

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

Howard S. Fernsler Academic Center

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

6:00 p.m.

MEETING OPENING

Subject 1.1 Opening – Mr. Harry Ciavarella / Pledge

Subject 1.2 Roll Call – Mrs. Krista Bevan

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Board Members Present: Kerry Ansbach, Stephanie Buchanan, Harry Ciavarella, Rachael Hobbs, Bob Thomas, Kyle Crouse, Chris Kelly, Craig Shields

Board Members Absent: Dr. Ashley DeWitt

Administration Present:

Krista Bevan, Board Secretary

Stephanie Wood, Business Manager

Dr. Guy Lowery, Superintendent

Subject 1.3 Public Comment

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.

Are there any public comments at this time?

No public comments were offered.

GENERAL

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the letter of resignation of Ty Steidle, Junior Varsity Baseball Coach, effective December 9, 2025.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Winter Sports Coaches for the 2025–2026 Season:

Volunteers:

Ty Steidle – Baseball Coach

John Matulevich – Varsity Swim and Dive

Tyler Merkert – Junior High Swim Coach

Joe Lipstick – Football Strength and Conditioning

Coaches:

Jacey Miller – Girls Soccer Head Coach, stipend as per contract

3. It is recommended that the Board approve Serena Foulk as an Event Worker for the 2025–2026 Season.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve Tate Clarke – Athletic Department Internship with Kutztown for Spring Semester.

Subject 2.1 Superintendent Report – Dr. Guy Lowery

Dr. Lowery thanked the community for welcoming him to the District. He shared that he has had many positive conversations about what is working well in the District and what areas may need a closer look.

Dr. Lowery reported that comprehensive planning for the next three years is underway. He stated that a draft of the comprehensive plan will be presented next month for a 30 day review period, with a March 31 deadline for approval of the plan.

Dr. Lowery also discussed plans to schedule Crimson Connections, which will be round table sessions held in each building. These sessions will allow families to come in and share feedback and ideas with District leadership.

Subject 2.2 Athletics and Extracurricular Activities – Mr. Craig Shields

Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan asked whether the District has hired a new baseball coach. She also asked whether teams could be encouraged to provide information in a consistent format, either through a centralized website or a flyer sent home.

Dr. Caitlin Mohl responded that some athletic information is available on the District website, but noted that the information is not always kept up to date.

Subject 2.3 Facilities and Grounds – Mr. Harry Ciavarella

Facilities and Grounds Agenda

1. It is recommended that the Board ratify the Proposal for Installation of Services from ANTZ Energy Systems Inc. for the IT Rooms HVAC Installation – \$21,500.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the Keystone Purchasing Network contract (KPN-A-0225-C contract expires May 31, 2026) with Hubert Co. to replace the Elementary Steamer at a cost of \$41,479.80.

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the decommission of the following antiquated items: two (2) pianos, three (3) desks, one (1) credenza.

USE OF FACILITIES REQUESTS

Middle School Auditorium
St. Clare of Assisi Parish
Screw Tape Letters Lenten Performance
March 8, 2026
2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Martz Hall Upper Level
Lehigh Valley Health Network
Walk with a Doc
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on the following dates:
July 18, 2026
August 15, 2026
September 19, 2026
October 17, 2026
November 21, 2026
December 19, 2026

High School Wellness Center
ECTB Holdings LLC / Schuylkill County Breaker Boys 10-U
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the following dates:
February 8, 15, 22, 2026
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

Dr. Lowery spoke about the recent increase in student population and the need to evaluate the District's use of space. He reported that SiteLogiq will be contracted to conduct a facilities assessment to study space utilization for an additional cost of \$23,000.

Subject 2.4 Finance – Mr. Harry Ciavarella

Finance Committee Agenda

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) – General Fund Balance as of December 31, 2025 – \$9,263,346.83; Cafeteria Checking Balance as of December 31, 2025 – \$702,981.20.
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
7. It is recommended that the Board approve the Accelerated Budget Opt Out Resolution for the 2025–2026 fiscal year.

8. It is recommended that the Board approve Mrs. Stephanie Wood, Business Manager, to attend the PASBO Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, March 23–27, 2026. Total cost of the conference is approximately \$1,932.40.
9. It is recommended that the Board approve the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Surplus Purchasing Program Authorization for Pottsville Area School District for a period to expire June 30, 2027.

Informational and Discussion Items

1. Comparison Expense and Revenue Reports and Summary
2. Treasurer's Report

Subject 2.5 Technology – Mr. Bob Thomas

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the IU29 cooperative purchasing agreement for VMware Software Licensing at a cost of \$4,620.24.

Mr. Thomas reported that committee meetings could be held virtually on Tuesdays prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting, beginning at 12:15 p.m.

Subject 2.6 Policy and Procedure – Mrs. Rachael Hobbs

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2025–2026 Pottsville Area School District Physician Standing Orders.

Dr. Lowery further explained that Physician Standing Orders occur on a yearly basis and allow school nurses to administer certain treatments in accordance with approved medical protocols.

Subject 2.7 IU Representative

1. It is recommended that the Board nominate Bob Thomas to fulfill the unexpired term of Jerome Urban on the Schuylkill Technology Center Board of Directors, and Kerry Ansbach to fulfill the remainder of the AVTS Board of Directors. The terms expire June 30, 2026.

Mr. Bob Thomas reported that the Intermediate Unit is continuing with subcommittee discussions. He shared that there have been positive conversations with the new Director and that the IU is making progress in improving operations.

Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan shared that her niece, Layken, who is paralyzed, recently joined a wheelchair basketball league. She noted that Anthony Kelly and Greg Hoak traveled to Philadelphia in support.

ADJOURNMENT

Subject 3.1 Adjourn

Mr. Bob Thomas made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Bevan
Board Secretary