

## POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors  
January 16, 2013  
Regular Meeting  
Academic Center  
7:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Boran, Dr. Cortese, Mr. Krater,  
Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink,  
Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner (SKYPE),  
Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent; Mr. Delenick,  
Business Manager/Board Secretary;  
Mr. Thornburg, Solicitor; Mrs. Lombel,  
Mr. Pytak, Republican & Herald, Mr. Oliver,  
WPPA  
Absent: Mrs. Grube

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John Boran.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Boran welcomed students from the high school and asked them to introduce themselves. They told the Board what classes they are taking and what their plans are after graduation.

Mr. Boran asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Mr. John Crane, Pottsville, questioned about security measures within the school district. Both Mr. Boran and Dr. Zwiebel mentioned that steps are being taken to insure the safety within all buildings including the Academic Center.

On a motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes for the November 14, 2012 work session, the November 21, 2012 board meeting, and the reorganization meeting held on December 5, 2012. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Petchulis, the Board accepted the reports of the Treasurer for the months of November and December 2012 and directed that they be appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Cortese, seconded by Mr. Krater, the Operating Reports of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the months of October, November and December 2012 were accepted and ordered filed. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Cortese, seconded by Mr. Krater, the following Financial Statements of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the months of October, November, and December 2012 were accepted and ordered filed. (See office files.) Motion carried.

A list of bills, as appended, was submitted for payment. (Copy to each Director.)

On motion of Dr. Cortese, seconded by Mr. Krater, vouchers were ordered drawn in payment of the bills listed or where vouchers had been drawn, such action was approved and the list of bills was ordered appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

Mr. Thornburg, Solicitor, noted that he has been meeting with Dr. Zwiebel and Mr. Delenick on making fundamental changes to operating policies. More details will be forthcoming.

The Superintendent submitted the part-time payroll and recommended payment.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board authorized payment to the persons listed in the amounts indicated after their respective names for services on the programs specified in accordance with payroll bills submitted and approved by the Superintendent. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the homebound instruction for one high school student. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board ratified the action of the Superintendent for granting preapproval of credits indicated for the following professional employees in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Kate Delenick - 3 credits; Mary Fetterolf - 6 credits; Elizabeth Grow - 3 credits; Louise Hufnagle - 3 credits; Emily Kleeman - 4 credits; Tyler Moyer - 3 credits; William Rhoads - 6 credits and Jennifer Stock - 3 credits. Motion carried.

On further recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the reimbursements to the following professional employees as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Leigh Ann Bosak - \$1,716.00; Meredith Boris - \$233.00; Natasha Bubnis - \$1,209.00; Mary Fetterolf - \$540.00; Jared Gerace - \$680.00; Cara Holman - \$1,512.00; Paula Jones - \$1,512.00; Chris Lombel - \$1,417.00; Kelly (Brennan) Lombel - \$1,512; Scott Mattea - \$2,574.00; Lucas McMurtrie - \$1,512.00; Courtney Reichert - \$2,418.00; Amy Rubinkam - \$1,287.00; and Jennifer Stock - \$1,209.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner, and Mr. Boran, Aye. Mrs. Grube, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the resignation of Sarah Gaffney be accepted effective January 1, 2013, in accordance with her submitted letter. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the resignations for retirement purposes be accepted effective June 1, 2013 from the following professional employees in accordance with their submitted letters:

Joan Kitsock  
Alberta (Beth) Pillus  
Lucille Thomas

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following professional employees be excused from their teaching duties to serve as jurors in the Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Joan Kitsock	-	Thursday, January 31, 2013
John Spleen	-	Thursday, January 31, 2013
Melanie Thornburg	-	Thursday, January 31, 2013
Kimberly Jackson	-	Friday, February 1, 2013
Michael Towle	-	Friday, February 1, 2013

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved Heather Jenkins as a permanent substitute for the 2012-2013 school year beginning October 19, 2012 and set her salary at the Bachelor-Step 1 column. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following employees be granted maternity leaves from their teaching positions:

				<u>Tentative Dates</u>	
Natasha Bubnis	-	April 19, 2013	-	May 31, 2013	
Cristy Clemson	-	May 13, 2013	-	May 31, 2013	

Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel noted that Monday, January 21, 2013 will be a student make-up day. This message will also be put on School Reach.

Dr. Zwiebel also noted that anyone receiving telephone calls regarding the postcards which were mailed to the alumni of the district is a legitimate project. Dr. Zwiebel read the following which was found on the Crimson Tide foundation website:

### Updated Alumni Directory

The Crimson Tide foundation is working with Harris Connect Publishing to publish the second Pottsville Area High School alumni directory. The first directory was printed in 2001.

The new directory will cover graduates from 1933 through 2013. All proceeds from the sale of the directory will be used to fund the foundation's education projects to benefit the students of the Pottsville Area School District.

Harris Connect Publishing began its mailing and phone call campaign recently to contact as many alumni as possible for verification of information. Alumni should also expect post cards from Harris requesting verification of graduate information.

Everyone listed on the class rolls will be included in the directory. You do not have to purchase a directory in order to be listed in it.

This project will enable PAHS graduates to keep up-to-date on news, activities and events and provide a means by which to reconnect with old friends as well as to network professionally. Each purchaser will also receive a DVD with directory information and a monthly e-newsletter featuring alumni profiles and school news.

For any questions about the project, please contact Kathleen Zwiebel, the foundation's public relations director, at [pubadviser@comcast.net](mailto:pubadviser@comcast.net).

January 2013 is School Director Recognition Month. Dr. Zwiebel thanked all the Board Members and each received a certificate. Dr. Zwiebel read the following proclamation:

Whereas, the role of locally elected school officials has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and local communities in meeting the needs of public education since the passage of the Free School Act in 1834; and

Whereas, these local boards have discharged their responsibilities to public education in a manner which has placed public education in the forefront of our education systems; and

Whereas, locally elected officials have distinguished themselves and their communities in this nonpaid, volunteer public service commitment; and

Whereas, the contributions of these men and women should be recognized and appreciated by those who benefit from the workings of our public school system:

Now therefore be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association hereby proclaims the month of January as School Director Recognition Month in this commonwealth; and

Further resolve that this proclamation be communicated to all school districts, school officials and local communities in a planned program which brings visibility and awareness of the role of locally elected school officials to the citizenry of this commonwealth.

On the recommendation of the Committee of Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mr. Krater, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved Tom McGeoy as new Pottsville Area High School head varsity football coach for the 2013-2014 school year at a salary of \$5,500.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner, and Mr. Boran, Aye. Mrs. Grube, Absent.

Mr. Krater recognized and thanked the committee who took the applications and narrowed it down to four candidates.

On recommendation of the Committee of Finance and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mrs. Petchulis, the Board adopted the Resolution Pursuant to Section 311(d)(1) of the Special Session Act 1 of 2006 indicating that the Pottsville Area School district will not increase any school district tax for the 2013-2014 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner, and Mr. Boran, Aye. Mrs. Grube, Absent.

On behalf of the Committee on Public Relations, Mrs. Petchulis commended the Pottsville Area High School Student Council on collecting \$1,500.16 during the annual Penny-A-Week collections. Once again students at PAHS demonstrated that they understand the true meaning of holiday season by providing families with holiday gifts.

Mrs. Petchulis congratulated Gabriella Bentz and Maddy Dallago on representing Pottsville Area High School in the 2013 Snowflake Princess Pageant.

Mrs. Petchulis congratulated Sara Williams for being selected as the winner of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Award. The alternate is Haley Ragazinsky.

Mrs. Petchulis also congratulated Brianna Amos for winning the ComCast Leaders and Achievers Award.

Mrs. Petchulis congratulated the following three seniors for placing in the annual AMVETS "Voice of Democracy" contest:

1 <sup>st</sup> place	-	Eric Yoder
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	-	Randy Rubright
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	-	Bobby Witman

On behalf of the committee for the 80<sup>th</sup> PAHS Anniversary, Mr. Wagner thanked Mrs. Malek, Mrs. Babcock and Mrs. Rismiller for their tremendous job on the gala. Everyone who attended enjoyed the evening. Mr. Wagner also thanked Mrs. Reedy and Mrs. Hobbs for the January 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary assembly at the high school. Mr. Wagner noted that the students enjoyed the assembly and the yearbook pictures of the current teachers. The committee continues to sell clothing, T-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, polos, hats and bricks.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Petchulis, the Board accepted the October, November and December 2012 Real Estate, Per Capita, and Occupation Tax reports as submitted by the following tax collectors: Eva Wesnoski, Mechanicsville; Harry E. Ebling, Mount Carbon; Thomas Bosack, Norwegian Township; Anna Cook, Palo Alto; Cheryl Messina, Port Carbon; and Ellen Micka, Pottsville. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Petchulis, the Board accepted the following reports for the months of October, November and December 2012: Berkheimer -- Earned Income Tax - \$348,927.48; Business Privilege Tax - \$11,485.96; Berkheimer-- Local Services Tax - \$12,019.83; and Delinquent Per Capita Taxes and Delinquent Occupation Taxes - \$666.00. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Thomas seconded by Mrs. Petchulis, the Board accepted the reports of A. Matthew Dudish, Recorder of Deeds, for the months of November and December 2012, in the amount of \$9,383.25 for Realty Transfer Tax. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved the following commissions to tax collectors paid on the basis of \$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the school district during the months of November and December 2012. (See office files.) Motion carried.

**Mr. Delenick noted that in accordance with Act 84 of 1986, the Sunshine Act, an Executive Session with the Board as a whole immediately following this meeting is hereby announced for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.**

**On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following requests for use of facilities: Ms. Jolene Renninger, PAHS Flag Instructor, for the use of the high school girls gym and the high school auditorium (stage) for practice and tryouts during the month of February and March; Mr. Charles Taronis, PAHS History Teacher for the use of the High School Little Theatre and various classrooms for the Annual American History Night on April 23, 2013; and Crimson Tide Boys Basketball Booster Club for the use of the Middle School cafeteria for their annual banquet on Sunday, March 10, 2013. Motion carried.**

**There being no further business, on motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.**