

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
May 16, 2018
Academic Center
7:43 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 p.m. by President Karen Rismiller.

President Rismiller welcomed everyone in attendance and turned the meeting over to Solicitor Kevin Reid.

Atty. Reid also welcomed everyone and stated that there are six (6) candidates present who are vying for a seat on the Pottsville Area School District Board of Directors. Atty. Reid explained that under Public Comment, anyone is able to make comments about public items or any of the candidates.

Atty. Reid said the process of interviewing each candidate is done at the public meeting. Atty. Reid explained that each candidate will be sequestered and they will be interviewed alphabetically by the Board. When the candidate is finished being interviewed, he/she will leave the room and the next candidate will be called. There is only one candidate in the room at a time.

Atty. Reid said that once all interviews are completed, all candidates shall be seated in the Board room. The process of voting will begin. Five (5) votes are necessary for the appointment process. Once the five (5) votes are attained, the new candidate will be welcomed and the oath given.

President Rismiller announced an executive session was held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.

Under Public Comment, Mr. Stephen Moyer, a volunteer with senior citizens, was concerned about a tax increase and how it will affect not only himself but senior citizens. He continued that some of the senior citizens he spoke with said they are concerned about losing their homes. He said they just cannot afford tax increases. Mr. Moyer said that senior citizens need help.

Mr. Adrian Portland, a teacher at Pottsville Area School District and Pottsville Area Teacher's Association Vice President and member of the executive council thanked the current school Board and also thanked the candidates. Mr. Portland noted that it is a thankless job and he appreciates what the directors do for the district.

Mr. Portland said one candidate stands out – Mr. Craig Shields. He said Mr. Shields founded Barefield and Barefield has been very generous with donations to the district such as scanners and sporting equipment. Barefield has donated over \$100,000 to the boys' basketball program along with other sports teams. Mr. Portland said Mr. Shields donates the use of the Barefield Facility to keep kids safe. Mr. Shields is a 1978 graduate of Pottsville Area School District and Mr. Portland said he has not lost his Tide pride. Mr. Portland said he is very easy to work with.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the April 4, 2018 work session and April 18, 2018 regular Board meeting. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of April 2018: Mid Penn Bank - \$155,207.57, BB & T Bank - \$161,270.50. Total -\$316,478.07. Motion carried.

There will be cafeteria report at the June meeting for the months of April 2018 and May 2018.

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

On motion of Mr. Moran, 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 Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, 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; Meredith Coleman – 3 credits; Suzanne Fredericks – 6 credits; Crystal Pugh – 4 credits; Nicholas Sajone – 6 credits; David Sterner – 3 credits and Cara Turolis – 3 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the preapproval of the credits indicated for the following Administrative employee be ratified: Caitlin Mohl – 6 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, 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: Meredith Coleman - \$1,416.00; Derek DiRenzo - \$2,832.00; Jennifer Lipton - \$3,888.00; Stacey McClusky - \$2,559.00; Benjamin O'Brien - \$1,416.00; Nicholas Sajone - \$1,812.00; Andrew Smink - \$2,559.00; Robert Sheaffer - \$1,416.00; David Sterner - \$1,416.00 and Kate Zimmerman - \$2,559.00 Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board recommended that 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 Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board appointed Catherine Nadeau as an Assistant Drama Director and set her stipend at \$700.00 for the 2017-2018 school year. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following Speech Therapist be hired, subject to the assignment of the Superintendent, and set her salary effective August 22, 2018 contingent upon proper submission of all appropriate paperwork – McKenzie Stutzman – Master's Step 1 - \$49,100.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board adopted the Schuylkill County Emergency Operations Plan. (See Office Files). Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the revised 2017-2018 Title I Non-Public Service Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29. Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel thanked the committee, Mr. Moran and teachers, Mrs. Fidler and Mrs. Anchorstar, teacher representation from the buildings and parent representation for excellent discussions on streamlining the dress code policy. Dr. Zwiebel will post on the website. Dr. Zwiebel welcomes any feedback on the revised policy. The proposed policy will be approved for the revised code at the June Board meeting.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board accepted the resignation of Clarence Herndon, Girls Softball Assistant Coach, effective at the end of the 2017-2018 season. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Building, Real Estate and Transportation Committee and on motion of Mr. Quandt, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board authorized the Board Secretary to advertise the bid documents for the D.H.H. Lengel Middle School, Second and Third Floor Ceiling renovations project. Motion carried.

Mr. Manning, Business Manager, read the prepared statement:

"The current budget before the Board of Education this evening includes a deficit of \$127,583. I want to thank our Board of Education, administrators, teachers and support staff for their efforts in reducing our expenditures from the preliminary budget in January of this year to this current budget. We began this final budget process in March of this year with an approximate \$490,000 deficit after hearing from the Pennsylvania Department of Education that we did not qualify for all of the referendum exceptions requested. We continue to work daily to reduce the current budget deficit that we face. We continually strive to retain programming that has made each of us that have attended Pottsville Area School District who we are today. We have asked the Board of Education to hold the line on staffing and allow us time to make reductions to balance our budget. We have until June 20, 2018 to adopt a balanced budget and I am confident that we will all continue working towards that date to get a balanced budget."

Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent, read the prepared budget statement:

"Both the Administration and the Board of Directors are committed to continuing to offer to the children of this community the best possible education. We have a long, storied history of our extracurriculars, sports and most importantly, the tradition of a strong academic program. During our PR report this evening, you hear, for the fifth year in a row, PAHS has been recognized by US News & World Reports in their annual national rankings of all American high schools.

The administration, along with the entire district staff, continue to work diligently on reducing as many expenses as possible so that we can maintain our quality programming for those students now, and for those in the future. While there is no doubt these are tough financial times, I remain positive that better times are ahead, due to the commitment and team work of everyone in this district."

Chairperson Dr. DiCello and the Committee on Finance recommends adoption of the proposed final 2018-2019 school district budget of \$40,768,990.

The Committee reports that this budget reflects needed instructional equipment, supplies, maintenance and operational expenditures necessary for school district operations.

Therefore, the committee recommends adoption of the proposed final 2018-2019 school district budget which includes a tax increase of 2.0246 mills to 40.5986 mills.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the School District Insurance Package with BB & T Insurance for the 2018-2019 school year.

Package Policy	
(Property/Liability/Auto)	\$111,236.00
Educators Legal Liability	\$ 19,979.00
Commercial Umbrella	\$ 22,198.00
Cyber Liability	\$ 6,421.00
Workers Compensation	\$105,221.00

Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran, Chairperson, stated that the legislature, just before the election, had discussion moving more of the funding stream through the fair funding formula that was created last year. This would be a wonderful stabilization funding for all school districts. Mr. Moran hopes the effort is successful.

Under Drug and Alcohol Coalition, Mrs. Blankenhorn, Chairperson, said the next meeting will be held in June 2018; more data will be needed in order to approve drug policies for the district.

Mr. Manning, Business Manager, read the prepared statement:

"I would like to thank Sally Yoder, Ralph Jenkins and Veida Bartholomew for their many years of service to the district. I would also like to thank Brad Ross for stepping up to the challenge of managing two of our buildings which created a budgetary savings for the district."

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the letter of resignation for retirement from Sally Yoder, clerical employee at the Academic Center, effective September 28, 2018. Mrs. Yoder has been employed at the district for 28 years. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the letter of resignation for retirement from Ralph Jenkins, outside crew employee, effective July 15, 2018. Mr. Jenkins has been employed at the district for 17 years. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Brad Ross as a head custodian for Pottsville Area High School and John S. Clarke Elementary Center at an annual salary of \$48,750.00, effective July 1, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the letter of resignation for retirement from Veida Bartholomew, clerical employee at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective Friday, September 28, 2018. Mrs. Bartholomew has been employed at the district for 21 years. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following instructional aides be hired for the Extended School Year Program at \$13.10/hour, effective June 19, 2018 and starting July 1, 2018 at \$13.60/hour:

Farah Benart
Karen Bevan
Diana DePauli
Danielle Detweiler
Suzanne Doblin
Mary Ann Filiac
Hannah Granito
Susan Griffin
Gabrielle Hammer
Deb Herb
Jackie Murton
Gretchen Leshner
Bernadette Ott
Sandy Paulshock
Diane Schweikert
Kathy Shipton
Katrina Staller
Kaier Trovato

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following professionals be hired for the Extended School Year Program at \$32.00/hour, effective June 19, 2018:

Teachers

Jacquelyn Butz
Crystal Hillick
Stephanie Maroukis
Heather Martin
Julie Saunders
Christina Seiger
Kristan Torpey

Nurses

Angela Holobetz
Donna Romano
Kendra Rooney
Danita Sippel

Speech Therapists

Makenzie Stutzman
Amy Wasilewski

Occupation Therapy

Jessica Jannson

Physical Therapy

Lynn Babbitt (contracted)

Motion carried.

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

- Congratulations to the following Pottsville 12th grade students who placed at the 2018 SkillsUSA State competition held in Hershey.

Plumbing - 2nd Place

Devin Steidle

Motorcycle

Gabe D'Agostino - 9th Place

- Congratulations to the PAHS staff on achieving another bronze medal in the 2018 US News & World Reports ranking of best American high schools. This is the fifth year in a row our HS staff has achieved this recognition. Schools are ranked based on their performance on state-required tests and how well they prepare students for college.
- The Delin Foundation and the Schuylkill Youth Conference awarded our PAHS team consisting of Angela Eckert, Autumn McDonough, Sophie Murray, Leigha Keitsock, Noah Robertson and Gillian Revenis with this year's inaugural award as their projects this year promoted school spirit and acceptance.
- Congratulations to following students for placing in this year's Schuylkill County Council for the Arts Annual High School Art Show.

Charcoal and Pencil Category

Reilly Babcock - 1st place
Caitlyn Kline - 2nd place

Mixed Media 2D/3D Category

Taylor Koch - Honorable Mention

- Congratulations to Ned Hampford for being selected as 2018 Coach of the Year by the Schuylkill League Athletic Directors.
- Congratulations to Hannah Sponenburg for winning "Best Actress in a Play" and Leigha Keitsock for winning "Best Featured Actress" at the New Hope Theatre Festival held on April 19, 2018.
- Congratulations to Gillian Revenis and Angela Eckert for being honored at a Kiwanis luncheon on April 24th for their community service and leadership. They each received a \$500 award.
- Congratulations to Sophie Murray and Stephen Messina as winners of the 2018 SADD Senior Prom Promise.
- Congratulations to the following members of the Shakespeare Club who placed at the King's College competition over the April 28th -29th weekend.

3rd Place - Monologue

Logan Gunoskey - \$250 Prize

1st Place - Ensemble

Lily McDonald, Julia Malek and Logan Gunoskey - \$1,500 Prize
(Combined)

- Laura Moyer received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Rotary Club. Dr. Davidson is on the scholarship committee.

Atty. Rismiller thanked Mr. Moran and the Policy and Procedure Committee for working on the revised dress code policy.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the Revenue Report for April 2018, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$90,736.63; State Sources - \$1,931,554.19; Federal/Other Sources - \$64,010.93. Total - \$2,086,301.75. Mr. Manning also reported expenses for salaries and benefits (See Office Files). Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. DiCello, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye.

Under New Business:

On the recommendation Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Lease Agreement with Child Development, Inc. for the term July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 for two (2) classrooms located in the Elementary School for a rental total of \$13,600.00 paid in ten (10) monthly installments of \$1,360.00. Motion carried.

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

D.H.H.L. Middle School

1. Pottsville GTC, Musical Theatre Performance, July 20, 21, 22, 2018, 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm/ 12:00 pm – 10:00 pm, MS Auditorium. (Date change from July 13, 14, 15, 2018)
2. Pottsville GTC, Rehearsals, July 15, 2018, 9:00 am Set Up/2:00 – 8:00 pm rehearsal, July 16 – 19, 2018, 4:00 – 9:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
3. Pottsville GTC, Musical Theatre Performance, October 12, 13, 14, 2018, 5:00 – 10:00 pm/12:00 – 10:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
4. Pottsville GTC, Rehearsals, Oct. 7, 2018, 9:00 am Set Up/2:00 -0 8:00 pm, Oct. 8, 9, 11, 2018, 5:00 – 9:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
5. Schuylkill YMCA, Swim Meets, June 20, July 21, 2018, 3:00 – 9:00 pm/6:00 am – 4:00 pm, MS Pool.
6. PMFL Cheer, Sign Ups, June 19, 20, 2018, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, MS Canopy.
7. PMFL Cheer, Practices, July 30 thru Nov. 1, 2018 (Mon thru Thu), 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, MS Parking Lot.
8. Drum Corps International, Rehearsal for DCI Championships, August 3, 4, 2018, 2:00 am Friday to 9:00 pm Saturday, MS Classrooms/Lockers/Martz Hall Top/Academic Center/ Practice Field and Lot.

CACL Complex

9. Mike Toomey, Baseball Camp, June 25 – June 29, 2018, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, CACL Fields Complex.

Pottsville Area School District Music Department

- Numerous dates in December, 2018, February 2019, March 2019, April 2019,

May 2019 (See Office Files)
Motion carried.

Mr. Moran announced that this year's Distractive Driving Mock DUI Program will be held on June 5, 2018 in the Academic Center Parking Lot.

President Rismiller said we will continue with the meeting and interview candidates for a Board of Director seat.

Board of Director Candidate List:

- Dr. Michael Cardamone
- Atty. Maryann Conway
- Mr. Robert Hoppe
- Dr. Robert Lipton
- Dr. D. Matthew Newton
- Mr. Craig Shields

Dr. Zwiebel will ask each candidate the same two interview questions:

1. Why would you like to become a member of the PASD Board of Directors
2. If you are the selected candidate, how can you make a difference for the district and the Board?

Dr. Michael Cardamone

Dr. Cardamone said that education is extremely important. Dr. Cardamone was a faculty member at Pennsylvania State University until his retirement. He said he is familiar with the requirements of membership as well as many of the challenges and opportunities the District faces in the coming years. Dr. Cardamone wants Pottsville Area School District to maintain its excellence in public education while continuing to exercise fiscal responsibility. Dr. Cardamone was a former Board member. Dr. Cardamone's two children attended Pottsville Area School District.

Atty. Maryann Conway

Atty. Conway has three sons who had a wonderful education at the Pottsville Area School District. Becoming a member of the Board of Directors would be her way of saying thank you and also to give back to district. Atty. Conway said she has a lot of energy and as a former Schuylkill County Commissioner she supervised annual budgets. Atty. Conway also noted that she has had a lot of experience with children and women.

Mr. Robert Hoppe

Mr. Hoppe recently retired and said he has the time to "give back". His children attended Pottsville Area School District and his wife retired from the district. Mr. Hoppe's experiences include but not limited to managerial, financial, operational, planning, human resources and labor relations. Mr. Hoppe said he would be an asset to

the Board and his experience could expand the level of quality education to the children of the District.

Dr. Robert Lipton

Dr. Lipton believed that he could be an asset to the Pottsville Area School community. Dr. Lipton is a certificated educator in the area of instructional technology and feels he could offer the district a strong educational presence for the youth of the area. A current faculty member at Penn State University campus, Dr. Lipton is also a lifelong member of Pottsville and his children are graduates of the district. His wife, sister and brother-in-law are retired teachers and his daughter-in-law is currently teaching in the elementary center. Dr. Lipton would be proud to serve as a member of the Board of Directors.

Dr. D. Matthew Newton

Dr. Newton is a 2001 graduate of Pottsville Area School District. Dr. Newton vowed to return to the Pottsville community after graduating from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy to lend his time, energy and resources. Dr. Newton is an assistant girls' soccer coach and enjoys working with students of the district. He feels that he is a strong candidate and would be grateful for the opportunity to serve the community.

Mr. Craig Shields

Mr. Shields believes he has the experiences and skills to bring to the Pottsville Area School District Board of Directors. As Executive Director of the Pottsville Housing Authority for 30 years and as Director of Barefield Development for the last 15 years, Mr. Shield has managed multi-million dollar budgets along with the day to day operations. Mr. Shields is also the founder of the Crimson Tide Foundation which has made donations to non-sports special projects in the district. He is also actively involved in supporting the basketball team, personally raising funds for the team. He is a graduate of the district along with his wife and two daughters. Mr. Shields would like to use his skills and commitment to continue a legacy of a quality education for the students and taxpayers of the district.

All candidates returned to the Board room. After all of the candidates were seated in the Board room, Atty. Rismiller thanked all of the candidates and appreciates their perspective and interest in the Pottsville Area School District. Atty. Rismiller told the candidates to consider running for Board seats.

Atty. Reid said the nomination process would begin.

Mr. Urban nominated Mr. Robert Hoppe, seconded by Mr. Quandel. Mr. Moran nominated Dr. Michael Cardamone, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn. Mr. Quandel nominated Mr. Craig Shields, seconded by Mr. Stank. Atty. Rismiller nominated Atty. Maryann Conway, seconded by Dr. DiCello. Dr. Davidson nominated Dr. Robert Lipton; there was no second.

On a motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the nominations were closed.

Motion carried by roll call:

Mrs. Blankenhorn – Dr. Cardamone

Dr. Davidson – Mr. Shields

Dr. DiCello – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Moran – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Quandel – Mr. Shields

Mr. Stank – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Urban – Mr. Shields

Atty. Rismiller – Atty. Conway

4 votes for Dr. Cardamone; 3 votes for Mr. Shields; 1 vote for Atty. Conway

Five (5) votes were not generated for a particular candidate. The candidate, Mr. Hoppe, received no votes and was eliminated.

Motion carried by roll call:

Mrs. Blankenhorn – Dr. Cardamone

Dr. Davidson – Mr. Shields

Dr. DiCello – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Moran – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Quandel – Mr. Shields

Mr. Stank – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Urban – Mr. Shields

Atty. Rismiller – Atty. Conway

4 votes for Dr. Cardamone; 3 votes for Mr. Shields; 1 vote for Atty. Conway

Five (5) votes were not generated for a particular candidate. The candidate, Atty. Conway received one (1) vote and was eliminated.

Motion carried by roll call:

Mrs. Blankenhorn – Dr. Cardamone

Dr. Davidson – Mr. Shields

Dr. DiCello – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Moran – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Quandel – Mr. Shields

Mr. Stank – Dr. Cardamone

Mr. Urban – Mr. Shields

Atty. Rismiller – Dr. Cardamone

5 votes for Dr. Cardamone; 3 votes for Mr. Shields

Five (5) votes were generated for a particular candidate.

Dr. Cardamone was selected as the appointee to the Board.

Mrs. Donna Kalovcak, Notary and Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Michael Cardamone.

There being no further new business, on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Patricia A. Lombel 6/20/18

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)

Board Secretary