

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors	Present:	Mr. Ansbach, Mrs. Hobbs (Zoom),
Board Meeting		Mr. Ciavarella, Mr. Shields,
February 19, 2025 – 7:00 PM		Mr. Urban, Ms. Wytovich, Mrs. Buchanan,
Board Room – Academic Center		Dr. Yoder, Superintendent; Mrs. Wood,
		Business Manager; Mrs. Bevan, Asst. Business
		Manager/Board Secretary
		Dr. Yoder, Superintendent
	Absent:	Mrs. Dewitt

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 was a public comment from Mr. Stephen Moyer of 1200 Chestnut St Pottsville. Mr. Moyer stated that he appreciated the Superintendent talking to him before the meeting and stated that he will be at the March budget meeting. He said with the chaos in DC no one knows what's going to happen with the Department of Education – reintroduction of House Bill 13, we can not afford more tax increases, the city was up 3% three of the last 5 years and the County by 18% - we're retired and we can't work and we can't write it off. You can't come to us and say you're going to increase taxes, it's chaotic at the federal level with this DOGE and we can't afford no more. See you next month.

Dr. Yoder introduced the Presentation of the PAHS Bocce Ball season given by PAHS Special Education Supervisor Mrs. Nye, Coaches Mr. Rogers and Mrs. Withelder, and team members

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Urban, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the January 8, 2025 Committee of the Whole Minutes, the January 22, 2025 and December 4, 2024 and 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 Stephanie Wood, Business Manager, and on motion of Mr. Ansbach, seconded by Mrs. Hobbs, the Board approved the following Financial Reports for the month of January 2025:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds)
General Fund Balance as of 01/31/2025 - \$10,222,853.86
Cafeteria Checking Balance as of 01/31/2025 - \$561,241.13
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 – none

No discussion, motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mrs. Buchanan, seconded by Mr. Urban, 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
John Guzick - 3 Credits
Jeffrey Hughes - 5 Credits
Melissa Scheetz - 6 Credits
Michael Walser - 12 Credits

No discussion, motion carried.

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

Brianna Betz - \$1,548.00
Michel Germán - \$3,426.00
John Guzick - \$3,000.00
Michael Walser - \$3,096.00
Jake Wartella - \$300.00
Leah Zerbe - \$6,664.50

No discussion, motion carried.

On the recommendation of Dr. Yoder, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Ansbach, the 2025-2026 calendar was approved. The first day of school for students will be Monday, August 25, 2025, and tentatively the last day of school will be Tuesday, June 3, 2026. Tentative Teacher In-service days will be held August 19-21, 2025; October 13, 2025; November 10, 2025; and January 19, 2026. Early dismissals will be held on Wednesday, November 26, 2025; Tuesday, December 23, 2025; Wednesday, April 1, 2026; Friday, May 22, 2026; and the last day of school.

Crimson Tide Foundation informational:

Thank you Noble "Bud" Quandel for the extremely generous EITC donation to the Crimson Tide Foundation. We appreciate Mr. Quandel's support of our students, educators and community.

Public Content - 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:

1. the following Track & Field Coaches for the 2024-2025 Season, pending completion of paperwork, stipend as per contract:

Anthony Kelly - Varsity Assistant Coach
Jed Dunkel - Varsity Assistant Coach
Michael Holobetz - Varsity Assistant Coach
Katie Miller - Varsity Assistant Coach
Mark Laubenstine - Jr. High Head Coach
Josh Kalyan - Jr. High Assistant Coach
Kevin Donton - Jr. High Assistant Coach

2. the following Volunteer Varsity Track & Field Coaches for the 2024-2025 Season, pending clearances and completed coaching coursework:
Craig Lowthert

Brad Miller

3. the resignation letter from Stephen Messina, JV Baseball Coach, effective February 14, 2025.
4. Jacob Kuperavage as the JV Baseball Coach, for the 2024-2025 Season, pending completion of paperwork, stipend as per contract.

No discussion, motion carried.

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

1. The purchase of a 2013 Ford Taurus Police Interceptor from the Minersville Borough - \$5,800.00.
2. The quote from Houck Services, Inc. - time and materials not to exceed \$10,800.
3. The quote from 911 Rapid Response, LLC (Costars: 013-E22-275) - \$1,250.

No discussion, motion carried.

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

1. The letter of resignation for retirement purposes from the following PASDEA employees with effective dates:

- ~ Mrs. Beverly Dillow, Elementary School Teacher at JSC Elementary Center for 26 years, effective the last day of the 2024-2025 school year
- ~ Mrs. Deborah Lecker, Special Education Teacher at JSC Elementary Center for 20 years, effective the last day of the 2024-2025 school year
- ~ Mrs. Donna Mates, Science Teacher at DHHL Middle School for 40 years, effective the last day of the 2024-2025 school year
- ~ Mr. Scott Mattea, Business Teacher/ Assistant Athletic Director at PAHS for 26 years, effective the last day of the 2024-2025 school year
- ~ Mr. Daniel Moyer, Social Studies/Digital Citizenship Teacher at DHHL Middle School for 31 years, effective December 31, 2025
- ~ Mr. Eric Rismiller, Social Studies Teacher/ Athletic Director at PAHS for 27 years, effective the last day of the 2024-2025 school year

We are grateful for their dedication and commitment to the students, families and community and wish them well in retirement.

2. The letter of resignation for the purposes of retirement from the following employees:

- ~ Mrs. Kimberly Pekarik, Paraprofessional at PAHS, effective June 30, 2025
- ~ Mrs. Amy Ryan, Administrative Assistant at PAHS, effective June 30, 2025
- ~ Mrs. Carol McKeone, Custodian at PAHS, effective June 30, 2025

We are grateful for their dedication and commitment to the students, families and community and wish them well in retirement.

3. The following FMLA/LOA requests per policy #334:

- Employee #1476 - 01/21 & 22, 2025
- Employee #221 - 02/11/25 through 03/20/25
- Employee #1764 - 02/07 through 02/11, and 02/14, 2025
- Employee #1483 - 01/27/25 Employee #1483 - 02/21/25
- Employee #1476 - 02/07/25
- Employee # 25 - 02/14/25

Employee #476 - 02/03/25 through 02/10/25

Employee #334 - 03/06/25 through TBD

Employee #1089 - 02/03/25 through 05/02/25 Employee #328 - 02/03/25 through 05/02/25

Employee #1300 - 02/28/25

4. Joelle Reed as a part-time Kindergarten Aide at the hourly rate of \$14.50, retroactive to February 3, 2025.

5. Jennifer Molina for the JSC Elementary Center and DHH Lengel Middle School After School Program funded through 21st Century Grant, Schuylkill County MHDSDA, and/or Ready to Learn at an hourly rate of \$24.40 for the 2024-2025 school year.

6. Ima Alexander as a full-time Administrative Assistant at the hourly rate of \$17 effective February 24, 2025.

7. The following part-time Paraprofessionals for JSC Elementary Center at the hourly rate of \$14.25:

- Lorie Steranko retroactive to February 5, 2025
- Lasandra Burgos retroactive to February 10, 2025

8. Cafeteria employees Aneht Gonzalez and Elizabeth Roberts as substitute custodians at the hourly rate of \$13.25 retroactive to January 28, 2025.

9. Dilcia Diaz as a part-time Bus Driver at the hourly rate of \$19.00 retroactive to February 18, 2025.

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. Mrs. Stephanie Wood, Business Manager, to attend the PASBO Annual Conference in Hershey, PA; March 11-14, 2025. Total cost of the conference is approximately \$1136.90.

2. The Wave of Wellness for March for all PASD Staff, funded by the BSCA grant.

3. The Resolution between the Pottsville Area School District and Berkheimer, the duly appointed collector of local taxes for the district, effective February 19, 2025.

No discussion, motion carried.

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

1. Congratulations to the DHHL Middle School students who competed in the MathCounts competition at Penn State Schuylkill on February 1st. We are proud of 8th grader Najlaa Belkhouthout for earning first place and a trip to the MathCounts State competition! Shoutout also to Evan Halat for qualifying for the Countdown round and finishing in 6th place! Congratulations to the team comprised of Najlaa Belkhouthout, Anna Powers, Jordan Reedy, & Gracie Weiss for placing 2nd in the Team Competition!

2. Congratulations to PAHS Rotary Students of the Month, Madison Hennick and Kalie Olenick!

3. Congratulations to PAHS Artist of the Month, Geri Jordan!

4. Congratulations to JSC Students of the Month:

K - Elias Rivera

- 1 - Liam Crary
- 2 - Fiona Prutzman
- 3 - Adazha Alvarex Mejia
- 4 - Edan Casanova

5. Congratulations to 6th grader Liam McShaw for placing first in the DHHL Middle School Spelling Bee held on February 11th! 7th graders Riley Jordan (2nd place) and Mattea Anthony (3rd place) will join Liam in the Schuylkill County Spelling Bee on March 8, 2025, which will be held in the DHHL Auditorium and generously sponsored by NEPA MAEC and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit 29.

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

The Memorandum of Understanding between the Pottsville Area School District Education Association and the Pottsville Area School District for the purposes of Dual Enrollment.

Mrs. Buchanan read the following under Legislation:

On February 4th Governor Shapiro gave his budget address for the 25-26 fiscal year. While he proposed additional state funding for education, Senate Republicans expressed concern over his proposal which greatly increases state spending even though the state currently has a structural deficit. So additional state funding for education is a possibility but not a certainty. As for actions being taken at the Federal level and the US Department of Education, the state, school and education associations are reviewing the various Executive Orders and proposed changes to understand how they may impact Pennsylvania schools.

On the recommendation and motion of Mrs Wytovich, IU 29 Representative and seconded by Mr. Ansbach it was recommended that the Board appoint Mr. Bob Thomas to serve on the Schuylkill Technology Center Board of Directors for the term of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028; and appoint Mr. Jerome Urban to serve on the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit Board of Directors for the term of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

Under New Business, Mrs. Bevan announced the following:

March 3-7, 2025 - Read Across America Week
March 8, 2025 - Schuylkill County Regional Spelling Bee at DHHL Auditorium
March 9, 2025 - Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 15, 2025 - St. Patrick's Day Parade (Pottsville)
March 28-30, 2025 - PAHS Spring Musical

On the recommendation of Mrs. Bevan, and on motion of Mr. Urban, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the following Use of Facilities requests were approved:

MS

- 1 - Auditorium and Cafeteria
Mr. Anthracite Body Building Competition
7/12/2025, 7:30am-5:30pm
- 2 - Martz Hall Upper Level
LVHN Walk with a Doc
9:30am-11:30am on the following dates:
2/15, 3/15, 4/19, 5/17, 6/21/2025
- 3 - Top of Martz Hall
Schuylkill County Sheriff's Office

Physical Readiness Exam
2/10/25, 3:00pm - 3:30pm

High School Track

Nativity B.V.M. High School - Times to be scheduled with the Athletic Director
Track and Field Season beginning March 2025 until the end of 2025 season for a total of \$500.

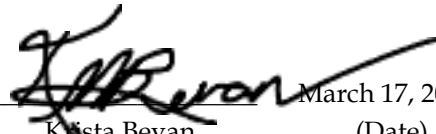
Mrs. Bevan, Assistant Business Manager, read the upcoming March 2025 meeting dates and informational items:

Facilities Committee Meeting on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 9 AM in the Academic Center
Technology Committee Meeting on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 6 PM in the Academic Center
Finance Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 5:30 PM in the Academic Center
Committee of the Whole Meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the Academic Center
Board Meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 7 PM in the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium

An Executive Session was held from 6:30 p.m. to 6:43 p.m. to discuss legal matters.

There being no further new business, the meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Motion by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Dewitt. Motion carried.



Krista Bevan

March 17, 2024

(Date)

Board Secretary

