

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**September 24, 2014**

<b>Presiding</b>	Patricia Maksin, Board President
<b>Date, Time, Place</b>	Wednesday, September 24, 2014, 7:40 PM, Board Room, Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA 15132.
<b>Opening Exercises</b>	Mrs. Maksin called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, followed by the Pledge to the Flag. We did meet in Executive Session prior to the Regular Meeting to discuss personnel and potential litigation items and issues.
<b>Present</b>	Trisha Gadson Chris Halaszynski Mary Jane Keller Terri Kisan Steve Kondrosky Joe Lopretto Thomas Maglicco Patricia Maksin Scott Smith
<b>Others Present</b>	Dr. Rula S. Skezas, Superintendent Dr. Harry Bauman, Assistant Superintendent David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary James G. Humanic, Director of Human Resources/ Assistant to the Business Manager John Rushford, Solicitor

**Board President's Remarks** – I just want to say that we do have much to celebrate. We have begun our new school year and it has been a great success. The Pre-K program that we took over after the closing of Long Run Learning Center is up and running without missing a beat. Lots of hard work has been to the benefit of our youngest children. A good start and a quality pre-K program hopefully will pay dividends in the future. We finally had our Twin Rivers open house and everyone agrees it was a huge success in which Sheldon Ingram of Channel 4 doing such an incredibly positive feature last week, that building, its staff and students are on the way of putting us on everyone's radar. Our Homecoming tailgate was a wonderful success and the weather finally cooperated to give us a great time for eating and socializing. With the exception of the score of the football game, the festivities of the day were entertaining and

celebratory. Our Founders Hall existing building and gym renovation is ongoing and nearing completion while our Founders Hall 6<sup>th</sup> grade academy and locker room additions are progressing well. With a lot of hard work and a little luck, early 2015 will find us using these facilities to our students' full advantage. And last, but not least, we are appreciative of our new collective bargaining agreement with our professional staff that gives our students and families stability for years to come. Welcome to the 2014/2015 school year, hopefully it will be our best year ever.

**Superintendent's Report** – Good evening. One August the 27<sup>th</sup>, as Mrs. Maksin stated, approximately 3,700 students Pre-K through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade walked through the doors of our six (6) buildings and began their educational journey for the 2014/15 school year. I would like to share at this time a few educational initiatives that are occurring within the district. As Mrs. Maksin said, we have taken over the running and day to day operations of the Pre-K program, unfortunately Long Run Learning Center closed and a couple of weeks before school started, we took the program over and we have approximately fifty (50) students enrolled at Founders Hall Annex that is located at the old White Oak Elementary School. We're excited about this new undertaking and hope to expand the program in the near future. We have two (2) academies now, the AIMS program of course we know is the Academy of Math and Science that is located at Twin Rivers Intermediate School and we have the ACE program which is the Academy of Cultural Experiences that has just begun this year at Francis McClure in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The Academy will help to develop a cultural awareness about China, Germany, France and Spain and because ACE will focus on cultural emergence each nine (9) weeks the children will have the opportunity to read about, research and develop an awareness of the four (4) focus locations while learning to speak Spanish, French, German and Mandarin Chinese. Each of the students in both of our academies will be using iPads to enhance their educational experience. I just want to mention and I see some people in the audience, that have been very involved with the MAPS initiative that we have been doing within the school district with the work with the Consortium for Public Education and that continues this year. MAPS of course is an acronym that stands for My Action Plan for Success. It is a process for personalizing education that begins in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and continues through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade. In 7<sup>th</sup> grade each student begins planning for a career path to help prepare for their life long goals. This work culminates with our senior project which is a very special day in our school district which this year, for those of you that would like to attend, especially Board Members, please put on your calendars April 1<sup>st</sup>, which is an Act 80 day scheduled on our school district calendar and that will be our Senior Project day. As Mrs. Maksin stated, in conjunction with Homecoming week, which was a couple of weeks ago, we had a wonderful commemorative completion and event of our Twin Rivers Primary and Intermediate school. We had approximately 500 people attend this wonderful event and of course, the school was featured last week as Patty said on WTAE and also if you missed it, you can find it on our Facebook and Twitter pages which is

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located on our school district website. I want to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Halaszynski that we are going to have on October 1<sup>st</sup> the C-Span bus is going to arrive at our High School parking lot with student and staff visiting the C-Span bus. I didn't know about the C-Span bus, but for those of us that are a little older and remember the old Book Mobile, that's exactly what it reminds me of except now, of course, it's all technology. The tour is going to consist of 5-8 minutes of an overview by a member of the C-Span staff and they are going to have a hands on experience looking and interactive multi-media learning center that brings C-Span coverage of public affairs to communities nationwide. We are very fortunate and again thank you Chris for having the program come to the district. It's going to be here in McKeesport on our campus on October 1<sup>st</sup>, then moving on to Woodland Hills in the PM. So, they also will have that opportunity. Hopefully you picked up one of the fliers that is out in our lobby area. We have our annual career and business expo that will be held on October 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM at our High School. This year we are very excited that we are partnering with the Mon Yough Chamber of Commerce to make the event even larger. This partnership has been two (2) years in the making and we are happy to have them join us this year. As an added bonus, the Chamber will offer a scholarship to our student with the proceeds of the advertising revenue, the scholarship will be awarded to a senior at our high school this year in the spring, if you have any questions you may call Kristen Davis and there is still time to participate in the Expo. Just a couple more things. The auto alert call system has been successfully tested and will be ready for the inclement weather season, something I'm not looking forward to. I also want to mention that Facebook and Twitter will be updated to reflect any delays or cancellations we may have. Finally, you may have noticed the Welcome to Tiger Country flags beginning to be hung around our Middle and High School Campus. I want to thank the City of McKeesport for their cooperation, Mr. Kondrosky, to begin hanging those banners. We have approximately twenty (20) more banners to be hung. Also, for painting the crosswalks throughout the district. I look forward to a rewarding and productive 2014/2015 school year. (Discussion followed regarding the flags.)

**Treasurer's Report** – Mrs. Keller moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2014. Seconded by Mrs. Kisan.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Hearing of Citizens –**

Madolyn Boynton, 2012 Fawcett Avenue, White Oak, PA 15131

Ms. Boynton addressed the Board on the issue of the struggle – dyslexia.

Lisa Boynton, 2012 Fawcett Avenue, White Oak, PA 15131.

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Mrs. Boynton addressed the Board on the issue of possible solution – dyslexia training and teaching.

Fred Haynes, 98 Carmella Drive, White Oak, PA 15131.

Mr. Haynes addressed the Board on the issue of how much is too much – Marcellus Shale teaching/sixth grade academy/Serra High School cost/\$25,000 per inmate in a correctional institute in PA.

**Minutes** – Mr. Kondrosky to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of August 6, 2014, Regular Meeting of August 13, 2014 and Special Meeting of September 9, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Bills** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the list of bills. Seconded by Mr. Maglicco. Discussion followed.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

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

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Field Trip** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the following field trip:

A. High School students to New York City on April 10-12, 2015.

Seconded by Mr. Lopretto. Dr. Bauman explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Dismissal** – Mr. Lopretto moved to approve a request for an Early Dismissal Schedule on Thursday, October 9, 2014 to accommodate Professional Development Training of Professional Staff in the use of PDE mandated “Student Learning Outcomes” (SLOs). Seconded by Mr. Maglicco. Dr. Bauman explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Regular

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Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Subcontract** – Mr. Lopretto 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, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Agreement** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve an agreement with Interim Health Care to provide individual nursing services for a student within the district. Seconded by Mrs. Kisan.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Agreement** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve a partnership agreement between McKeesport Area School District and Tender Care Learning Center. Seconded by Mrs. Kisan. Dr. Bauman explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**AIU** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to collaborate for the purpose of successful transition to kindergarten for children and families participating in AIU HS/PKC programs. Seconded by Mrs. Kisan. Dr. Bauman explained.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Resolution** – Mrs. Keller moved to approve Resolution #1100 – Pennsylvania Department of Education e-signature. Seconded by Mrs. Kisan.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**PA Coach** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the revised list of drivers and monitors from PA Coach for the 2014/2015 school year. Seconded by Mrs. Gadson. Discussion followed.

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Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

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

- 201.2 – Pupils – Admission of Students
- 609 – Finances – Investment of District Funds
- 610 – Finances – Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- 611 – Finances – Purchases Budgeted
- 612 – Finances – Purchases Not Budgeted
- 613 – Finances – Cooperative Purchasing
- 614 – Finances – Payroll Authorization
- 615 – Finances – Payroll Deductions
- 616 – Finances – Payment of Bills
- 617 – Finances – Petty Cash
- 618 – Finances – Student Activity Funds
- 619 – Finances – District Audit
- 621 – Finances – Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights
- 622 – Finances – GASB Statement 34

Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

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

**PROFESSIONAL:**

RESIGNATION:

1. Michael McCabe Social Studies Teacher, Founders' Hall effective 08/25/14.
2. Samantha Smith Permanent Day-to-Day Substitute, High School.
3. Gina Riazzi Permanent Day-to-Day Substitute, Founders' Hall.

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-25-14:

1. Kimberly Cook Pre-K Counts Teacher, Founder's Hall Annex  
Step 1B \$41,778.00

TEMPORARY CHANGE IN STATUS: Effective 08-25-14:

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- |    |            |         |   |
|----|------------|---------|---|
| 1. | Brie Adams | From:   | English Teacher, Founders' Hall   |
|    |            | To:     | Coordinator of Educational Options and Instructional Support (206 - Day Position) |
|    |            | Salary: | \$49,849.83   |

TEMPORARY GRANT FUNDED POSITIONS: Effective for the 2014-2015 school year (paid for by the KtO and Pre-K Counts Grant):

- |    |              |  |
|----|--------------|--|
| 1. | Ashlee Boyle | Elementary Literacy Coach/Pre-K Counts Facilitator |
|----|--------------|--|

BOARD ACTION TO **ELIMINATE** THE FOLLOWING **PROFESSIONAL** POSITION EFFECTIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR:

- (1) Social Studies Teacher at the High School

BOARD ACTION TO **CREATE** THE FOLLOWING **PROFESSIONAL** POSITION EFFECTIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR:

- (1) Title I Math Teacher at Founders' Hall Annex

RECALL FROM FURLOUGH STATUS TO FULL-TIME STATUS: Effective 08-25-14:

- |    |                |   |
|----|----------------|---|
| 1. | Michael Kunic  | Pre K Counts Teacher, Founders' Hall Annex. |
|    | (New Position) | Step 2M \$42,878.00.                        |

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-25-14: Long Term Substitute. Rate of pay will be \$125.00/day + benefits:

- |    |                |  |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1. | Kristen Romano | Elementary Teacher, Francis McClure Primary School |
|    | (M. Hultberg)  |  |

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-25-14: Long Term Substitutes: Rate of pay will be \$80.00/day + benefits and increase to \$125.00 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

- |    |                    |   |
|----|--------------------|---|
| 1. | Christina Snyder   | Elementary Teacher, Twin Rivers Primary |
|    | (H. Hawley)        |   |
| 2. | Kathleen Haselhoff | English Teacher, Founders' Hall         |
|    | (B. Adams)         |   |

TEMPORARY PLACEMENT: Title 1 Facilitator effective 08-27-14: Rate of pay will be either \$95.00/day + individual benefits or \$105.00/day without benefits:

- |    |                   |   |
|----|-------------------|---|
| 1. | Peter Yannopoulos | Title 1 Facilitator, Twin Rivers Intermediate School. |
|    | (K. Haselhoff)    |   |

TO BE HIRED: Permanent Day-to-Day Substitutes for the 2014-2015 year. Rate of pay will be

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\$80.00/day + individual benefits and increase to \$100.00 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

- |    |                  |                                 |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Ryan McKinney    | Twin Rivers Intermediate School |
| 2. | Brianna Morcheid | Founders' Hall                  |
| 3. | Dawn Shelly      | McClure Primary School          |
| 4. | Alexandria Billy | High School                     |

RESIGNATION: Extra Curricular Activities effective immediately:

- |    |                   |                         |
|----|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Jennifer Hairston | Student Council Advisor |
|----|-------------------|-------------------------|

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities effective for the 2014-2015 school year:

- |     |                |   |  |            |
|-----|----------------|---|--|------------|
| 1.* | Matt Carty     |   | 7/8 Grade Football Coach                   | \$1,260.57 |
| 2.* | Jennifer Smith | H | Head Softball Coach                        | \$4,177.06 |
| 3.  | Ron Bishop     |   | Head Baseball Coach                        | \$4,177.06 |
| 4.  | Eric Smith     |   | Student Council (shared position)          | \$ 681.04  |
| 5.  | Myleen Kiska   |   | Student Council (shared position)          | \$ 681.04  |
| 6.  | Milan Kiska    |   | Swimming Coach/Assistant Coach<br>(shared) | \$3,950.05 |
| 7.  | Justin Smith   |   | Swimming Coach/Assistant Coach<br>(shared) | \$3,950.05 |

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities effective for 2014-2015 school year:

- |     |                 |                 |                         |            |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1.  | Jean Gallo      | Academic Games  | Founders' Hall          | \$ 787.86  |
| 2.  | Paul Kikuchi    | Audio Visual    | Founders' Hall          | \$ 866.64  |
| 3.  | Jean Gallo      | Drama Club      | Founders' Hall (shared) | \$ 393.93  |
| 4.  | Drew DeCarlo    | Drama Club      | Founders' Hall (shared) | \$ 393.93  |
| 5.  | Julie Tomich    | Newspaper       | Founders' Hall          | \$1,103.00 |
| 6.  | Lisa Miracle    | Photographer    | Founders' Hall          | \$ 787.86  |
| 7.  | Drew DeCarlo    | Stage           | Founders' Hall          | \$ 630.28  |
| 8.  | Kris Nemchick   | Student Council | Founders' Hall (shared) | \$ 393.93  |
| 9.  | Patrick McGuire | Student Council | Founders' Hall (shared) | \$ 393.93  |
| 10. | Lisa Miracle    | Yearbook        | Founders' Hall          | \$1,103.00 |
| 11. | Robin McCabe    | Intramurals     | Founders' Hall          | \$3,387.78 |

VOLUNTEERS: Extra Curricular Athletics effective for the 2013-2014 school year:

- |     |                       |                              |
|-----|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.* | Michael Petruzzi, Jr. | Assistant Girls Soccer Coach |
| 2.* | Christopher Hapsias   | Assistant Girls Soccer Coach |
| 3.* | Cheyenne George       | Assistant Girls Soccer Coach |
| 4.* | Darien Robinson       | 7/8 Grade Football Coach     |



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**CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:**

**ADDITIONS:**

- |     |                     |                                  |
|-----|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1.* | Ryan Breisinger     | Special Education                |
| 2.* | Chelsea Stockhausen | Elementary Education             |
| 3.* | Cheri Luzer         | Elementary and Special Education |
| 4.* | Erica Koelsch       | Elementary                       |

**DELETIONS:**

- |    |               |                                |
|----|---------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. | Brianna Petro | Elementary, Reading Specialist |
| 2. | Beth Zannikos | Elementary, Mid-English        |
| 3. | Wade Brown    | Elementary                     |

**SUPPORT STAFF:**

**RETIREMENT: Effective immediately:**

- |    |                |  |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1. | Eleanor Stoney | Lunch Aide, McClure Primary/Intermediate Schools |
|----|----------------|--|

**RESIGNATION: Effective 08-25-14:**

- |    |                    |  |
|----|--------------------|--|
| 1. | Marjorie Freedline | Special Education Assistant, High School |
|----|--------------------|--|

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

- |    |                    |   |
|----|--------------------|---|
| 1. | Lynda Klingensmith | General Worker, Food Service Department, High School<br>unpaid leave of absence effective 08-27-14 to an<br>undetermined date (not to exceed 1 year). |
| 2. | Ken Bobuk          | Computer Lab Technician, High School, unpaid leave of<br>absence effective 10-13-14 to an undetermined date<br>(not to exceed 1 year). FMLA           |

**TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-25-14:**

- |     |                |  |
|-----|----------------|--|
| 1.* | Janet Williams | Instructional Assistant, Pre-K Counts, Founder's Hall Annex<br>Step1 \$15,900.00 |
| 2.* | Melissa Davis  | Instructional Assistant, Pre-K Counts, Founder's Hall Annex<br>Step1 \$15,900.00 |
| 3.* | Mary Denne     | Instructional Assistant, Pre-K Counts, Founder's Hall Annex<br>Step1 \$15,900.00 |

**CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:**

**ADDITIONS:**

- |    |                    |                             |
|----|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Alexis Kost        | Custodian                   |
| 2. | Marjorie Freedline | Special Education Assistant |

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3.*	Joy Flowers	Secretary
4.*	Susan Ross	Secretary
5.*	Andrea Sonick	Secretary
6.*	Nina Beech	Nurse Assistant
7.*	Marla Harrison	Secretary
8.*	Marti DiToppa	Secretary

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

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, \*Mr. Smith

\*Mr. Smith abstained on page 3 – item 2.

**Change Orders** – Mrs. Kisan moved to approve change orders as presented. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Discussion followed.

Amended motion – Mr. Smith moved to amend motion to include at the end – upon approval of each of these items by the architect and/or engineering firm. Seconded by Mrs. Gadson.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**MOU** – Mrs. Keller moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between McKeesport Area Education Association and McKeesport Area School District. Seconded by Mrs. Gadson.

Voting aye. Mr. Gadson, Mr. Halaszynski, Mrs. Keller, Mrs. Kisan, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mr. Maglicco, Mrs. Maksin, Mr. Smith

**Committee Reports -**

**Athletic** –Mary Jane Keller/Terri Kisan – Mrs. Keller reported. My committee met on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, the following items were covered – one of course was the homecoming celebration was a tremendous success and I give special thanks to all of the parties that were involved. Second, we interviewed for the girls’ head varsity softball coach and our candidate was reflected in the green sheets. Third, we are in the planning stages of scheduling swim recreational night at the high school. That’s my report. (Discussion followed regarding soccer net and scoreboard)

**Buildings & Grounds** –Scott Smith – We did have a meeting earlier today. I’m not going to

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go through this whole list. I'm going to tell you that I was not at the last meeting because I can't come to the first and second Wednesday. This is kind of a summer review. I'm going to tell you that there was a lot of summer maintenance done, filters changed, belts changed, units lubricated. But amongst all of the normal stuff, I've got to tell you that I'm going to put a special thanks out to the maintenance staff for taking on several projects, specifically at the high school building that made what I would consider a vast improvement to a facility that needed it. While saving us monies by not requiring that we contract with outside contractors. One of the items I'll just point out real quick, which is no one likes to work with concrete, they were out there replacing concrete sidewalks. In the past they have done that by hiring outside contractors, they took it upon themselves to do it to help save us money. That, some painting and other things throughout the district specifically around the high school area. Again, I would like to thank them for all the hard work they did in those areas.

Career & Technology – Terri Kisan – While I am happy to report that we met on September 19<sup>th</sup> and it was a follow up from the 18<sup>th</sup> which was the very first day the Tiger Inn reopened again for lunches. We have 22 students in the Culinary Arts program and I have a couple of follow up emails from the teachers that did participate. I did come and bring a guest and my guest was very pleased. Our students were very professional and very happy to tell you that one of the emails said I just wanted to tell you what a pleasant lunch we had 6<sup>th</sup> period. The Tiger Inn looked great and all the students looked as if they were in a restaurant. They seem to be adjusting to the rigors of quality cooking and quality serving. I am looking forward to many enjoyable lunches this year. A couple comments from the other email that went to our director - Tiger Inn was fantastic today. Thank you so much for taking on that task and doing it so well. The food was absolutely delicious and the service was excellent. It was so good I want to invite my husband and my friends. You students are excited about learning from you and you have already begun the process of training them well. Thanks again for a wonderful lunch. Tomorrow's lunch that is scheduled 11-12 with take out from 12:15-12:30 and they have chicken Romano and they also have a salad. They serve the salad, the lighting is dim, the atmosphere is very beautiful, so I encourage all of you if you can to try to step out on Thursday which is tomorrow for the Tiger Inn lunch. Tickets are \$4.50 a lunch or three for \$12.00. Also in the Career & Technology we did talk about the supplemental equipment grant that our director is working on. We also are reaching out for local vendors not only for the best price but to support our local businessmen and businesswomen. Our auto and collision and repair shop is in full swing and we also have Mr. Jones returning once a month. Just to share again what Dr. Skezas mentioned, our Career Fair is scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup> and we have a lot of good incentives for our students to come out, spend the time and visit all the tables. Thank you.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity –Trisha Gadson – Madame President, our monthly

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meeting was held today. During our normal meeting we have sub-committee reports. The training sub-committee is headed by Mrs. Keller and as it was reported earlier Mrs. Keller took the initiative to facilitate bringing into the district a poverty simulation that is occurring for McKeesport Area School District staff that is facilitated in collaboration with the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank, Allegheny County Department of Human Services and a Human Service Center. This poverty simulation will enable the participants to go through a process by which they will see what families go through who have limited financial resources in hopes of helping them gain greater insight on what some of our students and families deal with on a day to day basis. Also, Dr. Bauman indicated there will also be a speaker to address engaging students and families and how to encourage more involvement in the education community. The development of community mentor sub-committee which is headed up by Aaron Johnson and Austin Davis discussed a program that they are going to have in November and December - Muffins for Moms and Donuts for Dads and we are waiting to get further clarification and direction from the Superintendent on dates for those events. The family and community engagement sub-committee which is co-chaired by myself and Mrs. Kisan reported on our efforts of engaging the five communities within the district and we will be attending council meetings in the five communities throughout the school year enabling parents and stakeholders to communicate any needs and concerns to us during their council meetings within their own communities. In addition we are looking at continuing a program that deals with closing the educational gaps for minority students and students in lower economic strata. We also received an update from Dr. Skezas who oversees the hiring recruitment retention sub-committee and began talking about some of the mentoring efforts and ongoing communication efforts for staff and we have the No one Is Alone club update which is the diversity club that was implemented at the high school in which high school students try to change the culture and improve the culture of the building and also initiate activities in the lower grades and that is headed by Mrs. Bonnie Butler and she gave updates on what those students will be doing. The meeting closed with some discussion around the Back to School Bash that we hold annually in which we were able to receive 400 book bags that were donated to the district and stuffed with supplies and we discussed and brainstormed on ways to improve our event for the 2015/16 school year to include the fact that our Board President already purchased 75 bags for next year. The Diversity Committee is working on improving rapport with the district as well as closing education gaps. Our next meeting is in October.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Mary Jane Keller – My committee met on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> and our purpose was to review all the Board policy updates and changes and these were reflected in item #12 on the agenda tonight. I have to especially thank Dr. Coughenour and Ms. Decker for all the hard work that they did on all those changes to the financial policies.

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Finance/Grants/Outside Funding–Tom Maglicco– Madame President, our committee met on September 17<sup>th</sup>. We discussed the current year's budget. The Governor's Proposed Ready to Learn Grant in the amount of \$752,000. We only received \$313,000 that's a large chunk of our budget that Administration is going to further have to work through. We do have some good news on potential savings.

Mr. Seropian – Believe it or not, it's something that we do every year. We're always looking throughout the year we have our budget, but we're always looking for ways to save or increase some of our revenue collections. Ways to not spend monies that we have budgeted if we don't particularly need something. We're always looking to do that. This year we have somewhat of a heightened awareness because our budget you know uses so much of the fund balance and we have a couple of these issues, one of which you just mentioned so we're looking closely at every item when over the last couple of months there have been a couple of employees that left and we always look to see whether we need to replace them or not. We have other areas of the budget that we're trying to save money on. We have someone in the audience out there who has done a tremendous job looking at bringing cyber charter school students back and she's done an unbelievable job in getting students who have attended cyber charter schools in the past and brought them back to our school district with a lot of personal contact that she has had. Things like that throughout the budget, we're always looking.

Mr. Maglicco – I applaud you also for what I understand you are meeting a lot earlier this year on the budget so we try to stay ahead of this situation.

Mr. Seropian – We have already met a couple times about the budget and I'm sure we'll probably be setting a record this year.

Mr. Maglicco – We also discussed at the meeting the delinquent taxes in our school district. We talked about ways to increase the amount of delinquent taxes collected for our district. We also discussed the change orders for Founders Hall which we were at the time very happy to hear that it was \$26,000 and I guess with tonight's approval of the change orders it's around \$46,000-\$47,000. Our committee was very happy to hear that the change orders were so low. I think I heard Mr. Smith say there were some credits coming that could wipe that out as well.

Personnel – Joe Lopretto/Tom Maglicco – Mr. Lopretto reported. Yes, we did have a personnel meeting that Mr. Maglicco failed to show up for at 8:00 AM.

Mr. Maglicco – I did attend the meeting by phone.

Mr. Lopretto - The green sheet reflects all that and again Dr. Bauman and Dr. Skezas do a

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wonderful job on getting everything together and hats off to them along with Mr. Humanic.

Safe Schools - Joe Lopretto – Yes, we had a meeting. We met on 8/26/14 and we had a very good meeting. All of the high school principals were there. We talked about different

emergency operation plans for each building. We talked about also there being two bus drills

a year, three lock downs a year. I also gave information to Wayne Wade about a tip information line if there's problems in school. The kids don't want to go out to tell people. There is a line, so I saw it, researched it, talked to Mr. Gaydos, our security guard at the high school, so those two are supposed to get together. We're talking about putting a few more cameras in the high school, but the cameras are all now up and running at Founders Hall. Talked about labeling the doors at the new school, numbering the doors and labeling the stairwells and keeping the gates locked out there. We're also talking about getting a security guard for the front box so everybody that comes onto the high school campus seeing the majority of students are going to be on this campus, they will have to go through him before they can even pass through, he'll radio in to the school, if somebody is due to get out early, it would have to be approved through the office before they can even come in. So, that's another good safety measure that we're putting into effect. The biggest thing was the Raptor system we have. If you go into the high school, The Daily News did a really good article on the Raptor system with South Allegheny and McKeesport and we actually got to see how it was actually run by Wayne Wade, our security director and we used my driver's license but it came through clean, it prints the picture, your name, the date that you're there, the time. It's another step in the right direction to make sure our schools are as safe as possible. Me truly, I feel we have one of the safest school districts in the area. We pound that into our heads all the time. Staff is on top of everything, the Administration is on top of everything. The Board is along with everything. I want to thank Mr. Allen who was also there, I see him sitting in the audience. I know he likes to wear his nice yellow vest out there every day. Kristen Davis who was also there, Dr. Bauman, Dr. Skezas, and all the principals. Like I said, it was a really good meeting.

Mrs. Gadson – Madame President, before we move on can I just publically acknowledge Mrs. Bonnie Butler for the work that she did on the Back to School Bash. If it was not for her, many of the tasks, especially the tasks after the event would not have been accomplished without her and I would like to put it in the record that we are appreciative of the efforts of Bonnie Butler.

**Solicitor's Report** – no report

**Correspondence** – none

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**New Business** – Mrs. Kisan – Madame President, I just wanted to say since the start of the school year all of our students have been receiving the free breakfast, the free lunch and now the free dinner for after school activities. I see some of the folks who have helped me all along from the beginning making sure that a lot of our students involved in the activities were

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able to either have a packed lunch or are able to receive dinner on their activities. A lot of our students stay almost until 8 or 9 o'clock with the way of activities. Thank you folks over there for packing it up and making sure our students are fed. All the credit does need to go to Mr. Seropian, because along with Tammi and our Food Service Department, Mr. Seropian has really reached out to the State and helped us with all of the documentation that is required and it's a lot off documentation and our documentation is not over. As we have activities, as we gather our students together, we still have to group together and fill out those free and reduced lunch forms. Like I said, we gather our groups together and have parents as captive audiences. We still need our parents and our families to fill out those forms so we can continue on with this.

**Adjournment-** 9:30 PM – Mr. Kondrosky moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. All Members present.

**ATTEST:**

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David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary