

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
December 4, 2017
Reorganization Meeting
Academic Center
7:00 p.m.

Present: Atty. Rismiller, Mrs. Blankenhorn,
Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran,
Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Urban, Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent;
Mr. Manning, Business Manager; Mrs.
Lombel, Asst. Business Manager/Board
Secretary; Atty. Tucker, Solicitor; Ms.
Marchiano, Republican Herald

The Reorganization Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Atty. Rismiller welcomed everyone attending the Reorganization Meeting.

Atty. Rismiller asked if anyone wanted to address the Board, hearing none, Atty. Rismiller continued with the Reorganization Meeting.

Mrs. Lombel, Board Secretary, read Sections 402 and 404 of the School Code providing for the Reorganization of the Board of School Directors during the first week in December.

The Secretary continued by reading the following notice of the meeting that was sent to all Board members, Superintendent, Solicitor and advertised in the Pottsville Republican on November 20, 2017.

In compliance with Sections 402 and 404 of the School Code of the State of Pennsylvania, the Board of Directors of the Pottsville Area School District will meet in the Directors' Room in the Academic Center on Monday, December 4, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of accepting the Certificates of Election for the School Directors who were elected in November 2017, and for the purpose of electing a President and Vice President for the ensuing year; and also for general purposes.

Mrs. Blankenhorn, temporary President, proceeded with the Reorganization Meeting.

Mrs. Blankenhorn requested the Certificates of Election for the Directors, who were recently elected, to be presented.

Mrs. Blankenhorn reported she had received the original Certificates of Election for the following: Dr. Christina DiCello, Patrick Moran, Noble Quandel Jr., and Jerome Urban being elected for four-year terms at the General Election held on November 7, 2017 and Michael Stank

elected for a two-year term at the General Election held on November 7, 2017. On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the Certificates of Election.

Mrs. Blankenhorn requested that the Oaths of Office be administered to each newly-elected member of the Board.

Common Pleas Judge Cyrus Palmer Dolbin administered the Oath of Office to Dr. DiCello, Mr. Urban, Mr. Quandel and Mr. Moran and Magisterial District Judge James K. Reiley administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Stank in the presence of their family members.

Judge Dolbin said that not all the days will be good ones but wished all the newly elected success. Judge Doblin continued, "Mostly there will be times of triumph and accomplishment. Constructive engagement with students, parents and teachers will be your strong suit, but there will also be times, few I hope, when the slings and arrows of outrageous criticism may soften your edge. One way to sharpen that edge is with humor."

Judge Reiley stated, "I wish each and all of you the best. I know you have one of the most difficult, one of the most tedious jobs that there is in elected office. I know the future is very challenging, but I don't think we could be blessed with a finer group of people who are up to that challenge."

On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Blankenhorn thanked Judge Dolbin and Judge Reiley.

Mrs. Blankenhorn declared the meeting in order to proceed with the election of a President and Vice President for the ensuing year.

Mr. Thomas nominated Atty. Karen Rismiller to serve as President of the Board for a term of one year. Dr. Davidson seconded.

In nominating Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas said, "I believe that Karen has shown dedication to this school district as a graduate, and she has given back in more ways than one. She's active in almost every aspect of the district. She is at almost every sporting event, every choir concert. There is nobody on this Board that is more dedicated."

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Moran, nominations for President were closed.

The Secretary cast the ballot and Atty. Karen Rismiller was elected to the office of President for a term of one year. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye.

Congratulations were extended to Atty. Rismiller on her election as President of the school Board.

Atty. Rismiller thanked the Board for their vote of confidence.

Atty. Rismiller proceeded with the election of a Vice President.

Dr. Davidson nominated Mr. Scott Thomas to serve as Vice President of the Board for a term of one year. Mrs. Blankenhorn seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye.

On motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Moran, the nominations for Vice President were closed.

The Secretary cast the ballot and Mr. Scott Thomas was elected to the office of Vice President for a term of one year. Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Mr. Quandel, Mr. Stank, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Urban and Atty. Rismiller, Aye.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Thomas as Vice-President of the school Board.

Atty. Rismiller announced that the Board will continue to meet once a month on the third Wednesday of each month during 2018. Atty. Rismiller stated public notice will be advertised in the Republican Herald on December 8, 2017 stating that the Board's regular meetings for the calendar year 2018 will be held at the Academic Center on the third Wednesday of each month beginning January 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. and that public notice of each rescheduled regular meeting or special meeting or hearing shall be given in accordance with the Sunshine Act. He also noted the Board will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of each month for work sessions beginning January 3, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. and will continue until further notice. The meeting schedule will be posted in the Academic Center.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the preapproval of the credits indicated for the following professional employees be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA: Meredith Coleman – 3 credits and Benjamin O'Brien – 3 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following professional employees be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of a preapproved credit course in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

- Christopher Lombel - \$3,000.00
- Erin Tranquillo - \$1,698.00
- Kate Zimmerman - \$1,950.00

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following salary adjustments be approved and made retroactive to the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year:

- Stephanie McDonald – Master’s
- Erin Tranquillo – Master’s
- Kate Zimmerman – Master’s

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, and pursuant to Section 1108 of the School Code, having received a satisfactory rating for the second semester of the third year of teaching, the Board approved the following professional employees be awarded a permanent contract and tenure certification:

- Kimberly Barone
- Molly Boran
- Meredith Coleman
- Katrina Greenawalt
- Nathan Halenar
- Benjamin O’Brien
- Katelyn Reichard
- Gregory Schuettler
- Cara Turolis

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board accepted the resignation of Sofia Capone, kindergarten teacher, at an effective date to be determined, in accordance with her letter submitted November 16, 2017.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board approved the following professional employee be excused from her teaching duties to serve as a juror in the Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA: Sara Arnold – effective, Tuesday, January 30, 2018. Motion carried.

Dr. Zwiebel noted that on Friday, December 22, 2017 coffee and cookies will be served to district employees by members of the Pottsville Area School District Board of Education.

There will be early dismissal for the Christmas holiday on Friday, December 22, 2017.

Dismissal times are as follows:

- Pottsville Area High School – 11:00 a.m.
- D.H.H. Lengel Middle School – 11:30 a.m.
- John S. Clarke Elementary School – 12:00 noon

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn and seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board accepted the resignation of Jacqueline Murton, flag instructor, effective November 13, 2017. Motion carried.

Mr. Moran thanked Mrs. Murton for her years of service with the Pottsville Area High School band front.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the resignation of Robyn Green as a part-time substitute paraprofessional, effective November 27, 2017. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved Robyn Green as a part-time paraprofessional at the John S. Clarke Elementary Center, at an hourly rate of \$13.10, retroactive to November 28, 2017. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Stank, the Board accepted the resignation of Brittany Ortiz, paraprofessional. Her last day of employment will be December 1, 2017. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board accepted the resignation of William McElvaney as a part-time van driver for the Pottsville Area School District. His last day of employment was August 1, 2017. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board approved William Schuettler for Event Security, at an hourly rate of \$10.00, retroactive to November 18, 2017. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved Olivia Tokonitz (student) as a lifeguard for the Pottsville Area School District, at an hourly rate of \$9.00, effective December 5, 2017. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Technology, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Quandel, the Board approved a 60 month lease for two (20 Xerox D95A copiers with Docusense. Per page usage will be reconciled every six (6) months. Locations: Elementary School 1st Floor, Elementary School 2nd Floor and Middle School 3rd Floor. Motion carried.

Mr. Manning noted that we are leasing two copiers and getting one copier without a lease.

On the recommendation of Mr. Manning, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the following Use of Facilities:

D.H.H.L. Middle School

1. PASD Aquatics, Age Group Swimming, Nov. 29, 2017 – March 31, 2018 (M, W, F), 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm, MS Pool. (Retro)
2. PASD Aquatics, American Red Cross Lifeguard Instructor Update Session, December 17, 2017, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, MS Pool.
3. PAHS Water Polo, Alumni Water Polo Game, December 26, 2017, 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm, MS Pool.
4. Schuylkill Chapter of PIAA Volleyball Officials, PIAA Volleyball Rules Interpretation Meeting, August 1, 2018, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm, MS Auditorium.

P.A.H.S.


1. PAHS Quiz Team, Quiz Team Match, Dec. 4, 2017 & Jan. 8, 2018, 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm, PAHS Library and Rooms 209 & 217. (Retro)

Motion carried.

Mrs. Lombel noted that in accordance with Act 84 of 1986, the Sunshine Act, an Executive Session with the Board as a whole immediately following this meeting was hereby announced for the purpose of discussing personnel/ legal matters.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Executive Session commenced at 7:28 p.m. and adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

 1/17/18

Patricia A. Lombel (Date)
Board Secretary