

**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
December 16, 2010**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, December 16, 2010 at 7:30 PM in the second floor LGI room of the Pottstown Middle School with President Richard C. Huss presiding. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Ms. Valerie Harris, Mr. Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Mr. Thomas J. Hylton, Mrs. Michele Pargeon, Mrs. Polly Weand, Mr. Dennis Wausnock, and Mr. Nat White. Absent was Mrs. Julia Wilson. Also present were Superintendent, Dr. Reed Lindley; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Jeffrey Sparagana; Board Secretary, Mrs. Linda S. Adams; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis, Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Gail Cooper, Mrs. Rita Cohen, Mrs. Danielle McCoy, Mr. Patrick Connors, Mr. Robert Giering, a member of the press, and interested citizens.

AWARDS

Mr. Armato introduced Ms. Heather Raugh and Mr. Tom Coyle. Ms. Raugh presented a check in the amount of \$250 to the ROTC for their role in supporting the Do-op Concert fundraiser. Mr. Coyle presented a check in the amount of \$8,000 to the district to benefit the Shantz Field Fencing Project.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

REPORTS

Mr. Giering talked about the Community Schools Model pilot program. He gave a description of various programs that support the community:

- Resource room collects food and needy items to distribute to the community
- Weekend Back- Pack is filled each week with dry goods to distribute to a family in need.
- Bus stop parent volunteer network to provide safe routes to school
- PTO organization
- Progressions Councilor
- Emergency Resource for Red Cross Emergencies
- Connecting parents, student and community to educational needs

Dr. Lindley presented an overview of Community Schools and also provided a Community School Activity survey to be completed by the Board Members and Administrators. He explained the purpose of the survey. Dr. Lindley stated that he will collate the responses and provide recommendations to the Board for discussion that could have an impact on the budget, the President's Task Force on Facilities and the continuation of the Community Schools program.

COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Lindley read a letter from the Disney Tour Travel Planner complimenting the Pottstown High School music students and staff for their professional, organized and courtesy manners they demonstrated during their trip to the Disney Resort.

MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the minutes of the Regular meeting held on November 18, 2010, be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 2, 2010 be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

LIST OF BILLS

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the list of bills for the period ending 2010 from the for the Athletic Fund totaling \$125,554.09; the Capital Reserve Fund totaling \$68,355; the Cafeteria Fund totaling # 93,173.94; the Construction Fund totaling \$7,147.56; the Elementary Fund totaling \$2,286.00; and the General Fund totaling \$640,316.45 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2010-2011-040.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was moved Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Treasurer's Report for November 2010 be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's Office as addendum #2010-2011-041.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

Motion carried.

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS OF THE SCHOOL

Mrs. Zahora asked the Board for a progress report on teacher negotiations. Mr. Kalis responded that the negotiations are still on-going. He stated that representatives of the Federation have met with representative of the Administration and negotiations are continuing, hoping to come to an amicable resolution.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

It was moved by Ms. Harris and seconded by Mr. Wausnock that the following consent items be approved in accordance with Policy 1120, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

PERSONNEL

New Position and/or Changed Positions

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following new positions:

Classified

Ratify Three Full-Time Classroom/Van Assistants, 10 month position with benefits, 7 hours per day, \$13.65/hour, effective December 1, 2010.

Resignations/Terminations

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following resignations/terminations:

Classified

Willamena Kelly, Part-time Cafeteria Worker and Breakfast Aide, resignation due to retirement, effective the last day of the 2010-2011 school year, employed since December 11, 1996.

Leaves

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following leaves:

Professional

Jennifer Burkholder, Special Education Teacher, Barth Elementary School request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date February 10, 2011, end date to be determined.

Samantha Kelly, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown High School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, and Childrearing, anticipated effective date April 18, 2011, end date to be determined.

Brenda DiDonato, Special Education Teacher, Rupert Elementary School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective May 22, 2011, end date to be determined.

Elections

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following elections:

Compensation for Missed Planning Time, 2010-2011 school year, \$23 per period, for the time period ending November 13, 2010.

Lisa Cassidy-Lawler	Pottstown High School	16 missed planning times	\$368.00
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Additions/Corrections to 2010-2011 Co-Curricular Assignments: Salaries are based upon current contract rates, Rates subject to change pending new contract.

<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Professional Agreement Category</u>	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
MS	C - Baseball - Head Coach	Daniel Edleman	1	\$2,040.00
MS	C - Baseball - Asst. Head Coach	Carl Sundstrum	5	\$2,165.00

Ratify High School and Middle School Summer Trojan Unity Camp paid through School Improvement Grant

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Mary Ann Hill	Teacher	\$29/hour
James Benfield	Teacher	\$29/hour

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

<u>Building</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title and Location</u>	<u>Dates to Attend</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Admin.	Lisa Schiavone	Improving School State College, PA	01/23/11 –	Approx.
Lincoln	Regina Collins	Performance	01/26/11	\$2189.00 paid
Barth	Julie Schumacher	Conference – Federal Programs		by Title I Set Aside

FIELD TRIPS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following field trips:

<u># of students and/or group</u>	<u>Name of conference or activity</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Date of trip</u>	<u>Cost to student</u>	<u>Cost to district-substitutes</u>	<u>Chaperone(s)</u>
Ratify: 9 High School Wrestling Students	Journeymen/Asics Northeast Duals & Scrimmage (Wrestling)	Troy, New York	11/26/10 – 11/27/10	\$50.00	None	Jamie Gill

CONTRACT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following contract and a copy be filed in the Secretary’s office as addendum #2010-2011-042:

1. Adoption Agreement for 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan

ENERGY CURTAILMENT PROJECT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve proceeding with enrollment in the PJM Demand Response Project with guaranteed monthly payments proportional to the agreed (kW) curtailment obligation.

Upon roll call, all board members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

NON-CONSENT ITEMS

All the Non-Consent Items were reviewed as follows:

Dr. Sparagana reviewed the Personnel items for Board approval.

Mrs. Adams reviewed the Policy 006, Contracts and Part K; Project Refinancing Board Transmittal for Board approval.

Mrs. Pargeon reviewed the PSBA Legislative Policies Resolution for Board approval.

Hearings From Patrons Of The School (limited to Non-Consent Items)

None.

PERSONNEL (NON-CONSENT)

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following Personnel items:

New Position and/or Changed Positions

Classified

Ratify a Full-Time One-on-One Assistant, Barth Elementary School, 10 month position with benefits, 7 hours per day, \$13.65/hour, effective December 13, 2010, to be reimbursed by Pottsgrove School District.

Resignations

Exempt

Ratify Rosalia W. Hunter, Physical Therapist, resignation effective November 18, 2010, employed since September 10, 2007.

Classified

Ratify Jinnell Coleman, Part-Time Student Intern for Human Resources/Business Office, resignation effective October 29, 2010, employed since April 26, 2010.

Leaves

Professional

Ratify Denise Schliecher, Special Education Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective date December 14, 2010, end date to be determined.

Classified

Cheryl Oxenford, Part-Time Housekeeper, Rupert Elementary, request for medical leave of absence effective January 11, 2010, end date to be determined.

Joanne Howe, Classroom Assistant, Edgewood Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective date December 17, 2010, end date to be determined.

Ratify Andrea Skokowski, Elementary School Secretary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective December 2, 2010, end date to be determined.

Exempt

Ratify Mindy MacRone-Wojton, Occupational Therapist, Special Education, request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective dated November 22, 2010, end date to be determined.

Change in Position and/or Salary

Professional

Sarah Pennypacker, from Building Substitute Teacher, Pottstown High School to Science Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, in accordance with Board Policy 3920, effective date to be determined.

Classified

Ratify Amelia Derstine, from Special Substitute and Substitute Classroom Assistant to Classroom Assistant, Pottstown High School, \$13.65/hour, effective December 15, 2010.

Elections

Professional

Ratify Barbara Fifer, Special Substitute Teacher, effective December 6, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, \$13.65/hour, effective December 6, 2010.

Ratify Brandi Hankins, Special Substitute Teacher, effective December 6, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, \$13.65/hour, effective December 6, 2010.

Ratify Barbara Johnson, Special Substitute Teacher, effective December 6, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, \$13.65/hour, effective December 6, 2010.

Christa Oister, Special Substitute Teacher, effective December 16, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant \$13.65/hour, effective December 16, 2010.

Classified

Ratify Jacqueline Keller, Part-Time Cafeteria Substitute, \$10.41/hour, effective December 6, 2010.

Ratify LaKeisha Williams, Part-Time One-on-One Substitute Classroom Assistant, Edgewood, covering for Stacey Oldham’s leave of absence, \$13.65/hour, effective November 2, 2010.

Ratify Raphael Hueber, in addition to his current position of Substitute Custodian/Housekeeper, has also assumed the role of Substitute Playground Aide, rated based on hours worked according to Part-Time Classified Guidelines, effective December 10, 2010.

Homebound Instruction, \$29/hour

Ratify Scot Christy, Pottstown Middle School, from December 3, 2010 through December 23, 2010, assignment not to exceed 5 hours per week.

Girls Today Leaders Tomorrow Advisor paid through United Way Grant:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Not to Exceed</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Ratify Katrina C. Keene	Advisor	250 hours	\$18/hour

Additions/Correction to 2010-2011 Co-Curricular Assignments:

Salaries are based upon current contract rates, Rates subject to change pending new contract.

<u>BLDG</u>	<u>PROFESSIONAL AGREEMENT CATEGORY</u>	<u>EMPLOYEE</u>	<u>LEVEL</u>	<u>STIPEND</u>
MS	C - Track - Asst. Coach	Ratify Stefanie George (1/2 stipend) replacing Jennifer Milkovitz	3	984.00
HS	G – Music- Band Asst. (Color Guard)	Ratify Nancy Mest	3	1,735.00

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Ms. Harris that the Personnel Items be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES – Dr. Sparagana

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following professional leaves:

<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title and Location</u>	<u>Dates to Attend</u>	<u>Cost</u>
High School	Lisa Lawler	Program VITAL – Temple University	Immaculata, PA 1/10/11 – 1/14/11	Approx. \$150.00 paid by Tech Prep grant. District will only be funding the cost of a substitute.
Barth Annex	Robert Giering Jaime Stringer Hayley Quigley Sherri Stagemyer Krista Trainer Kimberly Valentine Jill Rinewalt Scott Ware	PDE Annual Conference: Making a Difference	Hershey, PA 1/13/10 – 1/14/10	Approx. \$2385.00 paid by MPL grant.

It was moved by Mrs. Weand and seconded by Mr. White that the professional leaves be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members presented voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

POLICY

The Policy Committee recommends the Board approve the following policy:

1. Policy 006: Local Board Meetings

It was moved by Ms. Harris and seconded by Mr. White that the Board approve Policy 006.

Upon roll call, the vote to approve Policy 006 was recorded as follows: Ms. Harris: aye, Mr. Hartman: nay, Mr. Huss: nay, Mr. Hylton: aye, Mrs. Pargeon: nay, Mr. Wausnock: nay, Mrs. Weand: nay, Mr. White: aye. Ayes: three. Nays: five. Absent: one. Motion denied.

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following contracts and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum 2010-2011-043.

1. Soliant Health Inc.
2. Devereux

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Board approve the contracts as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

PART K: PROJECT REFINANCING

Board action to approve Part K: Project Refinancing materials for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education and a copy to be file in the Secretary's office as addendum #2010-2011-044.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: eight. Nays: none. Absent: one. Motion carried.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE POLICIES RESOLUTION

The PSBA Liaison recommends the Board approve the PSBA Legislative Policies Resolution representing five legislative policies that have an effect on the Pottstown School District as presented and a copy be file in the Secretary's offices as addendum #2010-2011-045.

It was moved by Mrs. Weand and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the Board approve the PSBA Legislative Policies Resolution.

Upon roll call, the vote was recorded as follows: Mr., Huss: aye, Mr. Hylton: abstain, Mrs. Pargeon: aye, Mr. Wausnock, aye; Mrs. Weand: aye, Mr. White: aye, Ms. Harris: aye. Mr. Hartman: aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Abstention: one. Absent: one. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Policy 122: Interscholastic Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities for Pottstown High School and Pottstown Middle School
2. Policy 122.1: Co-Curricular Awards and Recognition for Co-Curricular Participation

Dr. Lindley stated that Policy 122 and Policy 122.1 are being reviewed. He anticipates the policies will be recommended to the Board in January.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

INFORMATION

1. Pottstown Demographics
2. February 2010 Snowstorm Recovery

Mrs. Adams stated that the school district received a Reimbursement for expenses from the February 2010 snowstorm in the amount of \$14,677.00

3. Monthly Meeting Notice: January 2011

Mrs. Adams explained that the meeting notice reflects the 2011 meeting schedule and asked Board Members to review the schedule and notify her of any changes to the schedule for advertising purposes.

4. Bulldog Club Trip
5. Out of District Placement

Dr. Lindley provided an overview of "Out of District Student Placements." He explained the types of placements and the cost to the district to place students in each school.

Dr. Lindley provide a summary of the total number of students that are currently enrolled In Charter School, Cyber Charters, Court/Hospital Placements and District Placements.

6. Reimbursement of Planning Time

Dr. Spargana explained Planning Time provisions and reimbursement for Missed Planning Time as outlined in the 2006-2010 Federation agreement. He provided a summary of missed planning time reimbursements from the previous school year up to December 2, 2010. Dr. Sparagana spoke about the success for the Health Occupation Program. He reviewed the three salary options for this

program and the costs to the district. Mrs. Pargeon agreed that the current teacher is a really good fit for the program and voiced her support to continue the reimbursement of the Missed Planning Time.

7. PEAK Report: December 2010

Dr. Sparagana reviewed the PEAK report.

8. PCTV Spotighting Pottstown School District Program

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. Decker wished everyone a happy, healthy holiday. He is looking forward to returning in the new year, refreshed and ready to begin the second half of the school year.

ROUND TABLE

Mrs. Pargeon reminded the Board of the various activities and meetings that are scheduled during the upcoming week. She wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mr. Hartman was pleased to hear the compliments addressed to the students and staff from the Disney Tour representative. He thanked Tom Coyle and Heather Raugh for all their hard work over the years. He wished everyone a nice Christmas and a safe holiday.

Mrs. Weand thanked everyone for supporting the fundraiser to benefit the band students' trip to Disney. She wished everyone happy holidays.

Mr. White wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Ms. Harris expressed her gratitude for a very interesting first year on the School Board. She was disappointed that Policy 006 did not pass. Ms. Harris is looking forward to closure on the Teacher's Contract and commended Barth for their role in Community Schools. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dr. Spargana wished everyone a relaxing holiday and a healthy new year.

Dr. Lindley provided an update on the two community meetings that took place at the High School. He expressed the need to identify a site for the Community Garden and stated that he will present this topic at the next Facility Committee meeting for discussion. Dr. Lindley wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He spoke about taking time to relax, enjoy the season and come back refreshed.

Mr. Wausnock – no comment.

Mrs. Adams recognized the Phoebe Sime Trust for its role in supporting the Music Program. The Phoebe Sime Trust provides funds to purchase instruments, provide lessons and transportation for the Students to participate in music events like Disney World and has recently increased its contribution rate from 10% to 15% toward every student's expenses for the Disney trip. Mrs. Adams wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr. Huss reflected on his experiences with Band and Choral trips and the good reputation that the Pottstown Students have obtained from Canada to Texas. He was saddened to hear about the families who lost their homes due to a fire and thanked the students and community for coming to the aid of these families. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas, A Happy New Year and a very safe holiday.

Mr. Huss announced there will be an Executive Session for the purpose of Contract Negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Board adjourns. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:44 P.M.


Linda S. Adams
Board Secretary