

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
January 14, 2020
Academic Center
7:00 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mr. Quandel.

Mr. Quandel welcomed everyone in attendance and announced an executive session was held from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Quandel told those in attendance that the district is working with the panel's developer, Doug Neidich, CEO of GreenWorks Development LLC, Harrisburg, to eliminate the practice field behind the academic center as a place for the solar panels. Mr. Quandel said more information would be provided at next month's Board meeting.

Mr. Quandel asked if anyone would like to address the Board.

Mr. Stephen Moyer, taxpayer, commented about the budget committee and hopes that there is not another tax increase this year. Mr. Moyer said that it is very hard on the senior citizens with tax increases and they are worried that they will lose their homes if there is another tax increase.

Mr. Eric Lord, Assistant Girl's Soccer Coach, said that if Alumni Field is shared with the football team it would cut off the existing space that would be used by the soccer teams. Mr. Lord said it would be difficult to schedule practice times for soccer and football players. Mr. Lord presented the Board with a petition signed by over 700 people asking them to reconsider moving the football practice field to Alumni Field.

Atty. Jim Bohorad, whose son plays on the high school soccer team, said that there is a danger factor if the football team is moved to Alumni Field. He said the surface of the field is horrendous and feels it would be a safety issue if more players are put on the field. Atty. Bohorad asked the Board if they would consider looking into other areas.

Mrs. Barbara Lord, former Board member, asked the Board to reconsider changing the football practice field to Alumni Field. Mrs. Lord expressed concerns about safety if too many athletes are using Alumni Field.

Mr. Quandel thanked everyone for their comments.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the November 20, 2019 Board Meeting, the December 3, 2019 Board Meeting and the December 10, 2019 Special 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 Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the reports of the Treasurer for the months of November and December 2019: Mid Penn Bank – November 2019 - \$3,624,612.18 and December 2019 - \$4,001,593.24. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Cafeteria Financial Reports for November and December 2019. Motion carried.

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

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

Michael Anthony	-	6 credits
Corrine Houtz	-	3 credits
Neil Johnson	-	3 credits
Jeremiah Lynn	-	3 credits
Suzanne Sterner	-	3 credits

Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. DiCello, Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn and Mr. Quandel, Aye;

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the preapproval of the credits indicated for the following administrative employee: Caitlin Mohl – 3 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. 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:

Cody Blankenhorn	-	\$1,548.00
Leigh Ann Bosak	-	\$ 300.00
Jacqueline Butz	-	\$1,551.00
Lisa Falkowski	-	\$1,551.00
Kaycee Hess	-	\$1,551.00
Heather Jenkins	-	\$6,426.00
Neil Johnson	-	\$3,096.00
Paula Jones	-	\$1,695.00
Jennifer Kepner	-	\$3,096.00
Jennifer Lipton	-	\$2,316.00
Jeremiah Lynn	-	\$1,548.00
Peter McDonald	-	\$1,551.00
Benjamin O'Brien	-	\$ 600.00
Ashley Shappell	-	\$3,096.00
David Sterner	-	\$1,551.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved that the following administrative employee be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses: Caitlin Mohl - \$4,632.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. 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: Tara Hess – Tuesday, January 28, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following salary adjustments be made effective in the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year:

Leigh Ann Bosak	-	Master's +15
Jennifer Kepner	-	Master's (Equivalency) +15
David Sterner	-	Master's (Equivalency)

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved two exchange students for the second semester pending all immunizations and proper paperwork be completed. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the resignation of Kate Zimmerman, music teacher at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective January 31, 2020. Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel noted that January is Board of Director's Appreciation Month. Dr. Zwiebel thanked the all the Board members for all they do for the district.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved Zachary Reichert as Varsity Head Boys' Soccer Coach for the 2020-2021 school year, at an annual salary of \$3,800.00 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board adopted the Resolution Pursuant to Section 311(d)(1) of the Special Session Act 1 of 2006 indicating that the Pottsville Area School District will not increase any school district tax for the 2019-2020 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the amended 2019-2020 Pottsville Area School District – Schuylkill IU 29 Agreement for Title IIA programs and services to the non-public schools in the county. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation from Tanya Hughes, substitute cafeteria lunch aide at the Pottsville Area School District, effective December 16, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation of Gretchen Leshner, part-time paraprofessional at the Pottsville Area School District, effective December 16, 2019. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Gretchen Leshar as a substitute paraprofessional, effective January 15, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Kimberly Krouse-Pauley as a bus driver (CDL certified) for the Pottsville Area School District, at an hourly rate of \$15.00, effective January 15, 2020 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Sherry Ashman as a part-time lunch aide (\$9.10/hour) and a substitute cafeteria aide (\$11.25/hour), effective January 15, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Sherry Ashman as a concession event worker, effective January 15, 2020 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

- On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534:
 - Employee #1349 – lunch aide – December 17, 2019
 - Employee #1300 – lunch aide – January 2,3, 2020
 - Employee # 1228 – lunch aide – December 20, 2019
 - Employee # 1231 – lunch aide – December 16, 2019
 - Employee # 1127 – cafeteria aide – December 11, 16, 2019
 - Employee # 828 – cafeteria aide - December 12, 2019
 - Employee # 1320 – paraprofessional – December 18, 19, 2019
 - Employee #202 – cafeteria aide – December 18, 29, 2019
 - Employee #70 - paraprofessional – December 13, 2019, January 10, 2020
 - Employee #1337 – paraprofessional – November 13, 2019 thru December 6, 2019
 - Employee # 463 – paraprofessional – March 16, 2020 thru March 20, 2020

Motion carried.

Under Public Relations, Ms. Wytovich presented the following:

- Congratulations to Jacob McCabe (Senior) winner of the 2019 SADD Prom Promise. Jacob received a gift certificate to dine out on behalf of SADD. SADD reminded all students who attended the prom to create great memories while making smart decisions.
- Congratulations on Student Council's Annual Penny-a-Week collection for the holiday gift buying and distribution of toys for needy children in our community. Under the supervision of Advisor, William Rhoads, Penny-a-Week raised \$2,500 during the school year with Mr. DiCello's homeroom being top fundraiser. Another \$3,000.00 was donated by Koch's Turkey Farm and Ed's U-Save in honor of John Hannaway's (former student) battle with cancer. John continued collecting for our Penny-a-Week while attending college. Approximately 150 gifts were purchased, wrapped and delivered by members of the student council.
- Seventeen Christmas food baskets were donated by the high school clubs, six from John S. Clarke, three from the Middle School Office and one from the Academic Center Staff. Food donations were also made to the Pottsville Food Bank, Pottsville Soup Kitchen and to the Cloud Home.
- AID collected approximately 400 coats this year for their annual coat drive. Members of AID will be delivering five bags of coats to SWIC and the Servants to All Homeless Center. TKD also took part in the festivities at Yuengling Park. Several members donated their time and helped with the holiday events including carriage rides.
- Congratulations to Juniors Breyana Garman, Sara Meade, Jake Montgomery, Isabella Varano and Patrick Yoder on being selected to represent Pottsville Area in the VFW "Voice of Democracy" audio essay contest. The theme this year was, "What Makes America Great?" A special congratulation to Jake Montgomery whose essay has won VFW Post 129's high school competition and will now advance on to the state level of competition for his Voice of Democracy Essay entry. Jake was awarded a check in the amount of \$100.00 by the VFW Post 129.
- Congratulations to the following for being named Rotary Students of the Month:
 - Eli Brennan and James Schaeffer - December
 - Alyssa Deleon and Caleb Roos - January

On the recommendation of Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted and awarded the bid from Comcast

Business for Internet Services (3 year contract), effective July 1, 2020. Monthly amount will total \$1,520.05. Cost to district after 80% eRate discount: \$304.01. Motion carried.

Dr. Cardamone, Food Service Committee Chairperson, met with his committee this evening to discuss the efficiencies within the food operations. This was the initial meeting for this new committee.

Mr. Moran, Labor Relations Committee Chairperson, will work with his committee to set up dates for negotiations.

Under New Business:

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

DHHL Middle School

1. Schuylkill YMCA, Swim Meet, February 23, 2020, 6:00 am – 6:00 pm, MS Pool.
2. PASD Title 1, Winterfest Family Night, January 16, 2020, (Jan. 21, 2020/ Snow Date) 4:30 pm – 7:45 pm, MS Cafeteria.
3. Northeast PA Manufacturers & Employers Council, Inc., Schuylkill County Career Fair, April 7, 2020, 7:30 am – 2:30 pm, Martz Hall. (April 6, 2020/ 4-8 pm Set Up)
4. Pottsville Midget Football League, Pizza Party, March 3, 2020, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.

PAHS

5. Crimson Academy, Dance Recital, June 13, & 14, 2020, 12:30 – 4:30 pm, HS Auditorium. (June 9, & 11, 2020, 5:00 – 8:00 pm Rehearsals)
6. PAHS Small Ensembles, Concert Rehearsals, February 4 & 5, 2020, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, HS Band Room and Auditorium.
7. PAHS Percussion, Rehearsals, January 6, 13, 20, Feb. 3, 10, Mar. 30, April 6, 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 2020, 5:30 – 7:00 pm, HS Band Room. (Retro)
8. PAHS Drama Club, Rehearsals, January 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31, 2020, 2:30 – 5:00 pm, HS Auditorium. (Retro)

ISC

9. PAHS Band Front, Band Front Practice for Florida, January 26, February 2, 9, 16, 2020, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, JSC Gym.
10. JSC PTO, Meeting, February 18, 2020, 7:00 – 8:30 pm, JSC Cafeteria.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Revenue Report for November 2019, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$1,280,243.40; State Sources - \$462,578.85; Federal/Other sources - \$193,614.02. Total \$1,936,436.27) 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.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Revenue Report for December 2019, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$1,069,190.89; State Sources - \$3,001,673.46; Federal/Other sources - \$90,981.89. Total \$4,161,846.24) 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.

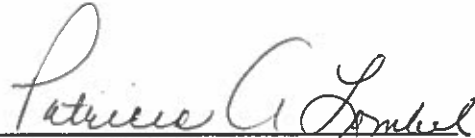
Under Public Comment, Mr. Moran said it was sad to see Ms. Kate Zimmerman resigning from the district. Mr. Moran expressed his appreciation for her commitment as a music teacher at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center.

Mrs. Robin Kalinich, Middle School Cafeteria Manager, asked about outsourcing of the cafeteria. Dr. Cardamone said that the district is looking into all areas of the cafeteria in order to save money for the district. Dr. Cardamone said that this was the first meeting for the cafeteria committee.

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 Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Executive Session was held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:08 p.m.



Patricia A. Lombel (Date) 2/18/2020
Board Secretary

