

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors  
Board Meeting May 22, 2024  
DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium  
7:00 PM

Present: Mr. Ansbach, Mr. Ciavarella,  
Mrs. Hobbs, Mr. Shields, Mrs. Dewitt,  
Mr. Thomas, Mr. Urban, Mrs. Buchanan  
Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Yoder, Superintendent;  
Mrs. Lombel, Asst. Business Manager/ Board  
Secretary; Mrs. Bevan, Asst. Business Manager;  
Mr. Kevin Reid, Attorney at Law;  
Mrs. Buchanan – online;  
Madison Eroh, Junior Board Member;  
Hunter Chescavage, Junior Board Member

---

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Lynda Wytovich .

President Wytovich - 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.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - There were no public comments.

Roll Call – 9 members present, 0 absent

The Board of Directors recognized Madison Eroh and Hunter Chescavage for serving one (1) year as Jr. Board Members and presented each of them with a plaque.

On motion of **Mr. Ansbach**, seconded by **Mr. Ciavarella** the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the April 10, 2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes, and the April 17, 2024 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 **Mr. Thomas**, the Board approved the following Financial Reports for the month of April 2024:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) - General Fund Balance as of April 30, 2024 - \$3,788,894.95 Cafeteria Checking Balance as of April 30, 2024 - \$463,274.70
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.

On the recommendation of **Ms. Dewitt**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the Board proceeded with the election of a Treasurer for the fiscal year 2024 - 2025. **Craig Shields** was nominated by **Ms. Dewitt**, seconded by **Ms. Hobbs**.

On the motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Ms. Dewitt**, nominations for treasurer were closed. A Roll Call Vote was taken, **Mr. Shields** was elected Treasurer for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

On the recommendation of **Mr. Ciavarella**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, a motion was made to require 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.

On the recommendation of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, it was recommended that the Board approve the following Discipline Waivers, effective May 22, 2024.

- \* #27-0182
- \* #25-1150
- \* #27-0076
- \* #26-0080

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mrs. Dewitt**, the Board approved the following items:

1. pre-approval of credit hours indicated for the following professional employee(s) be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between PASD and the PASDEA:

Krista Bevan - 3 Credits  
Jill Chiccini - 3 Credits  
Elizabeth Grow - 6 Credits  
Paula Heffner - 6 Credits  
Gregory Hoak - 3 Credits  
Kaitlin Leffler - 9 Credits  
Courtney Reichert - 3 Credits  
Michael Roberts - 9 Credits  
Megan Sirkot - 9 Credits  
Amy Withelder - 3 Credits  
Michala Zembas - 3 Credits  
Leah Zerbe - 9 Credits

2. Professional employee(s) be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of pre-approved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

Kendra Boris - \$1662.00  
Jill Chiccini - \$300.00  
Emily Earley - \$1,548.00  
Michel Germán - \$3,324.00  
Elizabeth Grow - \$3,066.00  
Paula Heffner - \$1,575.00  
Nicole Kutsmeda - \$300.00  
Kaitlin Leffler - \$3,612.00  
Anne Murray - \$300.00  
Elaina Prestileo - \$900.00  
Rachelle Price - \$1,662.00  
Courtney Reichert - \$3,324.00  
Nicole Stiles - \$4,500.00  
Amy Withelder - \$900.00  
Anya Wood - \$1,662.00

3. Salary adjustment effective 2024 – 2025 school year for Anya Wood – Master’s Degree.

4. Student-teacher placement as a part of the District's collaboration with Kutztown university:

Katrina Pakalinsky with cooperating teacher, Sara Arnold (Art) for the Fall Semester of 2024.

Motion carried.

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

1. The resignation of Jed Dunkel as Boys' Junior High Basketball Coach effective April 16, 2024.
2. Kassandra Kuperavage as a Junior High Volleyball Coach for the 2024-2025 Season at a stipend of \$2,400.
3. Paula Heffner as the Head Swim Coach for the Pottsville Piranhas - Anthracite Swim League (ASL) for the Summer Swim Season at an hourly rate of \$11.00.
4. Kristyn Blum as an Assistant Swim Coach for the Pottsville Piranhas - Anthracite Swim League (ASL) for the Summer Swim Season at an hourly rate of \$10.00.
5. Sandy Englert as an Assistant Swim Coach for the Pottsville Piranhas - Anthracite Swim League (ASL) for the Summer Swim Season at an hourly rate of \$10.00.
6. Lily Keitsock as Majorette Advisor for the Pottsville Area High School Marching Band for the 2024-2025 Season, salary as per contract.
7. The resignation of Denise Krater as Majorette Coach and approve her as the Flag Instructor for the 2024-2025 Season, salary as per contract.
8. Shara Stephen as a Junior High Volleyball Coach for the Fall 2024-2025 Season at a stipend of \$2,400.
9. Jeff Bowers as a Junior High Softball Coach for the Spring 2024-2025 season at a stipend of \$2,400.
10. Rodney Snowell as a Junior High Softball Coach for the Spring 2024-2025 Season at a stipend of \$2,400.
11. The agreement between Pottsville Area School District and Saint Clair Area School District for the Provision of Shared Athletics.
12. The decommission and disposal of the pole vault pit and the decommission of the high jump pit at the PAHS Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Motion carried.

Informational Item - Thank you to Jeff Bowers and Bill Toothaker for their volunteer work at the Softball Field. They upgraded the press box platform by replacing wood, painting it, and adding hooks. The bleachers were pressure washed and other field components were tightened up. The work completed is in memory of Bob Bowers and Melvin Hoffman for their many days of avidly supporting Crimson Tide softball.

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

1. Victor E. Muncy Inc. to complete the work of reversing the swing of the Martz Hall doors that lead into the second floor of DHH Lengel Middle School at a cost of \$2,559.
2. Permission to advertise for Request for Bid Proposals to find a solution to retain the rocks on the side of the Baseball field.
3. Permission to advertise for Request for Bid Proposals for the refurbishment of District Building Elevators.
4. Pastor Pottery maintenance and service plan for kilns at a cost of \$250 at DHHL Middle School and \$1,165 at PAHS.
5. Greens Communication for the upgrade to the Bus and Building Radios at a cost of \$53,294.00 (COSTARS #012-E23-317).

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Personnel Committee, on motion of Mrs. Dewitt, seconded by Mrs. Hobbs, the Board approved the following:

1. Paraprofessionals for the Extended School Year Program (ESY) and the JSC Summer School Program at their normal hourly rate:
  - Naomi Vigoda
  - Emilee Rose
  - Kaleigh Sibbett
2. Employees for the Summer Meals Program at an hourly rate of \$12.00, effective June 10, 2024.
  - Shannon Butler
  - Robin Kalinich
  - Crystal Major
  - Carolyn Potts

- Jessica Rubright
- Tina Sibbett
- Jane Soubik
- Connie Stabinsky
- Kris Thomas
- Desiree Weikel
- Joanie Williams

Substitutes:

- Kelly Borrell
- Colleen Coulson
- Cindy Hermany
- Robin Kalinich
- Nicole Lukach

Colleen Miller

3. Teachers to plan and/or teach for the DHHL Middle School Summer Tutoring Program/Summer School, at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

- Alicia Fehr
- Elizabeth Grow
- Katelynn Miller
- Kara Ryan
- Philip Tenaglia
- Cameryn Winton
- Patricia Zartman

4. DHHL Middle School teachers for the Achieve Summer Program at an hourly rate of \$24.40, effective June 10, 2024.

- Alicia Fehr (Supervisor - \$26.00/hour)
- Cara Holman
- Lisa Holobetz
- Kaitlin Leffler
- Donna Mates
- Mary Matulevich
- Ashley Shappell
- Carolyn Wasilewski
- Joann Weres
- Any Wood
- Leah Zerbe

5. Teachers to plan and/or teach for the JSC Elementary Summer Tutoring Program/Summer School, at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

- Melissa Brennan
- Emily Earley
- Tayah Moore
- Angelique Mundy
- Rebecca Oakill
- Amy Rubinkam
- Tiffany Spalti

6. JSC Elementary Center teachers for the Achieve Summer Program at an hourly rate of \$24.40, effective June 10, 2024.

- Emily Kleeman (Supervisor - \$26.00/hour)
- Lisa Barr
- Lindsay Hand
- Allison McAndrew
- Rebecca Oakill

7. Brett Reed (Teacher) and Jennifer Molina (Paraprofessional) for Summer ESL Instruction at their current hourly rate through Title III Funding.

8. Gary Marx as full-time Custodian at Pottsville Area School District at the hourly rate of \$14.00 retroactive to May 13, 2024.

9. Richard Nanartowicz as part-time cafeteria aide at JSC Elementary at an hourly rate of \$10.25 and part-time custodian at an hourly rate of \$11.25, retroactive to May 7, 2024.

10. The Superintendent to be granted authority to fill vacancies and hire certified personnel with ratification at the June, July, August, and September 2024 Board Meetings. This authority is granted annually.

11. The letter of resignation from Stacey Appler, Science Teacher at DHHL Middle School, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

12. The following employees' requests for Leave without Pay as per School Board Policy(s) #334, #434, and #534:

- Employee #1493 - Paraprofessional - April 24, 2024; May 9, 2024; May 15, 2024 - 1/2 day
- Employee #1548 - Teacher - March 14, 15, 18, 2024
- Employee #930 - Cafeteria - April 29, 2024
- Employee #1558 - Teacher - April 26, 2024
- Employee #1288 - Paraprofessional - May 13, 2024 to May 28, 2024
- Employee #978 - Teacher - May 14, 2024

- Employee #1115 - Cafeteria - May 10, 2024 - 1/2 day pm

13. The following employees' request for Child Rearing Leave and/or Family Medical Leave (FMLA):

- Employee #1093 - Teacher - August 21, 2024 through December 1, 2024
- Employee #129 - Custodian - April 25, 2024 through May 22, 2024

14. Riyuichi Narita as an after-school tutor at JSC Elementary Center at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

15. The letter of resignation from Kiera Van Horn, Speech and Language Pathologist at DHHL Middle School, effective upon the completion of the Extended School Year Program. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

16. The letter of resignation from Kayla Gaffron, Special Education Teacher at DHHL Middle School, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

17. The letter of resignation from Corrine Zimmerman, School Psychologist at DHHL Middle School, effective June 30, 2024. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

18. The resignation of Mychaellah Lucas, Speech and Language Pathologist at JSC Elementary Center, effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

19. The resignation of Lucas Bricker, Chemistry Teacher at PAHS and Track Assistant Coach effective the end of the 2023-2024 school year. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

20. The Addendum to the Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and ESS Northeast, LLC for the purposes of employing Mrs. Eleanor Aschman as Special Education Supervisor Consultant at the Pottsville Area High School with a start date of August 5, 2024.

21. The resignation of Louisa Perez, Paraprofessional at JSC Elementary Center, effective April 16, 2024.

22. The resignation of Connie Pellish, Part-Time Cafeteria Aide at JSC Elementary Center, effective April 29, 2024.

23. The resignation of Connie Stabinsky, Part-Time Cafeteria Staff at JSC Elementary Center, effective June 5, 2024.



24. Sara Parker as a 2nd Grade Teacher at JSC Elementary Center for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 2 - Bachelor's - \$45,000.
25. Brianna Betz as a 4th Grade Teacher at JSC Elementary Center for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$45,000.
26. Heather Yarnitsky as a School (Guidance) Counselor at JSC Elementary Center for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 12 - Masters + 15 - \$67,695.
27. Jessika Sadusky as a Speech and Language Pathologist at JSC Elementary Center for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 1 - Master's - \$53,600. It is further recommended that the Board approve Jessika Sadusky for ESY at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA.
28. Sydney Murray as a Math teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$45,000.
29. Johanna Morrison as a Special Education teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 14 - Master's - \$70,925. It is further recommended that the Board approve Johanna Morrison for ESY at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA.
30. Olivia Eagan as a Speech and Language Pathologist at DHHL Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 1 - Master's - \$53,600. It is further recommended that the Board approve Olivia Eagan for ESY at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA.
31. Connie Yutko as a Certified School Nurse at DHHL Middle School, effective May 23, 2024 - Step 12 - Bachelor's + 15 - \$63,789. It is further recommended that the Board approve Connie Yutko for ESY at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA.
32. Michael Walser as a Certified School Nurse at Pottsville Area School District for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 6 - Bachelor's - \$46,500. It is further recommended that the Board approve Michael Walser for ESY at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA.
33. Robert Wiscount as an ESL Teacher at Pottsville Area School District for the 2024-2025 school year - Step 14 - Master's + 15 - \$72,772. It is further recommended that the Board approve Robert Wiscount for Summer ESL Instruction at his current hourly rate through Title III Funding.
34. Derrell Johnson-Koulianos as Director of Athletics and Student Activities at a salary of \$65,000 (Act 93 - 12 months) with a May 23, 2024 start date.

35. Crystal Reedy as a Full-Time Paraprofessional at PAHS with her current hourly rate. Ms. Reedy has been a Part-Time Paraprofessional.

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

1. 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, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

2. The Letter of Agreement for the provision of Student Assistance Program (SAP) and Elementary Student Assistance Program (ESAP) Services between the Pottsville Area School District and Child and Family Services Inc., effective August 1, 2024.

3. The TITLE I Revised Letter of Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit. Term of Agreement - August 23, 2023 through May 31, 2024

4. The reinvestment of matured investments of \$1,125,000.00 into a 4-month US Treasury Bill (T-Bill) at a rate of 5.25% retroactive to April 30, 2024.

5. The movement of \$500,000 from the PSDLAF MAX account to the PSDLAF Full FLEX Weekly liquidity pool at the current rate of 5.24% retroactive to May 10, 2024.

6. The Renewal Agreement with Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) Computer Service for the 2024-2025 school year at an annual cost of \$31,306 for fund accounting, human resources, and payroll.

7. The following institutions as depositories for the Pottsville Area School District for the 2024-2025 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, Booster Club Account, Cafeteria Account, Technology Account

~ Link Bank, Pottsville, PA - Award Funds

~ PSDLAF - Capital Reserve Fund, General Fund Investment Accounts

8. The agreement with Dignity Consulting, LLC for in-service on August 21, 2024. The cost of the agreement will be paid for by Title I funds.

9. The Proposal for school photos from First Class School Imaging for the 2024-2025 school year.

10. The Memorandum of Understanding between JSC Elementary Center and Child Development, Inc. (Head Start Grantee), effective June 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025. This MOU is approved annually.

11. Permission to apply for the Public School Environmental Repairs Program grant. The grant requires a cash match of 50% of the total eligible product costs.

12. The following Resolution:

Be it RESOLVED, that the Pottsville Area School District of Schuylkill County hereby request a Public School Facility Improvement Grant of no more than \$5,000,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for multiple buildings: exterior doors, elevator modifications, and sidewalk replacements. Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Stacy Stair, Business Manager, and Sarah Yoder, Superintendent, as the official(s) to execute all documents and agreements between the Pottsville Area School District and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant. Pottsville Area School District commits to match the award amount by 25%.

Motion carried.

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 19, 2024 stating that the budget for the fiscal year commencing the first day of July 1, 2024 would be adopted as of May 22, 2024. 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 \$49,171,136 and appended to and made a part of the minutes of this meeting:

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, and on motion of Mr. Ciavarella, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board approved the following RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Directors of Pottsville Area School District, Schuylkill County, hereby authorize expenditures of \$49,171,136 set forth in the school budget, as appended, during the school year 2024-2025 and levies a tax of 45.403 mills (\$45.403 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 \$128.09 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.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote with 7 aye's, 2 nay's. Mr. Ansbach and Mr. Thomas were the nay votes. Mr. Thomas spoke and said he did not agree with the one mill increase because of inflation and the district having a healthy fund balance.

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

That the Board authorize and direct the following to collect the amount due on the 2024 taxes, real estate and personal, in the respective political subdivisions indicated:

Pottsville City - Taryn Dragna  
Port Carbon Borough - Mary Jo Ferraro  
Mechanicsville Borough - Alicia Beach  
Mount Carbon Borough - Linda Yeich/Sch. County Treasurer  
Palo Alto Borough - Anna Cook  
Norwegian Township - Krista Schaeffer

Motion carried – 9 aye's, 0 nay's

The Committee on Finance recommends that the Board confirm the rates of compensation to tax collectors in the respective political subdivisions for the 2024 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 & \$1.00 per bill mailed  
Mechanicsville Borough       \$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District & \$1.00 per bill mailed  
Mount Carbon Borough       \$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District & \$1.00 per bill mailed

Palo Alto Borough	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District & \$1.00 per bill mailed
Norwegian Township	\$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the District & \$1.00 per bill mailed

MOTION TO CONFIRM RATES OF COMPENSATION. VOTE BY ROLL CALL.

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 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 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 2024-2025 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 \$128.09 under Act 511, Local Tax Enabling Law of 1965, as amended, will continue during the 2024-2025 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 2024-2025, 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 -2024-2025

Real Estate	45.403 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	\$128.09

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, 2024, 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, 2024:

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 \$1,063,274.

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 4,152.

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 4,152.

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 \$1,063,274 by the paragraph 2(c) aggregate number of approved homesteads and approved farmsteads of 4,152 the maximum real estate tax reduction amount applicable to each approved homestead and to each approved farmstead is \$256.09.

4. Homestead exclusion calculation. Dividing the paragraph 3 maximum real estate tax reduction amount of \$256.09 by the School District real estate tax rate of 45.403, the maximum real estate assessed value reduction to be reflected on tax notices as a homestead exclusion for each approved homestead is \$5,640 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 \$5,640. 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.

Motion carried – 9 aye’s, 0 nay’s

Informational Item:

1. Moody's Investors Service - Moody's upgraded the Pottsville Area School District's issue and general obligation limited tax (GOLT) rating to Baa1 from Baa2. The District is grateful for the second consecutive year of an increase in credit rating level, which confirms that the District's financial position continues to move in a positive direction due to conservative budgeting and the implementation of cost-cutting measures.

The Promotion, Public Relations & Social Media Committee congratulated the following:

1. PAHS Artist of the Month, Tabitha Rauch.

2. PAHS STC Students for being inducted into the STC National Technical Honor Society:

- Luke Kruss - Automotive Technology
- Kaniya Dumas - Early Childhood Education
- Kylie Sinclair - Early Childhood Education
- Julie Ulrich - Criminal Justice
- Luci Ames - Cosmetology
- Hopeanne Williams - Logistics Technology
- Kamrynn Carroll - Welding Technology
- Brandan Melochick - Welding Technology
- James Bosefski - Automotive Technology
- Keegan Frew - Carpentry Technology

3. PAHS Students who were given awards at the Bucks County Student Theater Festival on April 24, 2024:

- Featured Actor - Robert Rulavage
- Featured Actress - Annabella Chaklos
- Scene Sharing - Hannah Martician
- Natalie Boyer - Creativity in Modern Adaptation

4. JSC Elementary Center Students of the Month:

- K - Aly Billingham
- 1 - Meredith Spotts
- 2 - Bryleigh Gross
- 3 - Zaid McShaw
- 4 - Chase Herndon

5. Dr. Ali Hobbs who was nominated by her colleagues and selected by the Hawk Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts of America as the Elbert K. Fretwell Outstanding Educator of the Year.

6. PAHS Rotary Students of the Month Annabella Chaklos and James Bosefski.



7. DHH Lengel Tide Tek for placing in programming, animation, and graphic and logo design at the Regional PA Media & Design Competition hosted by the Schuylkill IU 29 and Schuylkill Technology Centers.
8. DHH Lengel Student Mattea Anthony for participating in the Elementary Band Fest on May 10, 2023 at Mahanoy Area Elementary.

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

1. The proposal from KIT Communications for Verkada Access Control from Martz Hall to DHHL Middle School at a cost of \$2,559.
2. The proposal from GDC IT Solutions to replace the SonicWall SMA at a cost of \$2,342.55.

Motion carried.

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

1. It is recommended that the Board approve PASD Teachers Kristyn Blum, Kelly Devine, Elizabeth Grow, and Carolyn Wasilewski to attend the PCTM (Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of Mathematics) Conference in Malvern, PA; June 24-26, 2024. The conference is paid for by ARP ESSER Funds. The total amount of the conference is \$3,345.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve JSC Elementary Center Teacher Riyuichi Narita to attend the STEELS Technology & Engineering Standards Conference in Dowingtown, PA on July 25-26, 2024. The conference is paid for by APR ESSER Funds. The total amount of the conference is \$650.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve the purchase with Savvas Learning Company LLC for Elevate Science K-5 and Elevate Science Middle Grades. The purchase includes Environmental Science, Experience Chemistry, Experience Physics, and Miller Levine Biology for grades nine through twelve. This is a three (3) year purchase plan, at an estimated cost of \$194,822.82 per year. The purchase includes digital/print student and teacher resources, online teacher and student access, classroom material kits, professional development, and coaching.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve the application to offer a Flexible Instruction Day (FID) program during the 2024-2025 school year.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Policy and Procedure Committee, and on motion of **Mr. Thomas**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, the Board approved the following policies:

Policy #702 Property – Gifts, Grants, Donations

Motion carried.

St. Clair Committee - Informational: Mr. Ciavarella said the St. Clair Committee plans to meet before the end of June.

PSBA Representative – Mrs Hobbs agreed to represent PASD as the voting delegate for the PSBA ZDelegate Assembly on Saturday, November 2, 2024 at 9 AM at PSBA Headquarters in Mechanicsburg, PA. The Assembly will also be accessible via Zoom.

Under New Business Junior Board Member Hunter Chescavage announced the following upcoming events:

- May 23, 2024 - PAHS Stage Band Concert
- May 24, 2024 - Holiday Early Dismissal
- May 27, 2024 - Memorial Day
- May 29, 2024 - JSC Kindergarten Show
- June 3, 2024 - JSC Fun Day
- June 5, 2024 - Early Dismissal and Last Day of School
- June 5, 2024 - Commencement

On the recommendation of **Mrs. Bevan**, Board Secretary, on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mr. Thomas**, the Board approved the following use of facilities:

## MS

### **1 - Lower Parking Lot**

City of Pottsville Fire Department retroactive to April 24, 2024

### **2 - Top of Martz Hall**

LVHN "Walk with a Doc"

May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 21, 2024

9:30 - 11:30 AM

## HS

### **1 - H.S. Stadium Track**

Pottsville Fitness Challenge

June 8, 2024 - August 17, 2024

5 - 8 PM

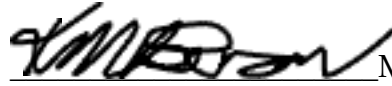
Meetings for June 2024

Committee of the Whole Meeting - Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Academic Center

Board Meeting - Wednesday, June 19, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium

An Executive Session was held from 6:15 PM to 6:39 to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business, on motion of **Mr. Thomas**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM

 May 30, 2024

Krista M. Bevan (Date)  
Board Secretary