

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
July 19, 2017
Academic Center
7:59 p.m.

Present: Mr. Boran, Mrs. Blankenhorn,
Dr. Cardamone, Dr. DiCello, Dr. Davidson,
Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner,
Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent; Mrs. Lombel
Asst. Business Manager / Board Secretary;
Mr. Tucker, Solicitor;
Mrs. Kalovcak, Ms. Amy Marciano, Republican
Herald

The meeting was called to order at 7:59 p.m. by President Mr. John Boran followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Amy Babcock, Secretary of the Pottsville Area School District Education Association thanked the group of educators who retired from the District during the summer. She said since they retired after graduation and were not recognized the following educators deserve a special gratitude and recognition for their many years of service they served in education: Mary Fetterolf – 10 years; Diane Long – 35 years; Jacqueline Mitchell – 10 years; Charles Rinaldo – 34 years and Sue West – 40 years. She said the students were lucky to have their expertise and dedication and the colleagues were grateful to have the opportunity to work with them. Mrs. Babcock continued that these individuals deserve our gratitude and recognition for spending so many years in education and wished them a happy and healthy retirement.

Mr. Boran said that when he first became a member of the Board, he started recognizing the individuals who retired at graduation. He assured Mrs. Babcock that he would instruct the new Board to continue this tradition.

Mr. Boran noted that an Executive Session of the Board was held prior to the meeting for the purpose of personnel and legal matters.

On motion of Dr. Davidson seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of both the work session held on June 7, 2017 as well as the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 21, 2017. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

Atty. Rismiller asked Mrs. Lombel where the District was in regards to meeting the payroll obligations and how many payrolls we will have before the District receives their next Basic Education Subsidy. Mrs. Lombel said the District will be receiving the next Basic Education Subsidy at the end of August. She said that July is a very tight month with the two payrolls costing approximately \$700,000 each and benefits would cost approximately \$500,000 each payroll. She also noted that the PSERS retirement expense will cost approximately \$1.2 to \$1.5 million dollars. Mrs. Lombel added that currently a small amount of tax money is being collected and there is a line of credit available. She asked the Board if the line of credit could be used to get the District through to the end of July or beginning of August until the larger amount of tax money is collected and the subsidy is received.

Atty. Rismiller asked how much is our line of credit. Mrs. Lombel answered \$2.5 million is available which she is asking to use \$500,000. She said the \$500,000 is needed because of the current retiring teachers and the previous retired teachers who are no longer on our benefit plan but according to their retirement agreement will need to be reimbursed partially for their benefits twice a year as specified in their agreement. She said this will cost approximately \$200,000.

Atty. Rismiller asked if this retirement expenditure was included in the budget. Mrs. Lombel answered no and the District still has other outstanding expenses to be paid. She noted the PSERS retirement expense was due in June in the amount of approximately \$1.3 million dollars.

Mrs. Blankenhorn asked what the payback responsibility of the line of credit is. Mrs. Lombel said that the District has until the end of June 2018 to pay any borrowed money back but would prefer to pay it back sooner so interest is not incurred.

Dr. DiCello asked if there would be any penalty incurred with an early payoff. Mrs. Lombel answered no.

Atty. Rismiller noted that if the District does not pay the PSERS quarterly retirement expense or the money owed to Gillingham Charter School, the State would deduct the costs from the Basic Education Subsidy.

On motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of June 2017 and directed that it be appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Cafeteria Financial Report of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeteria for the month of June 2017 was accepted and ordered filed. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board set the following lunch prices for the 2017-2018 school year and includes a price increase:

	2017-2018	2016-2017
Elementary Student Lunch	\$2.35	\$2.25
Secondary Student Lunch	\$2.40	\$2.30
Adult Lunch	\$3.70	\$3.60
Extra Milk	\$0.65	\$0.60
Reduced Price Lunch	\$0.40	\$0.40

It is further recommended that the Board set the following breakfast prices for the 2017-2018 school year and also includes a price increase:

	2017-2018	2016-2017
Elementary Student Breakfast	\$1.50	\$1.45
Secondary Student Breakfast	\$1.55	\$1.50
Adult Breakfast	\$2.55	\$2.50
Extra Milk	\$0.65	\$0.60
Reduced Priced Breakfast	\$0.30	\$0.30

It was noted that the reduced meal prices are set by the government. Motion carried.

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

On motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. DiCello, 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.

On the recommendation of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the agreement for participation in the Child Nutrition Program between the Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 and the Schuylkill County AVTS Operating Agency. The term of this Agreement is July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board authorized the Superintendent to approve conferences, field trips, and staff development activities for the 2017-2018 school year based on the recommendation of the building principals and the policies pertaining to conferences, field trips and budget allocations. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the preapproval of the credits indicated for the following professional employees be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville

Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Kimberly Barone – 3 credits; Beth Bauers – 6 credits; Christopher Lombel – 6 credits; Benjamin O'Brien – 3 credits and Kate Zimmerman – 3 credits. Motion carried.

On further recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the reimbursement to the following professional employees for their successful completion of the preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Kimberly Barone - \$1,362.00; Christopher Lombel - \$1,449.00; Mary Matulevich - \$1,056.00; Katelynn Miller - \$1,416.00; Nicholas Sajone - \$1,752.00; Greg Schuettler - \$1,449.00; Robert Sheaffer - \$1,416.00 and Erin Tranquillo - \$1,642.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

On further recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the reimbursement to the following Administrative employees: Michael Maley - \$1,944.00 and Caitlin Mohl - \$1,944.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello; Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

On recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the dental examiners whose names appear on the list as submitted for the 2017-2018 school year. (See office file). Dr. Zwiebel noted dental examiners will not be limited to this list and additional applications for placement are welcome. Motion carried.

On recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board reappointed Dr. Matthew Sophy as Physician in charge of certifying student's Individualized Education Programs at a rate of \$3.00 per evaluation. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

On further recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the English as Second Language Education Service Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 for the 2017-2018 school year at the following scheduled payments: October 1, 2017 - \$7,049.00 and February 3, 2018 - \$7,049.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello; Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following:

- Contract with Mrs. Dana Robbins to serve as a School Psychologist from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
- Contract with Mr. Dan Slotterback to serve as an Athletic Trainer from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
- Contract with Mrs. Donna Romano to serve as an Assistant Nurse at John S. Clarke Elementary Center from August 22, 2017 through May 30, 2018.
- Contracts with the following Licensed Social Workers from August 22, 2017 through May 30, 2018: Migdalia Gunoskey, Jessica Coyle, and Lara Swartz

Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello; Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the following resignations:

- Krystina Kubeika, D.H.H. Lengel Middle School 5th Grade Teacher in accordance with her letter dated July 6, 2017.
- Samantha Lecher, D.H.H. Lengel Middle School Social Studies Teacher in accordance with her letter submitted July 13, 2017.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board appointed the following coaches for the 2017-2018 school year: (See office files)

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board appointed the following volunteer coaches for the 2017-2018 school year: (See office files).

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved Christopher Lombel to serve as an intern with the Pottsville Area School District Athletic Department for the 2017-2018 Fall Semester. It was noted that Mr. Lombel will be completing his Advanced Field Experience in Athletics requirement towards a Master's degree in Athletic Administration from Lock Haven University. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Buildings, Real Estate and Transportation and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Davidson the Board awarded the following bid from Papco, Aston, PA, as the No-Lead Gasoline and Diesel Fuel supplier for the 2017-2018 school year, per school district specifications. Mr. Wagner noted the contract began on July 1, 2017 and will end on June 30, 2018. Requests for proposals were due Tuesday, June 27, 2017 at 12:00 Noon.

- No-Lead Gasoline: \$1.2690 per gallon (Firm Price)
- Diesel Fuel: \$1.4651 per gallon (Firm Price)

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Buildings, Real Estate and Transportation and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board awarded the following bid from ThyssenKrupp Elevator Americas as the full service elevator maintenance and repair company for a three year contract at a total cost of \$26,147.16. Mr. Wagner noted the contract began on July 1, 2017 and will end on June 30, 2020. Requests for proposals were due Monday, June 20, 2017 at 12:00 Noon. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Buildings, Real Estate and Transportation and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board awarded the following bid from Waste Management to supply solid waste and recycling services at a firm price of \$22,882.50 per year for a period of no less than five years. It was noted this contract does not reflect any increase over the length of the agreement. Mr. Wagner noted the contract began on July 1, 2017 and will end on June 30, 2022. Requests for proposals were due Wednesday, June 28, 2017 at 12:00 Noon. Motion carried.

Mr. Wagner, Chairperson of the Buildings, Real Estate and Transportation Committee noted that due to the financial situation of our District, the financing contract with Wolfington, Inc. has only been approved for one year rather than the original six year lease. He continued that this will be reevaluated again next year with the possibility of the financing being extended.

Mr. Boran noted that he was through each building and said it looks like everything is moving in the right direction. Mr. Wagner said the building Administrators would like to know when the Board will be doing their walk through. Mr. Boran remarked that the steps at the cafeteria entrance of the D.H.H. Lengel Middle School and possibly the upper level of Martz Hall are in need of some cement repairs.

Dr. Zwiebel noted that parts of the High School mural on 16th street have broken off and smashed. He said the custodians patched those areas but he wanted to talk with Lorraine Koury regarding the mural Dave Naydock originally painted. He is considering the idea of having some of our talented art students repair and touch-up the painted mural to protect the integrity of it but wanted Lorraine included in the decision. He also noted that the mural outside the JSC Cafeteria is also in need of repairs. Dr. Zwiebel noted that he recently spoke with Greg Hoak who noticed a broken pipe above the high school mural which caused the water damage.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board authorized the signing of the Business Advisory Agreement with the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 for business advisory services at no cost to the District. The Board authorized the solicitor to complete the agreement as agreed upon by both parties with a tentative effective date of August 8, 2017. Motion carried.

Mr. Moran, Legislation Chairperson, noted the State's \$32 billion dollar budget passed but now they need to decide how to pay for it. He said the talks are continuing and some of the options which they are considering are to raise taxes on the Marcellus Shale or a broad based personal income tax increase. Mr. Moran mentioned that State Treasurer, Joe Torsella said if the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania doesn't soon get their financial house in order by the end of August the State will only be able to pay bills up to the end of August.

Mr. Moran continue that the other items being discussed are the omnibus state code which is still waiting action. Items highlighted in this Bill are combating lunch shaming, ending seniority based furloughs, addressing Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Business Manager and other high level contracts and the notification periods of the contracts which is currently 180 days but they would like to cut that to 90 days with an automatic one year rollover if it isn't agreed upon. Mr. Moran continued on the National Legislative level, lawmakers still are watching the ESSA oversight and the Every Child Succeeds Act and how it will impact the local level.

Mr. Moran noted that the next Negotiation meeting will be held Monday, August 7, 2017.

Mrs. Blankenhorn, Drug and Alcohol Coalition Chairperson, noted that the next meeting will be July 28, 2017 to establish a meeting schedule for the 2017-2018 school year.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mr. Moran the Board recalled the following Professional educators from the furlough list due to recent resignations: Kaycee Sullivan and Cara Turolis. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Thomas, Schuylkill IU #29 Representative, and seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the costs of the 2017 Capital Improvement Projects, which shall include the replacement of the roofs of the buildings currently known as STC North and STC South, HVAC upgrades and controls for STC North and STC South, and Exterior Masonry Repairs for STC South shall be apportioned among the member districts. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

Mr. Thomas noted that Mr. Brian Manning was in the audience and could answer any questions regarding the 2017 Capital Improvement Projects.

Mr. Wagner asked if the Authority was being recreated now. Mr. Manning answered no, he said the Authority was a piece to the puzzle that was needed to finance all twelve of the districts but it ended up only three of the twelve districts need financing. The three districts, Tri-Valley, Tamaqua and Pottsville are unable to come up with the money so they can borrow directly through financial institutions of their choice. Mr. Wagner asked if the

Authority had not expired would Pottsville Area School District's share be as much as it is. Mr. Manning answered yes, because of the formula that was agreed upon. The District's share is a little more because of the market value while some other districts benefited. Mr. Manning said that Pottsville's share of the expenditure is \$400,900 but based on the projects \$3.1 million and the roof numbers are not to exceed those numbers. He said when the projects actually go out for bid the pricing of the project could come in lower. Atty. Rismiller asked if the Districts would need to make scheduled payments or as the projects progress. Mr. Manning answered that payments would most likely be made as the project progresses because they don't have definite time lines. He said it wouldn't make sense to go out and borrow all of the money and then have it sitting in a bank account waiting for each part of the project to begin. He said work on the South building and the HVAC/controls project can begin immediately but the roof projects will require a longer bid process and it would be best to begin next summer while the students were not present.

Dr. Davidson asked if there was a limited number of years for a loan. Mr. Manning answered most likely it would not be longer than twenty years but would be up to the individual bank.

Mr. Boran remarked that the District has the opportunity to explore the current refinancing of the bond issue to tack on this expense. Mr. Manning said that could be an option and would save the set-up costs since the District is already paying a bond counsel.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education/Alternative Education/Charter and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the Special Education Service Agreement for the 2017-2018 school year between the Pottsville Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 at a cost of \$662,297, payable in five (5) scheduled installments. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Special Education/Alternative Education/Charter and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Progressive Pediatric Therapy, LLC, for Physical Therapy Services and Occupational Therapy Services at an hourly rate of \$62.00/hour. It was noted the term of the contract is from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Motion carried.

Atty. Rismiller asked Ms. Kelly Brennan if the District could bill for some of these services. Ms. Brennan answered yes as long as the child is Medical Assistant Eligible.

Mr. Boran also noted as a reminder that the District would be meeting with the Charter Review Board in Harrisburg on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 regarding Gillingham Charter School.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Policy and Procedure Review and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the revision of Policy #249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying. Motion carried.

Mr. Boran noted that the Board received invitations to attend the 50th Anniversary of the Pottsville Free Public Library to be held on September 21, 2017.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, Assistant Business Manager, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the revenue report for the month of June 2017; the report includes local, state and federal sources (see office files). Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, Assistant Business Manager, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following Use of Facilities:

D.H.H.L. Middle School

1. Pottsville Gymnastics & Theatrical Center, Inc., Musical Theater Performance Show, October 20, 21, 22, 2017 (Shows) Friday 3:30 – 10:30 pm, Sat. 12:00 – 10:30 pm, Sun. 11:00 – 8:00 pm, October 15, 2017 (Decorating/Sets) 2:00 – 5:00 pm, October 16, 17, 19, 2017 (Dress Rehearsals) 5:00 – 9:00 pm, MS Auditorium/Cafeteria/Classrooms.
2. Pottsville Midget Football League Cheer, Bingo, September 16, 2017, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.
3. Schuylkill County Drug and Alcohol Program, 2nd Annual Substance Abuse Recovery Event and Community Awareness Forum, September 28, 2017, 4:00 – 8:30 pm, Martz Hall.

P.A.H.S.

4. PAHS Cheer Boosters, Senior Night Party, October 27, 2017, 3:30 – 6:30 pm, HS Cafeteria.
5. PAHS Football Boosters, Booster Meeting, August 7, 2017, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, HS Cafeteria.
6. Trinity Lutheran Church, VBS Tour, July 28, 2017, 6:30 pm, HS Planetarium.

J.S.C

7. PAHS Cheer Boosters, Cheer Camp, October 7, 2017, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, JSC Gym.
8. PASD Bus Drivers, Yard Sale/Bake Sale, July 29, 2017, 7:00 am – 12:00 pm, Parking Lot at Bus Garage/JSC.
9. PAHS Band Front, Paint Party, November 5, 2017, 1:00 – 5:00 pm, JSC Cafeteria.

There being no further new business and on motion of Atty. Rismiller seconded by Dr. DiCello, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Patricia A. Lombel 8/16/17
Patricia Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary