

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
February 18, 2020
Academic Center
7:06 p.m.

Present: 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

Absent: Mr. Quandel

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Vice President Dr. Blankenhorn.

Dr. Blankenhorn welcomed everyone in attendance and announced an executive session was held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:03 p.m.

Dr. Zwiebel along with Mr. Maley introduced the DHH Lengel Mathcounts team who won first place in the regional competition and have 6 students who will be going to states in Hershey, PA. The 6 students who qualified for the state competition next month are Mimi Albertini, Faith Toothaker, Samarra Reedy, Ryan March, Sincere Noel and Carter Brown. There were four students in the top ten: Sincere Noel (3rd), Carter Brown (4th), Ryan March (5th) and Mimi Albertini (8th). Other participants were: Olivia Peleschak, Austen Albertson, Ava Orlowsky and Chelsea Naftzinger. The Board congratulated all of the participants.

Dr. Blankenhorn 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. Moyer asked everyone to volunteer with Meals on Wheels to see and hear how some senior citizens are struggling.

Mr. Dave Swirsky commented on having prayer in the school. Mr. Swirsky also asked what percentage of energy from the sunlight is retained in the solar panels.

Dr. Blankenhorn thanked everyone for their comments.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Shields, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the January 14, 2020 Board Meeting. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the reports of the Treasurer for the month of January 2020: Mid Penn Bank – \$2,930,334.83. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Cafeteria Financial Report for January 2020: Revenue Received - \$156,686.02; Expenditures - \$155,630.38; Net Gain - \$1,055.54; Ending Balance as of January 31, 2020 - \$71,995.52. 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 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 employees and be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Rebecca Ferdoucha	-	9 Credits
Kaycee Hess	-	3 Credits
Paula Jones	-	3 Credits
Maggie Kergick	-	3 Credits
Peter McDonald	-	3 Credits
Benjamin O'Brien	-	3 Credits
Crystal Pugh	-	3 Credits
Amanda Purcell	-	3 Credits
Katelyn Reichard	-	3 Credits
Lloren Reichert	-	9 Credits

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, 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
Lucas Bricker	-	\$3,096.00
Maggie Kergick	-	\$ 300.00
Kayla Kurtz	-	\$1,971.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the 2020-2021 School Calendar. The first day of school for students will be Monday, August 31, 2020, and tentatively the last day of school will be Thursday, June 3, 2021. Teacher In-service days will be held August 26, 27, 2020; October 12, 2020 and January 18, 2021. An Act 80 day will be held November 09, 2020. Early dismissals will be held on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, Wednesday, December 23, 2020, Wednesday, March 31, 2021, Friday, May 28, 2021 and the last day of school. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following professional employees be awarded a permanent contract and tenure certification pursuant to Section 1108 of the School Code, having received a satisfactory rating for the second semester of the third year of teaching: Kayla Kurtz and Crystal Pugh. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation of Christina Connors, D.H.H. Lengel Middle School Psychologist, effective at the end of the day on March 23, 2020. Motion carried.

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

<u>BASEBALL</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Michael Welsh, Head Coach	\$5,600.00
Tyler Heffner, Jr. Varsity Head Coach	\$2,400.00
Ty Painter, Jr. Varsity Assistant	\$2,200.00
Ben O'Brien, Varsity Assistant	\$2,600.00
 <u>SOFTBALL</u>	
Charles Rinaldo, Head Coach	\$5,300.00
Thomas Mull, Assistant	\$3,600.00
Ashley Shappell, Assistant	\$2,400.00
Bruce Heffner, Head Junior Varsity	\$2,600.00
 <u>SPRING TRACK</u>	
Charles Schuster, Boys' Head Coach	\$5,773.00
Kelly Lombel, Girls' Head Coach	\$4,000.00
Butch Vandermeer, Assistant	\$2,000.00
Lucas Bricker, Assistant	\$2,000.00
Peter McDonald, Assistant	\$3,200.00

William Rhoads, Assistant	\$3,200.00
Samantha Gardner, Assistant	\$2,000.00

BOYS' TENNIS

Adrian Portland, Head Coach	\$2,600.00
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Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following volunteer spring coaches for the 2019-2020 school year:

Baseball:

John Toomey

Softball:

Clarence Herndon

Mike Kiehner

Brian Spotts

Track and Field:

Robert Belcher

Jennifer Brindle

Robert Brouse

Melissa Painter

Corey Schuster

Craig Stevens

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the February 6, 2020 Athletic Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Facilities and Grounds and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved replacement of the RTU in the Academic Center. All labor and material will be included in the project price of \$17,410.00. Cost of Project will be paid for out of the Capital Improvement Fund. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Transportation and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the January 21, 2020 Transportation Meeting minutes/notes. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Transportation and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the agreement between Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials (PASBO) and the Pottsville Area School District to provide professional consulting services to review transportation operations to identify ways to maximize transportation subsidy and/or decrease expenses. The fee for professional consulting services will be \$150/hour, not to exceed \$5,000, plus expenses. Fees will not exceed projected additional subsidy and/or reduced expenses. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following meeting minutes: November 8, 2019 and January 21, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the Repository Sale of Parcel No. 68-36-0034.000 located at 237 Pierce Street, Pottsville, PA at the purchase price of \$2,234.30. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the agreement between Humanus Corporation and the Pottsville Area School District, effective February 6, 2020. Humanus Corporation provides staffing services on a limited basis such as School Psychologist Services, Occupational or Physical Therapy Services and Nursing Services. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved a resolution calling for Charter School Fund Reform by the General Assembly to meaningfully revise the existing flawed charter school funding systems for regular and special education to ensure that school districts and taxpayers are no longer overpaying these schools or reimbursing for costs the charter schools do not incur. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the 2020-2021 Schuylkill Technology Center Secondary Budget in the amount of \$8,121,806. PASD contribution is \$734,457, a reduction of \$91,538 from prior year. Each Director signed the ballot indicating their vote on the above motion. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. DiCello, Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich and Dr. Blankenhorn, Aye. Mr. Quandel, Absent.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board rescinded the motion of January 14, 2020 for Kimberly Krouse-Pauly who was hired as a bus driver for the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved Kayla Leibel and Kelsey Marx as transportation aides for the Pottsville Area School District at an hourly rate of \$10.00, effective February 19, 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. Cardamone, the Board accepted the resignation of Brandin Andrews, transportation aide for the Pottsville Area School District, effective February 14, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board accepted the resignation of Colleen Coulson, part-time cafeteria worker at the Pottsville Area School District, effective January 31, 2020. On the recommendation of the Committee, the Board approved Ms. Coulson as a substitute cafeteria worker, effective January 31, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved Elaine Howe as a substitute cafeteria worker (\$11.25)/lunch aide (\$9.10), effective February 19, 2020 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. On the recommendation of the Committee, the Board approved Mrs. Howe as a concession event worker, effective February 19, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved Robert Darosh as a part-time paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$11.25, retroactive to February 3, 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 Instructors in the Home at an hourly rate of \$32.00, retroactive to February 6, 2020: Gilbert Hoak, Pamela Imler and Megan Morrissey. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the termination of employee # 1390, effective February 18, 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 Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534:

- Employee #495 – cafeteria aide – January 27, 2020
- Employee #70 – paraprofessional – January 29, February 6, 2020
- Employee # 888 – cafeteria aide – January 17, 2020
- Employee # 1320 – paraprofessional – January 13, 15, 24, 2020
- Employee # 1115 – cafeteria aide – January 14, 15, 31, 2020
- Employee # 202 -- cafeteria aide - January 14, 15, 17, February 7, 2020
- Employee # 1454 – paraprofessional – January 16, 22 (half day), 2020; February 11 (half day), 14 (half day), 2020
- Employee # 778 – paraprofessional – January 20 & 21, 2020
- Employee # 183 –custodian – February 5, 2020
- Employee #828 – lunch aide – January 21, 2020
- Employee #1231 – lunch aide - January 22, 2020
- Employee #1300 - lunch aide – January 28, 2020
- Employee #1349 – lunch aide – February 5, 2020
- Employee # 1346 – lunch aide – March 19, 31, 2020
- Employee #1310 – custodian – February 6,7, 2020
- Employee #463 – paraprofessional – February 13, 2020
- Employee # 175 – cafeteria aide – February 12,25,26,27,28, 2020 and March 2, 4, 2020

Motion carried.

Under Public Relations, Ms. Wytovich presented the following:

- Congratulations to Greta Snukis Hill for receiving Miss Congeniality, representing Pottsville Area High School in the 2020 Greater Pottsville Winter Carnival Princess Competition on February 1, 2020.
- Congratulations to Everleigh Hunter, a 4th grade student at John S. Clarke Elementary Center, for being selected as the Artist of the Month for February.
- Congratulations to the following for being named Rotary Students of the Month for February:

Jordyn Derbes and Emily Peleschak

- Congratulations to Eric Rismiller, Pottsville Area School District's Athletic Director, for being recognized by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAA) as a Certified Athletic Administrator. Eric earned this distinction for demonstrating the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration through evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience and professional contributions as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination. Eric is one of an elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism.
- Congratulations to Scott Mattea, Pottsville Area School District's Assistant Athletic Director/Activities Treasurer, for being recognized by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAA) as a Certified Athletic Administrator. Scott earned this distinction for demonstrating the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration through evaluation of the candidate's educational background, experience and professional contributions as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination. Scott is one of an elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism.
- Congratulations to Adrian Portland, PAHS Astronomy teacher, for being selected to be one of just 1,500 NASA Solar System Ambassadors nationwide. This competitive program only accepts applications once per year, which are then vetted by NASA/JPL staff for applicants with the right combination of presentation experience, motivation and ideas for community engagement events. Ambassadors are given exclusive training on NASA missions, both manned and unmanned, from scientists and astronauts, before creating engaging events in their local communities.

On the recommendation of Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the October 24, 2019 Technology meeting minutes. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Technology, and on motion of Mr. Urban seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted and awarded the bid from Comcast Business for Point to Point Fiber Connection, effective July 1, 2020. Monthly amount will total \$900.00. Cost to district after 80% eRate discount: \$180.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Curriculum, and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the high school TSI (Targeted Support and Improvement) plan. This plan is to improve Special Education Keystone scores and Special Education graduation rate. Motion carried.

Dr. Cardamone, Food Service Committee Chairperson, noted that after a review of the Food Service, the committee was pleased to announce that the Director and Cafeteria managers are doing an excellent job and continue to work on cost effective measures. At this time there will be no changes made with the cafeteria.

Mr. Moran, Labor Relations Committee Chairperson, will work with his committee to set up dates for negotiations for the teachers and support staff.

Mr. Moran, Legislation Chairperson, noted that there are tentative Federal and State budgets. Mr. Moran said there appears to be an increase in funding with safety and security.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Revenue Report for January 2020, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$814,921.11; State Sources - \$765,707.69; Federal/Other sources - \$75,785.06. Total \$1,656,413.86). Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Dr. DiCello, Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich and Dr. Blankenhorn, Aye. Mr. Quandel, Absent.

Under New Business:

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following Salary & Benefits Report for January 2020 (2 payrolls): Total Salaries \$1,299,446.97; Total Employer share Retirement - \$440,008.83; Total Employer Share FICA - \$97,451.89; Total Employer Paid Insurance Benefits - \$508,984.54. Grand Total for January 2020 - \$2,345,892.23. Motion carried.

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

DHHL Middle School

1. DHHL PTO, PTO Meeting, February 11, 2020, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, MS Cafeteria. (Retro)
2. Schuylkill County Sheriff's Office, Physical Fitness Test, February 19, 2020, 10:00 am – 11:00 am, Martz Hall (Top).
3. DHHL Music Dept., Small Ensembles Rehearsals, February 11, 26, 3:00 – 3:30 pm, March 4, 9, 20, 2020, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm, MS Auditorium/Music Room.

4. DHHL Music Dept., Small Ensembles Concert, March 24, 2020, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
5. PAHS Swimming and Diving Boosters, Meeting, February 18, 2020, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, MS Cafeteria.
6. PAHS Swimming and Diving Boosters, Swim Banquet, April 11, 2020, 12:00 – 5:00 pm, MS Cafeteria/Auditorium.
7. PAHS Basketball, Senior Charity Bowl, March 27, 2020, 6:00 – 10:00 pm, Martz Hall.
8. Pottsville Boys Basketball League, Pizza Party, March 19, 2020, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.
9. Schuylkill Chapter of PIAA Volleyball Officials, Rules Interpretation Meeting, August 11, 2020, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, MS Auditorium.
10. Pottsville Cheerleaders, Cheer Practice, April 28, 29, 30, May 4, 5, 6, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, 2020, 3:15 – 6:30 pm, Martz Hall (top).
11. Pottsville Cheerleaders, Cheer Practice, August 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 2020, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm & 5:00 – 7:00 pm, August 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 2020, 5: - 7:30 pm, Martz Hall (top).
12. Culture2Culture, AUTHENTI-FEST, September 26, 2020, 12:00 pm – 12:00 am, Martz Hall.

PAHS

13. Pottsville Cheerleaders, Parent Meeting, March 25, 2020, 5:00 – 9:00 pm, HS Cafeteria.
14. Majestic Theatre, Majestic Awards, May 11, 2020, 4:00 – 8:00 pm, HS Auditorium/Band Room/ Classroom.
15. PAHS Crimson Players Drama Club, Rehearsals & Set Design, February 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24, March 2, 4, 7, 2020, Various Times, HS Auditorium.
16. Track Boosters, Booster Parent Meeting, March 3, 2020, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, HS Cafeteria. (Snow Date March 4, 2020)
17. PAHS, SAT's, August 29, October 3, November 7, December 5, 2020, March 13, May 8, June 5, 2021, 6:30 am – 3:00 pm, High School.
18. PAHS Small Ensembles, Rehearsals, April 3, 6, 2020, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, HS Band Room/Auditorium.
19. PAHS Small Ensembles, Concert, April 7, 2020, 1:45 – 9:00 pm, HS Auditorium/Band Room.

ISC

20. PAHS Band Front, Band Front Try Out Practice, March 1, 8, 15, 23, 2020, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, JSC Gym.

Under Public Comment, Mr. Stephen Moyer asked when the budget will be approved. Mr. Manning noted that the preliminary budget is approved at the May 19, 2020 Board meeting and the final approval is June 16, 2020. The budget is available for public inspection before the final approval of the budget on June 16, 2020.

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. Cardamone, the meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Executive Session was held from 7:40 p.m. to 8:12 p.m.



Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary