

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors  
January 19, 2011  
Regular Meeting  
Academic Center  
7:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Boran, Dr. Cortese, Dr. Davidson,  
Mrs. Fanelli, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis,  
Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas;  
Dr. Gallagher, Superintendent; Mr. Delenick,  
Business Manager/ Board Secretary;  
Mr. Thornburg, Solicitor; Mrs. Lombel,  
Mr. Pytak, Republican & Herald

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President John Boran.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Boran introduced Mr. Mike Burns, General Manager of the Lowe's Distribution Center at the Highridge Industrial Park. Mr. Burns thanked everyone for the welcome. Mr. Burns was at the meeting to award the Pottsville Area School District with a \$50,000.00 educational grant. The grant, which is from Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation, will provide restrooms at the alumni sports field. Mr. Burns says Lowe's wants to be involved in the community and do what they can to support the community. Mr. Boran thanked Mr. Burns for this award and mentioned that Lowe's is a great supporter of United Way. Mr. Boran acknowledged Kerry Ansbach, Director of Facilities, and his staff. Their hard work for the district is greatly appreciated.

On a motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes for the November 10, 2010 work session, the November 17, 2010 board meeting, and the reorganization meeting held on December 2, 2010. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Krater, the Board accepted the reports of the Treasurer for the months of November and December 2010 and directed that they be appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

On motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mr. Krater, the Operating Reports of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the months of November and December 2010 were accepted and ordered filed. Motion carried.

On motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mr. Krater, the following Financial Statements of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the months of November, and December 2010 were accepted and ordered filed. (See office files.) Motion carried.

A list of bills, as appended, was submitted for payment. (Copy to each Director.)

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, vouchers were ordered drawn in payment of the bills listed or where vouchers had been drawn, such action was approved and the list of bills was ordered appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

Atty. Thornburg said that last month the Board deliberated on two disciplinary actions of two students. The Board recommended that Student A will be expelled for the remainder of the school year; expulsion will be suspended if he and his parents agree to a disciplinary contract. Student B will be expelled for the remainder of the school year. On a motion by Dr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the recommendation was accepted by the Board. Motion carried.

The Superintendent submitted the part-time payroll and recommended payment.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board authorized payment to the persons listed in the amounts indicated after their respective names for services on the programs specified in accordance with payroll bills submitted and approved by the Superintendent. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Davidson seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved homebound instruction for one high school student, and two middle school students. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board ratified the action of the Superintendent for granting preapproval of credits indicated for the following professional employees in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Beth Bauers - 3 credits; Leigh Bosak - 3 credits; Kelly Brennan - 6 credits; Kristyn Buffington - 3 credits; Jacqueline DiCello - 3 credits; Mark Dreisbach - 1 CEU; Bridget Freiler - 6 credits; Sarah Gaffney - 9 credits; Mary Hahner - 3 credits; Jennifer Kepner - 6 credits; Manuela Koch - 3 credits; Rachael Kubick - 6 credits; Julia Leiby - 3 credits; Jennifer Lipton - 8 credits; Carolyn March - 3 credits; Jennifer Pahira - 3 credits; Lloren Reichert - 15 credits; Nicole Stiles - 3 credits; Erin Tranquillo - 3 credits; and Elizabeth Wetzel - 3 credits; Motion carried.

On further recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved the reimbursements to the following professional employees as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Amy Babcock - \$1,320.00; Beth Bauers - \$1,161.00; Rich Bentz - \$1,161.00; Leigh Ann Bosak - \$1,161.00; Kelly M. Brennan - \$1,380.00; Kristyn Buffington - \$1,380.00; Jenna DeMarkis - \$1,725.00; Mary Fetterolf - \$1,380.00; Bridget Freiler - \$1,161.00; Sarah Gaffney - \$2,760.00; Angela

Holobetz - \$2,728.00; Jonathan Hughes - \$4,092.00; Jennifer Kepner - \$780.00; Manuela Koch - \$1,380.00; Rachael Kubick - \$3,366.00; Julia Leiby - \$1,161.00; Jennifer Lipton - \$175.00; Christopher Lombel - \$1,725.00; Carolyn March - \$1,161.00; Scott Mattea - \$3,450.00; Lucas McMurtrie - \$ 690.00; Jennifer Pahira - \$1,725.00; Katie Porrino - \$1,161.00; Nicole Stiles - \$2,046.00; Lorraine VanStone - \$1,380.00

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas the board approved the salary adjustment beginning of the 2011-2012 school for Lucas McMurtrie – Bachelor +15.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas the board approved the following permanent substitute for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year effective January 1, 2011: Matthew Mullins – Master’s Step 1.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas the board approved the following permanent substitute art teacher at the middle school be retained for the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year: Jennifer Mazziotta – Bachelor’s Step 1.

Dr. Gallagher read a letter that was received from the Acting Secretary of Education, Thomas E. Gluck, dated December 27, 2010:

Dear Dr. Gallagher:

The board of directors and the administrative staff of the Pottsville Area School District are to be congratulated for the accomplishments shown by the audit of your operations for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008 and 2007, recently issued by the Department of the Auditor General. The Pennsylvania Department of Education would like to inform you that the Audit Report of Pottsville Area School District did not contain any findings or observations for these years in accordance with procedures established in Management Directive #325.10.

It is a pleasure to commend you and your staff for this achievement. I would hope that this commendation becomes part of the official minutes of the next meeting of your Board. Again, congratulations.

Sincerely,  
Thomas E. Gluck  
Acting Secretary of Education

Dr. Gallagher wanted to acknowledge the fantastic job that the academic center staff did during this audit. We are audited very often and this creates excess work for the staff. Dr. Gallagher also stated that these auditors are sometimes here more than three months and it is necessary to be ready to answer any questions. He cannot remember the last time we had a finding.

Dr. Gallagher thanked the members of the Board of Education. The month of January is Board of Education Recognition Month. Each board member received a certificate and a calendar. He thanked each member for sharing their vision and voice to help shape a better tomorrow for students. He commended them for their great job and a reminder that this job comes without a salary.

Mrs. Petchulis arrived at 7:42 P.M.

On the recommendation of the Committee of Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mrs. Fanelli, seconded by Atty. Rismiller, appointed the following coaches for the 2010-2011 school year and set salaries:

Nick Marrongelle	Boys' Head Volleyball Coach	\$3,200.00
Adam Willier	Assistant Girls' Swim Team Coach	\$2,200.00

On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board adopted the Resolution Pursuant to Section 311(d)(1) of the Special Session Act 1 of 2006 indicating that the Pottsville Area School District will not increase any school district tax for the 2011-2012 school year at a rate that exceeds the index as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Dr. Davidson, Mrs. Fanelli, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye.

A request was made from the Tax Collector of the City of Pottsville to approve an increase in salary. On the recommendation of the Committee on Finance, and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Dr. Cortese, an increase of 2% each year beginning January 1, 2012 to January 2015 was approved. Motion carried.

Under Legislation, Atty. Rismiller reported that we'll wait and see with the appointment of the Cabinet and the new Governor.

On behalf of the Committee on Negotiations, and on a motion by Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Mrs. Fanelli, a 2 year contract agreement was ratified between the Pottsville Area School Board of Education and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association effective July 1, 2011. There will be a 3% salary increase for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school year and changes in credit reimbursement, severance package and premium share. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Dr. Davidson, Mrs. Fanelli, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye.

Mr. Krater would like to thank the Board and the Education Association for coming up with this fair proposal; also a thank you to Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Petchulis and Mr. Toomey and his team.

Under the Drug and Alcohol Coalition, Mrs. Fanelli said there is no official report. The committee is going forward with the formation of committees and a possibility of talent show, a operation medicine cabinet which would be awareness about prescription drugs.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, seconded by Mr. Cortese, the Board appointed the following:

Joshua Moyer as a Full-Time IT Support Specialist effective January 1, 2011 at a salary of \$40,000.00.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Dr. Davidson, Mrs. Fanelli, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye.

Also on the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, seconded by Atty. Rismiller, the Board appointed the following:

Melissa Umbenhauer as a substitute Part-Time Special Education Aide at \$9.25/hour at the Blue Mountain Elementary East.

Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Dr. Davidson, Mrs. Fanelli, Mr. Krater, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye.

On behalf of the Committee on Public Relations, Dr. Davidson commended the Pottsville Area High School Student Council on collecting \$3,839.57 during the annual Penny-A-Week collections. Once again students at PAHS demonstrated that they understand the true meaning of holiday season by providing families with holiday gifts.

Dr. Davidson congratulated Kelsey Holland and Erin Meehan on representing Pottsville Area High School in the 2011 Snowflake Princess Pageant.

Dr. Davidson congratulated Catherine Mahon for being selected as the winner of the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Award. The alternate is Jacob Tarconish.

Dr. Davidson noted that the annual Junior High Football Banquet was held on November 14<sup>th</sup> in the Lengel cafeteria. Mrs. Reedy presented the Scholar-Athlete award to the following seven students with a 4.0 GPA: Kevin Hampford, Connor Hinchcliffe, Quinn McPhillips, Eli Nabholz, Ty Painter, Derek Shuman, and Kyle Shuman.

Dr. Davidson reported that on November 19<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mr. Eckley proctored the Math Counts Diagnostic test. Ms. Skosnick scored the tests and met with the highest scorers on December 1<sup>st</sup> to garner interest in joining the Math Counts Team. She established Fridays as the day students will meet to practice. Team members include: Olivia Connors, Leah Guzick, Andrew Horst, Edward Hossler, Sarah Williams, Tanner Steinhart, Brian Heckler, Kira Nelson and Eric Bevan.

Dr. Davidson reported that the members of the staff are presently developing the Intermediate Unit 29 budget for 2011-2012; Special Education Budget is a work in progress. Dr. Gallagher noted that everybody that is building a budget today is trying to minimize any increases.

On motion of Mr. Krater, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board accepted the November and December 2010 Real Estate, Per Capita, and Occupation Tax reports as submitted by the following tax collectors: Eva Wesnoski, Mechanicsville; Harry E. Ebling, Mount Carbon; Thomas Bosack, Norwegian Township; Anna Cook, Palo Alto; Cheryl Messina, Port Carbon; and Ellen Micka, Pottsville. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Krater, seconded by Mrs. Fanelli, the Board accepted the following reports for the months of November and December 2010: Harry E. Ebling -- Earned Income Tax - \$221,602.28; Business Privilege Tax - \$2,184.62; Local Services Tax - \$4,167.50; and Delinquent Per Capita Taxes and Delinquent Occupation Taxes - \$2,693.00. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Krater, seconded by Mrs. Fanelli, the Board accepted the reports of A. Matthew Dudish, Recorder of Deeds, for the months of November and December 2010, in the amount of \$8,708.86 for Realty Transfer Tax. Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Fanelli, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board approved the following commissions to tax collectors paid on the basis of \$3.00 per bill collected and paid to the school district during the months of November and December 2010. (See office files.) Motion carried.

Mr. Delenick 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 is hereby announced for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

On motion of Mr. Krater, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following requests for use of facilities: Schuylkill County Olympics to use the Pottsville Area High School Stadium on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 to host the Special Olympics Track & Field Meet; Crimson Aides Band Parents Association to use the PAHS Cafeteria on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 from 3PM to 7PM for a fundraiser delivery and pick up destination; DHHL Middle School parking lot as the "drop off" point for students coming home from the annual Fourth Grade Trip to the Philadelphia Zoo on Wednesday, April 13, 2011. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.