

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

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

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

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Quandel welcomed everyone in attendance.

Mr. Quandel reminded 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. With our meetings now being conducted virtually until further notice, you can submit comments via the Q & A feature.

President Quandel announced that the Board held an Executive Session via Virtual Zoom for the discussion of personnel matters.

There were no public comments at this time.

On motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the June 16, 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. Shields, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board accepted the reports of the Treasurer for the month of June 2020 - Mid Penn Bank – \$1,379,712.47. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn and Mr. Quandel, Aye. Dr. DiCello, Absent.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the Cafeteria Financial Report for June 2020: Revenue Received - \$240,999.33; Expenditures - \$111,212.49; Net Gain - \$129,786.84. Ending balance for June 30, 2020 - \$71,021.28. Motion carried.

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

On motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, 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 Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board authorized the Acting Superintendent to approve conferences, field trips, and staff development activities for the 2020-2021 school year, based on the recommendation of the building principals and the policies pertaining to conferences, field trips, and budget allocations. Motion carried.

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

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| Kayla Kurtz | - | 3 Credits |
| Ashley Shappell | - | 6 Credits |
| Elizabeth Sophy | - | 3 Credits |

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting 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:

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------------|
| Nathan Halenar | - | \$ 300.00 |
| Corrine Houtz | - | \$ 300.00 |
| Allison Hughes | - | \$ 900.00 |
| Cara Kelly | - | \$1,548.00 |
| Jennifer Lipton | - | \$2,316.00 |

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the 2020-2021 school year dental examiners. It should be noted that the dental examiners are not limited to this list and additional applications for placement are welcome. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board reappointed Dr. Matthew Sophy as Physician in charge of certifying student's Individualized Educational Programs at a rate of \$3.00 per evaluation. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the resignation of Nicholas Sajone, DHHL Social Studies Teacher, in accordance with his letter submitted July 7, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the resignation of Suzanne Delaney, DHHL Special Education Teacher, in accordance with her email submitted July 16, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the resignation of Lara Swartz, PAHS Social Worker, in accordance with her letter submitted June 19, 2020, effective July 31, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board accepted the resignation of Carolyn March, John S. Clarke Elementary Center teacher, in accordance with her letter submitted July 17, 2020, effective August 21, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the salary adjustment of Heather Jenkins, Master's+15. The adjustment will become effective for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the revision of the 2020-2021 school calendar: October 12, 2020 Teachers' In-Service Day will be moved to Tuesday, August 25, 2020.

Students and Teachers will not be in session on October 12, 2020. The addition of an In Service Day on August 25 will be provided for professional development. Dr. Gerace noted that the teachers will be working on the use of Google Classroom. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics, and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the following Athletic Game Workers for the 2020-2021 season as long as the district has a season due to the Covid-19. The district must have a season for workers to be paid. Stipends will remain the same as 2019-2020.

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Robin Barton | Lillian Hobbs | Lori Schuster |
| Charles Bauers | Cara Holman | Caroline Schuster |
| Donna Bentz | Lisa Holobetz | Diane Schweikert |
| Cody Blankenhorn | Jack Ingalzo | Christian Selinko |
| Jack Botto | Cara Kelly | Maria Sherakas |
| Jeffrey Bowers | Michael Kiehner | Daniel Slotterback |
| Lucas Bricker | Joan Koslosky | Brian Spotts |
| Jennifer Brindle | Scott Krater | Michael Stank |
| Corey Calabrese | Rickey Krause | David Sterner |
| Tanner Dean | Bernadette Laubenstine | Charles Taronis |
| Michael Dooley | Mark Laubenstine | Phil Tenaglia |
| Rose Doorly | Julia Leiby | Jason Thomas |
| Diane Dunkel | Kelly Lombel | Mr. John Toomey |
| Jeff Dunkel | Christopher Lombel | John Toomey |
| Robert Dusel | James Lord | Robert Umbenhauer |
| Nick Eckley | Peter McDonald | Marlin Vandermeer |
| Stephen Ennis | Tyler Moyer | Krista Varano |
| Sophia Felker | David Mullaney | David Wapinsky |
| Mary Ann Filiac | Benjamin O'Brien | Carolyn Waillewski |
| Samantha Gardner | Jamie O'Brien | Lisa Welsh |
| Danita Griegel | Lisa Revenis | Joseph Welsh |
| Susan Griffin | William Rhoads | Mike Welsh |
| Cathy Guzick | Charles Rinaldo | Joann Weres |
| Nathan Halenar | Morgan Rismiller | Robert Workman |
| Edward Hampford | Kimberly Rismiller | Raymond Yost |
| James Harris | Brad Ross | |
| Bruce Heffner | Lester Ruhl | |
| Tyler Heffner | Amy Ryan | |
| Sharon Hoak | Nancy Schaeffer-Muldowney | |
| Gilbert Hoak | Charles Schuster | |

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

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurriculars, and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Jake Wartella as the Boys' Varsity Head Basketball Coach for the 2020-2021 season. Salary to be determined. Motion carried.

Mr. Urban, Facilities and Grounds Committee Chairperson, noted that the Bid for the Underground Tanks upgrade is being finalized. This upgrade is required as per the recent inspection by DEP. Deadline for Bid is August 3, 2020.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the partnership with Justice Works Youthcare's Compass Academy for the 2020-2021 school year at a daily rate of \$85.00 for a regular education student and \$95.00 for a special education student. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved a contract between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pennsylvania Association School District Officials (PASBO) for an Interim Business Manager, effective July 22, 2020 and continue for 180 days. The district can exit the contract with two (2) weeks' notice. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the Repository Sale for Parcel No: 59-02-0279.000 located at 318 N. Coal St. Port Carbon Borough. Amount of sale - \$1,429.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved a Joint School Agreement for Provision of Facilities between the member School Districts of the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 with the consent and approval of the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Board of Directors. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the agreement between the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 and the Pottsville Area School District for the provision of Language Instruction Education Program (LIEP) for current fiscal year July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Pottsville Area School District will pay in two scheduled installments: October 1, 2020 - \$7,420.33 and February 3, 2021 - \$7,420.33. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding with the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit # 29 - 2020-2021 Title III – Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students. Pottsville Area School District allocation is \$2,772.00 with the consortium grant total of \$23,167.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved an Addendum to extend the substitute teacher placement agreement with ESS Northeast, LLC and Pottsville Area School District. Term of Agreement: July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. Cardamone, the Board approved the breakfast, lunch and milk prices for students and adults for the 2020-2021 school. Prices will remain the same as the 2019-2020 school year.

| | Lunch Prices: | Breakfast Prices |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Elementary Student | \$2.60 | \$1.60 |
| Secondary Student | \$2.65 | \$1.65 |
| Adult | \$3.90 | \$2.75 |
| Extra Milk | \$0.70 | \$0.70 |
| Reduced** | \$0.40 | \$0.30 |

*Increase of lunches mandated by the Equity in School Meal Pricing set by the USDA

**Reduced meal prices are set by the government

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board accepted the resignation for retirement from Nancy Jones, Special Education Secretary, in accordance with her letter dated July 6, 2020, effective August 4, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board accepted the resignation of Steve Durkin, School Police Officer, effective June 30, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board accepted the resignation for retirement from Ann Marie Downey, Accounts Payable Manager, in accordance with her letter dated June 23, 2020, effective December 31, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved Kelly Messina as a Summer Feeding Employee at an hourly rate of \$10.00, retroactive to June 8, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board assigned Mrs. Eleanor Aschman as Assistant Principal/Special Education Supervisor at Pottsville Area High School, effective July 22, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board assigned Mrs. Deneen Reese as Assistant Principal/Special Education Supervisor at John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective July 22, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board eliminated the position of Director of Attendance, effective September 1, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board eliminated the position of Assistant Director of Attendance, effective immediately. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board created the position of Data Manager/Child Accounting Coordinator, effective immediately.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board appointed Mrs. Jacqueline Szeliga to the position of Data Manager/Child Accounting Coordinator with the annual salary of \$50,000.00 and benefits in accordance with the 2019-2022 Pottsville Area School District Management Agreement, effective July 22, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pottsville Area Educational Support Professionals Association and the Pottsville Area School District to establish a clerical position of Pennsylvania Information Management Systems (PIMS) Secretary and the position become part of the existing association bargaining unit. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board created the position of Pennsylvania Information Management System (PIMS) Secretary with salary and benefits in accordance with the existing Educational Support Professionals collective bargaining agreement, effective July 22, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534: Employee # 183- custodian – June 30, 2020. Motion carried.

Under Labor Relations, Mr. Moran said negotiations are put on hold at this time.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran said that challenges continue for both the State and Federal Government with the ongoing pandemic.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the Revenue Report for June 2020, which included local, state and federal sources. (Local Sources - \$533,640.95; State Sources – \$5,102,288.05; Federal/Other sources - \$86,132.72. Total \$5,742,061.72). Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn and Mr. Quandel, Aye. Dr. DiCello, Absent.

Under New Business:

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following Salary & Benefits Report for June 2020 (2 payrolls): Total Salaries \$1,298,305.26; Total Employer share Retirement - \$531,882.51; Total Employer Share FICA - \$97,835.81; Total Employer Paid Insurance Benefits - \$506,106.12. Grand Total for June 2020 - \$2,334,129.70. Motion carried.

On recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board rescinded the following Use of Facility Requests from July 2020 through December 2020 due to Covid 19:

PAHS

PAHS Drama Club, Spring Musical, July 24, 25, and 26, 2020

PASD Music Department, Schuykill County Chorus Auditions, October 14, 2020

PAHS Drama Club, Fall Performance, October 24, 2020.

DHHL

Schuylkill Chapter of PIAA Volleyball Officials, Rules Interpretation Meeting – August 11, 2020.

Pottsville Volleyball, JV Tournament, September 12, 2020

Culture2Culture, AUTHENTI-FEST, September 26, 2020

Schuylkill County Regional College Fair, October 8, 2020

Pottsville Volleyball, Varsity Tournament, October 10, 2020

ACADEMIC CENTER

Pottsville Midget Football League – Practice & Games, 2020 Season

Motion carried.

Dr. Gerace presented an excellent PowerPoint entitled “Pottsville Area School District Possible Reopening Strategies”. (PowerPoint included with minutes)

- Reviewed types of Reopening – Total, Blended, Total Remote Learning
- There are Considerations for the types of school reopening’s – Red Phase and the Yellow and Green Phase
- Draft Reopening Plan Includes – Social distancing and other safety protocol, Monitoring student and staff health
- Hybrid (Blended) and Total Remote Learning
- Tentative Plan for School Board Approval – August 18, 2020

Mr. Quandel noted that there are additional expectations for the district: Town Hall meetings, updates on the solar project and goals for the financial expectations of the district.

Mr. Moran said that the administration will look at the present Dress Code policy.

Mr. Shields noted that the Martz Hall floor is nearing completion. There is no cost to the district for the repairs to the floor.

There was one public comment:

Savas Logothetides – Good Evening. As we continue to move forward as a city and district, it is my hope that the district will take a strong stance in opposition the county’s plan for occupying a prerelease center at the former Giant parcel in downtown. To replace a private, tax paying entity with an institutionalized tax exempt entity will be a burden on all taxpayers. I urge you to participate during the county commissioners meeting tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. Thank you.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Patricia A. Lombel 8/18/2020

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)

Board Secretary