

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Board Meeting/Zoom
May 19, 2021
Academic Center
7:29 p.m.

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 p.m. by President Noble Quandel.

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

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 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.**

Dr. Sarah Yoder, Superintendent, read the following comment:

Dear Members of the Pottsville Area School Faculty, Members of the PASD Board, Being that it's Teacher Appreciation Week, we are sending you this email to appreciate a certain teacher, Angela Snyder. My son has had the pleasure of having Mrs. Snyder twice, once in first grade and again in fifth grade. She is the exact reason we left the Lehigh Valley in hopes that he would find a teacher that would not give up on him or

think that he was a "lost cause". Mrs. Snyder did not disappoint and in fact, exceeded every dream we could have as a teacher for our son. She showed patience, caring, determination, and creativity in order to teach a very different child that would test every limit he could. Despite having to clear classrooms, having objects thrown at her and even dodging pinches, Mrs. Snyder taught my son that she would never quit on him. He learned to trust and slowly started to learn. Because of her patience and consistency, he went from being behind in every subject, to being on grade level for most subjects. We never thought this would be possible. We are blessed to have her again this year for his transition into middle school, which nobody was looking forward to. Once he found out that he had Mrs. Snyder again, his whole attitude changed and he looked forward to going back to school. With this year being so crazy, Mrs. Snyder has managed to again keep our son engaged and having fun learning. He continues to make great strides and we owe that to Mrs. Snyder because of the foundation she started back in first grade. He has stated several times that he wants Mrs. Snyder for every grade even though we have told him that's not possible. We as his parents just want to say that we truly appreciate Mrs. Snyder and she will be that one teacher that everyone in this family will never forget. She has taken a child that other teachers have defined him as disabled or "unteachable" and turned him into a young man who has dreams of going to college and becoming a chef. These dreams may be possible for him now and we thank PASD for giving my child an amazing teacher with Mrs. Snyder, not once, but twice. She goes above and beyond for not only my child, but every child that comes into her classroom.

We would like to thank you for having an amazing teacher as a part of your school district and we know that many teachers are never given recognition for what they do. We wanted to bring a small piece of joy to you all as you all have ensured our son years in school have been meaningful, and enriched. Thank you.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the April 14, 2021 Board Meeting. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Mason, and on motion of Dr. Dicello, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following financial reports the month of May 2021:

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. Budget Transfers

Motion carried.

The Board proceeded with the election of a Treasurer for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Mr. Shields nominated Mr. Jerome Urban for Treasurer of the Pottsville Area School District for the fiscal year beginning the first day of July 2021 and ending the last day of June 2022. Mr. Moran seconded. Mr. Urban nominated Ms. Linda Wytovich, seconded by Mr. Moran. The motion for Mr. Urban was rescinded by Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn. Motion carried.

With no further nominations and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Urban, nominations for Treasurer were closed. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn, Mr. Quandel, Aye;

The ballot was cast for Ms. Linda Wytovich as Treasurer of the Pottsville Area School District for the fiscal year from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022.

On motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. Shields, the Board directed the Treasurer to provide a bond in the amount of \$50,000.00, with approved surety, the premium of the bond to be paid by the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

Under Donations, The Pottsville Area School District received an award in the amount of \$13,802.64 from Giant Food Stores for the Giant Feeding School Kids Program. A check was presented on Monday, May 17, 2021 to the District.

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, 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
Cody Blankenhorn	-	6 credits
Kendra Boris	-	3 credits
Jacquelyn Butz	-	3 credits
Kimberly Edling	-	3 credits
Lisa Falkowski	-	3 credits
Katrina Greenawalt	-	3 credits

Allison Hughes	-	3 credits
Cara Kelly	-	3 credits
Peter McDonald	-	3 credits
Crystal Pugh	-	3 credits
Amanda Purcell	-	3 credits
Kara Ryan	-	3 credits
Ashley Shappell	-	3 credits
Elizabeth Sophy	-	6 credits
Anya Wood	-	3 credits

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, 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:

Kendra Boris	-	\$3,102.00
Jacquelyn Butz	-	\$1,551.00
Derek DiRenzo	-	\$ 300.00
Kimberly Edling	-	\$ 600.00
Lisa Falkowski	-	\$ 1,551.00
Alicia Fehr	-	\$1,551.00
Rebecca Ferdoucha	-	\$ 300.00
Neil Johnson	-	\$1,551.00
Deborah Lecker	-	\$ 300.00
Jennifer Lipton	-	\$2,316.00
Amanda Purcell	-	\$1,551.00
Gregory Schuettler	-	\$1,548.00
Ashley Shappell	-	\$3,096.00
Anya Wood	-	\$3,102.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the following salary adjustments be approved for the 2021-2022 school year:

Jacquelyn Butz	-	Bachelor+15
Lisa Falkowski	-	Bachelor+15
Breanne Ferdoucha	-	Master's +15
Elizabeth Sophy	-	Bachelor+15

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board excused (retroactively) the following from their employment duties to serve as jurors in the Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA: Molly Boran – Wednesday, March 31 and Tuesday, April 13, 2021 and Natasha Bubnis – Friday, April 9, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved a foreign exchange student from Belgium who will be a 12th grade student for the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following game workers for the 2020-2021 season:

John Boris
Jed Dunkel
Tracey Gaverick
Kelly Messina
Colleen Miller
Crystal Pugh
Mark Van Stone

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the trip to Goose Creek, South Carolina on December 28, 2021 for a wrestling competition with South Carolina Schools. The trip will be funded by the Pottsville Wrestling Boosters. There will be 16 Team members making the trip along with four coaches/chaperones. The team will return on December 30, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved Gregory Schuettler as the Aquatics Director for the 2020-2021 school year and also retroactively for the 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020 school years at a yearly stipend of \$4,400.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation of Mike Dooley, Girls' Head Varsity Basketball Coach, effective May 11, 2021. We appreciate the time and efforts of Mr. Dooley to provide opportunities for student success in this extra-curricular activity. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association to remove the position of Junior High Cheerleading Instructor from the current Collective Bargaining Agreement, effective May 19, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association to modify the current Collective Bargaining Agreement to combine the positions of Head Boys' Swimming Coach and Head Girls' Swimming Coach into a single position. The stipend for the combined Head Swimming Coach position shall be \$5,900.00. If there is a substantial increase in the number of students participating in swimming, the Parties agree to add an additional assistant swimming coach. Motion carried.

Informational Item: 8th graders have the opportunity to participate with the PAHS JV team and the 7th graders have the opportunity to participate with the Pottsville Bulldogs.

Mr. Shields informed the Board that Senior Payton Kleckner received a gold medal at the District's Track and Field Meet held at Blue Mountain High School and Senior Robert Walchak received a silver medal for the high hurdles. Both athletes qualified for States.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the three (3) year agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program (Achieve Program). This program provides meaningful, academically based afterschool activities and extended learning opportunities for children in the District and their families. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the Revised 2020-2021 Title IIA Non-public Programs and Services Letter of Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit. Term of Agreement: September 1, 2020 and terminate when 2020-2021 funds are expended. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved a Repository Sale for Parcel #68-22-0069.000 located at North Side of Snyder Street, Pottsville for a purchase price of \$1,849.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the agreement between Diligent Corporation and Pottsville Area School District for BoardDocs LT at an annual subscription fee of \$2,700.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board reappointed the Schuylkill County Recorder of Deeds to administer and collect the Realty Transfer Tax within the Pottsville Area School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board appointed Jones and Company, Certified Public Accountants, to conduct the annual audit of the Pottsville Area School District accounts, including Federal Funds, for the school year ending June 30, 2021 at an amount of \$25,000.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the School District Insurance Package with Seltzer Insurance for the 2021-2022 school year as follows:

Package Policy	\$ 118,977
(Property/Liability/ Auto/ Educators Legal Liability Included)	
Commercial Umbrella	\$ 16,500
Cyber Liability	\$ 7,526

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the School District Workers Compensation Insurance with Seltzer Insurance for the 2021-2022 school year. Yearly cost is \$82,273. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board designated the following institutions

as depositories for the Pottsville Area School District for the 2021-2022 school year and to continue under presently existing depository agreements:

- Mid Penn Bank, Minersville, PA General Fund, Payroll Account, Federal Funds, HS Athletic Fund, Activities Fund, Auxiliary Account
- Gratz Bank, Pottsville, PA Booster Club Account, Cafeteria Account
- BB&T Bank, Pottsville, PA Award Funds, Technology Account
- Ebay Account

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

Dr. Blankenhorn, Finance Chairperson, read the following:

The Committee on Finance reports that the tentative budget notice and the adoption of the budget this evening was published in the Republican Herald on April 21, 2021 stating that the budget for the fiscal year commencing the first day of July 2021 would be adopted as of May 19, 2021. The budget herewith presented has been carefully considered by the Board of Directors and is now submitted by the Committee on Finance for action at this meeting.

The Committee on Finance recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the following budget resolution authorizing the expenditures of the amounts indicated in the various classifications for the general fund budget totaling \$42,794,027 and appended to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting:

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Directors of Pottsville Area School District, Schuylkill County, hereby authorize expenditures of \$42,794,027 set forth in the school budget, as appended, during the school year 2021-2022 and levies a tax of 43.5319 mills (\$43.5319 per thousand dollars) of the County assessed valuation on real estate; a per capita tax of five dollars (\$5.00) per person under Section 679 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; a per capita tax of five dollars (\$5.00) per person under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; an earned income tax of one-half percent (1/2%), also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; an occupation tax of 339.4493 mills based on the occupational assessment as set by the County Assessor or a total of \$123.84 also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; a business privilege tax of four and one-half (4 1/2) mills on each dollar of the whole or gross volume of business transacted within the territorial limits of the school district except for wholesale dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at the rate of one (1) mill,

and retail dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at the rate of one and one-half (1 1/2) mills, also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; a local services tax at the rate of \$5.00, also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended; and a realty transfer tax of one percent (1%), also under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, and pursuant to Act 77 of 1986; to provide the necessary revenue for the expenditures hereby authorized.

The above taxes will be levied and collected in each of the following political subdivisions included in the Pottsville Area School District as follows: City of Pottsville, Borough of Port Carbon, Borough of Mechanicsville, Borough of Mount Carbon, Borough of Palo Alto, and Township of Norwegian.

Dr. Blankenhorn asked for a motion to adopt the resolution.

On a motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, a motion was carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn, Mr. Quandel, Aye;

The Committee on Finance recommends that the Board authorize and direct the following to collect the amount due on the 2021 taxes, real estate and personal, in the respective political subdivisions indicated:

Pottsville City	-	Ellen Micka
Port Carbon Borough	-	Linda Marchalk/Sch. County Treasurer
Mechanicsville Borough	-	Debra Witmer
Mount Carbon Borough	-	Linda Marchalk/ Sch. County Treasurer
Palo Alto Borough	-	Anna Cook
Norwegian Township	-	Krista Schaeffer

Dr. Blankenhorn asked for a motion to authorize and direct the collection of taxes.

On a motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Moran, a motion was carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn, Mr. Quandel, Aye;

The Committee on Finance recommends that the Board confirm the rates of compensation to tax collectors in the respective political subdivisions for the 2021 duplicates:

Pottsville City - School District's 1/3 share of tax office salaries, with the City of Pottsville and County of Schuylkill to pay the other two-thirds

Port Carbon Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Mechanicsville Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Mount Carbon Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Palo Alto Borough	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District
Norwegian Township	-	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District

Dr. Blankenhorn asked for a motion to confirm rates of compensation.

On a motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Dr. DiCello, a motion was carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cardamone, Mrs. Dewitt, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Shields, Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Blankenhorn, Mr. Quandel, Aye;

The Committee on Finance reports as a matter of record that the resolution imposing a Per Capita Tax of five dollars (\$5.00) per person under Section 679 of the Public School Code of 1949, as amended; a Per Capita Tax of five dollars (\$5.00) on each resident of Pottsville Area School District under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, provided for the levy of this tax during the 1980-1981 school year and subsequent years. No additional resolution is required to continue these taxes which are currently in force.

The Committee on Finance reports as a matter of record that the resolution imposing an Earned Income Tax of one-half of one percent (1/2%) under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, provided for the levy of this tax during the period beginning July 1, 1966 and ending December 31, 1966 and thereafter, during each successive calendar year. No additional resolution is required to continue this tax which is currently in force.

The Committee on Finance reports as a matter of record that the Realty Transfer Tax of one percent (1%) on the transfer of titles on real estate in the Pottsville Area School District under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, and pursuant to Act 77 of 1986, which is currently in effect, will continue during the 2021-2022 school year. No additional resolution is required to continue this tax.

The Committee on Finance reports as a matter of record that the Local Services Tax of \$5.00, under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, which is currently in effect, will continue during the 2021-2022 school year.

The Committee on Finance reports as a matter of record that the Business Privilege Tax of four and one-half (4 1/2) mills on each dollar of the whole or gross volume of business transacted within the territorial limits of the School District except for wholesale dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at the rate of one (1) mill, and retail dealers or vendors, who will be taxed at one and one-half (1 1/2) mills, under the provisions of Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, which is currently in effect, will continue during the 2021-2022 school year. No additional resolution is required to continue this tax.

The Committee on Finance reports as a matter of record that the Occupation Tax of 339.4493 mills based on the occupational assessment as set by the County Assessor or a total of \$123.84 under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, will continue during the 2021-2022 school year.

The Committee on Finance reports that proper notification of the continuance of Per Capita Tax (Section 679), Per Capita Tax (Section 511), Earned Income Tax, Realty Transfer Tax, Local Services Tax, Business Privilege Tax, and Occupation Tax for the fiscal year 2021-2022, will be forwarded to the Department of Community and Economic Development, Center for Local Government Services, by certified mail, as required.

**POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
TAX STRUCTURE -2021-2022**

Real Estate	43.5319 mills	
Per Capita - Section 679	\$ 5.00	
Per Capita - Act 511	\$ 5.00	
Earned Income Tax	1/2%	
Realty Transfer Tax	1% Shared with City - .5%	
Local Services Tax	\$ 5.00	
Business Privilege Tax	1 mill	Wholesale
	1 1/2 mills	Retail
	4 1/2 mills	
Other/Service		
Occupation Tax - Act 511	\$123.84	

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Board of School Directors of the Pottsville Area School District, that homestead and farmstead exclusion real estate tax assessment reductions are authorized for the school year beginning July 1, 2021, under the provisions of the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006), as follows:

1. **Aggregate amount available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction.** The following amounts are available for homestead and farmstead real estate tax reduction for the school year beginning July 1, 2021:
 - a. **Gambling tax funds.** The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has notified the School District that PDE will pay to the School District during the school year pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.505(b), as a property tax reduction allocation funded by gambling tax funds, the amount of \$ 704,521.

2. **Homestead/farmstead numbers.** Pursuant to Act 50, 54 Pa. C.S. § 8584(i), and Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), the County has provided the School District with a certified report listing approved homesteads and approved farmsteads as follows:
 - a. **Homestead property number.** The number of approved homesteads within the School District is 4,475.
 - b. **Farmstead property number.** The number of approved farmsteads within the School District is 0.
 - c. **Homestead/farmstead combined number.** Adding these numbers, the aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads is 4,475.
3. **Real estate tax reduction calculation.** The school board has decided that the homestead exclusion amount and the farmstead exclusion amount shall be equal. Dividing the paragraph 1(a) aggregate amount available during the school year for real estate tax reduction of \$ 704,521 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 4,475, the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$157.63.
4. **Homestead exclusion calculation.** Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of \$157.63 by the School District real estate tax rate of 43.5319 mills (.435319), the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is \$3,617, and the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a farmstead exclusion for each approved farmstead is \$0.00.
5. **Homestead/Farmstead exclusion authorization – July 1 tax bills.** The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$3,617. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School District shall reflect an additional farmstead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of: (a) the County-established assessed value of the farmstead, or (b) the paragraph 4 maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$0.00. For purposes of this Resolution,

“approved homestead” and “approved farmstead” shall mean homesteads and farmsteads listed in the report referred to in paragraph 2 above and received by the School District from the County Assessment Office on or before May 1 pursuant to Act 1, 53 P.S. § 6926.341(g)(3), based on homestead/farmstead applications filed with the County Assessment Office on or before March 1. This paragraph 5 will apply to tax notices issued based on the initial tax duplicate used in issuing initial real estate tax notices for the school year, which will be issued on or promptly after July 1, and will not apply to interim real estate tax bills.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Homestead/Farmstead Resolution was approved. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Dr. Jared Gerace as Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment and Title IX Decision-Maker for the Pottsville Area School District, effective May 1, 2021. Dr. Gerace was previously Acting Superintendent for Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Michael Maley as Principal of John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective May 1, 2021. Mr. Maley was previously Acting Principal of John S. Clarke Elementary. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Caitlin Mohl as Principal of D.H.H. Lengel Middle School, effective May 1, 2021. Mrs. Mohl was previously Acting Principal of D.H.H. Lengel Middle School. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the resignation of Ashley Shappell, as D.H.H. Lengel Schuylkill Achieve Program lead teacher in accordance with her letter dated April 22, 2021. We appreciate the time and efforts of Ms. Shappell to provide opportunities for student success in this extra-curricular activity. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Alicia Fehr as the lead teacher for the D.H.H. Lengel Schuyllkill Achieve Program, effective May 20, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the letter of resignation for retirement from Kim Rismiller, Music Teacher at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective last day of the 2020-2021 school year. We are grateful for Mrs. Rismiller's dedication and commitment to the students, families and community and wish her well in her retirement. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the letter of resignation for retirement from Patricia Devine, cafeteria aide at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective June 8, 2021. We are grateful for Ms. Devine's dedication and commitment to the students, families and community and wish her well in her retirement. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the letter of resignation from Makenzie Stutzman, Speech-Language Pathologist at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective August 17, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Haley Drum as a paraprofessional at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, at an hourly rate of \$11.25, effective May 20, 2021 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Taylor Mercuri as a substitute paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$11.25, effective May 20, 2021 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved an FMLA for employee #391, effective May 3, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following employees for the Summer Cleaning Program at an hourly rate of \$10.00:

Rose Bradley	Kelsey Marx
Melissa Drum	Irene Miller
Gary Keener	Jane Soubik
Tom Kurtek	Jacqueline Toomey
Kayla Leibel	

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following teachers to plan and/or teach the John S. Clarke Elementary Summer Tutoring Program, at an hourly rate of \$32.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

Beth Bauers	Kimberly Jackson
Jennifer Brindle	Emily Kleeman
Emily Earley	Maria Larish
Elizabeth Grow	Courtney Reichert
Tara Hess	Leslie Salem

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following teachers to plan and/or teach the DHH Lengel or PAHS Summer Tutoring Program, at an hourly rate of \$32.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA. DHH Lengel and PAHS teachers will be scheduled as needed, based on student participation and courses offered.

Sara Arnold	Katelynn Miller
Cody Blankenhorn	Adrian Portland
Meredith Coleman	Julie Saunders
Mary Beth Conville	Charles Schuster
Kim Edling	Ashley Shappell
Alicia Fehr	Jeff Smith
Suzanne Fredericks	Cindy Stasulli
Lisa Holobetz	David Sterner
Nathan Kraft	Suzanne Sterner
Paula Jones	Jillian Strohecker
Christopher Kovalski	Layla Watt
Stephanie Maroukis	Anya Wood
Brian McMullin	Patricia Zimmerman

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

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following employees for the Extended School Year Program (ESY) at \$32.00/hour, effective June 22, 2021:

Teachers

Melissa Focht
Gilbert Hoak
Heather Martin
Heather McDonald
Erin Newcomer
Julie Saunders

Speech Therapists

Lauren Bubek
Taylor Header

Nurses

Angela Holobetz
Donna Romano
Kendra Rooney
Danita Sippel

Occupational Therapy

Progressive Pediatrics (Contracted)

Physical Therapy

Schuylkill Pediatric Physical Therapy (Contracted)

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following paraprofessionals for the Extended Year Program (ESY) at normal hourly rate, effective June 22, 2021 through July 22, 2021.

Dorothy Botto
Diana DePauli
Krista Dullard
Susan Griffin
Paula Heffner
Kelly Miller
Morgan Murphy
Kayleigh Sibbett
Tina Sibbett
Kathleen Shipton

Sherry Simon

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following Drivers, Transportation Aides and Cleaners for the 2021 ESY Summer Program at the Pottsville Area School District:

Natalie Bachman - Driver
Florence Berger - Substitute Driver/Cleaner
Ronald Brennan - Driver
Carole Buchinski - Transportation Aide
Carole Davis - Driver
Robert Dusel - Driver
Bob Heckman - Substitute Driver/Cleaner
Dawn Leigh - Transportation Aide
William Martin - Driver
Irene Miller - Transportation Aide
Theresa Pellish - Driver
Patricia Roos - Driver
Katie Setlock - Driver
Natalie Setlock - Transportation Aide
Tegan Shirk - Driver
Dorothy Vaughan - Driver/Cleaner
Tori Wallace - Substitute Driver/Cleaner

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Patricia Lombel as Board Secretary for the Pottsville Area School District at a yearly stipend of \$2,500, effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board directed the Secretary to provide a Bond in the amount of \$50,000, with approved surety, the premium of the Bond to be paid by the Pottsville Area School District. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board amended the motion for Lilly Seiders, dated April 14, 2021. The hourly rate for Ms. Seiders will be amended to \$13.60. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved an unpaid leave of absence for employee #1320, effective May 12, 2021. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534:

- Employee #25 - lunch aide - April 9, May 13, 2021
- Employee #1349 - cafeteria aide - March 26, April 12, 28, 2021
- Employee #1228 - lunch aide - March 26, April 26, 2021
- Employee #1472 - ticket aide - April 9, 29, 2021
- Employee #1231 - lunch aide - April 13, 28, 2021
- Employee #537 - lunch aide - April 16, 22, 2021
- Employee #828 - lunch aide - April 9, 22, 2021
- Employee #1029 - lunch aide - April 21, 27, 28, 29, 2021
- Employee #1127 - cafeteria aide - April 19, 2021
- Employee #471 - lunch aide - May 3, 7 (1/2 day), 10, 2021
- Employee #175 - cafeteria aide - March 29, 30, 31, 2021
- Employee #947 - cafeteria aide, - May 11, 2021 until end of school year
- Employee #888 - cafeteria aide - April 12, 16, May 4, 5, 2021
- Employee #1346 - lunch aide - April 9, 2021
- Employee #70 - paraprofessional - May 10, 2021
- Employee #1115 - cafeteria aide - April 5 through 9, 14, 15, 16, 2021
- Employee #930 - cafeteria aide - April 26, 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27, June 1, 4, 2021

Motion carried.

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

- Congratulations Coach Gary Keener on being named "Coach of the Year" for wrestling by the Republican-Herald and to the following wrestlers for being named to the All-Area Team: Connor Demcher (sophomore), Parrish McFarland (freshman), Dylan Bohorad (senior), and R.J. Quinn (senior). Congrats to the following basketball players who were named to the All-Area team: Jazce Carabella-Snowell (junior), Darren Yost (junior), and Nicco Heimbaugh (senior).

- Congratulations to Jordyn Guldin and Dylan Bohorad for being chosen Prom Queen and King at the 2021 Senior Prom held on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at St. Nicholas Hall, Primrose.
- Congratulations to Emilee Rose (junior). Emilee placed first in the Logo and Graphic design category of the regional Pennsylvania Media and Design Competition. She advances to the state competition which will be held in May.
- Congratulations to Laila Manou (freshman) for being selected as the second-place winner in a Distracted Driving Awareness TikTok contest the Highway Safety Network and State Farm held in April. Laila will be receiving a check for \$300.00 for her winning entry. A check presentation will be held on May 19th.
- Congratulations to the following PAHS students who were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) at Schuylkill Technology Center: Skye Adamick, Gillian Bartashus, Jacob Baver, Erica Berger, Delilah Brossman, Spencer Buckingham, Lydia Cholko, Madison Colluci, Makayla Frick, Kendra Holley, Benjamin Kull, Shane Melochick, McKenna Morgan, Adam Stock, Morgan Tohill, Sam Ulrich, and Leah Zackus.
- The Drama Club held a "Preview Performance" fundraiser at the Maid's Quarters Tea Room in downtown Pottsville on April 3rd. Limited seating and masking was enforced.
- Congratulations to the Pottsville Area High School Drama Club, cast, crew, pit band, and the directors for their amazing performance of *Cinderella*. Unfortunately the original dates (April 16-18) of *Cinderella* were postponed due to cast members quarantining. On April 23-25, the Drama Club performed three remarkable shows of *Cinderella*. Cast members wore plastic see through masks and kept onstage contact to a minimum. Cast size was 24 (down from usual 30-50). Audience size ranged from 150-190 each night (down from approximately 450-500) in previous years. Audience members were assigned seats to encourage social distancing and were expected to wear masks. No concession stands nor indoor receiving lines were available in order to help comply with guidelines. On April 30th an online viewing option was provided that complied with our contract. An additional 30-35 tickets were sold.

Due to an extra week of costume rental, backdrop rental, sound equipment rental, lack of concessions profits, and significantly fewer tickets, the Drama Club will be starting with much lower usual funds for next year's show, and is looking for suggestions and help on fundraising. A Dress Down Day was held on May 7th to help defray costs.

- Congratulations to Adam Stock who will be playing football at Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

- Congratulations to Payton Kleckner on being selected as our Female Scholar Athlete.
- Congratulations to Elizabeth Donovan, Christian Honicker, Justin McClure, Paige Mervine, Jake Montgomery, and Isabella Varano. These Schuylkill Scholars participated in the county-wide Academic Achievement Award Ceremony (via Zoom from the Auditorium) on April 27th.
- Congratulations to Seniors Olivia Markus and Emma Smith for being selected as our May Rotary Students of the Month.
- Congratulations to the following students who earned first place in the Schuylkill County Regional Middle School Media and Design Competition, held virtually by the Schuylkill intermediate Unit 29. Both Jacob and William will move on to the virtually held PA Middle School Media & Design statewide competition at the end of May.

Jacob Doyle	-	8 th Grade	-	Web Page Design
William Davis	-	7 th Grade	-	3D Design

- Pottsville Area School District was featured in the Republican Herald for offering the COVID Vaccine at Martz Hall. We greatly appreciate the efforts of PAHS School Nurse Mrs. Holobetz, Don Snowell and Rite Aid for offering the Pfizer vaccine for students 16 years and older and their families!
- PAHS Principal Mrs. Hummel and Seniors Dylan Bohorad, Allison Campion and David Cook were featured on WNEP-TV with Marshall Keely about our graduation plans for June 8th.

Upcoming Events:

John S. Clarke Elementary Center

Friday, May 21 (After School) &

Saturday, May 22 - PTO Basket Raffle (Outside)

Friday, June 04 - JSC Fun Day

D.H.H. Lengel Middle School

Thursday May 27th - Title I & A-TSI Family Meeting (virtual)

Wednesday, June 3rd - 8th Grade Awards Assembly

Pottsville Area High School

- Monday, May 31 - Memorial Day - Port Carbon and Pottsville Memorial Day Parades
- Tuesday, June 1 - PBIS Outdoor Pep Rally & Food Trucks (STC seniors will be in attendance)
- Thursday, June 3 - Honor Graduate Ceremony @ 6:00 PM
- Sunday, June 6 - Baccalaureate @ 5:00 PM - Trinity Lutheran Church
- Monday, June 7 - Farewell Assembly/9th & 10th grade videos
- Tuesday, June 8 - Last day of school / Commencement - 7:30 PM

On the recommendation of the Curriculum and on motion of Dr. Cardamone, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the application to offer a Flexible Instruction Day (FID) program during the 2021-2022 school year. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Labor Relations Committee and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Pottsville Area Educational Support Personnel Association, ESPA/PSEA/NEA and the Pottsville Area School District.

Term of Agreement: July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Mr. Moran noted that the State is forming a Charter School Task Force and there will be actions with national and statewide organizations to work on teacher shortages.

Dr. Blankenhorn, PSBA Representative, noted that there are PSBA online resources, a weekly Buzz site every Tuesday at 12:30 pm and if you need to reset your password you can log on to the PSBA website.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Mr. DiCello, the approved the following Use of Facilities:

HS

1- HS Stadium

PAHS Spring Band Concert

May 6, 201

4:00PM-9:00PM

2- HS Various Classrooms

2021-2022 SAT Testing

6:00AM-3:00PM on the following dates:

8/28, 10/02, 11/06, 12/01, 3/12, 5/7, 6/4

3- HS Auditorium, Band Room, Classrooms

Crimson Academy

4:30PM-8:30PM on the following dates:

11/30, 12/2, 12/6, 12/8, 12/9/2021

11:00AM-9:00PM Saturday 12/11/2021

11:00AM-3:00PM Sunday 12/12/2021

MS

1- MS Pool

Lifeguarding Classes

5/3/2021-5/22/2021 inclusive (Exception Sundays)

Monday thru Friday 4:00PM-6:00PM

Saturdays 8:00AM-12:00PM

2- MS Pool

Swim Team Practice

Monday -Friday 6:00PM-8:00PM on the following dates:

6/1/2021-6/8/2021

Monday-Friday 8:00AM-12:00PM on the following dates:

6/9/2021-8/27/2021

3- Martz Hall Parking Lot Top

Majorette Camp Registration

4:30PM-6:00PM on the following days:

6/2, 6/3/2021

4- MS Canopy Area

Majorette Camp

5:00PM-6:30PM on the following dates:

6/21, 6/22, 6/23/ 2021

5:00PM-6:00PM June 30, 2021

AC

1- Academic Center Practice Field

Pottsville Midget Football League

Monday -Friday 6:00PM-8:00PM on the following dates:

8/16/2021-8/29/2021

Monday-Thurs 6:00PM-8:00PM on the following dates:

9/30/2021-11/11/2021

Monday-Friday 6:00PM-8:00PM on the following dates:

7/26/2021-5/15/2021

9:00AM-6:00PM on the following dates:
9/5, 9/12, 9/26, 10/17, 10/31, 11/7/2021

2-Academic Center Parking Lot

Bulldog Cheer Practice
Monday -Thursday 6:00PM-8:00PM
8/1/2021 thru 11/1/2021

JSC

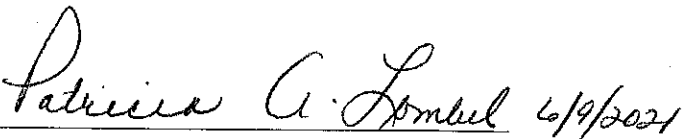
1- Room 618, Gym, Music Room, and Cafeteria

JSC Schuylkill Achieve Summer Program
8:00AM-12:00PM on the following days:
June 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 2021
July 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 2021

Motion carried.

Mrs. Lombel announced that an executive session was held this evening for personnel matters.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by DiCello, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

 Patricia A. Lombel 6/9/2021

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary

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