

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
December 3, 2019
Reorganization Meeting
Academic Center
4:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Quandel, Dr. Blankenhorn,
Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello,
Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban,
Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent;
Mr. Manning, Business Manager; Mrs.
Lombel, Asst. Business Manager/Board
Secretary; Atty. Reid, Solicitor;

The Reorganization Meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Dr. Blankenhorn. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Dr. Blankenhorn welcomed everyone attending the Reorganization Meeting.

Dr. Blankenhorn asked if there were any Public Comments this evening. Mr. Dave Swirsky commented on school choice for students. Mr. Swirsky said students should have a choice as to what school they attend. Mr. Swirsky wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs. Lombel, Board Secretary, read Sections 402 and 404 of the School Code providing for the Reorganization of the Board of School Directors during the first week in December.

The Secretary continued by reading the following notice of the meeting that was sent to all Board members, Superintendent, Solicitor and advertised in the Pottsville Republican on November 01, 2019.

In compliance with Sections 402 and 404 of the School Code of the State of Pennsylvania, the Board of Directors of the Pottsville Area School District will meet in the Directors' Room in the Academic Center on Tuesday, December 3, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. for the purpose of electing a President and Vice President for the ensuing year; and also for general purposes.

On the motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Quandel, the Board approved Dr. Blankenhorn as the temporary President. Dr. Blankenhorn, temporary President, proceeded with the Reorganization Meeting.

Dr. Blankenhorn accepted the Certificates of Election from the new Directors.

The Oath of Office was administered to the new Board Directors by Schuylkill County President Judge William E. Baldwin. The new Directors are: Dr. Ann Blankenhorn, Dr. Michael Cardamone, Mrs. Ashley Dewitt, Mr. Craig Shields and Ms. Linda Wytovich. The new Directors will serve for a four (4) year term.

Dr. Blankenhorn declared the meeting in order to proceed with the election of a President and Vice President for the ensuing year.

Mr. Moran nominated Dr. Blankenhorn to serve as President of the Board for a term of one year. Mr. Shields nominated Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mr. Urban also for President.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, nominations for President were closed.

Dr. Blankenhorn declined the nomination for President.

The Secretary cast the ballot and Mr. Noble Quandel was elected to the office of President for a term of one year. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich and Mr. Quandel, Aye.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Quandel on his election as President of the school Board.

Mr. Quandel proceeded with the election of a Vice President.

Mr. Shields nominated Dr. Blankenhorn to serve as Vice President of the Board for a term of one year. Mr. Quandel seconded.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the nominations for Vice President were closed.

The Secretary cast the ballot and Dr. Ann Blankenhorn was elected to the office of Vice President for a term of one year. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich and Mr. Quandel, Aye.

Congratulations were extended to Dr. Blankenhorn as Vice-President of the school Board.

Mr. Quandel noted that a request was made to change the dates and times of the monthly Board meetings. A discussion to continue to meet once a month, on the second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., was agreed upon by the Directors. The first meeting of 2020 will be January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

On motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board will continue to meet once a month on the second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. and authorize advertisement of notice. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the preapproval of the credits indicated for the following professional employee be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Jennifer Lipton – 3 credits.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the election of Lillian Hobbs as the Quiz Team Advisor at a pro-rated stipend of \$1,300.00 for the 2019-2020 school year in accordance with the current negotiated agreement in effect between the PASD and the PASDEA. Motion carried.

The Early Dismissal Times for the Christmas Holiday on December 20, 2019 are as follows:

Pottsville Area High School	-	11:00 a.m.
D.H.H. Lengel Middle School	-	11:30 a.m.
John S. Clarke Elementary Center	-	12:00 noon

Dr. Zwiebel was pleased to announce that the Crimson Tide Foundation received \$7,500.00 from Mid Penn Bank Education Foundation. This donation will make it possible to purchase educational needs 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 Joanne Underwood, a cafeteria worker for the Pottsville Area School District, effective November 7, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Linda Davenport as a substitute cafeteria worker (\$11.25)/lunch aide (\$9.10), effective December 4, 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 Linda Davenport as a concession worker, effective December 4, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Sandra Paulshock as a part-time paraprofessional at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center at an hourly rate of \$13.60, effective January 2, 2020. 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 #828 – lunch aide – November 12, 13, 2019
- Employee # 1228- lunch aide – November 21, 2019
- Employee # 1385-paraprofessional – May 4,5,6,7,8

Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran noted that there has been some activity in Harrisburg. Security police officers lost their arrest powers through a law enacted last summer, but state lawmakers are restoring those powers; there are also changes in the number of signatures needed to place a candidate on a ballot.

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

DHHL Middle School

1. PASDEA, PASDEA General Membership Meeting, January 8, 2020, 5:45 pm – 7:30 pm, MS Auditorium.
2. Macungie Ambulance Corps., Emergency Vehicle Operations Certification Training, January 12, 2020, 9:00 pm – 4:00 pm, MS Parking Lot.
3. Pottsville Congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses, Memorial of Jesus’ Death, April 7, 2020, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
4. PAHS Softball and Baseball Boosters, Basket Mania, April 5, 2020, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.

PAHS

5. Pottsville Girls Tennis, Girls Tennis Banquet, December 10, 2019, 5:30 – 8:00 pm, HS Cafeteria.

Motion carried.

On Friday, December 20, 2019, coffee and cookies will be served to district employees by members of the Pottsville Area School District Board of Education at the following times and locations:

Pottsville Area High School - Little Theatre from 7:00 - 7:30 a.m.

D.H.H. Lengel Middle School - Martz Hall Lobby from 7:40 - 8:05 a.m.

John S. Clarke Elementary Center - JSC Cafeteria from 8:10 - 8:35 a.m.

Bus Garage and Academic Center will follow John S. Clarke Elementary Center visit.

Please contact Donna Kalovcak at 621-2908 or email dkalovcak@pottsville.k12.pa.us to let us know if you plan to participate and if you have a building preference.

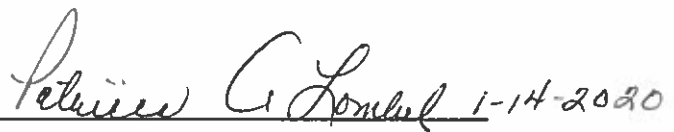
Under Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29, Dr. Zwiebel noted that the Intermediate Unit 29 would like to start the new school year on August 17, 2020. Dr. Zwiebel said that the student start date for the Pottsville Area School District is August 30, 2020. Dr. Zwiebel is waiting for the new pricing on internet service from Comcast and there are concerns about the Health Consortium at the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit.

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 was hereby announced for the purpose of discussing personnel.

On the motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the amended motion to re-adjourn and go back into public session was approved. Motion carried.

Mr. Doug Neidich, Chief Executive Officer of GreenWorks Development presented a powerpoint presentation on solar basics, his company description and project overview. Mr. Neidich explained how solar energy works. Using solar panels would save on the district's energy costs. The panels would convert solar energy into usable electricity. The panels will be installed on the roof of all three district buildings including the Academic Center, part of Martz Hall and on the athletic field behind the Academic Center. Mr. Neidich noted that there is no up-front investment required and would offset 90% of the district's electricity usage. There would be approximately \$60,000/year savings within the first five years. During his presentation, Mr. Neidich explained about the SREC's which are solar renewable energy credits. These solar incentives allow an entity to sell certificates thus creating savings for district. An SREC is earned for every 1,000 kilowatt produced by the district's solar panel system. Mr. Neidich said the district leases the panels for five (5) years and then takes out a bond for the remaining 34 years. The district would save approximately \$8 million over a 40 year period. In his presentation, Mr. Neidich also presented a spreadsheet on the 40 year cash flows. A federal investment tax credit will be realized if the district agrees to the solar energy project. Mr. Manning said if anyone has any questions to email him no later than December 4, 2019. A special Board meeting will be held on December 10, 2019 to accept/reject this proposal.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.


Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary