

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Board Meeting
September 18, 2024 - 7:00 PM
Board Room – Academic Center

Present: Mr. Ansbach, Mrs. Hobbs,
Mr. Ciavarella, Mrs. Dewitt
Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich,
Dr. Yoder, Superintendent; Mrs. Stair,
Business Manager; Mrs. Bevan, Asst. Business
Manager/Board Secretary;
Mr. Shields; Mrs. Buchanan;
Dr. Yoder, Superintendent
Absent: Mr. Thomas

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Lynda Wytovich .
Roll Call – 8 members present, 1 absent.

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. Public comments will follow our public comment procedures, which require members of the public to identify themselves by indicating name and address. If members of the public wish to make public comments, then they must do so in person.

There were no public comments.

On motion of **Mr. Ciavarella**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the August 7, 2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes and the August 21, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

Dr. Yoder announced the presentation by PAHS Art Teachers Sara Arnold and Katrina Greenawalt. The presentation was on the Savannah College of Art & Design Educator Forum. It can be found on the district website.

On the recommendation of **Mrs. Bevan**, Assistant Business Manager and on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mr. Ciavarella**, the Board approved the following Financial Reports for the month of August 2024:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) - **General Fund Balance as of August 31, 2024 - \$11,254,786.44, Cafeteria Checking Balance as of August 31, 2024 - \$428,188.39.**
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 none

No discussion, motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Superintendent** and on motion of **Mr. Ansbach**, seconded by **Mrs. Hobbs**, the 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:

Jamie Dawson - 3 Credits
Samantha Gardner - 9 Credits
Michel Germán - 6 Credits
Joseph Halko - 8 Credits
Paula Heffner - 6 Credits
Gregory Hoak - 6 Credits
Lisa Holobetz - 3 Credits
Riyuichi Narita - 17 Credits
Rachelle Price - 3 Credits
William Rhoads - 3 Credits
Nicole Stiles - 18 Credits
David Jake Wartella - 3 Credits
Haley Wiscount - 3 Credits

No discussion, motion carried.

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

Detrick Borden - \$3,096.00
Emily Earley - \$1,548.00
Michel Germán - \$3,426.00
John Guzick - \$3,000.00
Paula Heffner - \$1,440.00
Greg Hoak - \$1,440.00
Lisa Holobetz - \$1,548.00
Nicole Kutsmeda - \$300.00
Kaitlin Leffler - \$4,644.00
Anne Murray - \$300.00

Michael Roberts - \$2,580.00

Melissa Scheetz - \$1,548.00

On the recommendation of the **Superintendent**, and on motion of **Mr. Ansbach**, seconded by **Mrs. Hobbs**, the Board approved the following salary adjustments as per the agreement:

Lisa Holobetz - Master's + 15

Nicole Kutsmeda - Master's + 15

Anne Murray - Master's + 15

Michala Zembas - Master's Degree

No discussion, motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of **Mr. Ansbach**, seconded by **Mrs. Hobbs**, the Board approved the following Internship/Shadowing placements:

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Principal Internship Placement for Rachelle Price (DHHL Middle School ELA Teacher) through Wilkes University with Dr. Caitlin Mohl, Principal of DHHL Middle School. There is no stipend for Dr. Mohl or Ms. Price during the Principal Internship.

2. It is recommended that the Board approve the following LVHN Senior Nursing Students for a School Nurse Experience to shadow our school nurses during the Fall Semester. We are grateful for the partnership with LVHN Joseph F. McCloskey School of Nursing.

Mumira Alston

JoAnn Bleiler

Ashley Cherapan

Rebecca Fisher

Hannah George

Brooke Hallock

Caitlyn Herndon

Rachael Hoy

Lydia Inns

Grace Kessler

Jennifer Kennedy

Paige Laudenslager

Marissa Levan

Jessica Nagle

Dawn Phillips

Donna Rania

Jena Reilly

Emily Shappell

Holly Strenkoski
Miranda Wehry

3. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board approve the following professional semester and/or student teacher placements as a part of the District's collaboration with Kutztown University. We are grateful for the partnership with Kutztown University.

Raz'hanay Gordon with cooperating teacher, Courtney Reichert (Grade K)
Tess Horn with cooperating teacher, Nicole Kutsmeda (Grade K)
Kennedi Pellegrini with cooperating teacher, Michala Zembas (Grade K)
Amy Devito with cooperating teacher, Casey Shoopack (Grade 1)
Julia Hayes with cooperating teacher, Kristyn Blum (Grade 1)
Morgan Denmead with cooperating teacher, Nikki Hozella (Grade 2)
Gwen DiPrinzio with cooperating teacher, Stacie Cromyak (Grade 3)
Sarah Colosono with cooperating teacher, Molly Kleeman (Grade 3)
Kennedy Carlin with cooperating teacher, Bailey Ditzler (Grade 3)
Felise Willard with cooperating teacher, Jennifer Brindle (Grade 4)
Caitlin Maskonka with cooperating teacher, Amanda Purcell (Grade 4)

INFORMATION - CRIMSON TIDE FOUNDATION: Please mark your calendars for the Second Annual Homecoming Reunion for the All PAHS Alumni and Friends sponsored by the Crimson Tide Foundation at the Pottsville Zone! We hope to see you there on Friday, September 27, 2024 at 7:30 PM until well after the football game. The admission is \$10.

We are thankful for the commitment of the Crimson Tide Foundation Board members for organizing events to raise funds for our students in the form of educational resources, field trips, and activities. We ask that our community continues to support the efforts of the Crimson Tide Foundation.

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. It is recommended that the Board approve Steven Joachim as Jr. High Assistant Football Coach for the 2024-2025 season, stipend as per contract.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve Stephen DeLucia as Jr. High Head Wrestling Coach for the 2024-2025 season, stipend as per contract.

3. It is recommended that the Board approve Shawn Snyder and Paula Heffner as Co-Directors for Aquatics for the 2024-2025 school year at a stipend of \$3,500 each.

4. It is recommended that the Board approve Bo Rogers and Amy Withhelder as Co-Coaches for Bocce Ball for the 2024-2025 school year at a stipend of \$1,500 each.

No discussion, motion carried.

Facilities and Grounds Committee: Informational Item:

The Pottsville Area School District is grateful for the PDE Environmental Repairs in the amount of \$526,739 for asbestos abatement. Projects that have been awarded were reduced uniformly by approximately 22%. The PDE stated the exact funding delivery method has not yet been determined, so we will receive more details in the future.

On the recommendation of the **Transportation Committee**, on motion of **Mrs. Dewitt**, seconded by **Mr. Hobbs**, the Board approved the 2024-2025 STC Agreement for the Transportation of School Pupils.

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

1. It is recommended that the Board approve Crystal Yost as part-time Kindergarten Aide at the hourly rate of \$14.25, retroactive to August 19, 2024.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve Cynthia Fisher as part-time Kindergarten Aide at the hourly rate of \$14.25, retroactive to August 26, 2024.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve Bridget Schwartz as part-time Paraprofessional at the hourly rate of \$14.25, retroactive to September 3, 2024.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve Justin Boyer as full-time Custodian at JSC Elementary at the hourly rate of \$13.25, retroactive to September 3, 2024.
5. It is recommended that the Board approve Rose Ann Petrusky as part-time Cafeteria Aide at DHHL Middle School at the hourly rate of \$10.25, retroactive to September 9, 2024.
6. It is recommended that the Board approve Aneht Gonzalez as part-time Cafeteria at JSC Elementary at the hourly rate of \$11.50 retroactive to August 26, 2024.

7. It is recommended that the Board amend the previously approved hourly rate for ReAdams Reyes, part-time Custodian. The correct hourly rate is \$13.25 retroactive to August 26, 2024.

8. It is recommended that the Board approve Grace Brady as a part-time Academic Center Administrative Assistant for the 2024-2025 school year at the hourly rate of \$11.50, retroactive to July 22, 2024. Miss Brady previously worked in the Academic Center through the CareerLink program.

9. It is recommended that the Board approve the following as part-time Lifeguards at DHHL Middle School, at the hourly rate of \$9:

Tanner Houck

Clint Miller

10. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Mr. Cody Blankenhorn, DHHL Middle School Social Studies Teacher with a last day of September 18, 2024. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

11. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation from Thomas Taylor, full-time Outside Maintenance staff member, with a last day of September 20, 2024. We wish him well in his new endeavors.

12. It is recommended that the Board approve Mr. Josh Kalyan as a Social Studies Teacher at DHHL Middle School for the 2024-2025 School Year - Step 1 - Bachelor's - \$45,000 with a start date of September 19, 2024. Mr. John Carestia will serve as a mentor for Mr. Kalyan.

13. It is recommended that the Board approve permission to advertise for an ESL Teacher.

14. It is recommended that the Board approve the following employees' request for Child Rearing Leave and/or Family Medical Leave (FMLA):

- Employee #1628 - November 8, 2024 through November 27, 2024

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15. It is recommended that the Board approve the following employees' requests for Leave without Pay as per School Board Policy(s) #334, #434, and #534:

- Employee #1476 - September 3, 2024

16. It is recommended that the Board approve Katelynn Miller for the DHHL Middle School After School Program funded through Schuylkill County MHDSDA and/or Ready to Learn at an hourly rate of \$24.40 for the 2024-2025 school year.

17. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation for retirement from Suzanne Dolbin, DHHL Library Aide, effective December 21, 2024. We are

grateful for Mrs. Dolbin's dedication and commitment to the students, families and community and wish her well in her retirement.

18. It is recommended that the Board approve Mrs. Stephanie Wood as Part-Time Interim Business Manager at a daily rate of \$400 with no healthcare benefits, effective October 1, 2024.

No discussion, motion carried.

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

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Agreement with the Local No. 218, Pottsville PA of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada, effective from August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2028.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Agreement with Progressive Pediatric Therapy for the purposes of Occupational Therapy for the 2024-2025 school year.

No discussion, motion carried.

As related to Public Relations & Social Media, Mrs. Buchanan read the following informational items:

1. We are grateful for our volunteers who assisted DHHL Middle School with their Outride Bike program on August 25th. Coordinated by Outride Champions, Mr. Hoak, Ms. Heffner, and Ms. Zerbe, students, families, PASD staff, and a local mobile bike shop ensured our specialized mountain bikes were up to par and met all safety requirements. A special thank you to Ty Albright from Ty's Tune-ups for donating his time and expertise!
2. Congratulations to JSC Elementary Center's Students of the Month:
Kindergarten - Cleo Logothetides
First Grade - Dakari Roman
Second Grade - Joshua Villanueva-Williams
Third Grade - Lailony Roman
Fourth Grade - Jaxon Hauptmann

3. Thank you to PAHS Avidum Club for sponsoring a Purple Out event at the September 6th football game. This event helps raise awareness for Suicide Prevention. The outreach included distribution of purple lighted bracelets and informational items with donations accepted to support the PAHS Avidum Club.

On the recommendation of the **Technology Committee**, and on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, the Board approved the three-year agreement with Lightspeed at a cost of \$27,000.

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2024-2025 PHEAA Participation Agreement for the PA Student Teacher Support program.

2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Pottsville Area School District Language Instruction Education Plan for the 2024-2025 school year.

No discussion, motion carried.

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

No discussion, motion carried.

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

Employees

336 - Personal Necessity Leave

337 - Vacation

338 - Sabbatical Leave

338.1 - Compensated Professional Leaves

339 - Uncompensated Leave

340 - Responsibility for Student Welfare

341 - Benefits for Part-Time Employees

342 - Jury Duty

343 - Paid Holidays

347 - Workers' Compensation Transitional Return-to-Work Program

351 - Drug and Substance Abuse

Community

911 - News Media Relations

The Board also retired the following policies:

Administrative Employees

336 - Personal Necessity Leave

337 - Vacation
338 - Sabbatical Leave
338.1 - Compensated Professional Leaves
339 - Uncompensated Leave
339.1 - Military Leave
342 - Jury Duty
347 - Workers' Compensation Transitional Return-to-Work Program
348 - Unlawful Harassment
351 - Drug and Substance Abuse

Professional Employees

436 - Personal Necessity Leave
438 - Sabbatical Leave
438.1 - Compensated Professional Leaves
439 - Uncompensated Leave
439.1 - Military Leave
440 - Responsibility for Student Welfare
442 - Jury Duty
448 - Unlawful Harassment
451 - Drug and Substance Abuse

Support Employees

536 - Personal Necessity Leave
537 - Vacation
539 - Uncompensated Leave
539.1 - Military Leave
542 - Jury Duty
543 - Paid Holidays
548 - Unlawful Harassment

Motion carried without discussion.

On the recommendation of the PSBA representative Mrs. Hobbs, on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mrs. Buchanan, the Board vote for the following PSBA Members seeking election:

1. 2024 President-Elect. This is a one-year term. (Vote for One)
 - Sabrina Backer - Franklin Area School District
2. 2024 Vice President. This is a one-year term. (Vote for One)
 - Matt Vannoy - Sharon City School District
3. 2024-2026 Eastern Zone Representative. This is a three-year term. (Vote for One)
 - Holly Arnold - Tunkhannock Area School District

4. Trustee (Term ends December 31, 2027). This is a three-year term (Vote for Three)

- Nathan Mains
- Richard Frerichs
- William S. LaCoff

5. Forum Steering Committee (2-year term ends December 31, 2025). This is a two-year term (Vote for two)

- Mary Dougherty - Montgomery County IU
- Betsy Gates - Dauphin County Technical School

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

Motion carried, no discussion.

Under New Business, Junior Board Member Anabelly Valdez announced the following:

September 27, 2024 - Homecoming/ Alumni Night

October 14, 2024 - Teachers' In-Service (No School for Students)

On the recommendation of **Mrs. Bevan**, Assistant Business Manager, on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mrs. Buchanan**, the Board approved the Use of Facilities requests as follows:

HS

Auditorium

Greater Pottsville Winter Carnival

Pageant Practice - 5:45 - 8:15 pm on 1/21, 1/22, 1/28, 1/29, 1/30/2025

Pageant - 3 - 9 pm on 2/1/2025

Planetarium Presentations (Dates subject to change)

Science Department Lead Teacher and Astronomy Teacher Mr. Adrian Portland

September 26, 2024 - Seasonal Stargazing: Tour of the Fall and Winter Skies

October 21, 2024 - Astrophotography: Capturing the Cosmos

November 18, 2024 - Auroras: Nature's Light Show

December 12, 2024 - Special Celestial Events in 2025

January 16, 2025 - Exploring the Moon

February 13, 2025 - Galaxies: The Milky Way and Beyond

March 6, 2025 - Space Exploration Milestones

April 24, 2025 - The Sun: Our Dynamic Star

May 6, 2025 - Constellations and Their Stories

June 17, 2025 - Deep Sky Wonders of Summer: Galaxies and Nebulae

July 29, 2025 - Celestial Fireworks: Meteor Showers

August 21, 2025 - Planets of the Solar System

DHHL

Auditorium

Crimson Academy

Rehearsal 4:15pm - 8:15pm on 12/3, 12/4, 12/5, 12/9, 12/11, 12/12; 3:15pm - 3:45pm on 12/14/24

Rudolph Production - 11:00am - 5:00pm on 12/15/24

Natatorium

STOIC Aquatics

Swim Practice - \$75/practice

Sundays 5 - 7:30 pm; Tuesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm; Wednesdays 7 - 9:30 pm

Retroactive to September 17, 2024 through November 27, 2024

Mrs. Bevan, Assistant Business Manager, read the upcoming October 2024 meeting dates and informational items:

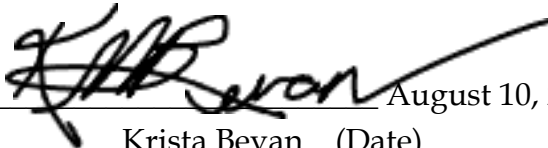
Committee of the Whole Meeting - Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 6:00 in the Academic Center

Board Meeting - Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 7 PM in the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium

An Executive Session was held from 6:30 p.m. to 6:48 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further new business, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Motion by Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Hobbs. Motion carried.


August 10, 2024
Krista Bevan (Date)
Board Secretary

