

## POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors Board Meeting July 19, 2023 DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium 7:00 PM	Present:	Dr. Blankenhorn, Mrs. Buchanan, Dr. Cardamone, Mr. Ciavarella, Mrs. Dewitt, (via Zoom), Mr. Shields, Mr. Thomas, Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Yoder, Superintendent; Mrs. Stair, Business Manager; Mrs. Lombel, Asst. Business Manager/Board Secretary; Atty. Kevin Reid, Solicitor
	Absent:	Mr. Urban

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

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

### 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](mailto: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.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the June 14, 2023 Committee of the Whole Minutes, and the June 21, 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. Ciavarella, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved the following Financial Reports for the month of June 2023:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) – General Fund Balance as of June 30, 2023 - \$6,653,329.83. Cafeteria Checking Balance as of June 30, 2023 - \$425,122.26.
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 not budget transfers.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, 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:

Paula Heffner - 6 Credits

Michael Roberts - 6 Credits

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Ms. Wytovich, 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:

Natasha Bubnis - \$300.00

Kelly Lombel - \$3,390.00

Rachelle Price - \$1,662.00

Anya Wood - \$1,662.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the Board approved the 23-24 Dental Examiners at a rate of at most \$1.50 per exam:

- Dr. Joseph Chipriano
- Dr. Scott Fellows
- Dr. Brenda Jenkins
- Dr. Elizabeth Puddu

- Dr. Michael Smink
- Geisinger Health Plan - Dental

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Ms. Wytovich, seconded by Dr. Blankenhorn, and pursuant to Section 1108 of the School Code, having received a satisfactory rating for the second semester of the third year of teaching, the Board approved the following professional employee be awarded a permanent contract and tenure - Christopher Kovaleski.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee**, and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved the following items:

- approved Football play clocks from NEVCO at a cost of \$5,400. Co-Stars #014-084
- approved six (6) starting blocks for the pool at DHH Lengel Middle School from The Lifeguard Store at \$2,939.94 each. Total cost - \$17,639.64
- approved Weight Room Equipment from Webster's Fitness Products Inc. at a cost of \$19,230.00. Installation included. Co-Stars #14-059
- approved Ticket Price Costs for the 2023-2024 season. Tickets can be purchased online or at the Gate. There are 6 Football games this season. \*Note - If Senior Citizens do not have a Crimson Card, they will pay \$3.00 if purchased online and \$5.00 if paying cash at the gate. Senior Citizens (age 60 years or older) who reside in the Pottsville Area School District are eligible for the Crimson Card, which is a pass to enter all regular season athletic events at no cost. Qualified Senior Citizens should come to the Academic Center with proof of age and address to receive the card.
- approved the following:
  - Resignation of Olivia Wingle as Girls' JV Basketball Coach
  - Girls' JV Basketball Coach - Brett Ennis
  - 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach - Sean Jones
  - 7th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach - Allison Parker
- approved the Volunteer Coaches:
  - Varsity Football - Anthony Kelly
  - Girls' Soccer - Dante McCoy
  - Girls' Basketball - Olivia Wingle

Motion carried.

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

- approved the audit agreement with Ameresco Inc. for the ESCO project (HVAC project).
- approved Change Order #1 from Lehigh Asphalt, Inc. for curbs and sidewalks.
- approved the proposal from Heim Company to provide Planetarium HVAC Units at a cost of \$66,914.00. Co-Stars #008-E22-801. (Three (3) quotes were received).

Motion carried.

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

- approved the agreement with Bus Patrol America for a term of 5 years, which includes the installation, maintenance and support of Bus Patrol equipment on District buses, pending solicitor's review and administrative approval. This will be at zero cost to the district.

Motion carried.

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

- approved the agreement with Progressive Pediatric Therapy, LLC for OT Services for the 2023-2024 school year.
- approved the agreement with Behavioral Health Associates for the 2023-2024 school year.
- approved the Dual Enrollment Agreement with Kutztown University for the 2023-2024 school year, pending solicitor review.
- approved the agreement with River Rock Academy for the 2023-2024 school year.
- approved the investment of \$1 million out of FLEX account at PSDLAF into a 12-month Treasury bill with a current interest rate of 5.20%.

Motion carried.

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

- approved Farrah Benart as a full-time paraprofessional at JSC Elementary Center at an hourly rate of \$15.35, effective for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Benart formerly worked as a part-time paraprofessional at JSC.
- approved Kayla Neifert as a part-time paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective 2023-2024 school year contingent upon completion of satisfactory paperwork.

- approved Naomi Vigoda as a part-time paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective 2023-2024 school year contingent upon completion of satisfactory paperwork.
- approved Joelle Reed as a full-time paraprofessional at Pottsville Area High School at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Reed formerly worked as a part-time paraprofessional.
- approved the following contracts retroactive to July 1, 2023:  
Jessica Coyle to continue to serve as Social Worker  
Migdalia Gunoskey to continue to serve as Social Worker
- approved Mr. John Roberts as a part-time School Police Officer at an initial hourly rate of \$25. His hourly rate will increase to the rates based on thresholds previously Board approved for School Police Officers: \$28 per hour if/when Mr. Roberts reaches 100 hours in a school year, and \$30 per hour if/when Mr. Roberts reaches 300 hours in a school year.
- approved Mrs. Tiffany Visgarda as a First Grade Teacher at JSC Elementary School for the 2023-2024 School Year Step 2 - Bachelor's - \$43,000. Mrs. Kristyn Blum will serve as a mentor for Mrs. Visgarda.
- approved Miss McKayla Gilbert as a First Grade Teacher at JSC Elementary School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$43,000. Mrs. Kristyn Blum will serve as a mentor for Miss Gilbert.
- approved Miss Jessica Nowakowski as a Fourth Grade Teacher at JSC Elementary School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1- Master's + 15 - \$53,700. Mrs. Jennifer Brindle will serve as a mentor for Miss Nowakowski.
- approved Mrs. Carrie Selinko as a School Nurse at JSC Elementary School for the 2023-2024 School Year at a salary of \$47,000.
- approved Mrs. Jennifer Lutz as a Science Teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 8 - Bachelor's + 15 - \$54,968.
- approved Miss Aimee Hegedus as a Math Teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$43,000. The DHHL Lead Math Teacher (to be determined) will serve as a mentor for Miss Hegedus.
- approved Mr. Michael Roberts as a Special Education Teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$43,000. Mrs. Kim Edling will serve as a mentor for Mr. Roberts.
- approved Ms. Leah Zerbe as an ELA Teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2023-2024 School Year - Step 1 - Master's - \$51,600. Mrs. Breanne Ferdoucha will serve as a mentor for Ms. Leah Zerbe.

Motion carried.

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

1. Congratulations to Jo Barnhart and Jamison Walsh for receiving the Pottsville Kiwanis Club Top Student Awards. These were presented to two students based on remarkable academic achievement, overall outstanding behavior, and exceptional participation in extracurricular activities and athletics.
2. Congratulations to Luke Schane and Julie Szeliga who represented PAHS in the HOBY (Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Program) at Susquehanna University.

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

- approved the migration of the existing onsite Follett Destiny Library databases to Follett Destiny Cloud for one-time cost of \$1,538.90; cost for annual renewal of Follett Destiny Library access and support is \$2,969.22.
- approved the agreement with Fraser Advanced Information systems to migrate existing print server with PaperCut software to new server for a one-time cost of \$537.00.
- approved the purchase of Verkada security cameras and licensing from Dauphin DataCom for a cost of \$11,031.94 through PEPPM contract.
- approved the agreement with Global Data Consultants to install and configure VMWare vCenter with a 3-year support license for a cost of \$3,469.39.
- approved the purchase of eleven (11) total fingerprint readers for the District cafeterias and renew the 1 year of software support from Educational Biometric Technology for a cost of \$2,569.95.

Motion carried.

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

-According to the United States Department of Health and Human Services website, the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19, declared under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, expired at the end of the day on May 11, 2023. However, The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires LEA's to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. Since no significant changes have occurred pertaining to Covid-19, our recommendation is to affirm the current plan.

- approved DHH Lengel Middle School's 2023-2024 A-TSI Title I School Plan and JSC Elementary Center's 2023 - 2024 TSI Title I School Plan for a thirty (30) day review. The plans will be posted on the District's website for review.

Motion carried.

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

- approved the following policies:

- Policy 202 - Eligibility of Nonresident Students
- Policy 301 - Creating a Position
- Policy 302 - Employment of Superintendent/ Assistant Superintendent

- retired the following policies:

- 301 - Administration - Creating a Position
- 302 - Administration - Employment of Superintendent/ Assistant Superintendent
- 303 - Administration - Employment of Administrators
- 401 - Professional - Creating a Position
- 501 - Support - Creating a Position

Motion carried.

On the recommendation by the **Food Services Committee** and on motion of Mr. Shields, seconded by Mrs. Dewitt, the Board approved the following item:

- approved the Agreement for Participation in the Child Nutrition Program between the Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29 and Schuylkill County AVTS Operating Agency.

Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Mrs. Buchanan noted that the Budget has not been approved.

**Under New Business:**

**Upcoming Events**, Ms. Madison Eroh, Jr. Board Member, read the following:

July 27, 2023 - Last day of Summer School

August 8, 2023 - DHHL New Student and 5th Grade Orientation at 11 AM

August 14, 2023 - DHHL New Student and 5th Grade Orientation at 6 PM

August 15, 2023 - PAHS Freshman Orientation (A-L Last Names) at 6 PM

August 21, 2023

~ JSC Kindergarten Orientation and Bus Run

- ~ JSC Open House for 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders - 5 to 7 pm
- ~ DHHL Open House – 5:30 to 7:30 pm
- ~ PAHS Open House – 6 to 8 pm

August 23, 2023 - PAHS Freshman Orientation (M-Z Last Names) at 6 PM  
August 23, 2023 - Teachers' In-Service  
August 24, 2023 - Teachers' In-Service  
August 28, 2023 - First Day of School

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, and on motion of Ms. Wytovich, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board approved the **Use of Facilities** Calendar for July 2023.

**MS**

**1 – Football Practice Field**

Pottsville Midget Football League  
Practice  
July 24, 2023-November 10, 2023  
6:00pm-8:00pm Monday-Friday

**2 – Alumni Field**

Pottsville Midget Football League  
Games  
9:00am-6:00pm  
September 24, 2023, October 1, 2023, October 22, 2023

Motion carried.

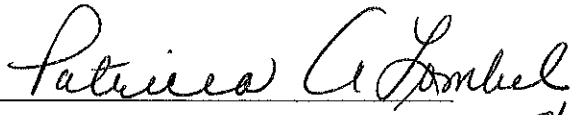
**Meeting Dates for August 2023:**

**Committee of the Whole Meeting** - Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:00 pm in the Board Room of the Academic Center.

**Board Meeting** - Wednesday, August 16, 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 Dr. Blankenhorn, seconded by Ms. Wytovich, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

  
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Patricia A. Lombel (Date) 8/16/2023  
Board Secretary