

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
May 15, 2019
Academic Center
7:32 p.m.

Present: 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
Absent: Atty. Rismiller

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Vice President Ann Blankenhorn.

Vice President Blankenhorn welcomed everyone in attendance. Mrs. Blankenhorn announced that an executive session was held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

At this evening's Board meeting, Dr. Zwiebel welcomed everyone and said there would be presentations by the different buildings on the use of iPads. Dr. Zwiebel introduced students from the John S. Clarke Elementary Center. Charlie Hemerly and Avery Zeroual, 4th grade students at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, created a movie on the daily use of iPads in various classrooms. Students are seen working on various projects in their classrooms. Avery Zeroual also created a stop motion concept from his iPad. The students thanked the Board for allowing them to show how they use the iPads and how they really enjoy having the iPads in the classroom.

Daphnee Saint Juste – Junior – Editor-in-Chief Hi-SPotts Yearbook and Publications Team Visual Media Coordinator and Naomi Brode – Junior Editor-in-Chief Publications Team Business Staff and Marketing Coordinator demonstrated the use of iPads at the high school. The movie, presented by these students, allowed students and teachers to show how they incorporate the use of iPads in the classroom and how much they enjoy learning through the use of iPads. The students thanked the Board for allowing them to present their movie.

The video submitted by the Lengel Middle School showcased many of the educational benefits iPads bring to the classroom. Students are seen playing numerous review games on the iPad that give the teacher immediate feedback regarding student learning. The games are highly engaging for students and provide an exciting learning environment. The iPads are also being used to collect vast amounts of information. Students register for classes, sign in and out of classrooms, vote for programs, and other informational needs. Students also have immediate access to information for projects, research papers, and assignments. Teachers do not need to sign out a computer cart or

schedule lab time. Students can instantaneously access informational databases, research professional journals, read scholarly texts, and create word documents. The iPads also create a level playing field for students of all ability levels. The video documented the integration of a student from the Autistic Support Classroom into the STEM lab coding on the iPad. The student was able to participate in the classroom with his regular education peers and mirror content of his same age peers.

Under Public Comment, Josephine Kwiatkowski, a district taxpayer, told the Board she is not happy with the purchase of the new iPads. Ms. Kwiatkoski said that her taxes have gone up the past three years and will probably increase this year. Ms. Kwiatkowski also asked what impact the use of iPads has on our educational system.

On motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the April 3, 2019 work session and April 17, 2019 regular Board meeting. 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. Stank, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of April 2019: Mid Penn Bank - \$848,069.77. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the Cafeteria financial report for the month of April 2019. Motion carried.

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

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, 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.

The Board proceeded with the election of a Treasurer for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Dr. Davidson nominated Mr. Jerome Urban for Treasurer of the Pottsville Area School District for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2019 and ending the last day of June 2020. Mr. Moran seconded.

With no further nominations and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Moran, nominations for Treasurer were closed. Motion carried.

The ballot was cast for Mr. Jerome Urban as Treasurer of the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban, Mrs. Blankenhorn, Aye; Atty. Rismiller -Absent.

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Quandel, the stipend of Mr. Jerome Urban as Treasurer of the Pottsville Area School District was set at the annual rate of \$2,000.00 for the fiscal year from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board directed the Treasurer to provide a bond in the amount of \$50,000.00, with approved surety, the premium of the bond to be paid by the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board preapproved the credits indicated for the following professional employees and be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Leigh Ann Bosak | 3 credits |
| Corrine Houtz | 8 credits |
| Allison Hughes | 6 credits |
| Heather Jenkins | 3 credits |
| Kate Zimmerman | 6 credits |

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. Davidson, 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 |
| Corrine Houtz | \$1,278.00 |
| Jennifer Kepner | \$3,096.00 |
| Jennifer Lipton | \$2,016.00 |
| Peter McDonald | \$1,470.00 |
| David Sterner | \$1,470.00 |
| Kaycee Sullivan | \$1,470.00 |
| Charles Taronis | \$ 300.00 |
| Kate Zimmerman | \$2,658.00 |

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the following Administrative employee be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of a preapproved credit course: Caitlin Mohl - \$2,016.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the Athletics

and Extracurricular Activities minutes from the following meeting: May 10, 2019.
Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved Michael Dooley as the Girl's Head Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year at an annual salary of \$4,300.00 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Stank, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the Family ID Program at a cost of \$1,570.00. The cost of this program will be paid by the Athletic Department. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Building, Real Estate and Transportation Committee and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Administration to enter into a Demand Response Program for the curtailment of electricity with Direct Energy Business, LLC for the period June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2022. Estimated payment to the district over 3 years is \$43,502.00 based on ability to meet capacity reductions. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Building, Real Estate and Transportation Committee and on motion of Mr. Quandel, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Pottsville Area School District and its facilities be available to assist in an emergency evacuation of students and staff at the Maple Avenue Campus of the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 and/or the Schuylkill Technology Center – South Campus. Motion carried.

Chairperson Dr. DiCello and the Committee on Finance recommended adoption of the proposed final 2019-2020 school district budget of \$42,853,334.00. The Committee reports that this budget reflects needed instructional equipment, supplies, maintenance and operational expenditures necessary for school district operations.

Therefore, the committee recommended adoption of the proposed final 2019-2020 school district budget which includes a tax increase of 1.3397 mills to 41.9383 mills. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board authorized the School Board Secretary to have the required proposed final budget notice published once in the Republican Herald on Saturday, May 18, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board set the date of June 19, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. for the

Final Adoption of the 2019-2020 budget for the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the Finance minutes from the following meetings: April 29, 2019 and May 10, 2019. Motion carried.

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

- o Employee #1128 – lunch aide - May 20, 2019 thru May 24, 2019
- o Employee #25 - lunch aide – April 24, 25, 2019
- o Employee #1127 – cafeteria – April 23, 2019 and May 9, 2019
- o Employee #1265 – cafeteria – April 23, 24, 2019, May 8, 16, 17, 2019
- o Employee #137 – ticket aide – May 17, 2019
- o Employee #793 – lunch aide – April 30, 2019
- o Employee#1116 – cafeteria – May 8, 22, 2019, June 10, 11, 2019
- o Employee #119 – A/P Manager – May 15, 2019 (half-day)
- o Employee #25 – lunch aide – May 8, 2019
- o Employee #828 – cafeteria aide – May 3, 2019
- o Employee #1337 – paraprofessional April 26, 30, 2019 and May 3, 10, 16, 17, 20, 2019

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board accepted the following resignations:

- Angela Eckert – transportation aide – effective April 25, 2019
- Christopher Robbins – High school custodian – effective May 3, 2019
- Amanda Wright – paraprofessional – effective May 17, 2019

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved Joann Matina as a wheelchair van driver at an hourly rate of \$10.70, retroactive to April 10, 2019. Ms. Matina had been a transportation aide for the district. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved Karissa Mull as a part-time substitute cafeteria worker/lunch aide 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. Stank, the Board approved the following instructional aides be hired for the Extended School Year Program at \$13.60/hour, effective June 18, 2019:

Farah Benart
Karen Bevan
Dorothy Botto
Mary Ann Filiac
Hannah Granito
Susan Griffin
Gretchen Leshner
Kelly Miller
Morgan Murphy
Jackie Murton
Shannon Roskosky
Kathy Shipton
Kaier Trovato
Jacqueline Toomey

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved Michelle Aungst as a substitute instructional aide for the Extended School year Program at \$13.60/hour, effective June 18, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board approved the following professionals be hired for the Extended School Year Program at \$32.00/hour, effective June 18, 2019:

Teachers

Jacquelyn Butz
Crystal Hallick
Pamela Imler
Julie Saunders
Kristan Torpey

Nurses

Angela Holobetz
Jennifer Kepner
Donna Romano
Danita Sippel

Speech Therapists

Makenzie Stutzman
Tanya Harmer

Occupation Therapy

Jessica Jansson

Physical Therapy

Lynn Babbitt

Motion carried.

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

Congratulations to the following members of the Class of 2019 who were honored on April 30, 2019 at the 36th Annual Schuylkill County Academic Achievement Awards banquet held at St. Nicholas Hall: Victoria Oswald; John Hannaway; Evan Spevak; Logan Maurer; Michael Johnson-Ponce; Gary Chen.

Congratulations to the following Sketch Club members who were honored and presented awards at a banquet on June 1, 2019 for their artwork submission to the PSEA Fabric of Unionism Art Competition: Caleb Roos and Caitlyn Kline

Congratulations to Sketch Club member Adrianna Glunz for winning 3rd place for her serial plane sculpture in the Sculpture and Pottery category in this year's Schuylkill County Council of the Arts Annual High School Art Show.

Congratulations to Samantha Mihoda for being acknowledged at the YEA! Graduation for having the best stand at the YEA! Trade Show. Samantha plans to enroll in the Penn State Schuylkill's Lion Launch Program in order to expand her cosmetic line and grow her business.

Congratulations to Crystal Pugh, PAHS Business Teacher, for receiving the 2019 Schuylkill County Recruiting Champion Award, which is awarded to an educator for their hard work and dedication to the Young Entrepreneur Academy.

Dr. Davidson recognized the following teachers and paraprofessionals of our Life Skills Program. They chaperoned the life skills students enabling them to attend the Junior/Senior Prom this year:

Teachers: Casey Horvath and Louise Winkler

Paraprofessionals: Brooke Bordner, Paula Heffner, Tina Sibbett, Jennifer Sterner

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board rescinded Items #2 and #3 from the April 17, 2019 Technology committee items for approval regarding entering into two separate Apple Master Lease Agreements. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the Administration to enter into an Apple Master Lease Agreement in the amount of \$1,405,702.28 for the purchase of

technology equipment and services. (Note: This item is combining the two previous lease approvals and buying the iPad cases through the lease agreement for grades 5-12). Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban, Aye. Mrs. Blankenhorn, Nay; Atty. Rismiller – Absent.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the participation in the Behavioral Health Associates “Cost Savings Program” and elect reduced rates. BHA will bill the district in July for 20% (\$51,227.48) of the previous year’s usage (January 2018 through December 2018). This 20% down payment will be credited back to the district in five equal installments on tuition bills from October 2019 through February 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the letter of agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2019-2020 and/or 2020-2021 school year. The district agrees to pay The Meadows Psychiatric Center \$67.00 per day for educational services for any students enrolled in their program. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the operation of the AIBH (Adolescent Institute for Behavioral Health) program that is operated at the Lehigh Valley Health Network South Jackson Campus. The program is currently operated by Schuylkill IU 29, but would be a district run program beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board authorized the Administration to enter into an agreement with VLN Partners, LLP, Pittsburgh, PA, upon District Solicitor approval of terms and VLN concurrence. This will be the district cyber education partner beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the revised 2018-2019 Title I Non-Public Service Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29. Motion carried.

Mr. Moran, Legislation Chairperson, noted that the state is still working on the budget process and hoping for change in the cyber charter education process.

Dr. Zwiebel thanked Amy Marchiano, Republican Herald reporter, for her excellent article on the costs of cyber charter schools.

On the recommendation of Dr. Cardamone, IU Representative, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the election of School Board Members to the Intermediate Unit and Schuylkill Technology Center with terms expiring on June 30, 2019. The following Board members have been elected to serve on the Intermediate Unit Board for a three (3) year term – July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Board Member</u> | <u>Board</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Blue Mountain | Michelle Vesay | IU |
| Blue Mountain | Mary Jo Moss | STC |
| Minersville Area | Angela DeMario | Both |
| Pottsville Area | Dr. Michael Cardamone | Both |
| Shenandoah Valley | Joseph Buchanan | Both |

One school district has an Intermediate Unit and Schuylkill Technology Center Board member filling an unexpired term as listed:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Board Member</u> | <u>Unexpired term through</u> | <u>Board</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Mahanoy | Michael Mistishen | June 30, 2021 | Both |

***Note – complete voting ballots and return to Board Secretary.**

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the Revenue Report for April 2019, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$717,487.12; State Sources - \$1,999,206.00; Federal/Other Sources - \$86,507.67. Total - \$2,803,200.79. Mr. Manning also reported expenses for salaries and benefits (See Office Files). Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Urban, Mrs. Blankenhorn, Aye; Atty. Rismiller –Absent.

Under New Business:

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

DHHL Middle School

1. Schuylkill Achieve, Summer Program, July 9 – 25, 2019, Tuesday - Thursday, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, MS Cafeteria/Classrooms/Library/Martz Hall.
2. Schuylkill YMCA, Swim Meets, June 19, 2019, 3:00 – 8:00 pm, July 20, 2019, 6:00 am – 6:00 pm, MS Pool.
3. DHHL Instrumental Program, Beginner Instrument Parent Meeting, September 17, 2019, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm, MS Auditorium.

4. DHHL Instrumental Program, Jr. Schuylkill County Band Director's Meeting, September 30, 2019, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, MS Music Room.
5. Special Education Dept., Para Professional Training, June 11 & 12, 2019, 7:30 am – 12:30 pm, MS Auditorium.
6. Barefield Recreation, Varsity Hoops Showcase, June 13 & 14, 2019, 4:30 – 9:30 pm, June 15, 2019, 8:30 – 5:30 pm, Martz Hall/HS Boys Gym. (Only in the event of rain)
7. Gabriel Youth Orchestra, Rehearsals, Sept. 18, 2019 – April 22, 2020 (Wednesdays), 5:30 – 7:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
8. Gabriel Youth Orchestra, Winter Concert, Dec. 22, 2019, 12:00 – 5:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
9. Gabriel Youth Orchestra, 4th Grade Concert, Dec. 20, 2019, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
10. Gabriel Youth Orchestra, Spring Concert, April 26, 2020, 12:00 – 5:00 pm, MS Auditorium.

PAHS

11. Mini-THON, 6th Annual PAHS Mini-THON, April 25, 2019, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, HS Cafeteria.
12. Drama I & II Class, Final Performance Exam, May 29, 2019, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, HS Auditorium.

JSC

13. JSC PTO, Auction Basket Wrapping Night, May 8, 2019, 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm, JSC Gym. (Retro)
14. Bus, Van Drivers, and Aides, Yard Sale and Bake Sale, June 8, 2019, 7:00 am – 1:00 pm, JSC Bus Garage Parking Lot.

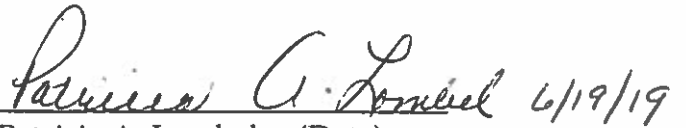
Alumni Field

15. Pottsville Soccer Alumni Association, Soccer Alumni Game, August 31, 2019, 6:00 – 9:30 pm, Alumni Field.

Announcement of Technology Equipment Sale - Thursday June 20, 2019 Noon to 7:00 p.m. in the John S. Clarke Elementary Center Library. Open to the public on a first come first serve basis. (Apple iPad Air 2 - \$175.00 each and MacBook Pro - \$625.00 each).

Dr. Zwiebel publicly thanked the Administrative team for all their efforts and hard work on the 2019-2020 budget.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.



Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary