



**Wednesday, February 21, 2024**  
**Board Meeting**

**POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**DHH LENGEL MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**1. MEETING OPENING**

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**Subject**                      **1.1 Opening and Pledge of Allegiance**

Meeting                      Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                    1. MEETING OPENING

Access                      Public

Type                         Procedural

**Subject**                      **1.2 Public Comment**

Meeting                      Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                    1. MEETING OPENING

Access                      Public

Type                         Information, Procedural

Ms. 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.

Are there any public comments at this time?

**Subject**                    **1.3 Board of Directors - Roll Call**

Meeting                    Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                    1. MEETING OPENING

Access                      Public

Type                         Procedural

## **2. BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

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**Subject**                    **2.1 Approval of Committee of the Whole and Board Meeting Minutes - Board Secretary Mrs. Patricia Lombel**

Meeting                    Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                    2. BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Access                      Public

Type                         Action

Recommended             Motion to approve as recommended.  
Action

It is recommended that the Board approve the January 10, 2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes and the January 17, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

## **3. FINANCIAL REPORTS - MRS. STACY STAIR**

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**Subject**                    **3.1 Approval of Financial Reports**

Meeting                    Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                    3. FINANCIAL REPORTS - MRS. STACY STAIR

Access                      Public

Type                         Action

Recommended             Motion to approve as recommended.  
Action

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) - **General Fund Balance as of January 31, 2024 - \$3,204,522.23. Cafeteria Checking Balance as of January 31, 2024 - \$186,176.40.**
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

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**5. SOLICITOR'S REPORT - KEVIN REID, ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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<b>Subject</b>	<b>5.1 Discipline Waivers</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	5. SOLICITOR'S REPORT - KEVIN REID, ATTORNEY AT LAW
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended.

**It is recommended that the Board approve the following Discipline Waiver, effective February 21, 2024.**

- \* #25-4295
- \* #30-6692

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

**6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - DR. SARAH YODER**

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<b>Subject</b>	<b>6.1 Pre-approval of Credits</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - DR. SARAH YODER
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended.

**It is recommended that the Superintendent's 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:**

- Jill Chiccini - 3 Credits
- Greg Hoak - 3 Credits
- Nicole Kutsmeda - 3 Credits
- Anne Murray - 3 Credits
- Kara Ryan - 3 Credits
- Amy Withelder - 3 Credits

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

**Subject**                      **6.2 Credit Reimbursement**

Meeting                        Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                      6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - DR. SARAH YODER

Access                         Public

Type                            Action

Recommended                Motion to approve as recommended.  
Action

**It is recommended that the following 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:**

Greg Hoak - \$1,440.00  
Nicole Kutsmeda - \$300.00  
Kaitlin Leffler - \$2,064.00  
Anne Murray - \$300.00  
Rebecca Oakill - \$300.00

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

**Subject**                      **6.3 Salary Adjustment**

Meeting                        Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                      6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - DR. SARAH YODER

Access                         Public

Type                            Action

Recommended                Motion to approve as recommended.  
Action

**It is recommended that the following salary adjustment be approved and made effective the 2024-2025 school year:**

Amanda Purcell - Master's  
Michael Roberts - Bachelor's + 15

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

**Subject**                      **6.4 Calendar**

Meeting                        Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                      6. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - DR. SARAH YODER

Access                         Public

Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended.

1. It is recommended that the 2023-2024 School Calendar be revised to reflect snow make-up days as follows:

<b><u>School Canceled</u></b>	<b><u>Make-up Day</u></b>
January 16, 2024	April 5, 2024
February 13, 2024	April 4, 2024

2. It is recommended that the 2024-2025 School Calendar be approved. The first day of school for students will be Monday, August 26, 2024, and tentatively the last day of school will be Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Tentative Teacher In-service days will be held August 21-22, 2024; October 14, 2024; and January 20, 2025. A tentative Act 80 day will be held November 11, 2024. Early dismissals will be held on Wednesday, November 27, 2024; Friday, December 20, 2024; Wednesday, April 16, 2025; Friday, May 23, 2025; and the last day of school (tentatively Tuesday, June 3, 2025).

**Could I please have a motion to approve as recommended?**

## **7. INFORMATION - SUPERINTENDENT DR. SARAH YODER**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>7.1 Federal Programs</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	7. INFORMATION - SUPERINTENDENT DR. SARAH YODER
Access	Public
Type	Information

<b>Subject</b>	<b>7.2 Crimson Tide Foundation</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	7. INFORMATION - SUPERINTENDENT DR. SARAH YODER
Access	Public
Type	Information

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8.1 Athletics and Extracurricular Activities - Mr. Craig Shields</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended.

**It is recommended by the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities that the Board approve the following:**

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the trip to Niagara Falls, New York (May 19 - 21, 2024). The Tide Tek S.T.E.M. Club will be visiting multiple educational sites near Niagara Falls. The field trip is for 8th grade club members who have remained highly active in club activities during their time at the DHH Lengel Middle School. This will include approximately 10 to 15 members of the club making the trip along with 4 chaperones (pending clearances). The trip will be funded by club fundraisers.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Spring Coaches for the 2023-2024 season contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork and satisfactory clearances (as per contract):

**BASEBALL**

Michael Welsh, Head Coach  
Ben O'Brien, Varsity Assistant  
Gary Keener, JV Head Coach  
Stephen Messina, JV Assistant

**SOFTBALL**

Charles Rinaldo, Head Coach  
Thomas Mull, Varsity Assistant  
Bruce Heffner, JV Head Coach  
Serenity Allen, JV Assistant

**SPRING TRACK**

Charles Schuster, Boys' Head Coach  
Kelly Lombel, Girls' Head Coach  
Lucas Bricker, Assistant  
Peter McDonald, Assistant  
Anthony Kelly, Assistant  
Jennifer Brindle, Assistant  
Mark Laubenstine, Jr. High Head Coach  
Jeff Dunkel, Jr. High Asst.  
Jed Dunkel, Jr. High Asst.

**BOYS' TENNIS**

Adrian Portland, Head Coach

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the following volunteer Spring Coaches for the 2023-2024 Season:

**Baseball:**

Tony Barone  
Ty Steidle

**Softball:**

Jeffrey Bowers  
Michael Kiehner

**Track and Field:**

Robert Brouse  
Marlin Vandermeer

**Weight Room**

Ian Renninger

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8.2 Facilities and Grounds - Mr. Jerome Urban</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended

**It is recommended by the Facilities and Grounds Committee that the Board approve the following:**

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Guaranteed Energy Services (Ameresco) Agreement for energy conservation services and installations, effective February 21, 2024, pending solicitor's review.

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8.3 Transportation - Mrs. Ashley DeWitt</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8.4 Finance - Mr. Harry Ciavarella</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Access Public  
Type Action  
Recommended Action Motion to approve as recommended.

**It is recommended by the Finance Committee that the Board approve the following:**

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Schuylkill Technology Center 2024-2025 Budget in the amount of \$6,532,499. Pottsville Area School District's contribution is \$891,622; an increase of \$88,399 from prior year. **Note: Each Director must sign the ballot indicating their vote on the above motion and return to the Board Secretary.**
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Intermediate Unit General Operating 2024-2025 Budget. Total Budget amount - \$2,787,063. **Note: Each Director must sign the ballot indicating their vote on the above motion and return to the Board Secretary.**
3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Better Unemployment Compensation System BASIC Program (BUCS Basic) agreement between the PSBA Insurance Trust and Pottsville Area School District effective 24-25 school year. BUCS basic provides programs for public school entities within the State, including claims management and related services.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve the Addendum to the Agreement between Pottsville Area School District and ESS Northeast, LLC for the services of Substitute Teachers and Staff, effective February 21, 2024.
5. It is recommended that the Board approve the transfer of the matured Treasury Bill's funds from PSDLAF Max into PSDLAF Full Flex Account. Current interest rate - 5.24%
6. It is recommended that the Board approve a request from the City of Pottsville to waive the minimum bid fee for a purchase of a city property.

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

**Subject 8.5 Personnel - Mrs. Ashley Dewitt**  
Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Action  
Recommended Action Motion to approve as recommended.

**It is recommended by the Personnel Committee that the Board approve the following:**

1. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Kim Rismiller, musical director of the PAHS Drama Club, retroactive to January 12, 2024.
2. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Robyn Green, paraprofessional at the JSC Elementary Center, retroactive to January 25, 2024.



3. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Cindy Westwood, full-time custodian at the DHHL Middle School and van driver for the Pottsville Area School District, retroactive to February 6, 2024.
4. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Karli Blackwell, cafeteria aide at JSC Elementary Center, retroactive to February 7, 2024.
5. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Erica Berger, van driver for the Pottsville Area School District, effective March 1, 2024.
6. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Shawn Westwood, full-time custodian/transportation driver for the Pottsville Area School District, effective February 26, 2024.
7. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Wendy Masser, Occupational Therapist at JSC Elementary Center, effective April 20, 2024.
8. It is recommended that the Board approve Kole Laughlin as a part-time custodian at the DHHL Middle School at an hourly rate of \$11.25, effective February 22, 2024 contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork.
9. It is recommended that the Board approve Katherine Encarnacion as a part-time paraprofessional at PAHS at an hourly rate of \$14.00, effective February 22, 2024 contingent upon receipt of completed paperwork.
10. It is recommended that the Board approve Christine Trapani as a part-time paraprofessional at JSC Elementary Center at an hourly rate of \$18.57, retroactive to February 20, 2024.
11. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 339, 439, 539:
  - Employee #1583 - Cafeteria Aide - January 22, 23, 2024
  - Employee #947 - Kindergarten Aide - February 1, 2, 2024
  - Employee #471 - Cafeteria Employee - February 24, 2024 thru April 23, 2024
  - Employee #1300 - Cafeteria Aide - February 2, 2024
  - Employee #1235 - Van Driver - January 26, 2024 to TBD
12. It is recommended that the Board approve Stacy Stair as the Business Manager of Pottsville Area School District for a term commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 31, 2029 at an annual salary of \$110,316.15 **(ROLL CALL)**.
13. It is recommended that the Board approve the advertisement for a full-time ESL Paraprofessional (Bilingual preferred).
14. It is recommended that the Board approve Angelique Mundy for the After School Tutoring Program at JSC Elementary Center.

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8.6 Promotion, Public Relations &amp; Social Media - Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
Access	Public
Type	Information

1. Congratulations to PAHS Rotary of the Month Students, Brenna McGowan and Eily Painter.
2. Congratulations to PAHS Student, Molly Hesse, for being selected as PAHS Artist of the Month.
3. Congratulations to our outstanding mathletes who competed in the regional MATHCOUNTS competition held at Penn State Schuylkill on February 3, 2024. The 4-person team of Padraic Kerns, Najlaa Belkhoutout, Tai Kerns, and Blake Gaughan earned second place overall. Three Lengel competitors earned a spot in the top 10 speed round. Evan Halat earned 7th place, Najlaa Belkhoutout earned 4th place, and Padraic Kerns won the individual competition. Padraic and Najlaa are moving on to the state-level competition in Harrisburg on March 22-23, 2024. The Lengel MATHCOUNTS Team is led by Ms. Carolyn Wasilewski.
4. Congratulations to 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Julia Leiby, who was recognized by IXL as an Elite 100 Teacher for 2023. The Elite 100 are selected from over 1,000,000 teachers worldwide for exceptional use and progress with IXL during the school year.
5. Congratulations to JSC Elementary Center Students of the Month:
  - K - Mila Greene
  - 1 - Serenity Berger
  - 2 - Elizabeth Lauderman
  - 3 - Camilo Leonardo
  - 4 - Lilah Barnhart
6. Congratulations to PAHS Students, Keegan Frew and Jason Hoffman. They are advancing to State Competition in Carpentry and Automotive Technology.
7. Congratulations to PAHS Student, Luke Kruss who won the Skills USA District 6 Competition in Automotive Technology. Luke will now advance to the State Level Competition.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>8.7 Technology - Mr. Jerome Urban</b>
Meeting	Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting
Category	8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
Access	Public
Type	Action
Recommended Action	Motion to approve as recommended.

**It is recommended by the Technology Committee that the Board approve the following:**

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the district wide security camera project with KIT Communications at a not to exceed amount of \$707,000.00 per PEPPM contract #533902-115. This project will be funded through PCCD and/or budgetary reserve.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the PEPPM Mini-Bid proposal from KIT Communications for structured cabling for \$194,525.00 pending final E-Rate approval. E-Rate to fund 80% of this project.

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the PEPPM Mini-Bid proposal from ePlus Technology for network switches for \$85,143.00 pending final E-Rate approval. E-Rate to fund 80% of this project.

4. It is recommended that the Board approve the PEPPM Mini-Bid proposal from ePlus Technology for battery backups for \$19,297.80 pending final E-Rate approval. E-Rate to fund 80% of this project.

5. It is recommended that the Board approve the Skyward renewal to lock in the rate for 3 years at \$9.08 per student. Estimated annual cost is \$23,000.00 pending student enrollment.

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

**Subject 8.8 Curriculum - Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Action, Information  
Recommended Action Motion to approve as recommended.

**Subject 8.9 Policy and Procedure - Mr. Bob Thomas**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Action, Information  
Recommended Action Motion to approve as recommended.

**1. It is recommended by the Policy and Procedure Committee that the Board approve the following policies:**

- Employees
  - 317 - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
    - 317.1 - Educator Misconduct
  - 318 - Penalties for Tardiness
  - 319 - Outside Activities
  - 320 - Freedom of Speech in Nonschool Settings
  - 321 - Political Activities
  - 322 - Gifts

323 - Tobacco and Vaping Products

324 - Personnel Files HIV Infection

325 - Dress and Grooming

**2. It is recommended by the Policy and Procedure Committee that the Board retire the following policies:**

Professional Employees

417 - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures

418 - Penalties for Tardiness

419 - Outside Activities

420 - Freedom of Speech in Noninstructional Settings

421 - Political Activities

422 - Gifts

423 - Tobacco Use

424 - Personnel Files

425 - Dress and Grooming

Support Employees

517 - Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures

518 - Penalties for Tardiness

519 - Outside Activities

523 - Tobacco Use

524 - Personnel Files

525 - Dress and Grooming

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

**Subject**                               **8.10 Food Services - Mr. Craig Shields**

Meeting                               Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category                              8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Access                                 Public

Type                                    Information

**Subject**                               **8.11 Labor Relations - Mr. Jerome Urban**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Information

## **9. INFORMATION BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

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**Subject 9.1 Legislation - Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 9. INFORMATION BOARD MEMBER REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Information, Reports

**Subject 9.2 IU 29 Representative – Ms. Linda Wytovich**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 9. INFORMATION BOARD MEMBER REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Information, Reports

**Subject 9.3 St. Clair Committee – Mr. Harry Ciavarella**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 9. INFORMATION BOARD MEMBER REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Information, Reports

**Subject 9.4 PSBA Representative – Mrs. Rachael Hobbs**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 9. INFORMATION BOARD MEMBER REPORTS  
Access Public  
Type Information

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

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**Subject 10.1 Upcoming Events - Junior Board Member Madison Eroh/Hunter Chescavage**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 10. NEW BUSINESS  
Access Public  
Type Information

March 2, 2024 - Schuylkill County Band Festival at Pine Grove Area High School  
March 2, 2024 - Schuylkill County Regional Spelling Bee at DHHL Auditorium  
March 4-8, 2024 - Read Across America Week  
March 4-10, 2024 - National Foreign Language Week  
March 9, 2024 - Daylight Saving Time Begins  
March 16, 2024 - St. Patrick's Day Parade (Pottsville)  
March 22-24, 2024 - PAHS Spring Musical - The Little Mermaid

**Subject 10.2 Use of Facilities - Board Secretary Mrs. Patricia Lombel**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 10. NEW BUSINESS  
Access Public  
Type Action  
Recommended Motion to approve as recommended.  
Action

**Subject 10.3 Dates for Committee Meeting and Board Meeting - Board Secretary Mrs. Patricia Lombel**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 10. NEW BUSINESS  
Access Public  
Type Information

**Meetings for February 2024**

Committee of the Whole Meeting - Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Academic Center  
Board Meeting - Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium

**11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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**Subject 11.1 Executive Session - Board Secretary Mrs. Patricia Lombel**

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting  
Category 11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Access Public

Type Information

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

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**Subject** 12.1 Adjourn

Meeting Feb 21, 2024 - Board Meeting

Category 12. ADJOURNMENT

Access Public

Type Action

Recommended Action Motion to adjourn