

**POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
March 10, 2021
7:00 p.m.**

1. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance

Board President 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 and we will read comments consistent with all aspects of our public comment policy. With our meetings now being conducted virtually until further notice, you can submit comments via the Q & A feature.
- The School Board will strive to answer questions pertaining to the current agenda at the beginning of the school board meeting, in a conscious effort to maintain transparent practices. After the School Board agenda is posted online, questions may be emailed to plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us by 2:00 PM the day of the meeting. Questions pertaining to the agenda posted online will be answered in the order received for a period not to exceed 30 minutes. If the questions are not able to be answered during the 30-minute period, the School Board will endeavor to answer the questions at the beginning of the next school board meeting. Questions pertaining to confidential personnel matters will not be addressed. Questions that require some research or further inquiry and might not be answered at the current school board meeting. **The question and answer period does not replace the public's current right to public comment.**

2. Public Comment - Are there any public comments at this time?

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the February 10, 2021 Board meeting minutes.

Motion to approve as recommended.

4. Financial Reports – Mrs. Corinne Mason, Interim Business Manager

Approval of Financial Reports as of March 10, 2021

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds)

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

Mrs. Mason would like a motion to approve as recommended.

5. Unfinished Business –

6. Solicitor’s Report – Kevin Reid, Attorney at Law

7. Acting Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Jared Gerace

It is recommended by the Acting Superintendent that the Board approve the following items as listed:

ACTION

- It is recommended that the Superintendent’s preapproval of the credits indicated for the following professional employees be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Deborah Lecker	-	3 Credits
Amanda Purcell	-	3 Credits

- It is recommended that the following professional employees be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Heather Jenkins	-	\$6,552.00 (9 credits)
Neil Johnson	-	\$1,551.00
Benjamin O’Brien	-	\$ 300.00
Ashley Shappell	-	\$1,548.00

- It is recommended that the resignation for retirement purposes be accepted from Richard Bentz, as a First Grade Teacher, effective February 23, 2021 in accordance with his letter dated February 22, 2021.

8. Committee Reports

ACTION Athletics and Extracurricular Activities – Mr. Craig Shields

It is recommended by the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee that the Board approve the following items as listed:

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the following coaches for the 2020-2021 school year and set their salaries as indicated:

<u>BASEBALL</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Michael Welsh, Head Coach	\$5,600.00
Tyler Heffner, Jr. Varsity Head Coach	\$2,400.00
Christian Gardner, Jr. Varsity Assistant	\$2,200.00
Ben O'Brien, Varsity Assistant	\$2,600.00

<u>SOFTBALL</u>	
Charles Rinaldo, Head Coach	\$5,300.00
Thomas Mull, Assistant	\$3,600.00
Bryanna Snowell, Jr. Varsity Assistant	\$2,200.00
Bruce Heffner, Head Junior Varsity	\$2,600.00

<u>SPRING TRACK</u>	
Charles Schuster, Boys' Head Coach	\$5,773.00
Kelly Lombel, Girls' Head Coach	\$4,000.00
Marlin Vandermeer, Assistant	\$2,000.00
Lucas Bricker, Assistant	\$2,000.00
Peter McDonald, Assistant	\$3,200.00
William Rhoads, Assistant	\$3,200.00
Jennifer Brindle, Assistant	\$2,000.00
Jeff Dunkel, Jr. High Head Coach	\$2,400.00
Mark Laubenstine, Jr. High Asst.	\$3,200.00
James Lord, Jr. High Asst.	\$3,000.00

<u>BOYS' TENNIS</u>	
Adrian Portland, Head Coach	\$2,600.00

- It is recommended that the Board approve the following volunteer spring coaches for the 2020-2021 school year:

Baseball:

John Toomey

Softball:

Kendra Boris

Mike Kiehner

Ashley Shappell

Brian Spotts

Track and Field:

Robert Belcher

Robert Brouse

Jed Dunkel

Motion to accept as recommended.

Facilities and Grounds– Mr. Jerome Urban

Transportation – Mrs. Ashley DeWitt

ACTION Finance – Dr. Ann Blankenhorn

It is recommended by the Finance Committee that the Board approve the following items as listed:

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the two year agreement between the Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic, New Beginnings and the Pottsville Area School District, effective January 20, 2021. New Beginnings offers outpatient community based mental health services to all residents of Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe, Pike and Berks County.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between Dr. Krista Varano, Independent Consultant, and consulting partner Dr. Darlene Schonely and the Pottsville Area School District for professional development sessions. Date(s) of Service - February 10 and 17, 2021 (retroactive). Dates for March, April and May TBD. Cost is \$250/half day session or \$85.00/hour. Cost cannot exceed \$2,020.00. Funding for the Professional Development is provided through the Continuity of Education Grant for A-TSI.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between Chester County Intermediate Unit and the Pottsville Area School District for professional development sessions. Date(s) of service – March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021. Cost is \$3,250.00 which includes travel, preparation and delivery of professional development. Funding for the Professional Development is provided through the Continuity of Education Grant for A-TSI.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between The Meadows Psychiatric Center, Centre Hall, PA and the Pottsville Area School District for psychiatric services for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school year. The District also agrees to pay The Meadows Psychiatric Center \$67.00 per day for educational services.
5. It is recommended that the Board approve the Repository Sale for Parcel No. 68-12-0052.000 located at 209 1/2 Peacock Street, Pottsville. Purchase Price - \$1,159.00.
6. It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between KingSpry and the Pottsville Area School District for legal services. Term of agreement – July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. Annual fee – 2021-2022 - \$22,000.00 and 2022-2023 - \$22,000.00.
7. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Schuylkill Technology Center Secondary Budget in the amount of \$6,057,511. Pottsville Area School District contribution is \$786,800; an increase of \$52,343 from prior year.

Note: Each Director must sign the ballots indicating their vote on the above motion.

8. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Schuylkill IU Administrative and Program Budget.

Note: Each Director must sign the ballots indicating their vote on the above motion.

Motion to approve as recommended.

ACTION Personnel – Mrs. Ashley Dewitt

It is recommended by the Personnel Committee that the Board approve the following Personnel items as listed:

1. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Joann Matina, paraprofessional at the DHH Lengel Middle School, effective February 26, 2021.
2. It is recommended that the Board accept the letter of resignation for retirement from Josephine Kwiatkowski, reading aide at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, effective April 13, 2021.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve the Family Medical Leave for employee #1440, effective March 3, 2021. All completed paperwork has been received by the District.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve the Special Sick Leave School Sponsored (60 Day Provision), as per the teachers' contract for Employee #375, effective February 24, 2021.
5. It is recommended that the Board approve the following part-time paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$11.25: Joelle Reed, retroactive to March 1, 2021.
6. It is recommended that the Board approve the following part-time paraprofessionals at an hourly rate of \$11.25 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances: Cynthia Nye and Sherry Simons, effective March 11, 2021.
7. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534:
 - o Employee #1231 – lunch aide – January 25,28,29, 2021, February 4, 2021, March 3, 2021
 - o Employee #888 – cafeteria aide – February 16, 2021
 - o Employee #70– cafeteria aide – February 4, 2021, March 1, 2021
 - o Employee #1228 – lunch aide – February 11, 2021
 - o Employee #302 – cafeteria aide – February 19, 2021
 - o Employee #828 – lunch aide – February 25, 2021
 - o Employee#1300 – lunch aide – March 1, 2021
 - o Employee #175 – cafeteria aide – March 5,8,9,10,11,12,15,16,17,18,19, 2021
 - o Employee #537 – lunch aide - March 3, 2021
8. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Resolution for Suspension:

“**WHEREAS**, the Pottsville Area School District (the “District”) has experienced a substantial decline in class enrollments for the past several years; and,

WHEREAS, the District experienced this substantial decline in years prior to and leading up to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as a result of such substantial decline, and in order to conform with the standards of organization and educational activities as required by law and recommended by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction, it is recommended that the District curtail its educational programs pursuant to the Pennsylvania Public School Code Section 1124(a)(2); and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent recommends such curtailment; and

WHEREAS, the professional employees whose positions are subject to curtailment hereunder were provided with the opportunity for a hearing before the Pottsville Area School District Board of Directors as required by Section 1125.1(f) of the Pennsylvania Public School Code and the Local Agency Law; and,

WHEREAS, the impacted professional employees have declined the opportunity for a hearing before the Board; and,

WHEREAS, there is substantial evidence to support the suspension of the professional employees based on the substantial decline in class enrollment, as necessary to conform with standards of organization and educational activities, and in order to maintain a thorough and efficient public school system; and

WHEREAS, the substantial decline in class enrollment and recommended curtailment of educational programs is not a direct result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that the employment of the following District employees is hereby suspended as a result of the curtailment of educational programs, based upon evaluations, seniority, and certification status, effective March 10, 2021:

1. Employee # 402- Teacher
2. Employee # 258 - Nurse

A copy of this Resolution of Suspension shall be sent via First Class and Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to the aforementioned employees.

A copy of this Resolution shall be placed in the employees' permanent personnel files."

Motion to approve as recommended.

Promotion, Public Relations & Social Media – Ms. Linda Wytovich

- Congratulations to Grace Cromyak for being selected as the Artist of the Month for March.
- Congratulations to Seniors, Crystal Wolfe and Julia Malek, for being named Rotary Students of the Month for March.
- Congratulations to Payton Kleckner for being named the Female Scholar Athlete for her athletic and academic excellence at Pottsville Area High School.
- Congratulations to Nico Boris for being named Lions' Club soccer "Player of the Year".
- Congratulations to Mrs. Mary Beth Conville, PAHS School Counselor for being nominated for the College Board Counselor Recognition Program (nominated by colleagues for their work in their school and community). Congratulations and thank you to Mrs. Conville for everything she does for our students.

ACTION Technology – Mr. Jerome Urban

1. It is recommended that the Board approve a three (3) year commitment for guaranteed pricing with Skyward, Inc. Cost savings will be \$0.84 per student per year. **Motion to approve as recommended.**

ACTION Curriculum – Dr. Michael Cardamone

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the afterschool tutoring program at various locations throughout the School District. The afterschool tutoring program will be funded through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) of 2021. **Motion to approve as recommended.**

Policy and Procedure – Dr. Christina DiCello

Food Services – Dr. Michael Cardamone

Labor Relations – Mr. Jerome Urban

9. Information Board Member Reports
 1. Legislation – Mr. Patrick Moran
 2. IU 29 Representative – Dr. Michael Cardamone
 3. St. Clair Committee – Dr. Michael Cardamone
 4. PSBA Representative – Dr. Ann Blankenhorn

10. New Business

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Use of Facilities:

MS

1- Middle School Cafeteria

City of Pottsville Civil Service Board

Police Testing

Saturday August 21, 2021 8:30am-1:00pm
Saturday December 11, 2021 8:30am-1:00pm

HS

1- High School Band Room

PAHS Stage Band Rehearsal

2/23/2021, 3/2/2021, 3/9/2021, 3/16/2021, 3/23/2021,
3/30/2021, 4/6/2021, 4/13/2021, 4/20/2021, 4/27/2021,
5/4/2021, 5/11/2021, 5/18/2021, 5/25/2021

Time for all requested dates 5:00-8:00pm

2- High School Cafeteria

Cheer Meeting

Monday March 29, 2021 5:30-8:30

MS

1-Middle School Auditorium

Schuylkill Chapter of PIAA Volleyball Officials

PIAA Volleyball Mandatory Rules Interpretation Meeting

Wednesday August 11, 2021 6:00-8:00pm

2-Middle School Cafeteria

Farewell Dance May 21, 2021 5:00pm-8:00 pm (set up)

May 22, 2021 12:00pm-11:00 pm (dance)

*** Contingent upon CDC Covid19 Guidelines**

Motion to approve as recommended.

2. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2021-2022 Operating Hours Calendar for 12 month personnel. **Motion to approve as recommended.**
3. It is recommended that the Board accept a check in the amount of \$1,500.00 from Capital BlueCross. This contribution can used for health and wellness safety measures, supporting distance learning or assisting students and their families with social, emotional and academic needs. **Motion to accept as recommended.**
11. Announcement of Executive Session
12. Adjournment – **Motion to adjourn as recommended.**