, effective October 29, 2019, pending criminal background checks and the completion of new hire paperwork.

Approve the employment of Stephen Waters as a regular substitute teacher at a daily rate of \$100.00, effective October 29, 2019.

F. Approve the continued employment of Jennifer Prendergast as a long-term substitute Special Education teacher to replace Amanda Bucantis on Column F/Step 5, at a prorated annual salary of \$75,149.00, with a retroactive effective date of October 16, 2019.

G. Approve a mentor stipend in the amount of \$325.00 for Guidance Counselor, Lisa McWilliams, to advise and guide Guidance Counselor, Kaitlyn Fala, per the state approved mentor program during the second semester of the 2019-20 school year.

Approve a mentor stipend in the amount of \$65.00 per month for Special Education teacher, Shannon Seratch, to advise and guide Special Education teacher, Jennifer Prendergast, per the state approved mentor program effective October 2019.

H. Approve Welding instructor, Chuck Kochersperger, one (1) chaperone and fourteen (14) students to attend the Diving and Welding Academy in Sicklerville, New Jersey on March 20, 2020, pending receipt of parental permission forms. Cost to the Board is \$100.00.

Approve Emergency Medical Services instructors Kimberly Caron and Barry Boring to take twenty two (22) seniors on an educational trip to New York, New York to see the 9/11 Memorial and the 9/11 Museum on Friday, May 1, 2020, pending receipt of parental permission forms. Cost to the Board is \$100.00.

Approve Language Arts teacher, Kelly Woehr, to take sixteen (16) students on an educational trip to New York, New York to see the 9/11 Memorial and the 9/11 Museum on Friday, May 1, 2020, pending receipt of parental permission forms. Cost to the Board is \$100.00.

I. Approve Guidance Counselor, Angela Ponist, to attend High School Guidance Counselor Day at Rider University, Lawrenceville, NJ on March 24, 2020, at no cost to the Board.

J. Approve the participation of the Carpentry class in a community-based project in October/November 2019, as an educational experience for the Silver Lake Nature Center to build a large Pergola.

Approve the participation of the Landscaping/Horticulture class in a community based project in October/November 2019, as an educational experience to design, install and maintain the turf and landscaping at the New Falls Dental Clinic located at 7419 New Falls Road, Levittown, PA.

- K. Approve the services of Michael Johnson, Ezekial Cuevas, Stephanie Ehly and Donovan Stone, as school volunteers for the 2019-20 school year.
- L. Approve the dates of July 6, 2020 through July 23, 2020, Monday through Thursday, for the operation of the Summer Exploratory program for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th grade students.
- M. Approve the graduation venue of the CURE Insurance Arena, Trenton, New Jersey for the Bucks County Technical High School Class of 2020.
- N. Accept \$25,000.00 from the Safe Schools Initiative Targeted Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education Office for Safe Schools for the 2019-20 fiscal year, per grant guidelines.
- O. Authorize Business Administrator, Sharon Rendeiro, to negotiate and enter into a contract for electric supply purchasing, post July 2021, based on the recommendation from Provident Energy.
- P. Approve the budgetary transfers in the amount of \$94,069.00 for the 2019-2020 school year.

Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

CORRESPONDENCE None

OTHER BUSINESS None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NON AGENDA ITEMS None

NEXT MEETING Monday, November 25, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN A motion was made by Mr. Adamson, seconded by Mr. Gilleo, that the meeting be adjourned at 7:47 p.m. Board members unanimously approved the motion (10, 0, 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Rendeiro, Secretary

SR:nd

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT
Monday, October 28, 2019****STUDENT REPS:**

Dylan Souders, Senior Class President
Nyeji Blay, Senior Vice President
Ana Zeferino – Junior Class President
Isabelle Brodbeck – Junior Class Vice President

- Underclass Picture Day was held on Friday, October 4th.
- Senior Portrait make-up photo sessions were held on Monday and Tuesday, Oct. 21 and 22.
- BCTHS Drama presents Fall Theater Workshops. There will be 5 sessions consisting of:
 1. Introduction to Theater and Acting
 2. Characterization and Improvisation
 3. Vocal workshop and Karaoke
 4. Dancing Queen Disco Dance Workshop
 5. Audition Techniques and Mamma Mia Information
- The College and Career Fair will be held tomorrow, Tuesday, Oct. 29th in the Cafeteria. Representatives from colleges, military, and industry will be there to help our students plan for their future.
- The Senior Class has been preparing for their NOCTI testing in the spring by taking a pre-NOCTI test in their technical areas. A pre-test is administered to determine a student's baseline technical knowledge in a Career and Technical Education program.
- Students in 9th and 10th grade are preparing for the Keystone Algebra, Literature, and Biology exams by taking the CDT tests. Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT) are based on content assessed by the Keystone Exams and the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). Although not a predictor for PSSA and Keystone Exam performance, CDTs provide a snapshot on why and how students may still be struggling or exceeding grade and/or course Eligible Content.
- The Landscape/Floral Design class has been busy around the campus. Students have been maintaining flower beds and decorating offices with an autumn theme.
- PSAT Testing was offered to 10th and 11th Grade students during school on Wednesday, October 16th. All were strongly encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. Approximately 150 students took the test.
- The Culinary Classes have begun serving their delicious lunches to the faculty and general public. Also, they will occasionally be offering take out services on Fridays. As always, the teachers and students are excited for a very successful year.
- On October 16th, BCTHS held their fall Occupational Advisory Committee Dinner and Meeting. Students from Culinary and Baking cooked a delicious meal for approximately 300 guests. Landscaping students arranged the centerpieces and Commercial Art designed the posters.

Thank you for supporting our student activities!