POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

Howard S. Fernsler Academic Center

July 8, 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, Chris Kelly, Craig Shields, Bob Thomas.

Board Member Present via Zoom: Dr. Ashley DeWitt.

Board Members Absent: Kyle Crouse, Rachael Hobbs.

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

Subject 2.1 Superintendent Report – Dr. Guy Lowery

Discussion occurred regarding student cell phone and electronic device policies. Dr. Lowery discussed the Governor's position regarding electronics policies and noted that many school districts are taking different approaches to implementation.

Nicolle Lowery, a principal of a school in Philadelphia, participated via Zoom and discussed her school's implementation of a no cell phone policy, including the school's experience with the policy during the current school year.

Dr. Lowery stated that he will provide the Board with a first draft of a proposed policy for review and further discussion.

Subject 2.2 Athletics and Extracurricular Activities – Mr. Craig Shields

Mrs. Buchanan asked if there has been any discussion regarding offering sports camps for younger students, similar to camps offered by other school districts.

Mr. Ciavarella stated that at the next meeting, the Board should discuss tiered pricing and fall sports events.

Subject 2.3 Facilities and Grounds – Mr. Harry Ciavarella

Facilities and Grounds Agenda

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the quote from McNulty's Building Supply, Inc. for the purchase and installation of carpet tiles for room 102 at the Academic Center, at a cost of $1,860.
2. It is recommended that the Board approve the disposition of antiquated items as listed on the attached document.

Decommissioned Items Per Board Meeting July 15, 2026:

4 wooden desks

6 chairs

1 credenza

2 file cabinets

EBAY sales:

Sony Handicam Video Hi8 (goes for $90-130)

Sony Handicam HDV 1080i (around $180).

3 - Kodak Pix pro SPZ1 (around $70 each)

3 - tripod stands (go for $30 each)

2 - mini DVD cassettes

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the quote from Erlich Pest Control for pest management services for all buildings and athletics fields, at a total cost of $7,700.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve an agreement with Keystone Purchasing Network, EzIOC Job Order Contract No.: KPN-2026/JOCC-41, for classroom renovations at the John S Clarke Elementary Center at a total cost of $96,728.77 pending solicitor review and approval.

Discussion: Ratify the storage container for the cafeteria furniture at the High School.

Additional discussion occurred regarding renovations at John S. Clarke Elementary Center. Two rooms will be created, with a locker room conversion planned at a later time. The renovations will provide an additional autistic support classroom.

Use of Facilities Requests:

Subject 2.4 Finance – Mr. Harry Ciavarella

Finance Committee Agenda

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds)

• General Fund Balance as of June 30, 2026 is $8,739,594.29

• Cafeteria Checking Balance as of June 30, 2026 is $794,838.74

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
6. Budget Transfers
7. It is recommended that the Board approve the confidential settlement agreement and release regarding Student #290236.

8. It is recommended that the Board approve the Client Services Agreement and Addendum A with ProCare Therapy, effective June 23, 2026 through July 23, 2026, pending solicitor review and approval.

Dr. Lowery pointed out that this should be a ratify at the meeting next week, not “approve”.

Subject 2.5 Technology – Mr. Bob Thomas

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the wholesale of 1300 Gen 9 iPads to Total technology, for an estimated total $189,800, pending solicitor review and approval.

Subject 2.6 Curriculum – Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the Pottsville Area School District Language Instruction Education Plan for the 2026 – 2027 school year.
2. Approve the 2026-2027 Comprehensive Plans for the following school locations:

• John S. Clarke Elementary Center (Schoolwide Title 1)

• D.H.H Lengel Middle School (ACSI)

Subject 2.7 Transportation – Dr. Ashley DeWitt

No additional discussion was held.

Subject 2.8 Policy & Procedure – Mrs. Rachael Hobbs

Discussion: Student cell phone and electronic devices.

The Board continued discussion regarding student cell phones and electronic devices, including the information presented earlier in the meeting regarding implementation of a no cell phone policy. Dr. Lowery will prepare a first draft of a proposed policy for Board review and further discussion.

Subject 2.9 Food Services – Mr. Kerry Ansbach

No additional discussion was held.

Subject 2.10 Promotion, Public Relations & Social Media – Mr. Kyle Crouse

No report was provided.

Subject 2.11 IU Representative – Mr. Bob Thomas

No report was provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Subject 3.1 Adjourn

Motion: Mr. Thomas. Second: Mrs. Buchanan.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Bevan
Board Secretary