

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
October 17, 2018
Academic Center
7:40 p.m.

Present: Atty. Rismiller (via phone); Mrs. Blankenhorn,
Dr. Cardamone, 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 7:46 p.m. by Vice President, Mrs. Blankenhorn, in absence of Atty. Rismiller, President.

The Board meeting was moved from the Academic Center to the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium.

Mrs. Blankenhorn welcomed everyone in attendance and announced an executive session was held from 6:15 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

Mrs. Blankenhorn welcomed IU 29 Executive Director, Dr. Gregory S. Koons and Assistant Executive Director, Ms. Shannon Brennan. Dr. Koons said that the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 was created by the Pennsylvania General Assembly in 1921 to serve the local public and nonpublic schools in Schuylkill County in the areas of special education, curriculum planning and professional development. Dr. Koons handed out a list of Fast Facts for 2018-2019 which included the Total Staff of 280 at the Intermediate Unit, the Curriculum Services offered (236), the Special Education Services and the total number of students in Career and Technical Education. Ms. Brennan said that the Career and Technical Education has grown 6 % and their goals are to evaluate the programs and increase industry partnership.

Mrs. Blankenhorn thanked Dr. Koons and Ms. Brennan for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Blankenhorn read the following prepared statement:

"As a Board, we understand the inconvenience the issue at John S. Clarke Elementary Center has caused for our students, staff and parents. The District is in contact with our consultants to ensure we are basing our decisions on what is best for the students, staff and parents. We are working to bring our elementary students back on Monday, October 22, 2018, utilizing the lower building at JSC along with utilizing Martz Hall to provide space for approximately 9 other classrooms that cannot fit in the lower building at JSC. Once those plans are finalized, we will be alerting parents by this Friday, October 19, 2018.

Again, we understand this is an inconvenience but we want to do what is right for our students, staff and parents. Thank you for your patience and understanding."

Under Public Comment, Mrs. Blankenhorn asked if anyone would like to address the Board. Mr. Dave Zvorsky asked anyone in attendance if they were interested in a discussion on taxes.

Mr. Charles Amburn asked why we are hearing information from the newspaper and not the district about the mold situation. Dr. Zwiebel said he put out a Skylert to keep the parents informed about the mold situation. Dr. Zwiebel said that there are delays on Skylert reports. Dr. Zwiebel asked Mr. Amburn to see him after the meeting to discuss further.

Ms. Monquie Brennan is concerned about what classrooms are affected with mold, what kind of mold and could these issues have long term effects for our children and staff.

Dr. Zwiebel thanked Ms. Brennan for her comments. Dr. Zwiebel noted that the district has requested detailed lab reports from the company that is working on remediation and will outline what measures are needed to eradicate the mold situation.

Ms. Sabrina Liddle asked what was done for the first round of testing for mold and why did it come back.

Dr. Zwiebel explained that remediation was done in specific rooms at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center. Testing was done and it was clear. Dr. Zwiebel said that the possible cause could be humidity within the building. Ms. Liddle was concerned about water leaks within the building but Dr. Zwiebel said there are no leaks.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the September 5, 2018 work session minutes and September 19, 2018 Board meeting minutes. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of September 2018: Mid Penn Bank - \$5,287,490.74, BB & T Bank - \$184,479.55. Total -\$5,471,970.29. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the Cafeteria Financial Report for the month of September 2018. Motion carried.

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

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, 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. Moran, 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:

Michael Anthony	-	3 credits
Derek DiRenzo	-	3 credits
Stacey McClusky	-	9 credits
Stephanie McDonald	-	6 credits

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, 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:

Meredith Coleman	-	\$1,470.00
Suzanne Fredericks	-	\$2,940.00
Kate Zimmerman	-	\$2,592.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following professional employee be excused from her employment 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: Ann Murray – Friday, November 30, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Buildings, Real Estate and Transportation, and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board authorized the administration to enter into a contract with Heim Company for the HVAC Maintenance and Monitoring Services for a period of 5 years effective November 1, 2018 through October 31, 2023 per their submitted proposal on October 5, 2018. The Board also recommended that the administration be authorized to ratify final contract details. Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran reported on the following items:

Senate Bill 1095

The legislation establishes a performance-based system that provides rigorous assessment strategies under four options for students to show they are ready to graduate. Measures of success are appropriately aligned to a student's career goals and reflect the expectations, coursework, grades, activities and achievements earned. In

addition to Keystone Exams, alternative tests and other factors can be counted toward graduation.

Senate Bill 1095 also contains provisions for oversight and accountability for schools and students under the new system. The changes under Senate Bill 1095 would be effective beginning with the Class of 2022, students who are currently in 9th grade.

November Election.

Reminder that no matter what side of the political isle you fall it is your right to cast your vote and be a part of the process of electing our political leaders.

Under Negotiations, Mr. Moran said the next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2018.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the resignation of Robert Lipsky Jr., paraprofessional at Pottsville Area High School, effective October 5, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Jennifer Sterner as a part-time paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$13.60, effective October 15, 2018.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Ronald Rohrbach as a bus driver for the Pottsville Area School District at an hourly rate of \$15.45, effective October 18, 2018, contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Cara Highfield as a full-time 2nd shift custodian at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center at an annual salary of \$19,000, effective October 18, 2019, contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534:

- Employee #1319 – paraprofessional – November 13,14,15,16,30, 2018
- Employee #1289– paraprofessional – October 3 and 4, 2018
- Employee #267 – lunch aide – October 4,11, 2018

- Employee #70 –paraprofessional – September 24, 2018 ½ day; October 15 through November 9, 2018
- Employee # 1231 – lunch aide – October 1 and 9, 2018
- Employee #1337 – paraprofessional – October 18, 25, 2018 and November 1, 2018
- Employee # 1318 – paraprofessional – November 2, 2018

Motion carried.

Atty. Rismiller is attending the PSBA Conference in Hershey, PA.

On the recommendation of the Special Education Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the contract between Progressive Pediatric Therapy and Pottsville Area School District for Occupational Services, at an hourly rate of \$63.00. Term of Contract – August 20, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the Revenue Report for September 2018, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$3,593,821.99; State Sources - \$1,366,816.49; Federal/Other Sources - \$76,348.83. Total - \$5,036,987.31). Mr. Manning also reported expenses for salaries and benefits (See office files). Motion carried.

Under New Business:

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on the motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved an FMLA for employee #426 beginning October 10, 2018. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on the motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved Morabito Baking Co., Inc., Norristown, PA as the bread products vendor for the Pottsville Area School District, effective October 15, 2018. Morabito Baking Co., Inc. will replace Bimbo Bakeries USA. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on the motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board authorized administration to enter into agreement with a Remediation company for required work at John S. Clarke Elementary School as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent & Business Manager. Motion carried.

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

DHHL Middle School

1. Pottsville Girls Volleyball, 10 Annual All Star Game, November 15, 2018, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Martz Hall.
2. Pottsville GTC, Rehearsals, October 13, 2018, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm, October 14, 2018, 1:00 – 5:00 pm, MS Auditorium. (Retro)

PAHS

3. PAHS Quiz Team, Quiz Team Match, January 8, 2019, 2:30 – 5:30 pm, HS Library/Rooms 217 & 210.

ISC

4. PASDEA, Meeting, October 25, 2018, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, JSC Cafeteria.

ALUMNI FIELD

5. West Schuylkill FC, Soccer Practices, November 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 15, 2018, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Alumni Field.

Mrs. Lombel 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.

There being no further new business, on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Executive Session – 8:28 p.m. to 9:37 p.m.

 11/7/18

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary