

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
January 17, 2018
Academic Center
7:30 p.m.

Present: Atty. Rismiller, Mrs. Blankenhorn,
Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran,
Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Urban, Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent;
Mr. Manning, Business Manager; Mrs. Lombel,
Asst. Business Manager/Board Secretary;
Atty. Tucker, Solicitor; Amy Marchiano,
Republican Herald

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Karen Rismiller.

President Rismiller welcomed everyone in attendance.

With great pride, President Rismiller recognized Mr. Michael Kiehner. Mr. Kiehner had approached Mr. Rismiller, Athletic Director and Mr. Manning, Business Manager, about a donation of \$20,000.00 for field improvements to the Girls' Softball Complex on 16th Street. President Rismiller thanked Mr. Kiehner for his generous donation. Mr. Kiehner is a longtime supporter of athletics, a retired elementary school teacher, is involved with the Girls' Biddy Basketball and Girls' Softball. He is the announcer at the Pottsville football games and is very dedicated within the community. Mr. Kiehner said that he loves Pottsville Area School District and it holds a special place in his heart. He also noted that his goal is to help in any way he can.

All Board members received copies of the minutes for November 1, 2017, November 15, 2017 and December 4, 2017. On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the Work Session held on November 1, 2017 and were approved. Motion carried. On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the minutes of the Board Meeting held on November 15, 2017 were approved. Motion carried. On motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the minutes for the Reorganization Meeting held on December 4, 2017 were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Quandel, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of December 2017 and directed that it be appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Cafeteria Financial Report of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the month of December 2017 was 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 Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, 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 the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board preapproved credits indicated for the following professional employees be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Kimberly Barone	-	3 credits
Derek DiRenzo	-	6 credits
Suzanne Fredericks	-	3 credits
Nathan Halenar	-	6 credits
Jennifer Kepner	-	3 credits
Jennifer Lipton	-	6 credits
Stacey McClusky	-	3 credits
Peter McDonald	-	3 credits
Nicholas Sajone	-	3 credits
Gregory Schuettler	-	3 credits
Robert Sheaffer	-	3 credits
Andrew Smink	-	3 credits
Angela Snyder	-	3 credits
David Sterner	-	3 credits
Charles Taronis	-	3 credits
Jenna Troutman	-	6 credits
Kate Zimmerman	-	3 credits

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the preapproval of the credits indicated for the following administrative employee be ratified: Caitlin Mohl – 3 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following professional employees be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Kimberly Barone	-	\$1,416.00
Meredith Coleman	-	\$1,416.00
Derek DiRenzo	-	\$1,416.00
Suzanne Fredericks	-	\$1,416.00
Katrina Greenawalt	-	\$2,325.00
Nathan Halenar	-	\$1,416.00
Casey Horvath	-	\$3,072.00
Jennifer Kepner	-	\$1,500.00

Deborah Lecker	-	\$ 300.00
Jennifer Lipton	-	\$1,944.00
Stacey McClusky	-	\$2,559.00
Peter McDonald	-	\$1,416.00
Stephanie McDonald	-	\$1,416.00
Nicholas Sajone	-	\$1,812.00
Andrew Smink	-	\$2,559.00
Jenna Troutman	-	\$1,416.00
Motion carried.		

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following administrative employee be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of a preapproved credit course: Caitlin Mohl - \$1,944.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following salary adjustments be approved for the 2017-2018 school year: Kimberly Barone – Bachelor+15 and Meredith Coleman – Bachelor+15. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following professional employee be excused from her duties to serve as a juror in the Schuylkill county Court of Common Pleas in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA: Maria Larish – effective February, February 2, 2018. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Urban, the contract approval between Bayada Home Health Care, Inc. and the Pottsville Area School District will be tabled until the Work Session, which is scheduled for February 7, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board accepted a donation in the amount of \$20,000.00 from Michael Kiehner for the purpose of field improvements at the Girls' Softball Complex on 16th Street. Motion carried.

Dr. Davidson asked what type of field improvements will be made to the field. Mr. Stank noted that the committee has not made any decisions as of yet.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the resignation of Robert Shott, assistant football coach, effectively immediately. Motion carried.

Under Buildings, Real Estate and Transportation, Mr. Quandel, Chairperson, noted that the committee did a walk through at Martz Hall, Middle School and High School. Mr. Quandel said that the aim was to make an assessment of the buildings and then prioritize the things that are needed. Mr. Quandel explained that he will have more specifics at the next meeting.

Mr. Brian Manning, Business Manager, read the following statement:

"The preliminary budget is a starting point for our Board to work toward our next fiscal year operation. It is always my goal in the budgeting to give the Board a solid starting point in the budget process. This preliminary budget includes a request for referendum exceptions from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for PSERS costs and special education costs. The tax rate is not final and is a starting point. We are in the process of analyzing our expenditures, sources of revenue and educational needs. A school district budget is a comprehensive process that requires give and take from all parties involved including the Board, administration and staff. We are entering collective bargaining which will have an impact on the results of our fiscal budgeting."

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board authorized the School Board Secretary to have the required proposed preliminary budget notice published once in the Republican Herald on Thursday, January 18, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board set the date of Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. to adopt the Preliminary Budget for year 2018-2019 for the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

Under Negotiations, Mrs. Blankenhorn, Chairperson, said the committee met for the first session in January. The committee will meet again in February.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran, Chairperson, said that the Trump administration has approved Pennsylvania's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan. Mr. Moran also noted that after Congress' rewrite of the tax code, parents can now use 529 plans to cover tuition not only at colleges and universities, but also at private elementary and high schools – the effect of this change may be as much as 500 million dollars removed from basic education funding. Mr. Moran also had a report on the 2017 Legislative Review. (Report Appended to Minutes).

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Joseph Shaw as a part-time Outside Crew employee at an hourly rate of \$14.90, effective January 18, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved a five day unpaid leave for a John S. Clarke Elementary Cafeteria employee. Dates of leave – January 24, 2018 through January 30, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the agreement with Employee ID # 936. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved an annual subscription agreement with Scenario Learning (SafeSchools) in the amount of \$1,545.00 for the purpose of staff training including the mandated Act 126 training. Motion carried.

Under Public Relations, Dr. Davidson read the following items:

- Congratulations to Thomas Honicker and Grace Muench for being selected by audition to participate in the PMEA District 10 Bank Festival at Easton Area School District in January. Thomas Honicker was also selected by audition to participate in the PMEA District 10 Orchestra Festival at Fleetwood Area School District in February.
- Congratulations to Charlie Hemerly, 3rd grade student, for being selected as the Artist of the Month. Her drawing is on display at the Academic Center.
- Congratulations to John Hannaway for being selected as the Pottsville Area High School Weidner University High School Leadership Award nominee.
- Congratulations to Ian Renninger for being selected by WNEP as a member of their Dream Team.
- Congratulations to the following students for being nominated to represent PAHS in the Greater Winter Carnival Snowflake Princess competition: Emma Bertsch, Hannah Leskin and Madeline Schuettler.

Under Pottsville Recreation Committee, Dr. Davidson, Chairperson, noted that he contacted Ms. Nora Lee Matz and she said their meetings are the same night as our Board meetings. Dr. Davidson said they will continue to stay in contact.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Policy and Procedure Review, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the 2017-2018 school year Management Policy. This policy governs the benefits of the managerial staff. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the Revenue Report for December 2017 which included local, state and federal sources. (See Office Files). Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. DiCello, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye.

Atty. Rismiller announced that an executive session was held from 6:45 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

On recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following Use of Facilities:

D.H.H.L. Middle School

1. Gabriel Youth Orchestra, Rehearsals, September 12, 2018 – April 24, 2019, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm, MS Auditorium.
2. Gabriel Youth Orchestra, Holiday/Spring Concerts, December 9, 2018/April 28, 2019, 12:00 – 5:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
3. City of Pottsville Recreation Commission, January 18, 2018 thru May 17, 2019, Tuesday/Thursday 5:00 – 6:30 pm, Saturday/Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 pm, Martz Hall Top Track.
4. Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Council, Inc., Schuylkill County Career Fair, April 5, 2018, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, Martz Hall.
5. PAHS Swim/Dive Team Parent Boosters, Banquet, March 25, 2018, 4:00 – 8:30 pm, Ms Cafeteria.
6. PASD Aquatics, Anthracite Swimming League County Championship, March 24, 2018, 7:00 am – 5:00 pm, MS Pool/Cafeteria.
7. Schuylkill YMCA, Swim Meet, February 3, 2018, 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, MS Pool/Cafeteria.
8. Pit Band, Rehearsals, Jan. 27, Feb.3, 2018, MS Band Room.

P.A.H.S.

9. Pottsville Area Cheerleaders, Junior High Cheer Tryouts, February 20, 21, 22, 23, 2018, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm, HS Boys Gym
10. PAHS Quiz Team, Quiz Team Match, January 22, 2018, 2:45 – 5:30 pm, HS Room 209, 214, Library.
11. PAHS Social Studies Dept., History Night, May 10, 2018, 5:00 – 9:00 pm, HS 1st and 2nd Floor Classrooms, Library, Little Theatre.
12. Pit Band, Rehearsals, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 3, 2018, HS Band Room.

Motion carried.

Atty. Rismiller asked Mrs. Lombel for the Announcement of the Executive Session.
“In accordance with Act 84 of 1986, 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. ”

Mr. Moran recognized Collin Ebling, a senior at Pottsville Area High School, for being ranked in the top ten nationally for the 800 meter run in Track.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Quandel, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Executive Session – 7:58 p.m. to 8:16 p.m.

 2/21/18

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary