

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**October 25, 2017**

<b>Presiding</b>	Joe Lopretto, President
<b>Date, Time, Place</b>	Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 7:30 PM, Board Room, Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA 15132.
<b>Opening Exercises</b>	Mr. Lopretto called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, followed by the Pledge to the Flag. We met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel and potential litigation items and issues. Please be reminded to turn off all cell phones upon entering the Board Room.
<b>Present</b>	Jim Brown Chris Halaszynski Ivan Hampton Mary Jane Keller Steve Kondrosky Joe Lopretto Patricia Maksin Scott Smith  Excused. Mindy Sturgess
<b>Others Present</b>	Dr. Mark Holtzman, Superintendent Dr. Tia Wanzo, Assistant to the Superintendent David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary Matthew Gergely, Assistant to the Business Manager/Grants & Outside Funding Gary Matta, Solicitor

**Board President's Remarks** – I don't got really much to say, except the coats for kids program that we did a few months back where we had the fundraiser at Clancy's. We raised over \$10,000 in a little less than a month which I thought was pretty good. We were looking to get coats for K-2<sup>nd</sup>. Just found out yesterday that the operation warm who we purchase the coats from got some kind of a grant and they are now donating an additional 300 coats to us so we will have 700 coats to give out looking to be able to have everybody in K-5 at Twin Rivers to have a coat. I want to give a big thank you to operation warm and a big thank you to everybody that came out and volunteered for the coats for kids foundation, the donations we Regular Board

Meeting  
October 26, 2017

received from different groups. It was for an excellent cause. We were hoping to clothe the whole school up there, but the money only covered up to K-2<sup>nd</sup> and Rob Patterson, one of our firemen, got that phone call to find out if he can get sizes for the rest of them. They were going to donate another 300 coats. I just thought that was amazing. I'm proud to say that our kids are all going to have coats up at Twin Rivers. Also, anybody on the Board here that wants to volunteer, or anybody out here, anybody here from new agencies, newspapers, if you could make it a point to give us some coverage on that if you want to come up, it's going to be Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, roughly about 9:30 we're going to be starting and if we're giving out K-5, it's going to be a long day, so the more volunteers, the happier we'll be. We have the fire department coming up to do it, we have police officers coming up to do it. Any Board Members that want to come up, feel free to do it. I'm going to talk to Dr. Holtzman to make sure he gets some of his staff up there too. It's a big thing for the district itself. Next year, hopefully we can raise enough to do something for McClure. That's our goal. We want to make sure our kids are kept warm. If this is the way to do it, then I have no problem going out and fundraising. It was a good time, anybody that was there had a good time and like I said, it actually paid off, because we're getting 700 coats. That's all I got to say.

**Superintendent's Report** – I have a few things then a brief presentation to share with everyone. Just would like to thank Mr. Drew DeCarlo. Two Saturdays ago I had the opportunity to attend a band competition. We hosted approximately a dozen bands. I had the opportunity also to see a couple college bands, Seton Hall College as well as one other college was here, it slips my mind right now, but they did an outstanding job. I got an opportunity to assist the kids with passing out the trophies and awards for the competition. We want to talk about something that gets people excited, the stadium probably had more folks for the band competition than it does for a football game which is pretty amazing, so it was a great evening. Also, I had the opportunity, Dr. Wanzo and I, we visit the schools daily, but being invited to a Spanish lesson for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students over at Founders Hall and Mrs. Saunders did a nice job, they did a fashion show where they had to promote one another, speak in Spanish about what they were wearing and so on. It was quite entertaining and a few laughs. Things that are going on at McClure, walking through McClure on Columbus day, watching the little ones drawing their little Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria and those types of things. Believe it or not, I get a huge kick out of that. I had an opportunity to get through the building on Columbus day even though it's a daily thing for Dr. Wanzo and I, it's something that sticks in my mind. Also, stopping by a couple other classrooms that I just want to kind of give notice, Mrs. Gumbert's classroom they were working on directions, east, west, north, south, and they had me demonstrate and they wanted to know which direction the sun was coming in, I had to cheat and look where the shadow was coming in through the window so I knew the answer. Needless to say, they are really engaging kids, kids up out of their chairs learning, hands on. Those are just a few things that are happening in our district that I'm Regular Board Meeting

October 25, 2017

Physically getting the pleasure of observing. There are lots of different events that are happening throughout our district and have happened recently – Tiger Fest, Homecoming was outstanding, the career and college fair, things like that have come and gone. Our fire department is doing other things in our district, visiting and so on, different classrooms, and visiting Pre-K, but I'm not going to get into those dates. One thing I will share with you, October 27<sup>th</sup> which is coming up is the flu shot clinic open to the public at the high school so you are welcome there. I think it's a \$5 donation, it's free, but we ask for a \$5 donation for the kids and then the cross country team on October 29<sup>th</sup> is hosting an annual kids pumpkin chase run in Renzie Park on the 29th, so make sure if you have children or grandchildren they can attend. If I could hold your attention as quickly as I can, I am going to go through a comprehensive study that I think will be interesting to all of you. (Presentation) We have three school board members that are going to be wrapping up their time with us. Just to say thank you, we made a certificate for them about the time they have spent with us just to recognize them as well as a blanket to cozy up with at night. Just want to thank you, not only on behalf of our community and our kids, but I want to say thank you personally for the support I have been given in my new role and my new venture and I know will continue to get that support from the new members and the remaining school board. This is a great group of people to work with and work for and I hope the three of you still stay actively involved as you move forward and those individuals are Patty, Scott and Chris. We're going to continue to work hard to make our school district the best place you can be and we would love to hear from you. Thank you.

**Treasurer's Report** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2017. Seconded by Mrs. Keller.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Hearing of Citizens** – None

**Minutes** – Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of September 20, 2017 and Regular Meeting of September 27, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2017

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Bills** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the list of bills. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Refunds** – Mr. Smith moved to approve property tax refunds. Seconded by Mr. Hampton.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Field Trip** – Mrs. Maksin moved to approve the following field trip:

A. Students in grades 6-8 to Niagara Falls on May 24-25, 2018.

Seconded by Mrs. Keller.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Agreement** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve an agreement with Maxim Staffing Solutions to provide individual nursing services for a student within the district. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Proposal** – Mrs. Maksin moved to accept the proposal from Harris School Solutions for Human Resources Employee portal software in the amount of \$10,100. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski. Mr. Seropian explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Regular Board Meeting

October 25, 2017

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Policies** – Mrs. Keller second reading and adoption of the following Board policies:

909 – Community – Municipal Government Relations

910 – Community – Community Relations

913 – Community – Non-School Organizations, Groups and Individuals

Seconded by Mr. Brown.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Green Sheets** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the personnel recommendations (green sheets). Seconded by Mr. Smith.

**PROFESSIONAL:**

RESIGNATION: Effective 10-11-17:

1. Kim Cook Pre-K Teacher, Founders' Hall

RESIGNATION: Long Term Substitute Teacher effective 10-20-17:

1. Caelyn DiSanti Health and Phys Ed Teacher, Founders' Hall  
(Eckels)

LEAVE OF ABSENCES:

1. Jayme Tomco Special Education Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, unpaid maternity leave of absence effective approximately 11-29-17 to an undetermined date. FMLA
2. Katelyn Welsh Elementary Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, Maternity leave of absence effective approximately 12-16-17 to an undetermined date. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of sick and personal days.

TO BE HIRED: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$100.00/day + benefits and increase to \$125.00 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

1. Ashley Maljan Health and Phys. Ed. Teacher, Founders' Hall Middle School,  
(Eckels) effective 10-19-17.

Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2017

TO BE HIRED: Title I Facilitator effective immediately. Rate of pay will be either \$100.00/day + individual benefit or \$110.00/day without benefits:

1. Emily Hardy Francis McClure Elementary School

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities for the 2017-2018 school year:

- |     |                   |                       |                               |            |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| 1.  | Tina Bieda        | Audio Visual          | McClure Elementary School     | \$815.44   |
| 2.  | Dean Holtzman     | Audio Visual (shared) | Twin Rivers Elementary School | \$407.72   |
| 3.  | Danette Sprouse   | Audio Visual (shared) | Twin Rivers Elementary School | \$407.72   |
| 4.  | Jean Gallo        | Director of Musical   | Founders' Hall                | \$983.25   |
| 5.  | Jean Gallo        | Producer of Musical   | Founders' Hall                | \$983.25   |
| 6.  | Jean Gallo        | Drama Club            | Founders' Hall                | \$815.44   |
| 7.  | Shanna Opfer      | Yearbook              | Founders' Hall                | \$1,141.61 |
| 8.  | Jennifer Hairston | Student Council       | Founders' Hall                | \$815.44   |
| 9.  | Bethany Sadler    | Photographer          | Founders' Hall                | \$815.44   |
| 10. | Jesse Wilson      | Newspaper             | Founders' Hall                | \$1,141.61 |
| 11. | Jeff Richardson   | Culinary Arts Club    | High School                   | \$939.84   |

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

ADDITIONS:

- 1.\* Charles Myers Elementary

DELETIONS:

1. Donna Burd Mathematics

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Athletics/Activities for the 2017-2018 school year:

- |    |               |                           |            |
|----|---------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 1. | Ron Kalup     | Assistant Wrestling Coach | \$4,229.27 |
| 2. | Haley Ekaitis | Assistant Swimming Coach  | \$3,007.48 |

VOLUNTEER: Extra Curricular Athletics/Activities for the 2017-2018 school year:

1. Justin Liptak Assistant Wrestling Coach

**SUPPORT STAFF:**

TO BE HIRED: Effective 10-16-17:

1. Renee Tarker Federal Instructional Assistant, High School  
Yearly salary will be \$15,657.00

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

ADDITIONS:

- 1.\* Donna McGuire Nurse Assistant

DELETIONS:

Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2017

- |     |                   |                              |
|-----|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.  | Sindy Yoder       | General Worker, Food Service |
| 2.  | Helen Brown       | General Worker, Food Service |
| 3.  | Inez Smith        | General Worker, Food Service |
| 4.  | Patricia Kowalski | General Worker, Food Service |
| 5.  | Karen Kelly       | General Worker, Food Service |
| 6.  | Brandy Black      | General Worker, Food Service |
| 7.  | Ashton Flaherty   | General Worker, Food Service |
| 8.  | Julia Ferree      | General Worker, Food Service |
| 9.  | Betty Stone       | General Worker, Food Service |
| 10. | Rita McMillan     | General Worker, Food Service |
| 11. | Theodore Kampert  | Custodian                    |

\* Pending receipt of Act 24, 34, 114 and 151 clearances, Act 168 Disclosure Release, T.B. Tine and Drug Test results

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Bid** – Mr. Smith moved to accept the bid from Franjo Construction for the demolition of George Washington Elementary School in the amount of \$360,000 base bid. (Per PDE granted emergency provision § 24 PS 7-751.) Seconded by Mrs. Maksin.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**MOU** – Mrs. Maksin moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the McKeesport Educational Support Professionals Association regarding Health and Welfare. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski. Dr. Holtzman explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Bid**– Mr. Smith moved to accept the bid from Lins Elevator Services, Inc. for emergency repairs  
Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2017

to the elevator at the high school in the amount of \$73,846. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski. Dr. Halaszynski explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

**Resolutions** – Mr. Smith moved to approve Resolutions #1174 and #1175 – student discipline. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

Excused. Mrs. Sturgess

#### **Committee Reports -**

Athletic –Mary Jane Keller/Jim Brown/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Hampton reported. We had our Athletic Committee Meeting on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 and discussed personnel which is on the green sheets. Mr. Kiss outlined his work with student weekly academic checks for all student athletes who score below a 70% in classroom or academic activities. The winter sports physicals will be Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at the high school and we have televised varsity football game verses Penn Trafford which will be aired after the Penguin game Friday night. That concludes my report.

Buildings & Grounds – Steve Kondrosky – Thank you very much Mr. President. We did meet. We met this morning, Mr. Fagan, Dr. Coughenour and Matt Gergely. We discussed a couple of items. We finally completed the construction of the second phase of the Alt Ed project. That was all done in house with a considerable savings. They installed three new phase motors on the roof top handlers at South Hall gym. Another in-house job that saved about \$1,800. Still trouble shooting Twin Rivers heating and cooling system. There are parts that should be warranted for ten years that we are having a hard time dealing with right now and it's going to be a complete headache until we figure out what is going on with that project. They erected two new 60-foot parking light posts at the front entrance of South Hall and another one at Founders Hall. They electrified two of them. The second one at Founders Hall should be done next week. Winterized the water for the soccer field at McClure. Once again, boarded up windows at White Oak School and repaired the fence at the soccer field at McClure. And for Mrs. Halaszynski, I think they ran an electrical 220 line at South Hall kitchen for a steamer and now can serve pizza.

Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2017



Career & Technology – Pat Maksin – Residents at Kane Hospital would like to attend church services at the Christ Temple African Methodist Episcopal Church which is adjacent there, but the church does not have a ramp so that the people can be wheeled there. So they have approached our building construction classes to see if they would be able to go down and install a ramp. I don't know, do we have any update on that? They were supposed to go down earlier this week. It's an opportunity for our students to do a community project that will benefit Kane Hospital. We seem to have a good partnership with Kane, so we want to make sure we do whatever we can for those people. Our distinguished educator, Lois Richards, was here on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. She had no official agenda, but meet and greet with students and staff. The 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in February will be doing a vocational shop rotation on the day in February which is a half day for students. They felt it was going to be a disruptive day anyway, so it's probably a good day to run those 9<sup>th</sup> grade students through the vocational shops that day. They are working out a program for that. The Tiger Inn will be, hopefully, getting some new flooring. We have developed a partnership with Toth Flooring in West Mifflin and they like what they see our kids are learning to do and they have offered to take some of our students when they finish school, hiring them and so forth. They were instrumental in helping out with the flooring in the library, they are going to be putting the same kind of flooring in the Tiger Inn. Hopefully, continue to spruce it up. One of the aspects they are looking at are the non-traditional students. Those would be gearing towards females in the engineering class, males in cosmetology, those types of things. They are really doing a focus on that. One of the things they have done is establish a barber chair in the cosmetology, so we have male and female students that can learn to be barbers. The cosmo students will be going to Kane tomorrow. Dr. Holtzman did mention the flu shots on Friday, that is between 9:00 and 11:00 and that will be outside the athletic office in the athletic wing in the high school. There will be an upcoming blood drive that Allied Health will be holding on December 1<sup>st</sup>. That ends my report.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity – Jim Brown/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Brown reported. We did not meet this month.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Mary Jane Keller/Mindy Sturgess – Mrs. Keller reported. We also did not meet in October.

Finance/Grants/Outside Funding – Scott Smith – Mr. Smith reported. We did not meet; however, I do have a report. We, as always, are continuing to develop the 18/19 budget and as always with the school district, we continue to look at savings within our current budget. I believe they do that every day and I thank you for that.

Personnel – Mindy Sturgess/Steve Kondrosky – Mrs. Keller reported. The personnel Regular Board Meeting  
October 25, 2017

recommendations are the ones that were on the green sheets tonight for a vote.

Safe Schools – Chris Halaszynski – We did not have a meeting this month.

**Solicitor’s Report** – No report.

**Correspondence** – No report.

**Adjournment** – 8:25 PM – Mr. Kondrosky moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

Voting aye. All Members present.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary