

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Virtual Zoom Board Meeting
April 21, 2020
Academic Center/Zoom
7:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone,
Dr. DiCello, Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Moran
Mr. Quandel, 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 Virtual Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Noble Quandel.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Quandel welcomed everyone and read the following statement:

- A reminder to the public that the public comment period is not a question and answer period, but rather the opportunity for the public to submit comments to the Board. Public comments will follow our public comment procedures which require members of the public to identify themselves by indicating name and address and we will read comments consistent with all aspects of our public comment policy including a three-minute limitation. With our meetings now being conducted virtually until further notice, you can submit comments via the Q & A feature.

On the recommendation of Mr. Quandel, the Board approved to suspend the following provision, until further notice, included in Policy 006.1, which allows remote participation by additional or all school Board members to attend virtually: *"A majority of Board members shall be physically present at a Board meeting when a Board member attends through electronic communications."* 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.

Mr. Quandel announced the following Executive Sessions:

- March 25, 2020 via Virtual Zoom for the discussion of personnel matters and labor relations.
- April 16, 2020 via Virtual Zoom for the discussion of personnel matters and labor relations.

Mr. Quandel asked if there were any public comments at this time in regards to the agenda.

Mr. Thomas Shay sent in the following question – “It is perplexing that school districts were not better prepared for online schooling. Why haven’t they already had plans in place for online schooling during snow storms, etc.?”

Mr. Quandel thanked Mr. Shay for his comment.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Shields, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the February 18, 2020 Board Meeting. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board accepted the reports of the Treasurer for the month of February 2020 - Mid Penn Bank – \$3,418,755.48 and for the month of March 2020 - Mid Penn Bank - \$1,186,204.14. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the Cafeteria Financial Report for February 2020: Revenue Received - \$185,099.63; Expenditures - \$184,814.95; Net Gain - \$284.68. Ending balance for February 29, 2020 - \$169,031.42. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the Cafeteria Financial Report for March 2020: Revenue Received - \$167,044.04; Expenditures - \$171,825.93; Net Loss – (\$4,781.89). Ending balance for March 31, 2020 - \$123,157.95. Motion carried.

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

On motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Urban, 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 Solicitor, Atty. Reid, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the Settlement Agreement for student ID #231790. Motion carried.

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

Alicia Fehr	-	3 credits
Heather Jenkins	-	9 credits
Peter McDonald	-	3 credits

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the Superintendent's 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. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, 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: Cara (Turolis) Kelly - \$1,548.00 and Benjamin O'Brien - \$300.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the following salary adjustment be approved and made effective in the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year: Katrina Greenawalt – Master's Degree. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the resignations for retirement purposes be accepted from the following professional employees in accordance with their submitted letters effective at the conclusion of the last day of school 2019-2020 – Regina Freiler and Barbara McGinley. Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel thanked Ms. Freiler (1st grade teacher) and Ms. McGinley (5th grade teacher) for their many years of teaching. Dr. Zwiebel said they will be greatly missed. He wished them good luck in the future.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the following be elected as

Temporary/Professional Employee subject to the assignment of the Superintendent and set her salary effective August 31, 2020 pending the submission of all appropriate paperwork: Taylor Header - Speech Therapist - Master's – Step 1 - \$49,100.00.
Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel thanked all of the teachers for the preparation of online instruction with their students in this time of unchartered territories.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following Spring Track Coaches for the 2019-2020 school year and set their salaries as indicated:

- Jeff Dunkel – Jr. High Head Track Coach - \$2,400.00
- Mark Laubenstine – Jr. High Assistant Coach - \$3,200.00
- James Lord – Jr. High Assistant Coach - \$3,000.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the March 5, 2020 Athletic Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Facilities and Grounds and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Shields, the Board approved the following Facilities and Grounds Committee meeting minutes: February 10, 2020 and March 3, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Transportation and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Schuylkill Technology Center South to provide transportation to those students in the event of a mass evacuation from the STC and have students transported to the PASD. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the February 14, 2020 Finance meeting minutes. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the March 13, 2020 Finance meeting minutes. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved a Non-Revolving Line of Credit from Mid Penn Bank to provide temporary funding until money is received from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant in the amount of \$1,000,000. Term – 3 years. Rate 3.95% tax free fixed for the three (3) year term. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board rejected the Schuylkill IU #29 2020-2021 Administrative and Program Budget in the amount of \$2,483,647; PASD contribution is \$0.

Note: Each Director's ballot will be completed by the Board Secretary based on the Roll Call Vote on item #4 above.

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 Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Kelsey Marx as a van driver for the Pottsville Area School District at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective February 19, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Kayla Leibel as a van driver for the Pottsville Area School District at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective February 25, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the termination of Employee #1350, part-time teacher aide, due to abandonment of job, effective March 2, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the retirement of Christine Evans, John S. Clarke Elementary Center ticket aide, effective June 30, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board rescinded the motion for employee #1385 for unpaid time off for the week of May 4 through May 8, 2020 due to the current

pandemic. The unpaid time has been rescheduled for December 7 through 12, 2020.
Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following employees for Family Medical Leave:

- Employee #17 – effective February 25, 2020
- Employee #1146 – effective February 24, 2020
- Employee #1262 – effective February 25, 2020

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 #495 – cafeteria aide – March 2, 2020
- Employee #1320 – paraprofessional – March 3 through March 6, 2020
- Employee #463 – paraprofessional – March 2, 3, 27, 2020
- Employee #137 – ticket aide – March 6, 2020
- Employee #1349 – lunch aide – February 7 through February 10, 2020, March 3, 2020
- Employee #828 – lunch aide – February 27, 2020
- Employee #1115 – cafeteria aide – February 28, 2020
- Employee 1454 - paraprofessional - February 12, 25, 2020
- Employee #183 – custodian – February 19, 2020
- Employee #171 – lunch aide – February 6, 7, 2020
- Employee #1346 – lunch aide – February 7, 2020
- Employee # 1300 – lunch aide – February 10, 2020

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the following motion and direct the Superintendent and Administrative team to:

- Study the professional district staffing needs based upon instructional program requirements and student enrollment.
- Determine the minimum professional district staffing needs for the upcoming school year based upon the foregoing studies.

- Make recommendations to the Board during the May 2020 board meeting based upon the considerations set forth in the Public School Code, concerning whether any professional or temporary professional employee position should be maintained, added, reduced or eliminated during the 2020-2021 school year.
- If a recommendation is made for elimination or reduction of positions, implement the established procedures through termination of specific temporary professional employees, obtaining such approvals from the Department of Education that may be required for the alteration or curtailment of education programs;
- Notify any temporary professional and professional employees who may be affected by the recommendations; and
- Consult with and work with district legal counsel to insure the correctness and completeness of the process.

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

On the motion of Ms. Wytovich, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the February 26, 2020 Public Relations meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Under Public Relations, Ms. Wytovich presented the following:

- Congratulations to the following PAHS Band members who performed at the Schuylkill County Band Festival on March 6-7, 2020 at Minersville Area Jr/Sr High School:

<u>Seniors</u>	<u>Juniors</u>	<u>Sophomores</u>	<u>Freshmen</u>
Zachary Beltz	Christian Honicker	Yseult Barbedette	Nicholas Horvath
Gavin Chen	Keith Minnich	Vanessa Biddle	Tayla Jones
Noah Fredericks	Grace Mongrain	Sydney Gerhard	Emily Lucas
Emily Huff	Jake Montgomery	Tanya Johnson	Alex Maley
Morgan Rich	Caley Potts	Daniella Walker	
	Zion Puyarena		

- Congratulations to the D.H.H. Lengel Middle School for tying with Brandywine Heights School for the Outstanding Career Pathway Award entry in the 2020 Berks-Schuylkill Awards "What's So Cool About Manufacturing".
- Congratulations to Samantha Brennan, Senior, for being selected as the Artist of the Month for March.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran said there are numerous challenges for both the State and Federal Government with the ongoing pandemic.

Dr. Cardamone, Food Service Committee Chairperson, thanked Mrs. Lisa Eckley, Cafeteria Director, and her staff during this ongoing crisis on providing meals for the children of the district.

Dr. Cardamone, St. Clair Committee Chairperson, said the committee met with St. Clair School officials seeking advice with joint ventures.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Revenue Report for February 2020, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$797,354.17; State Sources - \$2,273,345.38; Federal/Other sources - \$130,425.31. Total \$3,201,124.86). 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 Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Revenue Report for March 2020, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$454,414.09; State Sources - \$1,473,907.66; Federal/Other sources - \$65,900.36. Total \$1,994,222.11). 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.

Under New Business:

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following Salary & Benefits Report for February 2020 (2 payrolls): Total Salaries \$1,354,176.76; Total Employer Share Retirement - \$457,525.68; Total Employer Share FICA - \$101,948.21; Total Employer Paid Insurance Benefits - \$507,166.56. Grand Total for February 2020 - \$2,420,817.21. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following Salary & Benefits Report for March 2020 (2 payrolls): Total Salaries \$1,354,922.05; Total Employer Share Retirement - \$457,440.14; Total Employer Share FICA - \$101,821.21; Total Employer Paid Insurance Benefits - \$508,749.06. Grand Total for March 2020 - \$2,422,932.46. Motion carried.

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

PAHS

1. PAHS Choir, Schuylkill County Chorus Festival, February 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 2021, 9:30 pm/7:30 am – 5:00 pm/8:00 am – 4:00 pm, HS Auditorium/Little Theatre/Room 15/Band Room.

JSC

2. Pottsville Midget Football League, Football Practice, July 27 – August 14, 2020, (M-F), 6:00 – 8:00 pm, 16th Street Field #3.
3. Schuylkill Achieve Afterschool Program, Summer Program, July 6 - July 30, 2020, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm (M-TH), JSC Computer lab/Music Room.

ACADEMIC CENTER

4. Pottsville Midget Football League, Football Practice, Aug. 17 – Aug. 28, 2020, (M-F), Aug. 31 – Nov. 12, 2020 (M-TH), 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Academic Center Practice Field.

ALUMNI FIELD

5. Pottsville Midget Football League, Football Games, August 30, Sept. 20, October 4, October 11, Nov. 1, Nov. 8, 2020, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm, Alumni Field.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the 2020-2021 Operating Hours calendar for 12 month personnel. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved and accepted the following with regret: The letter of intent to retire of Richard Boris, Assistant Principal of Pottsville Area High School, effective August 19, 2020, in accordance with the Early Retirement Incentive set forth in the Act 93 agreement and as further supplemented by an MOU dated as of April 21, 2020. This agreement results in savings to the district of \$87,500.00 for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel thanked Mr. Boris for his 31 years of dedicated service to the district. Dr. Zwiebel noted that Mr. Boris has always been a steady guiding hand as Assistant

Principal with the students at the elementary center and at the high school. Personally and on behalf of the district, Dr. Zwiebel thanked Mr. Boris on his retirement. The Board of Directors wished Mr. Boris the best of luck in the future.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board denied Grievance #2020-001 – Pottsville Area High School English Teacher. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn and Mr. Quandel, Denied. Mrs. Dewitt, Approved.


On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board denied Grievance #2020-0021 – Pottsville Area JSC Music Teacher. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn and Mr. Quandel, Denied. Mrs. Dewitt, Approved.

Mr. Quandel asked if there were any public comments at this time in regards to the agenda.

Mr. Matthew Peleschak sent in the following question. "Will the Board consider utilizing virtual meetings to complement public meetings to allow for greater public access to meeting even after the pandemic?"

Mr. Quandel thanked Mr. Peleschak for his comment.

There being no further new business, on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.


Patricia A. Lombel (Date) 5/12/2020
Board Secretary