

## POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors  
Virtual Zoom Board Meeting  
November 11, 2020  
Academic Center/Zoom  
7:09 p.m.

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

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The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Noble Quandel.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Quandel welcomed everyone in attendance. Mr. Quandel thanked and honored the men and women who have served and are serving our country. They are providing freedom for us. Freedom is not free.

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. Mr. Quandel said next month there will be a Board protocol for answering questions. More information will be forthcoming.

The School Board will strive to answer questions pertaining to the current agenda at the beginning of the school board meeting, in a conscious effort to maintain transparent practices. After the School Board agenda is posted online, questions may be emailed to [plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us](mailto:plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us) by 2:00 PM the day of the meeting. Questions pertaining to the agenda posted online will be answered in the order received for a period not to exceed 30 minutes. If the questions are not able to be answered during the 30-minute period, the School Board will endeavor to answer the questions at the beginning of the next school board meeting. Questions pertaining to confidential personnel matters will not be addressed. Questions that require some research or further inquiry and might not be answered at the current school board meeting. **The question and answer period does not replace the public's current right to public comment.**

Mr. Quandel asked if there were any Questions or Public Comments.

**Brian Manning**

It is nice to see the School Board take an active approach to transparency with the Question and Answer portion of the agenda. I hope this is a beginning to a continued future of transparency in the district. I have two items/questions. First, I might have missed this discussion at a prior meeting and I apologize if I did, but did the Board take action to hire a consultant for the Business Manager search? I want to be clear that I am not opposed to this approach personally, but I think it is important that the cost and contract deliverables be shared publicly on this item.

*Dr. Gerace said this item is on the agenda for Board approval.*

Second item is a request for a future meeting in regards to transparency. Can we receive an update on the solar panel project? Has the project been completed? Are there early signs of positive returns? Is the system generating in line with the preliminary projections? Lastly, has the pandemic impacted the SREC market and if so, what impact does that have on the districts project financially? An overall summary and updated projection on this project would be beneficial for the community. Thank you for your time and consideration in providing a future update on the solar project. Thank you. Brian.

*Dr. Gerace said this question will be followed up at the next meeting.*

**Scott Thomas**

Members of the Board and Administration:

I want to thank you for opening up your meetings to a Q&A setting. However, today's agenda did not appear on the districts website until roughly noon. The deadline to submit questions for items on the agenda is 2 pm. It's pretty hard to review an agenda and submit questions in a two hour timeframe. Especially with peoples work lives and schedules. Moving forward, will the agenda be posted a day prior to the meeting so that citizens and taxpayers have an opportunity to actually review the agenda?

Also, I'd like to thank the Board for moving forward with a more aggressive search in finding a new business manager. Thank you again and stay safe.

Scott Thomas, Taxpayer

Mrs. Corinne Mason, Interim Business Manager, presented an excellent PowerPoint – "State of the District – Where we were, where we are, and where we are going".

The presentation included:

- Enrollment History – 2020-2021 enrollment has decreased by 15%
- Revenue
  - Revenue History – 2013-2014 to 2020-2021
  - Budgeted Revenues – Largest Source is Real Estate Taxes (60% of revenue)

- Revenue Sources – Local (43%), State (52%), Federal (5%), Other Sources
- Impacting Factors for 2020-2021 – Real Estate assessed value is down, Earned Income Tax is down and business Privilege Tax is down. State Sources - retirement reimbursement decreased due to decrease in salaries, social security reimbursement is also decreased
- PSERS Employer Contribution Rates – continues to increase
- Expenditures
  - Expenditure History – Spiked in 2014-2015
  - Budgeted Expenditures – 2020-2021 budgeted expenditures are decreased
  - Impacting Factors for 2020-2021 – Salary decrease, decrease in social security and retirement due to salary decrease, increase in charter schools expenditures, property and equipment purchases are decreased and debt service loans and leases have decreased
- Where are we going – Continue to monitor positions, evaluate contracts. Begin building the budget for 2021-2022
- Where are we going
  - January 13, 2021 – Budget Presentation 2021-2022 of revenues and expenses
  - February 10, 2021 – Board update on 2021-2022 Budget
  - March 10, 2021 – Board update on 2021-2022 Budget
  - April 14, 2021 – Proposed Final Budget Presentation
  - May 12, 2021 – budget Update and Final Adoption

Mr. Quandel thanked Mrs. Mason for this informative presentation.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the October 20, 2020 Board Meeting. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Ms. Mason, and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following financial reports:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds)
2. General Fund Condensed Board Summary Revenue Report
3. General Fund condensed Board Summary Expenditure Report
4. Cafeteria Condensed Board Summary Report
5. Payment Summary – General Fund, Food Service
6. Ms. Budget Transfers

Motion carried.

Under Solicitor's Report, Atty. Kevin Reid had no report this evening.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, 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:

Cody Blankenhorn	-	3 Credits
Amanda Purcell	-	3 Credits

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

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, 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:

Kaycee Hess	-	\$1,551.00
Amanda Purcell	-	\$1,551.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following salary adjustments be approved for the 2020-2021 school year:

Kaycee Hess	-	Bachelor's +15
Cara (Turolis) Kelly	-	Master's (Equivalency)

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation from Leslie Herring, HS English teacher be accepted effective November 11, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation from Tyler Moyer, MS Special Education teacher be accepted effective November 9, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation of Donna Skosnick as Middle School MATHCOUNTS advisor, effective November 3, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following be elected as

a Temporary/Professional Employees subject to the assignment of the Superintendent and set their salaries as noted pending the submission of all appropriate paperwork:

Christopher Kovaleski- PAHS Special Educ. Teacher	Bachelor - Step 1	\$40,500.00	
Tracy Gaverick	- PAHS English Teacher	Master's – Step 1	\$49,100.00
Serenity Allen	- DHHL Science Teacher	Bachelor's +15- Step 3	\$48,100.00

Motion carried.

Information Items: Relay for Life is scheduled for the end of July 2021 and Martz Hall would be considered a central vaccination site if a COVID 19 vaccine is developed. The Board had no objections.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following coaches for the 2020-2021 winter season and set the salaries as indicated.

**Coaches will be paid as long as sports are in session as per the Memorandum of Understanding dated August 17, 2020.**

**BOYS' BASKETBALL**

Jake Wartella, Head Coach	\$4,500.00
John M. Toomey, Assistant	\$2,600.00
Tom McGeoy, Junior Varsity	\$3,600.00
Tyler Heffner, Freshman	\$2,400.00
Michael Anthony, 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$2,400.00
Jed Dunkel, 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$2,400.00

**GIRLS' BASKETBALL**

Michael Dooley, Head Coach	\$4,300.00
Phil Tenaglia, Assistant	\$2,600.00
Olivia Andrefski, Jr. Varsity Head Coach	\$2,400.00
Zach Hogan, 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$2,400.00
Sean Jones, 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	\$2,400.00

**WRESTLING**

Gary Keener, Head Coach	\$5,550.00
Sam Julian, Assistant	\$2,800.00
Brett Matukewicz, Jr. High Head Coach	\$2,600.00
Brad Leonard, Assistant Jr. High Coach	\$2,400.00

**SWIMMING**

Ned Hampford, Boys' Head Coach	\$5,800.00
Greg Schuettler, Girls' Head Coach	\$4,800.00
Debbie Logothetides, Assistant	\$2,400.00
Kim O'Brien, Assistant	\$1,400.00

Neil Johnson, Assistant	\$1,400.00
John Matulevich, Assistant	\$2,200.00
Motion carried.	

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following volunteer coaches for the 2020-2021 winter season:

BOYS' BASKETBALL:

Eric Hampford  
Christian Witman

GIRLS' BASKETBALL:

Stephen Ennis

WRESTLING:

Ryan Green  
Chuck Kahler  
Eric Ross

GIRLS' SWIMMING:

Josh Zelinsky – Statistician  
Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the reinstatement of the Freshman Boys' Basketball Program **for the 2020-2021 season only**. The program was eliminated at the May 12, 2020 Board Meeting. Donors and the Booster Club will fund the program for this season only. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the agreement with NFHS Network Broadcast Program, powered by PlayOn Sports, at a cost not exceeding \$7,500.00. This is a one-time fee. St. Luke's will sponsor this program. Term of agreement – 5 years. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the Letter of Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Behavioral Health Services (ReDCo). The ReDCo Group provides Psychiatric Outpatient Services. The Letter of Agreement will remain in effect until December 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following amendments be made to the 2020-2021 budget:

**Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)**

**Revenue**

\$9,925.00 10-8742-000-988-00-000-000-000-GEER Cares Act – GEER

**Expense**

\$ 125.00 10-2260-650-988-00-000-000-000-GEER Cares Act – GEER Staff Support Svcs – Software

\$9,800.00 10-2620-610-988-00-000-000-000-GEER Cares Act – GEER Oper & Maint Supplies  
\$9,925.00

**Continuity of Education Grants for Additional Targeted Support and Improvement Schools (A-TSI)**

**Revenue**

\$68,069.00 10-8742-000-988-00-000-000-000-ATSI Gov Emer Ed Relief Fund – ATSI Grant

**Expense**

\$19,688.00 10-1190-191-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Fed Funded Reg Prog Salary – ATSI Grant

\$ 754.00 10-1190-220-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Fed Funded Reg Prog Soc Sec – ATSI Grant

\$ 3,396.00 10-1190-230-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Fed Funded Reg Prog Retire – ATSI Grant

\$ 4,489.13 10-1190-650-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Fed Funded Reg Prog Tech Supp – ATSI Grant

\$ 1,600.00 10-2120-599-988-00-000-000-000-ATSI Guidance Svcs Other Misc Pur Svc – ATSI Grant

\$10,000.00 10-2271-120-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Inst Staff Dev Prof Ed Salary – ATSI Grant

\$ 383.00 10-2271-220-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Inst Staff Dev Prof Ed Soc Sec – ATSI Grant

\$ 2,617.00 10-2271-230-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Inst Staff Dev Prof Ed Retire – ATSI Grant

\$25,000.00 10-2271-320-988-20-000-000-000-ATSI Inst Staff Dev Prof Ed Svcs – ATSI Grant

\$ 141.87 10-2380-610-988-00-000-000-000-ATSI Admin Supplies – ATSI Grant

\$68,069.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Templeton Advantage, LLC to conduct an executive search for a Business Manager and provide transition assistance services. The cost to conduct the executive search and transition assistance is \$4,000.00. Motion carried. Mr. Quandt said Mr. Templeton has excellent credentials.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Joanne Matina as a part-time paraprofessional for the Pottsville Area School District at an hourly rate of \$11.25, retroactive to November 2, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Joanne Matina as a substitute lunch aide for the Pottsville Area School District, effective November 12, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Dorothy Vaughan as a substitute lunch aide for the Pottsville Area School District, effective November 12, 2020. Ms. Vaughan is currently a part-time transportation aide. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Jennifer Shappell as a substitute lunch aide/ cafeteria employee for the Pottsville Area School District, effective November 12, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Brittany Stevenosky as the ACCESS Coordinator/Special Education Secretary at an annual salary of \$20,000.00, retroactive to November 5, 2020. Ms. Stevenosky was a part-time paraprofessional at the John S. Clarke Elementary. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Doris Hoopes as Accounts Payable Manager at her current salary of \$47,226.00, effective November 12, 2020. Ms. Hoopes is currently the Assistant Payroll Manager. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Special Sick Leave School Sponsored (60 Day Provision), as per the teachers' contract for Employee #1107, retroactive to October 26, 2020. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) Emergency Paid Sick Leave and Expanded Family and Medical leave to the following:



- o Employee # 1320 – paraprofessional – effective October 9, 2020
- o Employee # 211 – secretary – effective October 19, 2020
- o Employee #1329 – cafeteria manager – effective October 19, 2020
- o Employee #590 – teacher – effective October 26, 2020
- o Employee #538 – paraprofessional – November 5, 2020
- o Employee # 1412 – paraprofessional – November 3, 2020

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the 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:

- o Employee #828 – lunch aide – October 22, 2020
- o Employee #1231 – lunch aide – October 23, 26, November 2, 2020

Motion carried.

Under Promotion, Public Relations and Social Media, Chairperson Ms. Wytovich congratulated the following:

- November Rotary Students of the Month: Elizabeth Donovan and Jake Montgomery.
- Julia Malek, PAHS Senior, for being selected as Artist of the Month. Julia’s artwork is being displayed digitally on the district’s facebook page.
- To the students selected for the 2020 Homecoming Court on October 30, 2020.

<b>Queen:</b>	Maya Dalton	<b>King:</b>	Eddie Yeneskosky
<b>First Runner-up:</b>	Katie Brennan		Justin Lescavage
<b>Second Runner-up</b>	Rebecca Lascala		Jake Montgomery

On the recommendation of the Policy and Procedure Committee and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the 2nd reading of the following: Policy 006 – Board Procedures (Revised) and Policy 114.1- Acceleration (Gifted).

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Labor Relations Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the four year agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association. Term of Agreement: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, and Mr. Quandel, Aye. Dr. Blankenhorn Abstain.

Dr. Cardamone, St. Clair Committee Chairperson, said the committee continues to discuss mutual benefits for both districts.

On the motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following Use of Facilities Requests:

**HS**

High School Boys and Girls Gym – High School Cheer Tryouts

Monday- 2/22/21 4:45-7:30pm

Tuesday- 2/23/21 4:45-7:30pm

Wednesday -2/24/21 4:45-7:30pm

Thursday- 2/25/21 4:45-7:30pm

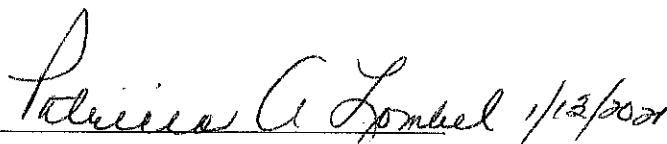
Friday -2/26/21 4:30-8:30pm

Motion carried.

The Reorganization Meeting Date is Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

An Executive Session was held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for personnel matters.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



Patricia A. Lombel (Date)

Board Secretary