

## POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting  
September 21, 2011  
Academic Center  
7:30 p.m.

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

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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 asked if anyone wished to address the Board.

Mr. Ron Lickman, Port Carbon, a 1958 graduate of Pottsville Area High School, who also has two grandchildren in the John S. Clarke Elementary School, questioned the graduation rate in the school district and how will the board continue to provide quality education within the district. Dr. Gallagher stressed that we have met all the Federal benchmarks except the graduation rate because of the students who may need that extra year for their studies. Mr. Lickman also questioned why the board opposed the Gillingham Charter School. Dr. Gallagher made the recommendation to the board to deny granting the charter because of its educational philosophy. Dr. Gallagher noted that children in the Pottsville School District fifth grade receive 90 minutes of reading instruction per day compared to the Gillingham Charter School with only 30 minutes a week.

Dr. Jack Dolbin, Pottsville, also spoke on the importance of discipline, structure and the respect of students and teachers within our school district. It is important to have family structure within the home in order for students to excel.

Dr. William R. Davidson was presented an award by the school board for the years he served in the Pottsville Area School District; he served as high school principal from 1970 to 1973 and superintendent from 1973 to 1993. He also was a school board member from 2003 to 2011. Dr. Davidson also served as an interim superintendent for Pine Grove Area and Shenandoah Valley school districts and a supervisor for student teachers from Penn State. President Boran noted that his dedication to education is outstanding.

On motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of both the work session held on August 10, 2011 as well as the

regular board meeting held on August 17, 2011. Since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board accepted the report of the Treasurer for the month of August 2011 and directed that it be appended to the minutes. Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Operating Report of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the month of August 2011 was accepted and ordered filed. Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the following Financial Statement of the Pottsville Area School District Cafeterias for the month of August 2011 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 Mr. Thomas, seconded by Atty. Rismiller, 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.

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

On motion of Mrs. Grube, 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 Mrs. Grube, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board excused the following professional employees from their teaching duties to serve as jurors in the Schuylkill County Court of Common Pleas in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association: Heather McDonald – beginning Friday, September 30, 2011; Peter McDonald – beginning, Wednesday, October 5, 2011 (Stand-by) and Anne Murray – beginning, Friday, September 30, 2011. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Grube, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board elected the following extracurricular advisors for the 2011-2012 school year in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and the Pottsville Area School District Education Association:

Craig Everly - Class Advisor-2013 - \$1,100.00

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Grube, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the following salary adjustments effective the 2011-2012 school year: Lindsey Boncore - Bachelor +15; Natasha Bubnis- Bachelor +15; Mary Fetterolf – Master; Cara Holman - Bachelor +15; Jonathan Hughes – Master’s Equivalency; Lloren Reichert – Bachelor +15. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Grube seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board ratified the Superintendent’s preapproval of credits as 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: Meredith Boris – 50 units; Jennifer (Pahira) Buggy - 3 credits; Judith DiObilda - 3 credits; Paula Jones - 3 credits; Sarah Gaffney - 7 credits; Elizabeth (Wetzel) Grow -3 credits; Jennifer Kepner - 3 credits; Christopher Lombel -3 credits; and Katie Porrino - 3 credits. Motion carried.

On further recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Grube, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved reimbursement for the following professional employees as indicated for their 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: Beth Bauers - \$2,322.00; Lindsey Boncore - \$2,045.00; Kelly M Brennan - \$1,380.00; Natasha Bubnis - \$1,690.00; Jennifer Buggy - \$1,380.00; John Carr - \$2,322.00; Jacqueline Dicello - \$4,092.00; Kayla Fehr - \$1,161.00; Suzanne Fredericks - \$1,161.00; Cara Holman - \$2,760.00; Jonathan Hughes - \$2,148.00; Paula Jones - \$2,760.00; Julie Klamfoth - \$180.00; Rachael Kubick - \$3,090.00; Maria Malek - \$1,131.00, Katie Porrino - \$1,161.00; Lloren Reichert - \$8,184.00; Charles Taronis - \$1,500.00 and Lorraine Van Stone - \$3,105.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Grube, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board awarded permanent contracts and tenure certification, pursuant to Section 1108 of the School Code, to the following professional employees after having received satisfactory ratings for the second semester of the third year of teaching:

Erin Allan  
Leigh Ann Bosak  
Bridget Freiler  
Michelle McGinty  
Carolyn Wasilewski

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

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of Mrs. Grube, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board approved the Independent Contractor's Agreement between Brenda A. Day and the Pottsville Area School district to provide Physical Therapy Services for the 2011-2012 school year. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mrs. Petchulis, the Board awarded the bids received August 17, 2011 for athletic equipment and supplies (winter sports). (See office files.) Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Athletics and Extracurricular Activities, and on motion of Atty. Rismiller, seconded by Mrs. Grube, the Board authorized the Secretary to advertise for bids for certain athletic equipment and supplies (spring sports) for the 2011-2012 school year, in accordance with the school district's instructions and specifications, such bids to be received until 12:00, noon, October 19, 2011. Motion carried.

Mr. Thomas, Legislation Chairperson, will continue to keep us updated on the State Senate and the House since they will be in session.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, seconded by Atty. Rismiller, the Board accepted the resignation of Robin Korrubin, a part-time Life Skills support aide at the High School effective August 24, 2011. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, seconded by Mrs. Grube, the Board accepted the resignation of Pearl Robertson, a part-time Life Skills support aide at the DHH Lengel Middle School effective August 29, 2011. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, seconded by Atty. Rismiller, the Board appointed Lois Bogan, a part-time Life Skills Support Aide at the DHH Lengel Middle School at a salary of \$9.60/hour. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the Board appointed David Hess as a part-time Life Skills Support Teacher Aide at the Pottsville Area High School at a salary of \$9.60/hour, effective September 16, 2011. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Personnel, and on motion of Dr. Smink, Seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board appointed Daniel Seiger and Timothy Doyle as full-time custodial employees at a starting salary of \$19,000.00. Motion carried by roll call vote: Dr. Cortese, Mrs. Grube, Mrs. Petchulis, Atty. Rismiller, Dr. Smink, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Boran, Aye; Mr. Krater, Absent.

Mrs. Grube, Public Relations Chairperson, congratulated the newly elected 2011-2012 band officers as follows:

President	-	Gwen Fries
Vice-President	-	Joshua Kovich
Secretary	-	Allison Salata
Treasurer	-	Brittany DeColli

Dr. Cortese, Technology Chairperson, noted that the smartboards and palms are being used in the classrooms and laptop carts will be used for the dibels testing throughout the school year.

Atty. Rismiller, Pottsville Recreation Chairperson, informed the board about the different events which will be held for Halloween: a night of horror on October 28 at the Sovereign Majestic Theatre, the Halloween parade on October 25 and Trick or Treat night on October 27. Mr. Charlie Daubert will have basketball fundamentals for girls starting September 24. A flyer will be given to the Pottsville Republican with this information. The next meeting will be October 13.

On motion of Mrs. Petchulis seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board accepted the Real Estate, Per Capita, and Occupation Tax reports for August 2011 as submitted by the following tax collectors: Eva Wesnoski, Mechanicsville; Thomas Bosack, Norwegian Township; Anna Cook, Palo Alto; Cheryl Messina, Port Carbon; and Ellen Micka, Pottsville. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board accepted the following reports for the month of August 2011: Harry E. Ebling -- Earned Income Tax - \$175,606.11; Business Privilege Tax - \$2,899.72; Local Service Tax - \$4,264.86 and Delinquent Per Capita Taxes and Delinquent Occupation Taxes - \$26,276.70. (See office files.) Motion carried.

On motion of Mrs. Petchulis, seconded by Dr. Cortese the Board accepted the report of A. Matthew Dudish, Recorder of Deeds, for August 2011 in the amount of \$8,625.75 for Realty Transfer Tax. Motion carried.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Dr. Cortese, 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 month of August 2011. (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 was hereby announced for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

On motion of Atty. Rismiller seconded by Dr. Cortese, the Board granted the following requests for the use of facilities: DHH Lengel Middle School Cafeteria for the Lady Tide Soccer banquet on Saturday, November 12, 2011; DHH Lengel Middle School cafeteria for the Railway Park Little League's annual awards party on Monday, October 3, 2011; PAHS Cafeteria on Sunday, November 30, 2011 for the Boys Soccer team banquet; and PAHS cafeteria for the PAHS Cross Country Banquet on Sunday, November 13, 2011. Motion carried.

There being no further new business, on motion of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Grube, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.