

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors Board Meeting September 20, 2023 DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium 7:00 PM	Present:	Mrs. Buchanan, Dr. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cardamone, Mr. Ciavarella; Mrs. Dewitt, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Wytovich, Mr. Urban, Dr. Yoder, Superintendent; Mrs. Stair, Business Manager; Mrs. Lombel, Asst. Business Manager/Board Secretary; Atty. Kevin Reid, Solicitor
	Absent:	Mr. Shields

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Michael Cardamone.

Dr. Cardamone - Board Statement

A reminder to the public that the public comment period is not a question-and-answer period, but rather the opportunity for the public to submit comments to the Board. If members of the public wish to make public comments, then they must do so in person. Public comments will follow School Board Policy 903 and public comment procedures. Members of the public who are residents and/or taxpayers of the school district who wish to comment shall identify themselves by indicating name, address, and topic upon which they want to address. If the subject matter is on the agenda, such persons shall be given priority over residents and/or taxpayers who want to comment on non-agenda items. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes. The public comment segment of each Board meeting shall be a maximum of one (1) hour per public meeting. Anyone who does not get the opportunity to speak because of the expiration of this one (1) hour time period shall be afforded a priority speaking position at the next public Board meeting. 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 will be forwarded to all Board members. The meeting will be available online.

Are there any public comments at this time?

There were no comments this evening.

Roll Call – 8 members present. 1 – absent (Mr. Shields)

There was an excellent Presentation by Ms. Laura Hoppes, Coordinator of the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit’s Lifelong Learning Center. “The Lifelong Learning Center was created specifically to support the community in which we reside with an ongoing focus on maximizing our community connections to the benefit of those we

serve." They have services in Family Literacy, Adult Basic Education, Pregnant and Parenting Teens and Community Services.

- Family Literacy Program promotes parents being actively involved in their children's education while growing the skills of the whole family.
- Adult Basic Education assists adults to obtain knowledge and skills necessary for employment and economic self-sufficiency and lead to sustainable improvements in economic opportunities for the family.
- Parenting education focuses on strengthening parents'/caregivers' support of their child's literacy development and early school success.
- Community Services.

Dr. Cardamone thanked Ms. Hoppes for this information presentation.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the August 9, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes, and the August 16, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Stair, Business Manager, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following Financial Reports for the month of August 2023:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) – General Fund Balance as of August 31, 2023 - \$13,953,027.64. Cafeteria Checking Balance as of August 31, 2023 - \$359,299.37.
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 – There were no budget transfers.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Atty. Reid, and on motion of Ms. Wytovich, seconded by Mrs. Dewitt, the Board approved the following Discipline Waiver, effective September 20, 2023 - #28-944. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Ciavarella, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the Superintendent's preapproval of credits indicated for the following professional employee(s) be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Erin Blozusky - 3 Credits

Paula Heffner - 3 Credits

Nicole Kutsmeda - 6 Credits
Kaitlin Leffler - 7 Credits
Kelly Lombel - 6 Credits
Mary McGinley - 3 Credits
Anne Murray - 6 Credits
Rachelle Price - 3 Credits
Amanda Purcell - 3 Credits
Amy Rubinkam - 3 Credits
Anya Wood - 3 Credits
Michala Zembas - 3 Credits
Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following professional employee(s) be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

Erin Blozusky - \$300.00
Paula Heffner - \$2,808.00
Kaycee Hess - \$1,662.00
Brent Hinkle - \$2,592.00
Kelly Lombel - \$3,498.00
Amanda Purcell - \$1,662.00
Michala Zembas - \$6,042.00
Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Buchanan, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the following salary adjustment, effective 2023-2024 school year: Miranda Schultz – Master’s Degree. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved the Affiliation Agreement with Kutztown University. The length of the Affiliation Agreement is five (5) years. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved a School Counselor Practicum (Fall, 2023) for Rebecca Phelps. Ms. Phelps is a Bloomsburg University student and will be placed with Cindy Stasulli at PAHS. Motion carried.

Dr. Yoder thanked both Kutztown University and Bloomsburg University for their affiliations with Pottsville Area School District.

The Final Expenditure Report for the **ESSER II** grant has been submitted and approved by the PDE, prior to the deadline of September 30, 2023.

ESSER II funding has been expended on:

- After School Tutoring in JSC Elementary Center, DHHL Middle School, and Pottsville Area High School
- Summer School Credit Recovery in DHHL Middle School and Pottsville Area High School
- JSC Elementary Center Summer Tutoring
- Virtual learning for JSC Elementary Center, DHHL Middle School, and Pottsville Area High School
- Curricular materials and resources in ELA, Math, Science, and Technology
- Curriculum Review and Revision based on learning loss
- Technology including VOIP and Smart Boards
- Cleaning
- Planetarium at the Pottsville Area High School

A note from **Crimson Tide Foundation** Board President John Liddle:

The Crimson Tide Foundation held its 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament on August 26th at the Barefield Recreation Complex.

In addition to the time and treasure donated to the project by the CTF board members, we are thankful for the following companies who gave financial support:

Roma Pizza
CACL Federal Credit Union
Vince & Lynn Wychunas
DBA Pick A Deli
PHN Charitable Foundation
Pat Flannery
AIS Consulting
Phoenix Rehabilitation and Health Services
Keystone Agency Partners LLC / Seltzer Group
Club 18
Bee Hive
Michael G. Skieczius
John J. Holden Insurance Agency
Tara Grochowski
Ned Connors
12 Volt Daves Audio
MBTPC Law
Law Office of Karen Rismiller

The District echoes the appreciation for the financial supporters and is grateful for the commitment of the CTF Board for supporting the PASD students, faculty, staff, and families for partially and fully subsidizing educational resources, field trips, and

activities. We ask that our community continues to support the efforts of the Crimson Tide Foundation with future endeavors.

On the recommendation of the **Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee**, and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved the following item:

- approved Mikayla Workman as Event Worker for the Pottsville Area School District Athletic Events.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Facilities and Grounds Committee**, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the following items:

- approved the two (2) year extension agreement with World Fuel Services, Inc. and affiliates (including Papco, Inc.) for supplying transportation fuels, No-Lead Gasoline and Diesel Fuel in accordance with the Pottsville Area School District's specification for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. Amendment becomes effective: September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025.

-approved Change Order #1 from Schuylkill Paving Inc. for additional work on the parking lot drainage repairs at an increased cost of \$5,950.00.

- approved Harach Construction, LLC to frame the ceiling around the Planetarium at a cost of \$15,559.10.

- approved the decommission inventory at the Pottsville Area School District.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation by the **Transportation Committee** and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the following item:

- approved a three-year lease agreement with Rohrer Bus Company, effective 2024-2025 school year.

- -Year 2024-25 - \$599,488.75
- -Year 2025-26 - \$599,488.75
- -Year 2026-27 - \$599,488.51

Motion carried.

On the recommendation by the **Finance Committee** and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Ciavarella, the Board approved the following items:

- approved the following Parcels for Private Sale:

- 57-05-0235.002 - 58 Cadbury Street - bid amount \$2,217.00
- 68-06-0155.000 - 762 Walnut Street - bid amount \$15,091.00
- 68-07-0049.00 - 398 Front Street - bid amount \$3,177.92
- 68-07-0098.000 - 454 Nichols Street - bid amount \$2,448.25

- 68-07-0133.000 - 421-423-425 Nicholas Street - bid amount \$4,337.25
- 68-14-0004.00 - 301 Nichols Street - bid amount \$2,745.55
- 68-19-0223.000 - 609 N. Seventh Street - bid amount \$4,378.00
- 68-19-0245.001 - 525 Fairview Street - bid amount \$5,753.00
- 68-19-0246.000 - 523 Harrison Street - bid amount \$14,500.00
- 68-19-0312.000 - 713 Harrison Street - bid amount \$7,436.00
- 68-20-0092.000 - 511 N. Centre Street - bid amount \$3,000.00
- 68-21-0221.000 - 516 Market Street - bid amount \$5,537.14
- 68-21-0260.000 - East Market Street - bid amount \$1,377.21
- 68-21-0262.000 - 441 E. Market Street - bid amount \$6,499.18
- 68-21-0309.000 - 424 E. Norwegian Street - bid amount \$3,247.65
- 68-21-0337.000 - 439 E. Norwegian Street - bid amount \$9,531.05
- 68-22-0052.000 - 551 E. Norwegian Street - bid amount \$6,258.00
- 68-26-0409.001 - 714 W. Market Street - bid amount \$2,243.00
- 68-27-0157.000 - 712 W. Market Street - bid amount \$3,893.00
- 68-27-0453.000 - 124 S. Third Street - bid amount \$1,231.00
- 68-27-0454.000 - 122 S. Third Street - bid amount \$4,698.00
- 68-32-0106.00 - 1615 Cherry Street - bid amount \$8,245.00
- 68-35-0100.00 - 123 RR S. Sixth Street - bid amount \$2,986.00
- 68-43-0012.000 - 559 S. Centre Street - bid amount \$4,040.40
- 68-43-0016.001 - 567 S. Centre Street - bid amount \$3,660.08
- 68-43-0018.000 - 571 S. Centre Street - bid amount \$1,096.26

- approved the Title I Letter of Agreement between Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 with an Agreement term of August 23, 2023 through May 31, 2024.

- approved a two (2) year agreement with Service Access & Management, Inc. (SAM), effective August 21, 2023.

- approved the Addendum to the Agreement between Pottsville Area School District and ESS Northeast, LLC for the services of Substitute Teachers and Staff, effective August 30, 2023.

- approved a Single Static Advertising Sponsorship with Weis Markets. The cost for the three (3) year agreement is \$1,500.00, retroactive to September 1, 2023.

Thank you for your sponsorship in support of the Pottsville Area School District.

- approved an Electronic Advertising Sponsorship with Bruce T. Hart Funeral Home. The cost for the White Level one (1) year agreement is \$500.00.

Thank you for your sponsorship in support of the Pottsville Area School District.

- approved the agreement with Reschini Group for Affordable Care Act Employer Reporting.

- approved the request to move \$8 million from General Fund Mid Penn to PSDLAF: \$4 million into liquid flex (current rate is 5.21%) and \$4 million into a T-Bill (current rate is 5.35%) with a maturity date of March 2024.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation by the **Personnel Committee** and on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved the following items:

- accepted the resignation of Lynsey Shappell as a cafeteria aide at DHHL Middle School, retroactive to last day of the 2022-2023 school year.

- approved Desiree Weikel as a part-time cafeteria worker at the DHHL Middle School at an hourly rate of \$11.25, effective October 19, 2023. Ms. Weikel is a current substitute cafeteria aide.

- approved Cindy Westwood as a substitute cafeteria aide at an hourly rate of \$10.00, effective September 21, 2023. Ms. Westwood is also a van driver for the District.

- accepted the resignation of Brian Delaney, full-time custodian at the DHHL Middle School, retroactive to August 24, 2023.

- approved Brian O'Dell as a full-time custodian at the DHHL Middle School at an hourly rate of \$13.00, retroactive to August 31, 2023.

- approved Colin Kline as a lifeguard for the Pottsville Area School District at an hourly rate of \$9.00/\$10.00, effective September 21, 2023 contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork.

- approved Charlotte Allar as a full-time secretary for the Pottsville Area School District at an annual salary of \$25,000.00, effective October 9, 2023 contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork.

- accepted the following paraprofessional resignations:

- Chasey Schock - JSC Elementary Center. Her last day was August 23, 2023.
- Karen Runkle - DHHL Middle School - Her last day will be September 22, 2023.
- Christine Trapani - John S. Clarke Elementary Center - Her last day will be September 27, 2023.

We wish them well in their new endeavors.

- approved the following full-time paraprofessional's contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork:

- Dorothy Botto - at current hourly rate, effective September 21, 2023; Mrs. Botto has been employed as a part-time paraprofessional.
- Molly Bressler - hourly rate \$14.30 - effective October 2, 2023
- Mary Hopper - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023
- Angel Geiger - at current hourly rate, effective September 21, 2023. Ms. Geiger has been employed as a part-time paraprofessional.
- Kim Pekarik - at current hourly rate, effective September 21, 2023. Mrs. Pekarik has been employed as a part-time paraprofessional.
- Tonya Shappel - at current hourly rate, effective September 21, 2023. Ms. Shappel has been employed as a part-time paraprofessional.

- approved the following part-time paraprofessional's contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork:

- Elisha Coleman - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023
- Jennifer Molina - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023
- Mackenzie Parthe - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023
- Kimberly Pauley - hourly rate \$14.00 - retroactive to September 15, 2023
- Loris Perez - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023
- Nelcheska Rodriguez - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023
- Sharon Rozetar - hourly rate \$14.00 - effective September 21, 2023

- approved the following teachers with the JSC Elementary School Achieve Program for the 2023-2024 school year:

Lisa Barr
Emily Earlley
Lindsay Hand
Emily Kleeman
Mychaellah Lucas
Heather Martin
Allison McAndrew
Mary McGinley
Rebecca Oakill
Amy Rubinkam

- approved the following teachers with the DHHL Middle School Achieve Program for the 2023-2024 school year:

Elizabeth Grow
Paula Heffner
Cara Holman
Lisa Holobetz

Kaitlin Leffler
Donna Mates
Melissa Scheetz
Ashley Shappell
Carolyn Wasilewski
Joann Weres
Anya Wood
Patricia Zimmerman

- approved Mary Matulevich as the DHHL Middle School Co-Curricular Advisor at the stipend indicated for the 2023-2024 school year in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA.

- accepted the revised letter of resignation from Mr. Greg Schuettler, DHHL Middle School Teacher and PAHS Swim Coach. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

- accepted the letter of resignation from Mrs. Kayla Kurtz, Music Teacher at DHHL Middle School, letter dated August 18, 2023. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

- approved Mr. George Hegedus as Music Teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1 - Master's - \$51,600, start date of September 11, 2023. Mrs. Katelyn Reichard will serve as mentor for Mr. Hegedus.

- approved Miss Mahzee Zerbe as a Long Term Substitute Teacher at JSC Elementary Center for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$43,000.

- approved the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 339, 439, 539:

- Employee #947 - August 28, 29, 30, 2023
- Employee #1367 - September 28, 29, October 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Employee #1606 - November 26, 2023 (tentative) to TBD

- approved the following Leave of Absence as per Board Policy 335:

- Employee #440 - retroactive to August 22, 2023
- Employee #1633 - beginning September 29, 2023 (tentative)
- Employee #78 - beginning October 19, 2023 (tentative)
- Employee #1558 - beginning November 15, 2023 (tentative)
- Employee #1609 - beginning November 17, 2023 (tentative)
- Employee #1647 - beginning November 23, 2023 (tentative)

- approved the following list of after school tutors for the 2023-2024 school year:

PAHS

Melinda Diehl
Emma Libby
Meredith Pellish
Donna Skosnick
Cindy Stasulli

DHHL

Kim Edling
Elizabeth Grow
Julia Leiby
Stephanie Maroukis
Rachelle Price
Melissa Scheetz
Patricia Zartman

JSC

Emily Earley
Lindsay Hand
Deborah Lecker
Heather Martin
Heather McDonald
Tayah Moore
Rebecca Oakill
Amanda Purcell
Amy Rubinkam
Motion carried.

Under **Promotion, Public Relations and Social Media**, Ms. Wytovich read the following:

1. Thank you to PAHS students for sponsoring a Blood Drive on August 9, 2023. A special thank you to all who donated during the drive.

2. Congratulations to JSC Students of the Month!

Kindergarten - Brandon Rupp
First Grade - Zaydyn Thompson
Second Grade - Joseph Mennig
Third Grade - Maximus Stank
Fourth Grade - Andrew Hartenstine

3. Congratulations to Sydney Heffron for being selected PAHS September Artist of the Month!

4. Thank you to Fresh Hair Co. staff and customers for providing school supplies to DHH Lengel Middle School students.

5. Congratulations to the PAHS Publications Staff on their Bronze Medal award from Jostens in their National Yearbook Program of Excellence. The 2023 Yearbook was recognized for engaging and broadly representative publication.

6. Thank you to the Avidum Club for sponsoring a Purple Out event at the football game on September 8th to raise awareness for Suicide Prevention.

On the recommendation by the **Technology Committee** and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the following items:

- approved the Agreement for Time and Material with Global Data Consultants to purchase bulk labor hours at a Support Rate of \$165/hour not to exceed 50 hours for the year.

- approved the Data Center Backup Project with Global Data Consultants for a Replacement backup system at a cost of \$19,869.26. Annual cost is estimated at \$4,000. (Co-Stars #199069)

- approved the Infrastructure Upgrade with Global Data Consultants for main data center server/storage environment at an estimated cost of \$64,227.37. (Co-Stars #199069)

- approved the agreement with Dauphin Data for Verkada Environmental (Vape) Sensors for DHH Lengel Middle School. There will be 12 vape sensors for DHH Lengel Middle School at a total cost of \$15,117.60 per PEPPM State Contract. Installation will be done in-house by facilities and IT staff.

Motion carried.

Mrs. Dewitt, **Curriculum Committee**, read the following informational item:

1. The Pottsville Area School District Comprehensive Planning Committee met in April, 2022; June, 2022; January, 2023; and June, 2023 to discuss and provide input regarding the Pottsville Area School District 2023-2026 Comprehensive Plan. The Pottsville Area School District 2023-2026 Comprehensive Plan will be posted on our website for public review until our placing the plan on the school board agenda for approval at the October 2023 meeting.

On the recommendation by the **Policy and Procedure Committee** and on motion of Ms. Wytovich, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved the following items:

- approved the following policies:

- 304 - Employment of District Staff
- 305 - Employment of Substitutes
- 306 - Employment of Summer School Staff
- 307 - Student Teachers/Interns

- retired the following policies:

- 404 - Employment of Professional Employees
 - 405 - Employment of Substitutes
 - 407 - Student Teachers/Interns
 - 504 - Employment of Support Employees
 - 505 - Employment of Substitute and Short-Term Employees
- Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Mrs. Buchanan noted that it is Adult Education and Family Literacy Week.

On the recommendation by the **PSBA Representative** and on motion of Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the following items:

- voted for the following PSBA Members seeking election:

1. 2024 President -Elect This is a one-year term. **(Vote for One)**
 - **Allison Matthis** - North Hills School District - X
2. 2024 Vice President This is a one-year term. **(Vote for One)**
 - **Sabrina Becker** - Franklin Area School District - X
3. 2024-2026 Treasurer - This is a three -year term. **(Vote for One)**
 - **Karen Beck Pooley** - Bethlehem Area School District - X
4. 2024-2026 Western Zone Representative This is a three-year term. **(Vote for One)**
 - **Marsha Pleta** - Washington School District - X
5. 2024-2025 Section W3 Advisor (Two-year term). **(Vote for One)**
 - **Erik Meredith** - East Allegheny School District - X
6. Trustee (Term ends December 31, 2026) This is a three-year term. **(Vote for two)**
 - **Marianne Neel** - X
 - **Michael Faccinnetto** - X
8. Forum Steering Committee (2 year term ends December 31, 2025) This is a two-year term **(Vote for two)**
 - **Bethanne Zeigler** - Shikellamy School District - X
 - **Betsy Gates** - Dauphin County Technical School

- **Jaime Lynn Zimerofsky** - Schuylkill IU 29 - X
- **Jennifer Davidson** - Manheim Township School District

The Board Secretary will register votes on behalf of the school entity.

Motion carried.

Under New Business:

Upcoming Events, Hunter Chescavage, Jr. Board Member, read the following:

September 25 - September 29, 2023 - Red Ribbon Week

October 9, 2023 - Teachers' In-Service (No School for Students)

October 10, 2023 - PAHS Picture Retake Day

October 11, 2023 - DHHL Picture Retake Day

October 13, 2023 - Homecoming/ Alumni Night

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board approved the **Use of Facilities** Calendar for September 2023:

MS

1 – Auditorium

Support Staff New Insurance Plan Mandatory Meeting
September 21, 2023 4:00pm-6:00pm

HS

1 – Girls Gym - EMT Training

6:00pm – 8:00pm on the following dates:
9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 10/31, 11/14, 11/16, 11/28, 11/30,
12/12, 12/14/2023, 1/9, 1/11, 1/23, 1/25, 2/6, 2/8, 2/20,
2/22, 3/5, 3/7, 3/19, 3/21, 4/2, 4/4, 4/16, 4/18, 4/30,
5/2, 5/14, 5/16/2024

Motion carried.

Meeting Dates for October 2023:

Committee of the Whole Meeting - Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the Board Room of the Academic Center.

Board Meeting - Wednesday, October 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium.

An Executive Session was held from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Patricia A. Lombel 10/19/23

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)

Board Secretary