

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
June 20, 2018
Academic Center
7:57 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:57 p.m. by President Karen Rismiller.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Rismiller welcomed everyone and asked if anyone would like to address the Board. Hearing none, President Rismiller announced an executive session was held from 6:45 p.m. to 7:55 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the May 2, 2018 work session, May 16, 2018 regular Board meeting and the June 6, 2018 work session. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of May 2018: Mid Penn Bank - \$47,569.94, BB & T Bank - \$163,905.10. Total - \$211,475.04. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Cafeteria Financial Report of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeteria for the month of April 2018 was accepted and ordered filed. Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Cafeteria Financial Report of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeteria for the month of May 2018 was accepted and ordered filed. Motion carried.

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

On motion of Mr. Quandel, 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 Mrs. Blankenhorn, 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: Jennifer Kepner – 3 credits and Gregory Schuettler – 6 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board recommended that 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: Suzanne Fredericks - \$1,416.00; Jennifer Kepner - \$1,500.00; Peter McDonald - \$1,416.00; Gregory Schuettler - \$1,500.00; and Jillian Strohecker - \$300.00 Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following salary adjustments be approved and become effective for the 2018-2019 school term: Derek DiRenzo – Master's; Stacey McClusky – Master's; Crystal Pugh – Master's Equivalency and Andrew Smink – Master's. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board rescinded the Board motions of June 6, 2018 for the following football positions: William Rhoades, Head 7th and 8th Grade Coach and Mark Laubenstine, 7th and 8th Grade Assistant Coach. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board appointed the following 7th and 8th Grade football coaches for the 2018-2019 school year: Mark Laubenstine, Head Coach - \$3,000.00 and Lucas Bricker, Assistant - \$2,600.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board appointed the following volunteer coaches for the 2018-2019 school year: John Toomey – Varsity Football Assistant; Crystal Reedy – Cheerleading Assistant and Charles Rinaldo – Equipment Manager Assistant. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Mr. Quandt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the modification for the Line of Credit from Gratz Bank, Pottsville, PA. Term of LOC – June 30, 2018 through June 30, 2019. The Interest rate is increasing from 4 1/4 % to 5%. Motion carried.

Mr. Manning, in the absence of Dr. DiCello, read the following:

The Committee on Finance reported that the tentative budget notice and the adoption of the budget this evening was published in the Pottsville Republican on May 23, 2018 stating that the budget for the fiscal year commencing the first day of July 2018 would

be adopted as of June 20, 2018. The budget herewith presented had been carefully considered by the Board of Directors and is now submitted by the Committee on Finance for action at this meeting.

The Committee on Finance recommended that the Board of Directors adopt the following budget resolution authorizing the expenditures of the amounts indicated in the various classifications for the general fund budget totaling \$40,641,407 and appended to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting:

RESOLUTION

"RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Directors of Pottsville Area School District, Schuylkill County, hereby authorize expenditures of \$40,641,407 set forth in the school budget, as appended, during the school year 2018-2019 and levies a tax of 40.598 mills (\$40.598 per thousand dollars) of the County assessed valuation on real estate; a per capita tax of five dollars (\$5.00) per person under Section 679 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; a per capita tax of five dollars (\$5.00) per person under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; an earned income tax of one-half percent (1/2%), also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; an occupation tax of 311.5143 mills based on the occupational assessment as set by the County Assessor or a total of \$115.50 also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; a business privilege tax of four and one-half (4 1/2) mills on each dollar of the whole or gross volume of business transacted within the territorial limits of the school district except for wholesale dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at the rate of one (1) mill, and retail dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at the rate of one and one-half (1 1/2) mills, also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; a local services tax at the rate of \$5.00, also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; and a realty transfer tax of one percent (1%), also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, and pursuant to Act 77 of 1986; to provide the necessary revenue for the expenditures hereby authorized".

The above taxes will be levied and collected in each of the following political subdivisions included in the Pottsville Area School District as follows: City of Pottsville, Borough of Port Carbon, Borough of Mechanicsville, Borough of Mount Carbon, Borough of Palo Alto, and Township of Norwegian.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye. Dr. DiCello, Absent.

The Committee on Finance and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board recommended that the Board authorize and direct the following to collect the amount due on the 2018 taxes, real estate and personal, in the respective political subdivisions indicated:

Pottsville City	-	Ellen Micka
Port Carbon Borough	-	Nicholas Steranko
Mechanicsville Borough	-	Denise Swartz
Mount Carbon Borough	-	Linda Marchalk/ Sch. County Treasurer
Palo Alto Borough	-	Anna Cook
Norwegian Township	-	Krista Schaeffer

Motion carried.

The Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board recommended that the Board confirm the rates of compensation to tax collectors in the respective political subdivisions for the 2018 duplicates:

Pottsville City - School District's 1/3 share of tax office salaries, with the City of Pottsville and County of Schuylkill to pay the other two-thirds

Port Carbon Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Mechanicsville Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Mount Carbon Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Palo Alto Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Norwegian Township	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District

Motion carried.

The Committee on Finance reported as a matter of record that the resolution imposing a Per Capita Tax of five dollars (\$5.00) per person under Section 679 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; a Per Capita Tax of five dollars (\$5.00) on each resident of Pottsville Area School District under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, provided for the levy of this tax during the 1980-1981 school year and subsequent years. No additional resolution is required to continue these taxes which are currently in force.

The Committee on Finance reported as a matter of record that the resolution imposing an Earned Income Tax of one-half of one percent (1/2%) under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, provided for the levy of this tax during the period beginning July 1, 1966 and ending December 31, 1966 and thereafter, during each successive calendar year. No additional resolution is required to continue this tax which is currently in force.

The Committee on Finance reported as a matter of record that the Realty Transfer Tax of one percent (1%) on the transfer of titles on real estate in the Pottsville Area School District under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended,

and pursuant to Act 77 of 1986, which is currently in effect, will continue during the 2018-2019 school year. No additional resolution is required to continue this tax.

The Committee on Finance reported as a matter of record that the Local Services Tax of \$5.00, under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, which is currently in effect, will continue during the 2018-2019 school year.

The Committee on Finance reported as a matter of record that the Business Privilege Tax of four and one-half (4 1/2) mills on each dollar of the whole or gross volume of business transacted within the territorial limits of the School District except for wholesale dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at the rate of one (1) mill, and retail dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at one and one-half (1 1/2) mills, under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, which is currently in effect, will continue during the 2018-2019 school year. No additional resolution is required to continue this tax.

The Committee on Finance reported as a matter of record that the Occupation Tax of 311.5143 mills based on the occupational assessment as set by the County Assessor or a total of \$115.50 under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, will continue during the 2018-2019 school year.

The Committee on Finance reported that proper notification of the continuance of Per Capita Tax (Section 679), Per Capita Tax (Section 511), Earned Income Tax, Realty Transfer Tax, Local Services Tax, Business Privilege Tax, and Occupation Tax for the fiscal year 2018-2019, will be forwarded to the Department of Community and Economic Development, Center for Local Government Services, by certified mail, as required.

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX STRUCTURE – 2018-2019

Real Estate	40.598 mills		
Per Capita – Section 679	\$ 5.00		
Per Capita – Act 511	\$ 5.00		
Earned Income Tax	1/2%		
Realty Transfer Tax	1% Shared with City - .5%		Local
Services Tax	\$ 5.00		
Business Privilege Tax	1 mill	Wholesale	
	1 1/2 mills	Retail	
	4 1/2 mills	Other/Service	
Occupation Tax – Act 511	\$115.50		

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Pottsville Area School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2018, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction.

The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2018:

a. Gambling tax funds. The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of \$704,361.06.

2. Homestead/farmstead numbers. Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. § 8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:

a. Homestead property number. The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 4,690

b. Farmstead property number. The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 0.

c. Homestead/farmstead combined number. Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 4,690.

3. Real estate tax reduction calculation. The school board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(a) aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of \$704,361.06 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 4,690, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$150.33.

4. Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of \$150.33 by the School District real estate tax rate of 40.598 mills (.040598), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is \$3,703, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is \$0.00.

5.Homestead/farmstead exclusion authorization – July 1 tax bills. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$3,703.00. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$0.00. For purposes of this Resolution, “approved homestead” and “approved farmstead” shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Quandel, the Board appointed the Schuylkill County Recorder of Deeds to administer and collect the Realty Transfer Tax within the Pottsville Area School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board appointed Jones and Company, Certified Public Accountants, to conduct the annual audit of the Pottsville Area School District accounts, including Federal Funds, for the school year ending June 30, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board designated the following institutions as depositories for the Pottsville Area School District for the 2018-2019 school year and to continue under presently existing depository agreements:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ○ Mid Penn Bank, Pottsville, PA | General Fund, Federal Funds |
| ○ Gratz Bank, Pottsville, PA | Award Funds |
| ○ M & T Bank, Pottsville, PA | Cafeteria Fund, Award Funds |
| ○ Wells Fargo, Pottsville, PA | Award Funds, Activities Funds |

- o BB & T Bank, Pottsville, PA Athletic Funds

Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye. Mr. Quandel, Abstain. Dr. DiCello, Absent.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran, Chairperson, noted that the Legislators are moving toward the elimination of the Keystone tests. There are discussions about increasing the availability of funds for school safety.

Under Negotiations, Mr. Moran, Chairperson, along with Mr. Quandel, noted that the last meeting with PASDEA was productive. The next meeting is scheduled for July 3, 2018.

Under Drug and Alcohol Coalition, Mrs. Blankenhorn, Chairperson, said that there will be a meeting on Monday, July 2, 2018 with the Tide Task Force to roll out the draft student drug testing policy. The first reading of the policy will be at the August 1, 2018 work session. Approval for the drug policy will be at the regular Board meeting on August 15, 2018.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following ESY substitute teachers at an hourly rate of \$32.00, retroactive June 19, 2018:

- o Elizabeth Grow
- o Casey Horvath
- o Louise Winkler

Motion carried.

Under Public Relations, Dr. Davidson said he was glad that Lauren Hunter, a 2018 graduate, asked for a moment of silence at commencement since there was not a benediction or invocation at the graduation ceremony.

Dr. Cardamone, IU 29 Representative, said that the following Board members have been elected to serve on the Intermediate Unit Board for a three (3) year term – July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021:

<u>District</u>	<u>Board Member</u>
Mahanoy Area	Jay Hanley
North Schuylkill	Charles Hepler
Saint Clair Area	Michael Holobetz
Tri-Valley	Jennifer L. Reed

Two districts have an Intermediate Unit Board Member filling an unexpired term as listed:

<u>District</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Unexpired term through</u>
Pottsville Area	Dr. Michael Cardamone	June 30, 2019
Shenandoah Valley	Helene Creasy	June 30, 2019

Dr. Cardamone asked the Board members to complete the ballots.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the Revenue Report for May 2018, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$813,727.91; State Sources - \$2,341,472.34; Federal/Other Sources - \$76,879.78. Total - \$3,232,080.03). Mr. Manning also reported expenses for salaries and benefits (See Office Files). Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye. Dr. DiCello, Absent.

Under New Business:

On the recommendation Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved a Repository Sale for Parcel No. 68-0159.000, 407 Howard Avenue, Pottsville, PA for the purchase price of \$1,116.00. Motion carried.

On recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following Use of Facilities:

DHHL Middle School

1. Yorkville Hose Company, Block Party Parade Staging, August 14, 2018, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Martz Hall Parking Lot. (Aug. 15, 2018 Rain Date)
2. Pottsville Area Cheerleaders, Cheer Practice, July 30 – August 29, 2018, 5:00 – 7:00 pm, Martz Hall Top.
3. Pottsville Area Cheerleaders, Cheer Practice, 8/30, 9/6, 13, 20, 27, 10/4, 11, 18, 2018, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, HS Girls Gym.

PAHS

4. PAHS Percussion, Rehearsals, August 30, 2018 – February 14, 2019, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, HS Band Room.
5. PAHS Percussion, Ensemble Concert, February 21, 2019, 5:00 - 9:00 pm, HS Auditorium.

Motion carried.

The July 4, 2018 work session meeting will be cancelled due to the holiday. The meeting will not be rescheduled. The meeting cancellation will be put on the district's website.

Mrs. Blankenhorn, former Board Treasurer for the 2017-2018 school year, has elected to leave her Treasurer stipend in the school's general fund. The Board thanked her for her donation to the Pottsville Area School District.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Patricia A. Lombel 7/18/18

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary