

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
November 16, 2016
Academic Center
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Mr. Boran, Dr. Cortese,
Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran,
Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner
Dr. Zwiebel, Superintendent; Mrs. Lombel,
Assistant Business Manager / Acting Board
Secretary; Mr. Thornburg, Solicitor; Mr. Ansbach,
Mrs. Kalovcak, Mr. Pytak, Republican
Herald

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President John Boran.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Boran welcomed everyone in attendance and asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Miss Chelsea Balulis, Junior of Pottsville Area High School spoke to the Board members about their thoughts of cutting the water polo team. She is aware that everything has a price on it but she wanted to express her love for this sport. Tide is all about tradition and in 1994 the Water Polo co-ed team was established and coached by Mr. Ned Hampford. She stated the coaches, Mr. Greg Schuettler, Mr. Neal Johnson, Miss Kim Barone and Ms. Kate Sullivan are constantly teaching us what the true meaning of teamwork is. They always teach us life lessons in and out of the pool of the true meaning of what this sport is. She noted that if water polo is cut many of the athletes will lose out on any potential college scholarships. Chelsea asked the Board for their consideration.

Mrs. Trisha Bouchard enrolled her children in the cyber-charter school and asked the Board what the rules were regarding continued participation for her children in the D.H.H. Lengel Band, Choir and Tide Tones. She asked the Board of Education this question because she previously called the school office and was told that participation should not be allowed if the students do not attend here. Mrs. Bouchard said that she is looking for a resolution or policy regarding this matter.

Mr. Boran noted statements from the public are not for the format of questions and answers but assured Mrs. Bouchard someone from administration will address this question.

With no further public comments Mr. Boran proceeded with the meeting.

Mr. Boran noted that November 2nd, November 5th and November 6th Executive Sessions were held for personnel matters.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of October 2016 and directed that it be appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

On motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Cafeteria Financial Report for the month of October 2016 was 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 Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mr. Wagner, 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.

On the recommendation of Atty. Thornburg, Solicitor and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Wagner the Board approved the action of the administration in levying an administrative suspension on an employee with pay, benefits and seniority pending further action by the Board. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Atty. Thornburg, Solicitor and on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Moran a request for Family and Medical Leave was approved according to the terms of the request. Atty. Thornburg noted that the proper paperwork was in order.

On the recommendation of Atty. Thornburg, Solicitor and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved, in conjunction with the Borough of Port Carbon and the County, the repository sale of property that sat vacant for quite some time in the Borough of Port Carbon for \$1,249.00. Motion carried.

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, 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 Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board preapproved credits indicated for the following professional employees be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA: Kimberly Barone - 3 credits; Beth Bauers - 3 credits; Alicia Fehr - 6 credits; Nathan Halenar - 3 credits; Kelci Killian - 9 credits; Jennifer Lipton - 3 credits; Stacey McClusky - 3 credits; Benjamin O'Brien - 3 credits; Nicholas Sajone - 3 credits; Gregory Schuettler - 3 credits; Christian Selinko - 3 credits; and Jennifer Stock - 3 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board preapproved credits indicated for the following administrative employee be ratified: Stephanie Ziegmont - 3 credits. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following professional employees be reimbursed as indicated on the successful completion of a preapproved credit course in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA: Stephanie McDonald - \$870.00; Lucas McMurtrie - \$300.00; Christian Selinko - \$300.00; Ashley Shappell - \$300.00; Angela Snyder - \$300.00; Jennifer Stock - \$300.00; and Shannon Sweeney - \$300.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following salary adjustments for the 2016-2017 school year: Lucas McMurtrie - Master's +15; Ashley Shappell - Master's +15; and Shannon Sweeney - Master's +15. Motion carried.

On recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board granted permission to the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit#29, Maple Avenue Campus and the Schuylkill Technology Center, South Campus to use our facilities as an emergency evacuation location in the event they experience an emergency at their facility. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent and on motion of Mr. Wagner, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board set the following student early dismissal times for Wednesday, November 23, 2016: Pottsville Area High School – 12:00 noon; D.H.H. Lengel Middle School – 12:30 p.m.; and John S. Clarke Elementary Center – 1:00 p.m. Motion carried.

Mr. Moran mentioned that several people of the community wanted him to thank Mr. Adrian Portland and Mr. Scott Delenick for the Planetarium presentation on Monday, November 14, 2016. Dr. Zwiebel noted that the presentation was well attended by approximately 120 citizens. Mr. Portland remarked that the next super moon will occur on December 14, 2016.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board appointed the following coaches for the 2016-2017 school year and set their salaries, as appended. (See office files). Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Atty. Rismiller, the Board appointed the following volunteer winter coaches for the 2016-2017 school year, as appended (See office files). Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities and on motion of Mrs. Blankenhorn, seconded by Mr. Moran, the Board approved the following Winter Sports Budgets for the 2016-2017 school year. (See office files). Motion carried.

Mr. Wagner, Chairman of the Buildings and Real Estate Committee mentioned that he met with Mr. Kerry Ansbach regarding updates for several different district projects. He congratulated Mr. Ansbach and staff for getting the pool ready quickly between the water polo season and swim practice. Mr. Wagner also noted that the new wrestling room lockers have been installed and look very nice. These are just a few of the things that Mr. Ansbach and his staff do to keep the district financially better off. Mr. Wagner also noted that the pool deck received repair estimates of \$4,000.00 but Mr. Ansbach was able to have the repairs completed for approximately \$1,200.00.

Under Legislation, Chairperson Mr. Moran noted that the Truancy Reform Bill, was finally passed and signed by the Governor. This reform bill clarified what a habitual truant student is and provided definitions of what a school year and school day is. This will help us define what a truant student is and what is not. The Truancy Reform Bill also puts in place some understanding as to what actions can be taken by a school district with parents and potential students that are truant.

Mr. Moran also noted another item of Legislation was the extension of the professional educational requirements for substitute teachers. A segment of the bill helps expedite teacher certifications hopefully to help school districts eliminate teacher loss due to retirement and enable us to find replacements more quickly.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. Davidson, the Board approved the following changes for the part-time cafeteria employees, at an hourly rate of \$14.95 per hour, retroactive to October 24, 2016. (See office files). Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved an unpaid leave be granted to a part-time paraprofessional at the D.H.H. Lengel Middle School, from Monday, December 5, 2016 through December 8, 2016. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. DiCello the Board approved the hiring of the following full-time custodian, effective November 17, 2016, contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances. Donald Walsh - \$19,000.00. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the Board appointed Mrs. Patricia Lombel as Acting Secretary to the Board of Directors pending further action of the Board of Directors. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Public Relations, and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board congratulated the Pottsville Area High School Marching Band for earning top ratings of "Superior in Marching" and "Music and Overall General Effect" at the Tamaqua Band Adjudication Show. Dr. Davidson also noted

they were selected to receive a Special Judge's Award for being the band with the most audience appeal. Their award winning performance was for their Patriotic Tribute Show.

Dr. Davidson also congratulated the following students: Caity Kline, 9th grade student, for being chosen as Artist of the Month and Parker Rose for being nominated by the faculty and chosen by the senior class members for the Daughters of American Revolution Good Citizen Award.

Technology Report – Dr. DiCello noted that the committee met on November 3, 2016 and reported that to-date the iPad/technology sales were \$152,794.00. Dr. DiCello also reported that there will be a cash only iPad, laptop and additional technology surplus sale in the Academic Center, on Thursday, November 17, 2016 from noon until 6:00 p.m. She also noted the ongoing teacher trainings are going very well which help them better use and implement their iPads. iLearn sessions are also being held in each of our buildings.

Dr. Zwiebel mentioned that Mrs. Dianne Dougherty received many calls regarding interest in the upcoming technology sale. The sale was advertised on the marquee and also through two Skylert messages. With the interest expressed, we are expecting a holiday rush.

On the recommendation of Atty. Richard Thornburg, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn the Board appointed Atty. Jeffrey Tucker, of King Spry Law Firm, as special counsel to the district at the rate of \$185.00 per hour.

On the recommendation of Mr. Wagner, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Dr. Cortese the board accepted the resignation of Mr. Charles Wagner as Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Representative, for three months, effective December 31, 2016. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of Mr. Wagner, and on motion of Dr. DiCello, seconded by Mrs. Blankenhorn, the Board appointed Mr. Scott Thomas to serve as the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit #29 Representative and fill Mr. Wagner's position until his return. Motion carried.

Mr. Moran reported for the Curriculum and Grading Committee will be suspended and would like to thank Atty. Rismiller, Dr. DiCello, Dr. Cortese, building principals and assistant principals for all of their hard work. We will now be rolling this committee over to a Policy and Review Committee.

On the recommendation of Mrs. Lombel, and on motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Wagner, the Board approved the Revenue Report for October 2016, which included local, state and federal sources. (See office files) Motion carried by roll call vote: Mrs. Blankenhorn, Dr. Cortese, Dr. Davidson, Dr. DiCello, Mr. Moran, Atty. Rismiller, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Wagner and Mr. Boran, Aye.

Mr. Boran announced that the Reorganization Meeting of the Board should be held during the first week of December for the purpose of electing a President and Vice President for the ensuing year; electing a Solicitor for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017; and for general purposes. On the recommendation of Mr. Boran, and on motion of Mr. Moran, seconded by Dr. DiCello, the date was set for the Reorganization Meeting and general purposes on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Howard S. Fernsler Academic Center. Motion carried.

On motion of Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Thomas the Board granted the following requests for the use of facilities:

John S. Clarke Elementary

- PAHS Cheer Boosters, Rock the Court Cheer Camp, January 28, 2017, 8:30 am – 2:30 pm, JSC Gym.

D.H.H. Lengel Middle School

- DHHL PTO, 8th Grade Farewell Event, May 6, 2017, 4:00 – 11:00 pm, MS Pool, Gym, Cafeteria.
- PAHS Boys Basketball Boosters, Parent Meeting, November 30, 2016, 7:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.
- Lady Tide Volleyball Boosters, AAU 14U Tournament, April 23, 2017, 7:30 am - 5:00 pm, Martz Hall.
- PAHS Swim Team Parent Boosters, Swim Meet Concessions, December 13, 20, 22, 28, 30, 2016/ January 7, 17, 26, 31, 2017, 4:00 pm, MS Hallway adjacent to the pool.
- PAHS Swim Team Parent Boosters, Schuylkill League Swim Meet, February 10 (Set Up), 5:00 – 7:00pm, February. 11, 2017 (Leagues), 7:00 am - 5:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.
- G.I.V.E. (MS Community Service Club), Yard Sale, December 3, 2017, 7:00 am – 12:00 pm, Martz Hall Top.
- PAHS Swim Team Parent Boosters, Booster Meetings, November 16, December. 7, 2016, January 11, February. 8, 2017, 6:30 – 7:30 pm. (Retro)
- PAHS Mothers Football Boosters, Football Banquet, November 13, 2016, 1:00 – 4:00 pm, MS Cafeteria. (Retro) (Set Up Nov. 12, 2016 10:00 am)
- PAHS Girls Soccer Boosters, Soccer Banquet, November 15, 2016, 5:30 – 9:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.
- DHHL Junior High Cheer, Cheer Practice, November 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 30, December 1, 5, 6, 20, 2016, 3:00 – 5:00 pm, Martz Hall Top. (Retro)
- Pottsville Midget Football League, Pizza Party, December 15, 2016, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, MS Cafeteria.

Pottsville Area High School


- PAHS Social Studies Dept., History Night, April 27, 2017, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, HS ground floor, first and second floor classrooms, library and Little Theatre.
- PAHS Mini Thon Committee, Third Mini Thon, March 31, 2017, 2:35 – 10:00 pm, Boy's and Girl's Gyms and Rooms 132, 131, 130, 104, 103.
- American Cancer Society, Relay for Life of Pottsville, May 12-13, 2017, 8:00 am Friday till 12:00 pm Saturday, HS Stadium, Press Box, Girls Gym.

- PAHS Swim Team Boosters, Pasta Dinner, February 9, 2017, 5:00 pm, HS Cafeteria.
- PAHS Swim Team Boosters, Swim Team Banquet, March 12, 2017, 5:00 pm, HS Cafeteria.
- PAHS Quiz Team, Sch. Co. Academic League Quiz Matches, November 7 and December 5, 2016, 3:00 – 6:00 pm, HS Library. (Retro)
- PAHS Cheer Boosters, Cheer Camp Sign Up, January 12 – 13, 2017, 5:45 – 8:15 pm, HS Hallway in front of the Little Theatre.

Motion carried.

Before adjourning the meeting Mr. Boran remarked that Mrs. Hobbs was in attendance. He noted that the Board elected Mrs. Hobbs a few months prior as the District's representative to the Pottsville Library Board. Mr. Boran, on behalf of the Board, thanked her for her time and service.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.


Mrs. Patricia A. Lombel (12/7/2016)
Acting Board Secretary