POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
Howard S. Fernsler Academic Center
October 14, 2026
6:00 p.m.

MEETING OPENING

Subject 1.1 Opening - Mr. Bob Thomas / Pledge

Subject 1.2 Roll Call - Mrs. Mindy Zimerofsky

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Board Members Arriving Late: Stephanie Buchanan and Harry Ciavarella.

Administration Present: Mindy Zimerofsky, 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?

GENERAL

Subject 2.1 Superintendent Report - Dr. Guy Lowery

Dr. Guy Lowery commented on the historic partnership with Saint Clair Area School District and stated that the District is excited to continue this relationship.

Subject 2.2 Athletics and Extracurricular Activities - Mr. Craig Shields

No report was provided.

Subject 2.3 Facilities and Grounds - Mr. Chris Kelly

Facilities and Grounds Agenda

1. Approve the proposal and service agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Sciens Service Suite/Eastern Time Division, for Fire Alarm Only Monitoring and Fire Alarm Cell Dialer - $3,500.00, pending solicitor review and approval.
2. Approve the quote from LMB Industrial Services, Inc. for a Boiler Rear Wall Door Header and a Burner Block, including install and demolition of old steel header - $4,900.00.

3. Approve and ratify the September 18, 2026 quote from Arnold's Office Furniture for the purchase of office furniture - $23,000.00.
4. Approve and ratify the September 15, 2026 quote from B&H Landscaping, LLC for repairs at the Girls' Softball Field - $9,970.00.

Items for Discussion:

Solar Panels

McClure Company - Facilities Assessment

Natatorium

Electricity Renewal

USE OF FACILITIES REQUESTS:

DHH LENGEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Wrestling Room; 11/02/26 through 3/13/27 Monday through Friday 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Martz Hall Gym; Sunday 02/28/27 6:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Coal Cracker League Championship

POTTSVILLE AREA HIGH SCHOOL

Sundays 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Pottsville Youth Wrestling

JOHN S. CLARKE ELEMENTARY CENTER

Library; October 27, 2026 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Scouting America Hawk Mountain Council Sign Up Night

An update was provided that work at the Girls' Softball Field was expected to begin this week. A solar presentation for Board members will be held on October 30, 2026 at the next Facilities and Grounds meeting. Donald Ditzler, Supervisor of Building and Grounds, provided an update on the Natatorium.

Subject 2.4 Finance - Mr. Harry Ciavarella

Finance Committee Agenda

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) - General Fund Balance as of September 30, 2026: $11,307,251.94; Cafeteria Fund Balance as of September 30, 2026: $959,306.48.
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. Approve the sale of 351 Nichols Street, Pottsville, Parcel No. 68-14-0026.000, from the County Repository in the amount of $2,500.00.
8. Approve the 2026-2027 Title I Letter of Agreement between Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit in effect from August 24, 2026 until May 28, 2027, pending solicitor review and approval.
9. Approve and ratify the three-year Athletic Sponsorship Agreement for a Single Static Sign Advertising between the Pottsville Area School District and Alvernia University, effective September 1, 2026 through August 30, 2029.
10. Approve and ratify the three-year Athletic Sponsorship Agreement for a Single Static Sign Advertising between the Pottsville Area School District and Mid Penn Bank, effective September 1, 2026 through August 30, 2029.
11. Approve the First Amendment to the Plan Administration Agreement with U.S. OMNI & TSACG Compliance Services, Inc. for retirement plan administration services, including a revised investment provider fee schedule

effective through June 30, 2028, and thereafter as outlined in the amendment, pending solicitor review and approval.

12. Approve a reimbursement to the Pottsville Area High School Girls' Basketball Booster Club for a coach bus rental in the amount of $1,350.00.

Items for Discussion:

EITC - Science in Motion (Elizabethtown College)

EITC - SARCC (Sexual Assault Resource & Counseling Center)

EITC - Big Impact Group

EITC - YES Program

Discussion occurred regarding the EITC requests. Dr. Lowery provided an update to the Board and stated that this list will be provided going forward.

Subject 2.5 Technology - Mr. Bob Thomas

1. Approve and ratify the agreement with PowerSchool for the one-year renewal of SchoolMessenger for the period of August 4, 2026, through August 3, 2027, at a cost of $3,900.10, pending solicitor review and approval.

No additional discussion was held.

Subject 2.6 Curriculum - Mrs. Stephanie Buchanan

1. Approve the decommissioning of the Drama Club items as listed in the supporting documentation.
2. Approve the updated proposed field trip locations for the 2026-2027 academic year as requested from school principals.
3. Approve and ratify the Homebound Instruction for Student 35-0065, effective October 12, 2026.

Items for Discussion:

Navigate360

Lisa Holobetz, Assistant Principal at DHH Lengel Middle School, provided a presentation regarding Navigate360. Discussion also occurred regarding the iPad opt-out.

Subject 2.7 Transportation - Dr. Ashley DeWitt

1. Approve and ratify the 2026-2027 Contract for the Transportation of School Pupils between the Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Technology Center, pending solicitor review and approval.
2. Approve the Student Assistance Program Agreement Limited Engagement between Pottsville Area High School and The R J Caron Foundation (DBA Caron Treatment Centers) for services to be provided (at no cost to the District), pending solicitor review and approval.

Items for Discussion:

Bus Lease and Options

Stephanie Wood discussed the bus lease options.

Subject 2.8 Policy & Procedure - Mrs. Rachael Hobbs

1. Approve the second reading and adoption of revised policy 137.2 - Participation in Co-curricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students.

Discussion occurred regarding the lice policy. Recommendations from PSBA are being sought.

Subject 2.9 Food Services - Mr. Kerry Ansbach
No report was provided.

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
The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.
An Executive Session was held from 6:59 p.m. until 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mindy Zimerofsky
Board Secretary