MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, January 21, 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 L. Harris, Mr. Robert Hartman, Mr. Thomas J. Hylton, Mrs. Michele Pargeon, Mr. Dennis Wausnock, Mrs. Polly M. Weand, Mr. Nat White and Mrs. Julia Wilson. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. David Krem; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Reed Lindley; Director of Education and Human Resources, Dr. Jeffrey Sparagana; Business Administrator, Linda S. Adams; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Mr. John Armato, Ms. Terri Lampe, Ms. Pamela Bateson, Mrs. Gail Cooper, Mrs. Dee Pettine, Dr. Robert Stevens, a member of the press, and interested citizens.

AWARDS

The Principal, Mrs. Gail Cooper introduced, Mrs. Dee Pettine who presented the Pottstown Middle Writing Award Winners:

8th Grade - Leah Procter
7th Grade - Tyisha Reddick
7th Grade - Leah Yeary
7th Grade - Cara Cabot
6th Grade - Gage Shupard
6th Grade - Tyrell Hill
6th Grade – Elaina James

Mrs. Cooper provided a ten minute presentation on the Middle School's PSSA scores and how they were achieved. A copy of the test results was provided to Board Members.

THE BOARD ENTERED INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF LITIGATION AT 8:10 P.M.

THE MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:40 P.M.

REPORTS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Krem presented each school board member with a plaque for Board Recognition Month and thanked them for their dedication and hard work.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on December 17, 2009 be approved as presented.

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

It was moved by Mr. Wausncok and seconded by Mr. White that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 7, 2010 be approved as amended.

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

LIST OF BILLS

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Ms. Harris that the list of bills, as presented by the Treasurer, Mrs. Judyth Zahora, for the period of December 10, 2009 to January 13, 2010 from the Athletic Fund totaling $ 6,222.00; the General Fund totaling $876,573.84 and the Cafeteria Fund totaling $70,274.53; additional bills for prior periods from the General Fund totaling $2,637.52; the Athletic Fund totaling $10,372.64; the Elementary Activity Fund Totaling $4,020.99; the Cafeteria Fund totaling $207,882.19 and the list of bills from the PNC Procurement Program for the Month of December totaling $553,701.41 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-47.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Judyth Zahora, as Treasurer went on record that she is violently opposed to the method of spending without identifying a specific line item where the funding is coming from. She indicated that spending money without a definitive source of the funding is fiscally irresponsible.

Mrs. Zahora presented the Treasurer' Report. It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Treasurer's Report be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-048.

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

Mr. Hylton made a brief statement regarding an error published in the newspaper which quoted the cost of the Neff's elementary renovations versus the cost of the geothermal heating installation.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS

Mr. Bruce Madara indicated that board members are not animals because they disagree, but maybe they should act like animals, as animals don't build what they can't afford.

Mrs. Rita Paez voiced her concern that the money should be spent on educational improvements before it is spent on windows. She doesn't see how windows will help the educational process.

Mrs. Stephanie Carmody presented the board with a signed copy of her comments which have been included as an addendum #2009-2010-049. In summary, she asked the board not to vote on the window replacement RFP this evening and urged the board to seek a comprehensive plan and consider the ultimate costs for a 'rush job'. She finds it hard to believe the price tag will be affordable for the savings proposed and will yield little to no improvement to our children's education. Your most important role is striking a balance between education and maintaining our sites while not overburdening the taxpayers.

Mr. Marabel indicated he had attended previous meetings. He asked if geothermal energy would make the schools better – no. Is it important that we have geothermal energy? – No. We are not financially able to have geothermal energy and it will not contribute to a child's learning. Will it prevent lay offs of teachers? We can not afford this, as people are loosing their homes. He urged the school board not to vote tonight, to look at it and think about it. Look at this very carefully and what it will cost.

Mr. Thees suggested that the board and the community could be helped by recommitting to seeking the truth of what is at hand.

Mrs.Zahora indicated that there were paid articles blasting previous board members for spending and that Mr. White had voted against the last budget as it wasn't a zero increase. So how can you vote for these expenditures. Voting on this shows a disregard for fiscal responsibility. There will be over a million dollar deficit when the stimulus money goes away. Where is the money coming from and what is the District wide plan? It scares her that segregation of handicap students is being considered. She equates segregation with discrimination.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

Personnel

Resignations/Terminations

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

Professional

Shirley Ziegler, Teacher, Lincoln Elementary School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective last day of 2009-2010 school year, employed since September 2, 197

Carolyn Herrlinger, Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective last day of 2009-2010 school year, employed since September 5, 1978.

Kathleen Marchek, Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective last day of 2009-2010 school year, employed since February 8, 1978.

Thomas Daniels, Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective last day of 2009-2010 school year, employed since September 1, 1975.

Denice DeAntonio, Teacher, Pottstown High School, termination due to medical need of employee effective January 4, 2010, employed since August 28, 2000.

Frances Emrick, Teacher, Franklin Elementary School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective last day of 2009-2010 school year, employed since October 1, 1986.

Classified

Karen Kozak, Food Service Secretary, Pottstown High School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective July 15, 2010, employed since April 27, 1981.

Barbara Sundstrom, part-time Cafeteria Worker, Pottstown High School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective June 17, 2010, employed since December 21, 1989.

Geraldine Battle, part-time Food Service Worker, Pottstown Middle School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective January 4, 2010, employed since January 12, 2000.

Donald Dorkoskie, Master Maintenance Mechanic, Administration Building, resignation for purposes of retirement effective July 28, 2010, employed since March 27, 1978.

Leaves

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following leaves of absence:

Professional

Robin Wagar, Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School, request for medical leave of absence effective November 20, 2009 through approximately January 4, 2010.

Lorraine Donnelly, Guidance Counselor, Lincoln Elementary School, request for medical leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective February 3, 2010 through TBD.

Suzanne Doyle, Classroom Assistant, Pottstown High School, request for medical leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective January 4, 2010 for approximately 15 days.

Classified

Kelly Chicarelli, Classroom Assistant, Edgewood Elementary School, request for medical leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective January 28, 2010 for approximately 4 weeks.

Change in Position and/or Salary

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following changes in position and/or salary:

Substitute Teachers

David Woodley from Per Diem Substitute Teacher to Long-term Substitute Teacher, Pottstown High School, effective January 19, 2010 through the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year, $194/day, coverage for Melissa Schubert.

David Roberts from Per Diem Substitute Teacher to Extended Per Diem Substitute Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, effective February 23, 2010 through the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year, $115/day, coverage for Julie Voelker.

Melinda Wurtz, from Long-term Substitute Teacher to Extended Per Diem Substitute Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School, effective January 13, 2010 through approximately April 11, 2010, $115/day, coverage for Marie Anders.

Elections

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following elections:

Professional

Lisa Cassidy Lawler, Health Care Occupations Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective date TBD, Bach, step A, $43,335, replaces Denice DeAntonio.

Substitute Teachers

Darryl Williams, Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective January 4, 2010, $115/day, partial coverage for Amy Piskai. He will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective January 4, 2010.

Maria Carroll, Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective December 15, 2009 in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective December 15, 2009.

Tricia Fisher, Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective January 4, 2010 in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective January 4, 2010.

Pamela Warburton, Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective January 19, 2010, $115/day, partial coverage for Amy Piskai and Alison Detweiler.

Angela Spinozzi, Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective January 19, 2010, $115/day, partial coverage for Amy Piskai and Alison Detweiler.

Classified

Peri Furlong, Substitute Proctor/Playground Aide, compensation per support staff guidelines, effective December 22, 2009.

Kelly DeBlase, Substitute Secretary, $15.07/hour, Substitute Breakfast Aide, $12.63/hour, Substitute Playground Aide, compensation per support staff guidelines, effective December 21, 2009.

Additions/Changes to the Co-curricular List for 09-10

HS	Assistant Football Coach	Todd Endy	Level 3	$5059.00
HS	Culinary/Banquet Manager	Mary Jo Kuhwald	Level 1	$1478.00

Intervention Assistant, EAP Funded, maximum 18 hours/week:

Name	Position	Location	Rate
Tricia Fisher	Intervention Assistant	Barth	$13.65/hr

Security Proctor funded by Safe and Drug Free Schools Grant, maximum $2000, hours assigned by Middle School Administration:

Name	Position	Location	Rate
Perry Augustine	Security Proctor	Pottstown Middle School	$29/hr

Tuition Reimbursement

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following tuition reimbursement:

Act 93 Staff

Name	Building	Amount
Lisa Schade	Administration Building	$4680.00

Support Staff

Name	Building	Amount
Mary Davidheiser	Administration Building	$270.00
Stacy Foster	Edgewood Elementary	$270.00
Daniel Wilchek	Administration Building	$1110.00
Karen Dilliplane	Barth Elementary	$1260.00
Lisa Kirlin	Edgewood Elementary	$540.00

Professional Staff

First Name	Last Name	School	12/31/09 deadline
Perry	Augustine	Pottstown Middle School	2,592.00
Andrea	Barlow	Pottstown Middle School	2448
Jill	Bolonski	Lincoln Elementary School	310.00
Rebecca	Carey	Pottstown Middle School	2220
Paul	Castanzo	Pottstown High School	339.00
Brenda	DiDonato	Rupert Elementary School	1920
Justine	Donnelly	PHS	1,275.00
Kelly	Eroh	Edgewood Elementary School	1,296.00
Allen	Ferster	Rupert Elementary School	2,592.00
Anne	Frederick	Franklin Elementary School	1,710.00
Lori	Freese	Franklin Elementary School	940.00
Benjamin	Hayes	Pottstown Middle School	1,260.00
Karen	Lawler	Franklin Elementary School	940.00
Jared	Leimeister	Pottstown Middle School	2,592.00
Laura	Luzeski	Pottstown High School	1,880.00

Jolie	Martinez	Pottstown High School	2,592.00
Bridget	McGuigan	Pottstown High School	1,110.00
Jennifer	Milkovits	Pottstown Middle School	3,000.00
Ryan	Oxenford	Pottstown Middle School	1,575.00
Kevin	Pascal	Pottstown High School	1,719.00
Ryan	Regensburg	Pottstown Middle School	1,296.00
Dina	Rice	Pottstown Middle School	1,260.00
Jill	Rinewalt	Barth Elementary School	2,448.00
Aileen	Rohe	Edgewood Elementary School	2,560.00
Laura	Schneck	Barth Elementary School	1,880.00
Darla	Stout	Edgewood Elementary School	1,237.50
Shannon	Wagner	Rupert Elementary School	1,071.00
Stanley	Walerski	Pottstown Middle School	2,592.00
Meghan	Walsh	Edgewood Elementary School	1,110.00
Jennifer	Wiand	Pottstown High School	2,592.00
Rebecca	Wyatt	Rupert Elementary School	1,614.00

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES – Dr. Lindley

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following professional leaves:

Building	First Name	Last Name	Conference Title	Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Barth Lincoln	Robert Pat Mandy Denise Lori	Giering DeWald Wampole Leschak Hoch	PAFPC Improving Schools Conference	Pittsburgh, PA	1/31/10 – 2/3/10	2 registrations & 2 rooms paid by PDE Other expenses approx. $2165.00 paid by Title I Grant
Barth Admin	Robert Julie Karen	Giering Schumacher Shaner	Federal Programs Conference	Hershey, PA	3/21/10 – 3/24/10	Expenses approx.- $2350.00 paid by Title I Grant
Sr. High	Mary Jo	Kuhwald	Vital/Teacher Education Pre-Induction Workshop; induction requirement for Temple University.	Immaculata,PA	1/11/10 – 1/15/10	$500.00 sub cost paid from Tech Prep grant.

FIELD TRIP – Dr. Lindley

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following field trip:

# of students and/or group	Name of conference or activity	Destination	Date of trip	Cost to student	Cost to district-substitutes	Chaperone(s)
50 Env. Science Club	Camping Trip @ Blue Rocks Campground	Lenhartsville, PA (Appalachian Trail)	5/6/10 – 5/7/ 10	$45.00/each	$1000.00	Kevin Downes, Ryan Regansberg, Kathy Eagle, Layla Smith, Vanessa Barnaik

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following contracts and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum#2009-2010-050.

Advanced Power Control, Inc.
Virtual Learning Network
Memorandum of Understanding with Montgomery County Intermediate Unit and PEAK,
Thomas Zeigler, P.E., Inc,

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

NON-CONSENT

MCIU 2010-2011 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mr. Huss that the General Administration portion of the MCIU Proposed 2010-2011 Operating Budget, in the amount of $1,000,381.00 be approved.

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

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Wilson that the Curriculum and Professional Development portion of the MCIU Proposed 2010-2011 Operating Budget, in the amount of $2,702,323.00, as well as the Pottstown School District's contribution to the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, in the amount of $986.00, be approved.

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

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Legislative portion of the MCIU Proposed 2010-2011 Operating Budget, in the amount of $277,892.00 as well as the Pottstown School District's contribution to the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, in the amount of $3,131.00, be approved.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the IMS portion of the MCIU Proposed 2010-2011 Operating Budget for the 2010-2011 school year, in the amount of $4,817,732.00 as well as the Pottstown School District's contribution to the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for the 2010-2011 fiscal year, in the amount of $18,236.00 be approved.

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

RESOLUTION
It was moved by Mrs. Weand and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the board approve the Resolution for the 2010-2011 budget remain at or below the Act 1 Index and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum 2009-2010-051.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS (limited to the Resolution)

None

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

DISTRICT COST PLAN CONTRACT AGREEMENT

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mrs. Wilson that the board approve the district cost plan agreement with Montgomery County Intermediate Unit for the 2010-2011 school year and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-052.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS (limited to the District Cost Plan Agreement)

Mr. Thees indicated that he never voted for the cost plan when he was a board member.

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

PROFESSIONAL LEAVE

The Superintendent recommends the board approve the following professional leave.

Building	First Name	Last Name	Conference Title	Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Each School	8 psychologists/ guidance Counselors		PASAP Conference (Student Assistance Program)	State College, PA	3/7/10 – 3/9/10	Approx. $5,600.00 cost paid from the Safe & Drug Free School grant. If 8 people register by 2/1/10 there is a $240 savings.

Dr. Lindley provided an overview for this professional leave. He stated it is a mandated program and meets the requirements of the grant.

It was moved by Ms. Harris and seconded by Mr. White that the board approve the mandated program.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS (limited to the Professional Leave)

None.

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

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Neighborhood Schools Committee recommends the district seek requests for proposals from architects to provide the services necessary for specifying and bidding replacement windows at all existing and historic window openings at the Edgewood and Rupert Elementary Schools. The district desires replacement windows with high energy performance, low long-term maintenance characteristics, and ones which are architecturally compatible with the schools' original designs. At Rupert, windows are to be designed for the historic masonry openings. Requestors will be sought starting on Friday, Jan. 22, with a deadline for responses no later than 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mr. White

Mr. Hartman asked why this motion was being brought to the board at this time. It hasn't gone through the Committee of the Whole processes. The purpose of having Committee of the Whole meetings is for full discussion of the board and then if the board agrees to move forward the recommendation is put on the agenda of the Regular Board Meeting for a vote.

Mr. Hylton indicated that the recommendation is being made now due to the time constraints to have the work start this summer.

Mr. Hartman moved to table the recommendation to the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Mrs. Pargeon seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, the vote was recorded as follows: Mrs. Pargeon; aye, Mr. Wausnock: nay, Mrs. Weand: aye, Mr. White: nay, Mrs. Wilson: nay, Ms. Harris: nay, Mr. Hartman: aye, Mr. Huss: nay, Mr. Hylton: nay. Ayes: Three. Nays: Six. Motion denied.

Mr. Hartman indicated that funds are really tight. Although we are only talking about windows now, the money isn't free. It isn't a grant. It's zero or low interest loans, they still have to be paid back. Even at zero interest it is an increase to our budget and we just voted to stay at or below the index. I just spoke with a friend of mine that has 25 years of experience as an engineer. He indicated that if you are remodeling the entire building you should replace windows. You get the most benefit from doing things like lighting and behavioral changes. Windows will not pay for themselves. If we do get to a point where we have to close an elementary school, Rupert would be the logical choice. Honeywell and even Mr. Schmidlapp indicated that the modulars are the biggest items to address. Mr. Huss knows how things that you can't anticipate can impact the total cost of a project. You can't ask for a $19 million project to be done for $14 million. We need to come up with a final plan and think the total project through. I implore you to vote this down tonight for right now. We need to sit down and figure out what direction we are going in and meet with the public. Decide what we can afford and what is going to be done. We can't afford to do this.

Mrs. Weand indicated it is good to save energy, but the cost falls to the taxpayer. We need to plan carefully and hopefully we will get the low interest or interest free loans, but we must pay it back. We don't want to be cripples due to maintaining debt. It will take 40 years to pay back the cost of the windows while we have taxpayers that are struggling. We need to be careful of the extra tax burden. The Honeywell report did not indicate that Rupert needed new windows, but 6 months later Mr. Schmidlapp says Rupert does need windows. So how did Rupert's windows deteriorate in 6 months? Why are we adding greater costs by requiring historically correct windows? We need to do what's right. Why are we moving so quickly?

Mrs. Pargeon asked why this motion was different than the one made at the Neighborhood Schools Committee meeting. That motion was for architectural services to design and install replacement windows for the Edgewood and Rupert elementary schools. Now we are asking for designs of historic masonry. There are 84 historic window openings and 8 bricked up windows. The savings indicated in the Honeywell study was for all buildings not just Edgewood and Rupert and the only windows that were indicated to be replaced were Edgewood and the Administrative building. Window replacement is a heavy maintenance item and as such should go through the Facilities Committee. Renovations should be recommended by the Neighborhood School Committee.

Mr. Hylton indicated, although the motion is more detailed than the one presented at the Neighborhood Schools Committee meeting, his two fellow committee members raised no objections and are in agreement with the changes. The Middle School's windows are historically compatible not historical windows. We are requesting the same high quality windows as were put in the other buildings. Big openings are now more desirable and we will only be knocking out the drivet installed in 1980-81.

Mrs. Pargeon indicated it was preposterous to be spending this money.

Mr. Hylton indicated that Mr. Angstadt says our energy systems are run down. We replaced the windows in other buildings so we should replace the windows at Rupert and they will pay for themselves. The only choice is the $39 million from Crabtree or the $8,300,000 being proposed.

Mr. Hartman disagreed with that as it is not a comparison of apples to apples. The Crabtree proposal addressed the spacing problems, asbestos, bringing everything up to code to last at least 20 years. The $8,300,000 won't last 20 years and doesn't take care of the spacing issue. Space will affect education. You will get some energy efficiencies with upgrades to the heating, air conditioning and windows. It's not right to speak out like that as it doesn't compare evenly.

Mrs. Pargeon asked if it was normal to only give 10 days to respond to an RFP? Don't we normally give at least 2 weeks? How do you expect anyone to respond in that short time?

Mr. Hylton indicated he had already been in contact with five architectural firms and none indicated they would have a problem responding in that amount of time. They will be bidding electronically and it is pretty standard what to expect. We want to be able to get as many windows done this summer as possible.

Mrs. Weand was surprised that Mr. Hylton had actually gone and talked to these architects and believes that it was very unfair to have done so. She believes those firms certainly had a head start on looking at the property and being able to respond. It certainly does give five of them an unfair advantage. This is not good.

Ms. Harris indicated that basically the proposal just gives a better description and allows for a response that is more fiscally responsible. To be fair, why not amend the motion to have two options – historically correct and just efficient replacement windows?

Mrs. Wilson indicated that new windows will not help in the education of our youngest children. Kids get pushed under the rug. New windows would look nice. It is very hard to concentrate in that hot brick oven. Maybe larger windows may cool it down or the sun beating through the larger windows may make it hotter. It's nice to do something to show we care. Unfortunately, I don't know how we're going to afford that. We're talking of cutting programs and support staff and we have needy children. Everyone knows how they are going to vote. Don't think you'll encounter much of any problems. Don't honestly see how we can pay for it. Think what children need. They need support persons. I'm worried we will be

affecting the education of our younger children. There are 84 windows, but do they all need to be replaced? We should do what needs to be done. I hate to see us run taxpayers more into a hole.

Mr. Wausnock thanked Mrs. Wilson for her comments.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS (limited to the Neighborhood Schools recommendation)

Mrs. Zahora indicated she does not understand where the money is coming from. Benefits are going up and you just past a resolution to stay at or below the index. I agree it is time to make a decision. Honeywell didn't indicate Rupert needed new windows. How did this maintenance item even come from the Neighborhood Schools Committee? Repairs and maintenance have always been Facilities Committee's responsibility. As for the cost of electrical upgrades, Mr. Hylton you ask everyone for their cost analysis but where is yours? We just can't afford it. We don't really have a gifted program. All children should be able to achieve and how does this do that? Where is the money coming from?

Mr. Madara asked why are there drapes on the windows. You can have a lot of sun light and a lot of chill. He believes that students graduate because they apply themselves and have good teachers, not new windows. We didn't get a cost of living increase through social security. It's a shame we live to spend now and save later.

Mrs. Carmody indicated that what has risen is debt. We need to determine what is a necessity and what is a luxury. She believes that Edgewood is a necessity, but that Edgewood is a luxury. She requested that the board amend the motion to allow for the standard 14 days to respond and that only replacement windows for Edgewood be asked for.

Mr. Thees indicated that truthfulness is needed. He attended the meetings and this is not the motion that was presented at the Neighborhood Schools Committee meeting. You didn't admit it, you just danced around it. We still have $38 million owed till the year 2028. He discussed the Honeywell report which was a series of walk throughs not one days worth for all buildings. The study indicated that Rupert had double paned windows that did not need replacing. The report did indicate that Edgewood and the Administrative building needed new windows. The total savings for everything was $2,600,000 or $217,227 annually. How do you expect anyone to respond to this RFP in 12 days when 4 of those days are weekends? This is wrong. I asked for truth. This is not in the best interest of the taxpayers.

Mr. Rhoads stated that you should determine "what is the right thing to do" and "do it".

Mr. Wausnock called the question.

Upon roll call the vote was recorded as follows: Mr. Wausnock: aye, Mrs. Weand: nay, Mr. White: aye, Mrs. Wilson: nay, Ms.Harris: aye, Mr. Hartman: nay, Mr. Huss; aye, Mr. Hylton: aye, Mrs. Pargeon: nay. Ayes: Five. Nays: Four. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. PCTV Televising Board Meetings - Mrs. Pargeon indicated she would have information to discuss at the Committee of the Whole meeting and hoped that a vote could be taken at the Regular School Board Meeting in February.
2. Policy 113.2: Behavior Support, 2nd Reading.

3. Policy 5900: Interscholastic Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities for Pottstown High School and Pottstown Middle School, 2nd Reading.
4. Policy 5910: Co-Curricular Awards and Recognition for Co-Curricular Participation, 2nd Reading. Dr.Lindley indicated there would be changes to eligibility on these policies that the Co-Curricular Committee would be reviewing prior to final board approval.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

INFORMATION

1. Monthly Meeting Schedule: February 2010
2. Website Report: December 2009
3. Technology Update: December 2009
4. Donation to Cafeteria for Dairy Industry – Mrs. Adams indicated that the Cafeteria fund received an award worth $1,382 as a result of Mr. Heller's willingness to provide a report on the usage of mild to the Mid Atlantic Dairy Association. This is the largest rebate received to date. Mr. Heller should be commended for his willingness to go above and beyond his duties.
5. Conference Report
6. PEAK Update
7. Policy 006: Meetings
8. PSBA Code of Conduct
9. Effective School Governance

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. Decker asked that plans be developed for contingencies to allow for possible problems and how they will be resolved in order to be prepared for the students that may not move back into their rooms at the start of school. He indicated it would be a sin to be disruptive to the children when you have so much time to plan.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. White's prayers go out to the victims of Haiti. The First Baptist Church collected $1,550 for our Uniform Program. The Hill School matched the amount to be donated to the victims of Haiti.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Mrs. Wilson found the Middle School readings very enjoyable. This Saturday is the Inter County Band and there is one 7th grader, 2 8th graders and a handful of 9th graders that will be participating at the Pottsgrove Middle School. She was very pleased to see our students in the front row getting ready while the other students were horsing around. Our music teachers are doing a great job.

Ms. Harris was also privileged to attend the Sunday service at the First Baptist Church and thank them for raising money for our Uniform Program. The Middle School readings were very impressive. Kudos

Mrs. Pargeon enjoyed the writing awards. She also reminded everyone that the next District Literacy Night is Wednesday, February 3rd, at the Middle School at 6:00 p.m.. Her family really enjoyed the first night and plans on attending again.

Mr. Hartman wanted to reiterate what others had said about the Sunday service at the First Baptist Church. It is a community service and brings out a lot of history. Reverend Marsh does a great job and brings the history to the forefront. If you are able to go in the future it is very worth while. The students were great tonight.

Mrs. Weand toured the High School two weeks ago and had lunch prepared by the culinary arts students. It was a great time and she had a great day.

Mr. Wausnock – no comment

Dr. Lindley – no comment

Dr. Sparagana – no comment

Mr. Krem had the pleasure of attending both services on Sunday and Monday for Martin Luther King Day. We received a donation of $1,550 for our Uniform Program. The Pine Forge Chorus was there and they are so talented. They only have an enrollment of about 150 students of which 70 are in the choir. They were very impressive. Mr. Krem also wanted to let everyone know that Geraldine Battle, a recently retired employee, passed away on January 19th.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Board adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:58 pm.

Linda S. Adams
Board Secretary