

McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
October 26, 2016

Presiding	Mary Jane Keller, Vice President
Date, Time, Place	Wednesday, October 26, 2016, 7:30 PM, Board Room, Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA 15132.
Opening Exercises	Mrs. Keller 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.
Present	Jim Brown Chris Halaszynski Ivan Hampton Mary Jane Keller Steve Kondrosky Patricia Maksin Scott Smith Mindy Sturgess Excused. Joe Lopretto
Others Present	Dr. Rula S. Skezas, Superintendent Dr. Harry A. Bauman, Assistant Superintendent David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary James G. Humanic, Director of Human Resources/ Assistant to the Business Manager Michael Hammond, Solicitor

Board President's Remarks – My remarks this evening. As we approach the remaining days of October, our students and faculty are preparing for parent visitations. Everyone is working diligently to showcase each student's talents and intellectual growth. Your Board of Directors joins them in inviting all, especially parents, guardians, grandparents and community stakeholders to visit our open houses in each building. In addition, we salute our local veterans on Monday, November 7th, at 9:30 AM at McKeesport Senior High School auditorium. This is a very proud tradition that we have in our school district. We couldn't be prouder of the McKeesport Area School District than we are today. Thank you.

Superintendent's Report – Good evening. Before I introduce our two speakers, I just want to share some of the wonderful things that are happening here at the McKeesport Area School District. We have been very busy with our cosmetology clinic opening up and going to Kane Hospital on September 30th and we were also very fortunate in having Justice Cynthia Baldwin come to our high school once again this year to talk to our kids about taking the pledge via the history makers. She did an excellent job meeting with our children in the library and all of the kids took a pledge and I have it here and I would like to share it with the Board if you would like to pass that down. I also would like to say Twin Rivers, Francis McClure have done a wonderful job with parent evenings with their who is ready to read family night at Twin Rivers and the parent reading information session at Francis McClure and of course our Pre-K had their pumpkin center family night which was very well attended. I will let Mrs. Maksin talk about our JROTC because I know she will be doing that in her report as well as our building construction children and what they have been accomplishing over the last several weeks. Upcoming events that I would like to share, we have our Community Career Fair tomorrow evening from 6-8 PM. Please come, we have over 40 post-secondary schools as well as many human services, agencies that are going to be at our high school. Our culinary students have made hors d'oeuvres. We had each one of our shops doing a demonstration on the wonderful things that they do with their students and again it's tomorrow beginning at 6:00 PM at our high school. On Friday we have we have the Francis McClure and Twin Rivers harvest parades and on Saturday we have at the Barnes and Noble at the Waterfront from 3-5 PM we have a Harry Potter theme event going on and any book that is purchased on Saturday at the Waterfront Barnes & Noble, a percentage of the money will be given back to the school district if you mention McKeesport Area School District. Again, this coming Saturday from 3-5 PM. We have been invited to participate in Leadership Pittsburgh and that is going to be happening on November 10th here at our high school. We are going to have between four and six business and CEO people come to see the wonderful partnership we have with UPMC McKeesport and our Allied Health students. They have been very supportive for over 20 years and it is always wonderful to see our students that leave the program and get jobs at various hospitals because of what they have learned in our Allied Health class. Our PEPP program has started through Penn State Greater Allegheny at our high school. It happens every Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30-4:30 PM. We encourage our students to take advantage of this after-school tutoring program. I have to embarrass Dr. Mark Holtzman tonight and thank him once again for his participation in the Allegheny Conference video shoot. I was not able to participate in it this past Monday for personal reasons and Mark received a phone call from me Sunday night and said how would you like to be in a video on Monday? So, there he was and he was part of the video shoot on Monday and I understand he did a very nice job. The Allegheny Conference is doing a lot of research on what is going to be happening in our region within the next five (5) years, within the next ten (10) years, what job opportunities do our children have to look forward to in this area? What kind of programs can we as one of the

many school districts that are involved with the Allegheny Conference, what can we do to provide them with a solid foundation so when they leave us they are well equipped to go into the work force or on to post-secondary or technical schools. I was really excited to be selected and I know Mark showed off all the wonderful things we do here in the district. We have a mock election going on over here at Founders Hall tomorrow. Mr. Ed Pupich is doing a mock election tomorrow with our middle school students, so I will be very interested to hear about the results. Lastly, what I would like to share this evening, and I want to begin by saying thank you to Mr. Seropian, Dr. Bauman and Mr. Humanic for helping me write the testimony that I shared and I presented at the Senate Democratic Policy Committee meeting. Senator Brewster asked me to represent our school district and talk a little bit about what impacts we are being felt here in McKeesport throughout the areas, but McKeesport in particular on the roles of charter schools. Very quickly I will read to you my testimony this evening. Good morning. Senator Boscola and Senator Brewster, thank you for the opportunity to speak this morning on the Role of Charter Schools in Education and the impacts being felt in our school district and school districts throughout the state. I am Dr. Rula Skezas, Superintendent of the McKeesport Area School District. Charter Schools, as well-intended as they may have been when the charter school law was passed some 20 years ago, have become the **#1 problem** we face financially. And there is no question that charter schools disproportionately harm poorer school districts the most. Our charter school law has been referred to as “the worst charter school law in the nation”. If laws surrounding the creation, expansion, and operation of charter schools, and the method of funding charter schools are not changed, this problem will only continue to get worse. If given the time I could present for the entire two hours of this hearing on the issues with charter schools and the role they play in the education of students within the McKeesport Area School District. Let me speak about just a few of these issues. Unfortunately, the two most obvious effects that charter schools have had on our school district are that they have (1) significantly drained the resources available to those students who remain in our schools and (2) created considerable increased costs for our taxpayers. Anyone that states otherwise is simply not basing their position on facts. As an illustration of this point, the McKeesport Area School District currently has approximately 550 students in charter schools, 104 of which are in grades 9-12. For the 550 total students the district pays out nearly \$5.6 dollars to charter schools, for the 104 high school aged students that cost would be almost \$1.1 million. I would pledge to you unequivocally that if those 104 students returned to our High School the cost to the school district would be negligible. Not ONE staff member would have to be hired. The principals, teachers, guidance counselors, secretaries, custodial staff, cafeteria staff, ALL staff necessary to provide the education and services for those 104 students is in place and being paid for. Savings to the district.....and the taxpayers.....\$1.1 million. Similar savings would be realized at the elementary and middle school levels. Although we would need to add some limited teaching staff the savings would still be in the millions. So how do charter schools save the taxpayers money??

I have been talking about just a few of the financial issues facing school districts in regard to charter schools. But how about the educational component of charter schools and whether the

original intent of charter schools is being met. By any objective analysis, charter schools have not
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improved education in Pennsylvania. Academic measurements of both charter schools and traditional public schools have shown mixed results within both educational options. Some charter schools perform well while others do not measure up, no different than in the 500 school districts across the Commonwealth. We have also found that the decision a parent makes to send their child or children to a charter school has nothing to do with the performance of the school. These decisions are often based on other factors such as the students' issues with attendance, transportation eligibility, etc. Having said all this, the question is what can be done TODAY. Charter schools are not going anywhere. But it's indisputable that there are issues with the law, issues with accountability for charter schools, issues with how charter schools are funded. Even though charter schools will argue that the system is working and only needs "tweaks", this is a complex issue and one that requires LOTS of change. Since significant changes are very difficult and take much study and time it may be wise to focus on what is obvious. It is indisputable that charter schools are creating a HUGE problem for many districts. So I offer a few recommendations that seem obvious.

- Immediately implement a moratorium on the creation and granting of charters to new charter schools. Since all these problems exist with the law and with the funding of charter schools why allow the creation of MORE charter schools and make the problem worse?
- Limit the number of charter schools in a school district so that the disproportionate effect on some districts doesn't get worse. One charter school in MASD would have been enough!
- Make changes in the lack of accountability in charter schools; either make charter schools follow the same rules as the school district or allow the school district to play by the same rules as the charter school
- Revise how funding for special education students is provided to charter schools to limit funding to the actual costs for the student
- Adjust funding for charter schools overall by allowing the appropriate deductions to be made when determining the district's tuition rate. Make the payment more accurately reflect the school district's costs so that the payments made to charter schools more closely reflect the savings realized by the school district. Not doing this places the additional cost directly on the backs of the taxpayers
- At least temporarily reinstate the state's 30% share of funding for a school district's charter school costs until the funding formula for charter schools is changed

I'm here today, not to ask you to turn back the clock. But please consider the hardships that have been placed on school districts with the now 20 year old Charter School Law and consider the recommendations I've outlined as well as those outlined by my colleagues and the Professional Education Organizations throughout this Commonwealth. Good luck and best wishes to you in your efforts to bring about meaningful reform in the role that charter schools have in education in our state. And please provide financial relief to those districts like ours that have been hit the hardest. Thank you for your time.

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After I completed, Alan Johnson, Superintendent of Woodland Hills gave his speech and as well as Mr. Livingston, school board president for Clairton. That being said a couple of months ago I go to a monthly meeting at the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and I had Dr. Ron Dufalla speak to us and Ron is here tonight and I have asked him to come and share with the public and share with our School Board exactly what the basic education funding entails. How do we get the money we get and also talk a little bit about the new formulas that are out there. So good evening Ron. Again, just to reiterate we talked about earlier in a committee meeting, all of this information and all of these numbers were taken down off the Pennsylvania Department of Education website because they have some discrepancies with the company that put all of those numbers together. So, if Dr. Holtzman does send them to Mr. Brown I would make sure they were the most current ones when we get them from the state as we said early at committee meeting. I just want to say thank you again for all of your hard work and for putting together some great professional development opportunities for our staff. That concludes my report.

PRESENTATIONS:

Dr. Ron Dufalla – Circuit Rider for PA Schools

Dr. Mark Holtzman – Assessment Overview

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Kondrosky moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2016. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Hearing of Citizens – None

Minutes – Mr. Brown moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of September 21, 2016, and Regular Meeting of September 28, 2016. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

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

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

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

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Members – Mrs. Maksin moved to approve the McKeesport Area Technology Center 2016/2017 Occupational Advisory Meeting Committee members in accordance with Chapter 339 regulations. Seconded by Mr. Smith.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Policies – First reading of the following Board Policies:

#334 – Employees – Sick Leave

#710.1 – Property – School Mail Facilities

#715 – Property – Use of Fax Machines

Policies – Mr. Halaszynski moved for second reading and adoption of the following Board Policies:

#210 – Pupils – Medication

#251 – Pupils – Homeless Students

#815.1 – Operations – Web Page Design and Internet Publishing

Seconded by Mrs. Maksin.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

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Resolution – Mr. Smith moved to approve Resolution #1150, provided by bond counsel, authorizing the issuance of the School District’s General Obligation Notes, Series of 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$13,145,000 in order to currently refund the outstanding General Obligation Bonds Series of 2005B and 2011, all in accordance with the Local Government Unit Debt Act. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Proposals – Mr. Kondrosky moved to authorize the Business Manager to seek proposals for sidewalk replacement at Founders Hall and the High School entrance, along O’Neil Boulevard and Eden Park Boulevard, as part of the Safe Streets Grant. The project will be awarded to the company with the lowest responsible proposal. (Paid for from the Safe Streets Grant and the Capital Projects Fund.) Seconded by Mr. Smith.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Copiers – Mr. Smith moved to sell the district’s unused Konica-Minolta copier fleet to JMS Business Machine Wholesalers, Inc. in the amount of \$5,600.00. Seconded by Mr. Halaszynski.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Green Sheets – Mr. Halaszynski moved to approve personnel recommendations (green sheets). Seconded by Mrs. Sturgess.

PROFESSIONAL:

RESIGNATION: Long Term Substitute:

1. John Laukaitis Science Teacher, High School, effective 09-26-16.
(McArdle)

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TO BE HIRED: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$80.00/day+ benefits and increases to \$125.00/day on the 61st day:

1. Caelyn DiSanti Science Teacher, High School, effective 10-03-16
(McArdle) (pending receipt of emergency certification)

TO BE HIRED: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$100.00/day and increases to \$125.00 on the 61st day:

1. Jackie Thompson Science Teacher, Founders Hall, approximately
(S. Bauman) effective 10-29-16.

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities Elementary/Primary Schools for the 2016-2017 school year:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|--------------|-------------|----|--------|
| 1. | Dean Holtzman | Audio Visual | Twin Rivers | \$ | 815.44 |
| 2. | Danette Sprouse | Stage | Twin Rivers | \$ | 652.34 |
| 3. | Tina Bieda | Audio Visual | McClure | \$ | 815.44 |
| 4. | Chris Davidson | Stage | McClure | \$ | 652.34 |

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2016-2017 school year:

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---|------------|
| 1.* | Ron Bishop | Varsity Baseball Coach | \$4,232.26 |
| 2.* | Chelsea Butler | Varsity Softball Coach | \$4,323.26 |
| 3.* | Thomas Smith | Track Coach | \$4,323.26 |
| 4.* | Justin Liptak | Varsity Assistant Wrestling Coach | \$4,229.27 |
| 5.* | Ron Kalup | 9 th Grade Wrestling Coach | \$2,527.83 |
| 6.* | Josh Klimko | 7/8 Grade Wrestling Coach | \$2,527.83 |
| 7.* | Dallan Cline | 7/8 Grade Wrestling Coach | \$2,527.83 |
| 8.* | Deon Webb | 7 th Grade Boys Basketball Coach | \$1,957.03 |

VOLUNTEER: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2016-2017 school year:

- 1.* Chris Olinsky Assistant Wrestling Coach

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

- 1.* Harry LeWinter Distributive Education
- 2.* Lynsey Szymarek Emergency Day-to-Day Certification

SUPPORT STAFF:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Kathleen Halaszynski Team Leader, Food Service Department, Founders Hall,
unpaid leave of absence from 10-26-16 through 10-31-16.

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TO BE HIRED: Effective immediately:

- | | | |
|------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. Jamie Spiaggi | General Worker, Food Service Department, Founders Hall.
Step 1 | \$8.25/hour |
|------------------|---|-------------|

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

ADDITIONS:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1.* Norma Jean Allen | Food Service |
|----------------------|--------------|

DELETIONS:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| 1.* Ellen Dougherty | Food Service |
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* Pending receipt of Act 24, 34, 114 and 151 clearances, Act 168 Disclosure Release, T.B. Time and Drug Test results.

CONFERENCE REQUESTS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Dr. Jane Coughenour
Kristen Davis | A/CAPA – Child Accounting. Sponsored by ACAPA in Hershey, PA April 2, 2017 through April 4, 2017
(Paid for by Title I) \$1,597.30 |
| 2. Erica Guadalupe
Sara Traeger | Adolescent Literacy Institute. Sponsored by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit at the Waterfront Offices, Homestead, PA Several dates throughout the school year
\$600.00/each |

ADDENDUM:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Jinx McCabe	Elementary Teacher, Francis McClure Primary School, Leave of absence effective 11/12/16 to an undetermined date.
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TO BE HIRED: Long term substitute: Rate of pay will be \$80.00/day + benefits and increases to \$125.00/day on the 61st day:

Erica Koelsch (J. McCabe)	Elementary Teacher, Francis McClure Primary School effective 11/12/16
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Voting aye. Mr. Brown, *Mr. Halaszynski, Mr. Hampton, Mrs. Keller, Mr. Kondrosky, Mrs. Maksin, **Mr. Smith, Mrs. Sturgess

*Abstain - Mr. Halaszynski –page 2 – leave of absence (Kathy Halaszynski)

**Abstain – Mr. Smith – page 2 – changes to the substitute teacher list (Lynsey Szymarek)

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Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Advertise – Mr. Kondrosky moved to authorize the Business Manager to advertise for sale the Centennial Elementary School. Seconded by Mr. Smith.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Field Trips – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the following field trips:

- A. Students in grades 6-8 to Cleveland and Cedar Point on May 5-6, 2017.
- B. 8th and 9th grade football team members to Youngstown State University for a tour and football game contingent upon fundraising by the Talent Search Grant or team fundraising. Seconded by Mr. Smith.

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

Voting no. – Mr. Halaszynski

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Partnerships – Mrs. Maksin moved to approve the following partnerships:

- A. Duquesne University Collaborating for Educational Pre-K – Grade 4 – A System of Leading for Meaningful Learning.
 - B. Youthplaces – Enrichment. Mentoring. Awareness
- Seconded by Mr. Smith.

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

Excused. Mr. Lopretto

Committee Reports -

Athletic – Mary Jane Keller/Jim Brown – Mr. Hampton reported. On October 10th we had a meeting and discussed was the first thing, renaming of the small gym at Founders Hall in honor of former principal Paul Sebelia. It was decided that we want to do the first game when both the girls and boys are playing on the same night. We talked about the retirement of the jersey

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of Freddie Lewis. We have to select two dates in January preferably so Mr. Lewis can arrange transportation from Washington to McKeesport. We talked about the cost and every day maintenance and cleaning of the wrestling mats and the wrestling room for obvious reasons. Charley Kiss brought up the idea of fundraising for future stadium improvements by contacting alumni and asking for donations from staff members and local businesses. His hope is in a few years we'll be able to raise enough funds to improve the stadium without cost to the taxpayers.

Buildings & Grounds – Steve Kondrosky – We met this morning, Dr. Coughnour, Ed Fagan and myself and there are a couple of items on there that are pretty important and finally got them resolved. They put an exhaust fan in the South Hall wrestling room that the coaches wanted for a while and I hope that will help alleviate a lot of the problems in that room. They replaced a condensate line leading into the drain room at room 173 at Twin Rivers and this is only temporarily clamped off from the past construction project and it needed to be addressed and it was addressed in house. That is still part of that ongoing problem over there that we have. They installed a new hot water coil in the ceiling in the cafeteria at Founders Hall. Also replaced a coil support, the coil was damaged from last year's construction project. They were supposed to come back and take care of that and they promised they would but they never did we had to do, I think Dave you were looking into whether we were supposed to or how we were going to go after them on this also, you were in touch with Mr. Fagan I'm sure. Director Halaszynski is going to like this because they replaced a lot of bulbs that he always makes fun about at South Hall, Founders Hall, McClure, Twin Rivers, parking lots and all the wall packs are mounted and all the lights are lighted up around the entire school and it looks really nice. They removed four 60-foot old lamp posts at the old parking lot at McClure and the concrete bases which opens up a nice area up there for possibly future maybe a field or baseball field or move the soccer field over there and utilize the soccer field for maybe a baseball field. All of the snow equipment is being prepped for winter use which I hope we never use. Installed two new 60-foot light posts at South Hall loading dock that was pretty important because it's fairly dark back there. This one made me unhappy. We had to install new brass flanges on the main water at Which Oak School and as instructed by the water authority we had to do that and they want to install a new meter next week. I guess for our security booth at South Hall entrance we had to install a mirror so that the individual in the booth can see both directions, I guess he was having a hard time seeing what was sneaking up behind him and that concludes my report.

Career & Technology – Pat Maksin – Yes, we did meet on October 20th many of the things Dr. Skezas has already mentioned, but I will reiterate those things. The Education and Career Fair will be held tomorrow evening at the high school between 6-8 PM. Colleges, businesses, trade associations, social service agencies will all be in attendance. It is open to the public and we encourage everyone to come. I wanted to mention, congratulate the building construction

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students for the ramp project that they did for one of our students up on Flagler Street. It was mentioned in some of the local media and it's also on our website. There are some lovely pictures there so they did an excellent job from what we have all been told. The students from cosmetology went to Kane Hospital last month and they were told don't expect all the clients, well, by the time they got there, they were lined up waiting for these cosmo students to come in and they were thrilled with everything and the next date is November 17th that they will be going back down there. The Leadership Pittsburgh was also mentioned, that will be on November 10th and I did want to mention the Air Force Junior ROTC program is really getting off the ground. Dr. Bauman and I went to the National Guard Armory in Blairsville last Tuesday to support our cadets as they participated and competed with other Junior ROTC units from the area. It was a wonderful day. Our students were wonderful and they were so thrilled to be there, we were thrilled to be there to support them. It was just a really wonderful thing and I got to sit in a black hawk helicopter. I was so excited. That's the end of my report.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity – Jim Brown/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Brown reported. We did meet today, but we didn't really get too much accomplished because I didn't have the agenda. That's something that I will be on next time.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Mary Jane Keller/Mindy Sturgess – Mrs. Keller reported. The Education Committee met on Wednesday, October 19th, the following items were brought before the committee. First a request from Duquesne University to partner in a post-secondary grant. It's a two-year commitment and the service is free to the district. Second, we heard a presentation by Janella Hamlin on Allegheny County Youthplaces. There are 13 sites in our county one being in Crawford Village. And third, a field trip to the Cleveland Zoo was requested for May 5-6 for students in grades 6-8 by Mr. Pavlovic and that was discussed. Legislation and Policy, we met on the 19th of October and these items were acted upon – the second reading of policy #210 – Medication; #815.1 – Web Page Design and Internet Publishing; and also #251 – Homeless Students. Second, the sick leave policy #334 was reviewed for the first reading. Also, discussion of military leave policy was recommended for review by our solicitor and that's my report. I want to make an adjustment to my report on Legislation. Item two, the sick leave policy #334 also policy #710.1 Property – School Mail Facilities and #715 Property – Use of Fax Machines I had omitted, that was done for the first reading. I wanted to thank Dr. Coughnour for helping with this project of Policy and Legislation.

Finance/Grants/Outside Funding – Scott Smith – In regards to grants, we received an SRO grant that is worth about \$30,000 over a two-year period. An equipment grant worth \$20,000 which going to purchase a piece of equipment for our auto body shop. In regards to the safe schools grant that we have already talked about which we are bidding the concrete portion out,

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we have received actually the check for over \$90,000 for the reimbursement for the fence that we installed last year. Also, we are moving forward with the Talent Search Grant that we had received. Grants that we are working on \$100,000 middle level curriculum grant to assist in professional development. Another equipment grant for the addition of cameras at Francis McClure. In regards to the library we are working on what we would consider phase 2 and we're working on an innovation grant that would assist us in math fluency as Dr. Holtzman had already expressed his concern with. In regards to finance, we're starting to work on the 16/17 budget early stages, but also we got some descent news for us as far as taxpayers and Board Members that to date it appears as if the administration and staff at all the schools are working very diligently to keep expense costs down and at last year's projections per the budget that was approved, we seem to be south of that at this time. That's my report.

Personnel – Mindy Sturgess/Steve Kondrosky – Mrs. Sturgess reported. The personnel committee met on October 12th to discuss the positions and requests that were presented on tonight's green sheets. I can tell you as of last week there were two openings that were of concern and I am happy to say those positions were filled as of today. Thank you. That concludes my report.

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

Solicitor's Report – none

Correspondence – none

Adjournment – 8:50 PM – Mr. Kondrosky moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Smith.

Voting aye. All Members present.

ATTEST:

David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary