

*Be advised that due to the fact that the tape is blank, there is no transcription of the reports.*

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Regular Board Meeting**

**September 27, 2017**

**Presiding** Joe Lopretto, President

**Date, Time, Place** Wednesday, September 27, 2017, 7:30 PM, Board Room,  
Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard,  
McKeesport, PA 15132.

**Opening Exercises** Mr. Lopretto called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, followed by the Pledge to the Flag. We met in Executive Session following the Open Agenda Meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>. We also 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.

**Present** Jim Brown  
Chris Halaszynski  
Ivan Hampton  
Mary Jane Keller  
Steve Kondrosky  
Joe Lopretto  
Patricia Maksin  
Excused. Scott Smith  
Mindy Sturgess

**Others Present** 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** – Mr. Lopretto reported.

**Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Holtzman reported on the following:

PSBA – eight-year recognition for Patricia Maksin, ACE Open House, 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation, 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation, Kindergarten orientation, Party on the Deck at the Tiger Inn, Cosmetology at Kane, Homecoming tailgate and game, Tiger Fest, College and Career day and half Act 80 day on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

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Kelly Patterson, Nutrition, Inc. – power point presentation for food service.

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

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Hearing of Citizens** – None

**Minutes** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of August 9, 2017 and Regular Meeting of August 16, 2017. Seconded by Mr. Hampton.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

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

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Refunds** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve property tax refunds. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Subcontract** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to subcontract with Donna Maguire, RN to provide Nurse Liaison Services for the UPMC/McKeesport Area School District Allied Health Partnership effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 contingent upon final agreement. Seconded by Mrs. Maksinn. Dr. Holtzman explained.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Agreement** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve an agreement between McKeesport Area School District and PSA Healthcare for the period of August 2017 through June 2018. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski. Dr. Holtzman explained.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Agreement** – Mr. Hampton moved to approve an agreement with Epic Communications for preparing and filing E-Rate forms with the Schools and Libraries for the 2017/2018 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Maksin. Mr. Seropian explained.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Transfer** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to authorize the Business Manager to transfer \$400,000 from the Capital Projects Fund to the General Fund to pay towards the October 1, 2017 debt services payment. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Resolutions** – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve Resolutions #1171, #1172 and #1173 – student discipline. Seconded by Mr. Hampton.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

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

**PROFESSIONAL:**

RESIGNATION:

1. Kristen Hallas Art Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective 09-05-17.
2. Brittny Doss Elementary Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, effective 08-22-17.

RECALL FROM FURLOUGH: Effective 08-31-17:

1. Craig Slafka Art Teacher, Founders' Hall  
Step 6B+30 Salary \$46,756.00 (pro-rated)

LEAVE OF ABSENCES:

1. Kimberly Cook Pre-K Teacher, Founders' Hall, unpaid leave of absence effective 10-30-17 to an undetermined date. FMLA
2. Autumn Grata Special Education Teacher, McClure Elementary School, effective approximately 01-16-18 to an undetermined date. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of sick days.

BOARD ACTION TO INCREASE THE RETIRED TEACHER DAILY SUBSTITUTE RATE TO \$125.00/DAY.

TO BE HIRED: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$125.00/day:

1. Karen Troutman Pre-K Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective 10-30-17.  
(K. Cook)

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. Christopher Gillies Special Education Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective 08-24-17. (J. Rossi/Doss)

RESIGNATION:

1. Kate Monezis Permanent Day-to-Day Substitute at Twin Rivers Elementary School effective 08-25-17.

TO BE HIRED: Permanent Day-to-Day Substitutes for the 2017-2018 school year: Rate of pay will be \$100.00/day + individual benefits and increase to \$125.00 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

1. Rotina Johnson Twin Rivers Elementary School

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2. Tyrone Neal Founders' Hall

TO BE HIRED: (Paid from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant – Cohort 7  
Grades 4-8) Position is effective from September 2017 through June 2018:

- |    |                  |                           |                                   |
|----|------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Chris Starry     | Site Coordinator (shared) | Francis McClure Elementary School |
| 2. | Mary Ann LaFever | Site Coordinator (shared) | Francis McClure Elementary School |
| 3. | Christy Oakley   | Site Coordinator (shared) | Twin Rivers Elementary School     |
| 4. | Dean Holtzman    | Site Coordinator (shared) | Twin Rivers Elementary School     |
| 5. | Melissa Mehn     | Site Coordinator          | Founders' Hall                    |

TO BE HIRED: (Paid from the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Grant – Cohort 9  
Grades K-3) Position is effective from September 2017 through June 2018:

- |    |                |                      |                               |
|----|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Amy Dellapenna | Project Director     | Twin Rivers Elementary School |
| 2. | Natalie Wynn   | Fiscal Administrator | Twin Rivers Elementary School |

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

DELETIONS:

- |    |                  |         |
|----|------------------|---------|
| 1. | Rachel Ochesehnt | Biology |
|----|------------------|---------|

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

- |    |            |                          |
|----|------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Ryan Smith | 7/8 Grade Football Coach |
|----|------------|--------------------------|

**PROFESSIONAL:**

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

- |    |                  |   |            |
|----|------------------|---|------------|
| 1. | Nicholas LoNigro | 7/8 Grade Football Coach (shared)           | \$1,304.69 |
| 2. | Dana Brown, Sr.  | 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach | \$1,957.03 |
| 3. | Dana Brown, Jr.  | 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach | \$1,957.03 |

**SUPPORT STAFF:**

RESIGNATION: Effective immediately:

- |    |                     |   |
|----|---------------------|---|
| 1. | Troy Blackwell      | Outreach Facilitator, High School                       |
| 2. | Michelle Helderlein | Special Education Assistant, Founders' Hall             |
| 3. | David Witoslawski   | Special Education Assistant, High School                |
| 4. | Jennifer Etchison   | Special Education Assistant, Francis McClure Elementary |

TO BE HIRED:

- |     |              |   |
|-----|--------------|---|
| 1.* | Ashley Galla | Pre K Special Education Assistant, Founders' Hall,<br>effective 08-25-17<br>Yearly salary will be \$17,500.00 |
|-----|--------------|---|

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- |     |                    |  |
|-----|--------------------|--|
| 2.* | Courtney Hampton   | Instructional Assistant, placement to be determined, effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$15,657.00        |
| 3.* | Shannon Huston     | Instructional Assistant, placement to be determined, effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$15,657.00        |
| 4.* | Beverly Sutherland | Special Education Assistant, placement to be determined, Effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$18,000.00    |
| 5.  | Jessica Gerber     | Special Education Assistant, Twin Rivers Elementary School, effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$18,000.00 |
| 6.* | Theresa Kulasa     | Special Education Assistant, placement to be determined, Effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$18,000.00    |
| 7.* | John Domarsky      | Special Education Assistant, placement to be determined, Effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$18,000.00    |
| 8.* | Jamesia English    | Instructional Assistant, placement to be determined, effective immediately. Yearly salary will be \$15,657.00        |

**SUPPORT STAFF:**

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

- |    |                   |   |
|----|-------------------|---|
| 1. | Yvonne Brown      | General Worker, Food Service Department, Twin Rivers Elementary School, unpaid leave of absence effective 08-25-17 to an undetermined date. |
| 2. | Nina Johnson      | General Worker, Food Service Department, Twin Rivers Elementary School, unpaid leave of absence effective 08-25-17 to an undetermined date. |
| 3. | Parthenia Greene  | General Worker, Food Service Department, High School, unpaid leave of absence effective 09-11-17 to an undetermined date.                   |
| 4. | Wilhemina Goodlow | General Worker, Food Service Department, Twin Rivers Elementary unpaid leave of absence effective 09-20-17 to 10-31-17                      |

BOARD ACTION TO **ELIMINATE** THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT STAFF POSITIONS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- (1) In School Suspension Facilitator at the High School
- (1) Bookkeeper, Category 5 in the Business Office

BOARD ACTION TO **CREATE** THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT STAFF POSITIONS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

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- (1) In School Suspension Facilitator at the High School/Attendance Officer
- (1) Bookkeeper, Category 6 in the Business Office

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

**ADDITIONS:**

- |     |                   |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| 1.  | Krystal Cella     | Custodian, Secretary                    |
| 2.  | Barbara Miller    | Special Education Assistant             |
| 3.* | Tacara Poston     | General Worker, Food Service Department |
| 4.* | Regina Crouch     | General Worker, Food Service Department |
| 5.* | Renee Tarker      | General Worker, Food Service Department |
| 6.* | Laquay Mack       | Special Education Assistant             |
| 7.  | William Frederick | Custodian                               |
| 8.* | Timothy Tolbert   | Custodian                               |

**DELETIONS:**

- |    |                   |                             |
|----|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Natasha Henderson | Special Education Assistant |
| 2. | David Green       | Instructional Assistant     |

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

CONFERENCE REQUESTS:

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Dr. Coughenour<br>Pamela Gordon<br>Allison Wynn | Early Childhood Summit. Sponsored by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning in State College, PA<br>October 15, 2017 through October 18, 2017<br>(Paid for by CIZ and Pre K Grants)<br>\$2,000.00 |
| 2. | Jamie Lusebrink                                 | Principal Leadership workshop 2017-2018. Sponsored by Tri-StateArea School Study Council at the University of Pittsburgh<br>October 18,2017, December 12, 2017 other dates TBD<br>\$500.00                    |

**ADDENDUM**

**PROFESSIONAL:**

TO BE HIRED: Permanent Day-to-Day Substitutes for the 2017-2018 school year: Rate of pay will be \$100.00/day + individual benefits and increase to \$125.00 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

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1. Lyndsey Szymarek Founders' Hall  
(D. Brown)

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

1. Matthew Radovic Girls Assistant Soccer Coach

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

- 1.\* Kevin Kercell Girls Assistant Soccer Coach

**SUPPORT STAFF:**

RETIREMENT: Effective immediately:

1. Martha Martin General Worker, Food Service Worker, Twin Rivers Elementary School.

RESIGNATION:

1. Camryn Pavlecic Federal Instructional Assistant, High School, effective 09-26-17.

TO BE HIRED: Effective immediately:

1. Dana Brown, Jr. In School Suspension Facilitator at the High School/Attendance Officer  
Yearly salary will be \$ 25,000.00 (pro-rated).

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

**ADDITIONS:**

- 1.\* Renee Tarker Food Service
- 2.\* Terri Walker Instructional Assistant

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

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Halaszynski, \*Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, \*\*Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Maksinn

\*Mr. Hampton – abstain, page 3, item 2; \*\*Mr. Lopretto – abstain, page 4, item 7

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Access** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to authorize the district to use Allegheny Intermediate Unit #3 for Access program billing. Seconded by Mrs. Keller. Mrs. Cale explained.

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

Excused. Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

**Policies** – first reading of Board policies:

909 – Community – Municipal Government Relations

910 – Community – Community Relations

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

**Committee Reports** -

Athletic – Mary Jane Keller/Jim Brown/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Hampton reported.

Buildings & Grounds – Steve Kondrosky – Mr. Kondrosky reported.

Career & Technology – Pat Maksin – Mrs. Maksin reported.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity – Jim Brown/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Brown reported.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Mary Jane Keller/Mindy Sturgess – Mrs. Keller reported.

Finance/Grants/Outside Funding – Scott Smith – Mr. Seropian reported.

Personnel – Mindy Sturgess/Steve Kondrosky – Dr. Holtzman reported.

Safe Schools – Chris Halaszynski – Mr. Halaszynski reported.

**Solicitor's Report** – Mr. President, I have no report, but we will need to break for Executive Session following the meeting.

**Correspondence** – none

**Adjournment**– 8:10 PM – Mr. Kondrosky moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

Voting aye. All Members present.

**ATTEST:**

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

