POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 18, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, March 18, 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 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, Mrs. Linda S. Adams; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis, Mr. Jerry Ummarino, Mr. Matthew Moyer, Ms. Pam Bateson, Mrs. Rita Cohen, Ms. Terri Lampe, Dr. Robert Stevens, a member of the press, and interested citizens.

AWARDS

Mr. Moyer, Principal of Rupert Elementary presented a video highlighting various events and activities held at the school. He presented the following students who received writing awards:

K-5 - Melodie Velez
1st Grade - Tyler Mort
2nd Grade - Alexandria Olvera
3rd Grade - Talee Dupiche
4th Grade - Ceola Smith
5th Grade - Austin Scavello

Mr. Richard Huss, School Board President, presented each winner with a medal.

REPORTS

Mr. Kalis gave a review of the Sunshine Law. He explained that under the definitions of a standing committee of the board, the Neighborhood School Committee qualifies as an agency. Any pre-arranged gathering held for business or action would be a violation of the Sunshine Law. The February 1st committee meeting gives the appearance of a violation of trust. Mr. Kalis recommended that the board and all committee chairs take steps necessary to insure that such meetings or even the appearance of such meetings do not take place.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Huss read a letter from Mrs. Bradshaw stating her support for Mr. Hylton's proposals.

Mr. Huss addressed the board members and the taxpayers regarding the issue of overcrowding and the use of modular classrooms in the school district. He stated he will be appointing a President's Task Force of the Pottstown School District. This task force will consist of board members, administrators, teachers, federation, taxpayers and business people. The purpose of this task force is to gather information and present their conclusion on how construction for the school district buildings should proceed.

Mr. Huss proposed that Mrs. Weand withdraw her Facilities Committee Motion as presented on tonight's agenda. Mrs. Weand agreed to withdraw her motion. Mr. Huss asked Mr. Hylton to withdraw his motion to seek funds through the Qualified Construction Bond Program. Mr. Hylton declined to withdraw his motion.

MINUTES

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mrs. Wilson that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on February 4, 2010, be approved as presented.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Wilson and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the minutes of the Special Voting meeting held on February 8, 2010, be approved as presented.

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

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

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 minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 8, 2010, be approved as presented.

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 Mrs. Weand that the list of bills for the period of February 11, 2010 to March 10, 2010 from the Athletic Fund totaling $187,140.18; the Cafeteria Fund totaling $190,707.65; the Elementary Activity Fund totaling $1,243.50 and the General Fund totaling $629,183.25 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-063.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the Treasurer's Report be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-064.

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

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS

Mr. Huss reminded the patrons to keep their comments to 3 minutes and refrain from repeating the comments of other patrons.

Mr. White asked the patrons to follow the board policy keeping all comments brief and directed to the Board President. He asked that the public refrain from personal attacks and not be repetitive.

Mr. Kalis reminded the public that the current procedure is to limit comments to 3 minutes and that there were 3 items added to the agenda that require public comments. Public comments for those items would be afforded later in the meeting and as such it would not be necessary to address concerns for those items at this time.

Mrs. Zahora asked Mr. Huss what the status is on searching for a new superintendent. Mr. Huss stated Mr. Krem as not officially resigned at this time. There will be an executive session for the purpose of personnel after tonight's meeting.

Mr. Thees addressed the board with his concerns about the condition of the heating systems. He thanked the school district's maintenance personnel for an excellent job in maintaining the systems. Mr. Thees referred to the Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates report that indicated the Franklin heating system would serve several more years.

Councilwoman Maureen Allen spoke on behalf of keeping Barth Elementary and all elementary schools open. She asked the public to keep a close watch on the Task Force and its future recommendations.

Mr. Morgan provided an information sheet on PSERS projected costs over the next decade. He does not recommend that the board spend any more money until the PSERS issue is resolved.

Mr. Marable was pleased to hear Mr. Huss was implementing a Task Force. He expressed his concern that the children and citizens of this community would be represented by the committee. Mr. Marable questioned the reasoning behind the current renovation plan to close the administration building and to move the 5th grade into the middle school. He questioned whether the Middle School had enough room to include the fifth grade.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon 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

Resignations/Terminations

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

Classified

Heather Raugh, Substitute Secretary, Administration Building, resignation effective February 22, 2010, employed since January 26, 2009.

Kristyn McAghon, Occupational Therapist, Administration Annex, resignation effective March 15, 2010, employed since May 31, 2006.

Suzanne Doyle, Classroom Assistant, Pottstown High School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective February 21, 2010, employed since August 21, 2008.

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

Barbara Bainbridge, part-time Housekeeper, Playground Aide and Substitute Breakfast Aide, Franklin Elementary School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective February 20, 2010, employed since April 3, 1995.

Arlene Keller, part-time Van Driver, Administration Building, resignation for purposes of retirement effective June 30, 2010, employed since August 16, 1998.

Substitute

Carly Herrlinger, Per-diem Substitute Teacher, resignation effective January 12, 2010, employed since February 3, 2009.

Co-Curricular

Christine McGrann, Band Front Instructor, Pottstown Middle School, resignation effective last day of the 2009-2010 school year, employed in this position since July 1, 2004.

Act 93

Augustus "Bud" Heller, Food Service Director, Pottstown High School, resignation for purposes of retirement effective June 18, 2010, employed since November 13, 1985.

Marguerite Grim, Head School Nurse and Middle School Nurse, Pottstown Middle School, resignation for purposes of retirement, effective June 30, 2010, employed since September 9, 1974.

Leaves

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

Act 93

Lori Hoch, Principal, Lincoln Elementary School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 1, 2010 through March 14, 2010.

Professional

Jennifer Mitchell-Winterbottom, Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective approximately May 4, 2010 through the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

Classified

Stacey Oldham, Classroom Assistant, Franklin Elementary School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective approximately April 7, 2010 through the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

Change in Position and/or Salary

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

Professional

Kelli Wolfel, Instructional Coach, Barth Elementary School, will temporarily assume the duties of Acting Principal, Lincoln Elementary School, effective March 1, 2010 through March 15, 2010 at an additional rate of $67.62/day, coverage for Lori Hoch.

Classified

Karen Shaner, Grant Analyst, Administration Building, in addition to her current responsibilities will temporarily assume the duties of Payroll Coordinator, effective February 16, 2010, compensation at $75/day above her current rate of pay. Addition of duties will remain in effect until a replacement Payroll Coordinator is hired.

Raymond Cimino, in addition to his current position as Substitute Custodian/Housekeeper, will also assume the role of Substitute Cafeteria Proctor, compensation per support staff guidelines, effective March 5, 2010.

Carol Bender, in addition to her current position as Cafeteria Substitute, will also assume the role of Substitute Cafeteria Proctor, $15.35/hour, effective March 16, 2010 through the end of the 2009-2010 school year, partial coverage for Shirley Schultz.

Elizabeth Bonson, from part-time Cafeteria Worker at Pottstown High School to part-time Cafeteria Worker at Pottstown Middle School, $11.43/hour, effective March 22, 2010, replaces Geraldine Battle.

Vanessa Cronin, from Cafeteria Substitute to part-time Cafeteria Worker, Pottstown High School, $11.21/hour, replaces Elizabeth Bonson.

Substitute

Jeremiah Motley, from Per-Diem Substitute Teacher to Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, $115/day, effective March 15, 2010 through TBD, coverage for Sara Miller.

Steve Burdan, from Per-Diem Substitute Teacher to Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, $115/day, effective March 4, 2010 through TBD, coverage for Amy Williams.

Elections

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following elections:

Classified

Krista Hillegass-Benfield, Intervention Assistant paid through EAP funds, Rupert Elementary School, $13.65/hour, 18 hours per week, effective February 23, 2010. She will also assume the following roles: Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective February 23, 2010 in accordance with Board Policy 3920, Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective February 23, 2010.

Crystal McClure, Student Mentor funded by Project 720, Pottstown High School, effective February 22, 2010, $20/hour, approximately 20 hours per week, replaces Marianne Croft.

Melissa Helmick, Substitute Cafeteria Proctor, Barth Elementary School, $14.14/hour, effective March 16, 2010 through the end of the 2009-2010 school year, partial coverage for Shirley Schultz.

Substitute

Mandy Poole, Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, Edgewood Elementary School, effective February 22, 2010 through the end of the 2009-2010 school year, $115/day, coverage for Robin Wagar. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective February 22, 2010.

Victoria Dransoff, Special Substitute Teacher, $100/day, effective March 16, 2010. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective March 16, 2010.

Debra Bishop, Extended Per-Diem Substitute Social Worker, Administration Annex, effective March 29, 2010 through TBD, $115/day, coverage for Holly Lee.

Felicia George, Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective March 16, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. She will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective March 16, 2010.

Todd Carey, Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective March 16, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. He will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective March 16, 2010.

Donald Reilly, Jr., Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective March 16, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. He will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective March 16, 2010.

Randy Mileto, Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, effective March 16, 2010, in accordance with Board Policy 3920. He will also assume the role of Substitute Classroom Assistant, $13.65/hr, effective March 16, 2010.

Continuation of Homebound Instruction, $29/hour

LeeAnn McCullough Pottstown High School, continuation of homebound instruction from March 4, 2010 through March 19, 2010, assignment not to exceed 2 ½ hours per week.

LeeAnn McCullough Pottstown High School, homebound instruction from April 26, 2010 through the end of the 2009-2010 school year, assignment not to exceed 5 hours per week.

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

HS	Junior Varsity/Assistant Baseball Coach	Steve Burdan	Level 1	$2374.00

Additions to the Pottstown Middle School-After School Tutoring Program List (All salaries paid through the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant)

First Name	Last Name	Position	Building	Rate
Storm	Wilson	Tutor/21st Century	Pottstown Middle School	$29/hr.

Compensation for Missed Planning Time 23 per period, for the 09-10 school year

Debra	Mann	Lincoln Elementary School	1 missed planning period	$23.00

Tuition Reimbursement

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following tuition reimbursement:

Support Staff

Name	Building	Amount
Kathy Perry	Administration Building	$940.00

Act 93

Name	Building	Amount
Pamela Bateson	Administration Annex	$1920.00

Payment of Accumulated Sick Leave

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following payment of accumulated sick leave for retirement:

Support Staff

Frank Dorkoskie, in accordance with Support Staff guidelines, $1,932.40. This is for 48.31 accumulated sick days at $40.00 per day.

Professional

Dawn Rosenberry, in accordance with the Professional Agreement, 5,420.00. This is for 135.50 accumulated sick days at $40 per day.

Reclassification of Position

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the reclassification of the Payroll Coordinator position to an Administrative Payroll Clerk position. Hourly rate will decrease from $18.23/hour to $15.07/hour.

CONTRACT FOR FAIRMONT VENTURES

The Superintendent recommends that a purchase orders or contract be awarded to the company as listed, the award being made to the lowest bidder meeting the required specifications and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-065:

2010 CANDIDATES FOR ALUMNI HONOR ROLL

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2010 candidates for the Alumni Honor Roll as presented, and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-066.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES – Dr. Lindley

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following professional leaves:

Building	First Name	Last Name	Conference Title	Conference Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Sr. High Lincoln Franklin	Andrew Denise Aaron	Bachman Leschak Torrence	CFF Coach Boot Camp	King of Prussia, PA	3/16/10 – 3/17/10	Funded by PDE through CFF Grant
Franklin	Mia Karen Aaron	DiPaolo Neitz Torrence	PAFPC Conference	Hershey, PA	3/21/10 – 3/22/10	Approx. cost to district $357.00 for meals & transportation. Step by Step paying for all other expenses.
Lincoln	Lori Kristin Stacey Denise - replacing Karen Shaner	Hoch Lafferty VanDruff Leschak	PAFPC Conference	Hershey, PA	3/21/10 - 3/24/10 3/22/10 – 3/24/10	**Approx. cost to district $1060. pd. by Title I** -Trans. $180. - Meals 280. - Subs 600. Step by Step paying for: - (3) Reg. $1080. - (2) Rooms $ 893.
Sr. High	Diane	Fox	Technology Student Association (TSA) – Conference	Seven Springs, PA	4/14/10 – 4/16/10	Approx. cost to district $300.00 for subs. All other costs paid by participant.

FIELD TRIPS – Dr. Lindley

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following field trips:

# of students and/or group	Name of conference or activity	Destination	Date of trip	Cost to student	Cost to district-substitutes	Chaperone(s)
3-7 HS students	PHSSL State Championships	Susquehanna Univ., Sellinsgrove, PA	3/12/10 – 3/13/10	$30.00	Sub $100 Transportation $100	Joe Perrone and Chris Ann Golden
104 HS students	Walt Disney World Performance	Orlando, FL	12/9/10 – 12/13/10	$864.00		Michael Vought plus 10 adults
8 HS students	College & Classroom Visitations: -Ethics & Technology - Architecture, & others	University of Maryland, College Park, MD University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA	3/30/10 – 4/1/10	$175.00		Greg Troutman & Terri Schmidt (parent)

2 HS Students	District 1 Regional Wrestling Tournament	Council Rock North, Newtown, PA	3/5/10-3/6/10	N/A	Lodging- $218.00 Meals – 160.00 Transport - 175.00 Funded by the Athletic Dept.	Eric Dusko & John Armato
4 HS Students	International DECA Competition	Louisville, KY	4/23/10 – 4/28/10	N/A	Subs $400.00 Lodging 1560.00 Registration 483.00 Transport. 2223.00 Meals 1200.00 Total Not to Exceed $5866.00	Kevin Pascal & Mrs. Megan Delena
2 HS Students	District 1 State Wrestling Tournament	Hershey, PA	3/10/10-3/13/10	$0.00	Lodging- $718.98 Meals – 400.00 Transport. - 150.00 Funded by the AthleticDept.	Eric Dusko and John Armato

REAL ESTATE TAX EXONERATION

The Superintendent recommends the following Resolution be adopted by the Board:

WHEREAS, Linda S. Adams, Substitute Tax Collector for the Pottstown School District, has submitted a list of properties liened for school taxes amounting to $2,035,579.38 plus penalties of $203,558.28, totaling $2,229,184.30 for the original 2009 Real Estate Tax Duplicate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Substitute Tax Collector be and is hereby exonerated of and from said tax liability for the collection thereof, but no exoneration for the respected taxables is intended or affected by this action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Substitute Tax Collector file the required reports and information with Portnoff and Associates so that the liens against these properties be properly reported.

BID AWARDS

The Superintendent recommends that purchase orders or contracts be awarded to the companies as listed, the award in each case being made to the lowest bidder meeting the required specifications and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2009-2010-067:

1. First Aid Athletic Supplies and Equipment
2. First Aid General Supplies and Equipment

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

NON-CONSENT

TAPING/RECORDING BOARD MEETINGS

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Board direct administration to investigate recording Board meetings for viewing on the website.

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

REYNOLDS ENERGY SERVICE PROPOSAL

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Board accept the proposal from Reynolds Energy Service to perform an energy audit at the Middle School and High School for $19,935 funded through savings resulting from the audit and a copy be filed in the secretary's office as addendum # 2009-2010-068.

Mrs. Wilson asked Mr. Hartman to clarify this proposal.

Mr. Hartman explained the current and future rise in energy costs. He reviewed the various options to save on energy. This company will review all energy usage and make physical and behavioral changes. The savings benefit will pay for the one time fee.

Mrs. Adams stated the initial fee is paid one time and this fee is easily recouped by the on-going savings.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS (limited to Reynolds Energy Service Proposal)

Mrs. Zahora thought this was already done. Mr. Hartman responded that there was a pre-proposal presented last year.

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

MOTION TO SEEK FUNDS THROUGH THE QUALIFIED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND PROGRAM

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mr. White that the district apply for funding through the Qualified School Construction Bond Program administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The district shall seek funding in separate applications for the Barth, Lincoln, Franklin, Edgewood and Rupert elementary schools for the projects outlined in the Crabtree Rohrbaugh spreadsheet distributed at the Neighborhood Schools Committee meeting March 10, 2010, and described by Doug Rohrbaugh at that meeting, for up to $14 million total. The applications shall be submitted prior to April 1, 2010.

Mr. Hylton stated his rationale for this recommendation: 1) School board members have been voted into office based on keeping all five elementary schools opened. 2) The Neighborhood Schools Committee presented a renovation plan at a cost of approximately $12 million which is less than any previous plan presented. 3) Dr. Lindley and Dr. Spargana recommended that the school district apply for the stimulus, being aware that the school district would not be obligated to accept the funds if the school board voted not to accept the funds. 4) The previous plan cost twice as much and provided only 12 more classrooms, 2 cafeterias and proposed to close Barth and Rupert Elementary Schools. Mr. Hylton commented on the recent negative remarks and the objective of these remarks. He expressed his concern that Code Blue members are determined to stop the Neighborhood Schools plan and have a future board adopt the three school plan.

Mr. Hartman thanked the Neighborhood School Committee for bringing information received from Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates to the board. Mr. Rohrbaugh had provided information as requested but did not give his preferred recommendations. Mr. Hartman is in favor of holding off on this motion due to the current economic conditions. He recommends that the board take time to review all options including the overall costs and to evaluate the benefits of each area.

Ms. Harris reminded the board that this vote is only for applying for the available funds. The school district is not obligated to use the money. She stated the average home owner would pay approximately $9.00 a month/$108 a year if the school district elected to borrow the money.

Mr. Huss stated he had talked to Mr. Rohrbaugh about the cost of renovations. Mr.Rohrbaugh stated that each elementary school could benefit with 4 additional classrooms, geothermal heating systems, new electric and new windows at Edgewood and Lincoln for approximately $28 million.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS (limited to the motion to seek funds through the Qualified School Construction Bond Program)

Mr. Morgan presented his Four Schools Model option plan to the board and a copy to be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum 2009-2010-069. He favored Mr. Huss's proposed task force.
Mr. Morgan stated the community cannot afford a loan at this time. The budget is already at a $1,890,000 deficit and this does not include the future impact of PSERS. He does not agree with all of Mr. Hylton's remarks and believes geothermal heating is a luxury that Pottstown can not afford.

Mr. Leflar stated he organized Code Blue. He explained that the members of Code Blue support the best education possible at a dollar amount that the taxpayers can afford. They are not anti-Hylton or out to assassinate anyone's character but are concerned taxpayers. Mr. Leflar stated there are many good ideas for future renovations that need to be discussed. The stimulus money requires submitting a plan and that plan cannot be changed.

Mr. Ritti expressed his appreciation for the amount of time the board has spent on this issue. As an educator and father, he voiced his distaste for the condition of the Franklin Elementary School and the use of modulars. He supports the 5th grade as part of the middle school. He would like to see the board move forward and stop pushing things off.

Ms. Chomnuk agreed that the elementary schools need to be addressed. She noted some changes that have occurred in the Pottstown community over the past 50 years. Pottstown needs to attract all kinds of economic development. She supports the Urban Land Institute development program and encourages the board to continue its partnership with the ULI. Ms. Chomnuk applauded Mr. Huss for putting together a task force. "Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare."

Mr. Thees agreed that action without a long range plan is a disaster for this community. His concern is with the safety issues and economical do-ability.

Mr. Marable commended the board and administrators for the education they provide to the children. He believes there will be an opportunity in the months ahead to apply for stimulus funds. A building does not make education better.

Mrs. Francis stated that the members of Code Blue are concerned citizens who support the Pottstown Partnership and a better education for the students of Pottstown. Code Blue members support a school board that works as a unified team. Code Blue members believe that all the stakeholders should be involved in discussing and developing a plan for the whole community. Mrs. Francis thanked Mr. Huss for the respect he has shown the Code Blue members.

Mrs. Carmody does not support funding a plan that is a financial burden to the taxpayers. The plan presented by Mr. Hylton does not follow the ULI Partnership recommendations and the impact on the whole community.

Mrs. Zahora stated she has not seen any evidence of walk-able schools bringing families to Pottstown. She believes her children are receiving a good education in the Pottstown Public School System. Education cannot be sacrificed for bricks and mortar. The maintenance staff has kept the schools in good working order. Mrs. Zahora thanked Mr. Huss for demonstrating fiscal responsibility for the education of our children.

Mrs. Daroci stated that her high school student questionned how all of this is going to get the books that are needed.

Mr. Huff stated that a good organization has a mission. The Pottstown School District's mission statement shows responsible fiscal management. This motion to apply for stimulus funds does not demonstrate fiscal sense. Mr. Huff believes it is time to put this to rest and to address the budget deficit. He supports the steps Mr. Huss has taken tonight.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Policy 5900: Interscholastic Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities for Pottstown High School and Pottstown Middle School.

2. Policy 5910: Co-Curricular Awards and Recognition for Co-Curricular Participation.

3. Policy Committee to review allowing Hearings from Patrons of the Schools at all Board meetings

MOTION FOR PATRONS COMMENTS
It was moved by Mrs. Weand and seconded by Mr. Hartman that the patrons of the community from this day, March 18, 2010, be given time in the agenda of both the Regular voting meeting and the Committee of the Whole meeting to voice their comments.

Mr. Hartman supported hearing from the public during the Committee of the Whole discussion meetings.

Mrs. Pargeon agreed that the Patrons should be given the opportunity to address the board.

Mr. Kalis clarified that the Committee of the Whole meeting would remain as a discussion meeting and the Regular Meeting would remain as a voting meeting. Mrs. Weand's motion is to add "Hearings from the Patrons of the Schools" to the Committee of the Whole Agenda.

Mr. White stated he would be in favor of this at a future time. He believes the board should focus on toning down the meetings before dealing with public comment at the Committee of the Whole meetings.

Mr. Hylton agreed with Mr. White.

Mr. Wausnock agreed with Mr. White and Mr. Hylton.

Mrs. Weand believes the public should have a voice and it is important to hear their comments.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS (limited to the motion to allow Comments from the Public at the Committee of the Whole meetings)

Mrs. Francis stated she is in favor of allowing public comment at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Thees stated that the pubic sacrifices their time to attend the meetings and feels they should be allowed to speak.

Mrs. Carmody commented that she is aware of some people who cannot attend the Regular Meeting. She urged the board to allow the public to address the board at the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Mr. Marable supports the right to speak.

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

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO ESTABLISH SUBCOMMITTEE

It was moved by Mrs.Weand and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the President of the Pottstown School Board, Mr. Huss, makes the Neighborhood Schools Committee a subcommittee to the Facilities Committee. By this motion the Neighborhood Schools Committee, as of this date, March 18, 2010, would become only a data collection agency which would report all of its finding to the Facilities Committee. Then the Facilities committee must report the findings of the Neighborhood schools Subcommittee and any other findings along with the Facilities Committee recommendations to the full school board. Next, only the Facilities Committee will have the power to perform their due diligence on all activities concerning construction, reconfiguration, maintenance, repairs and renovations for the facilities in the Pottstown School district.

Mr. Kalis explained that it is the duty of Board President to establish and determine the committees at anytime.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mr. White that this motion be tabled.

Upon roll call, the vote to table this motion was recorded as follows: Ms. Harris: aye, Mr. Hartman: nay, Mr. Huss: nay, Mr. Hylton: aye, Mrs. Pargeon: nay, Mr. Wausnock: aye, Mrs. Weand: nay, Mr. White: aye, Mrs. Wilson: nay. Ayes: four. Nays: five. Motion denied.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOL (limited to the motion to establish the Neighborhood Schools Committee as a subcommittee to the Facilities Committee)

Mr. Thees stated he believes this motion will help to facilitate peace at future meetings. He supports this motion.

Mr. Morgan stated he supports this motion. It demonstrates how a school board is meant to function.

Mrs. Carmody stated this motion provides a greater sense of direction.

Ms. Douglas stated this motion appears to support the community. She would like to see the Finance Committee set guidelines for the task force.

Mr. Leflar sees that this motion allows the Facility Committee to carry out its duties.

Ms. Harris stated she would appreciate improved communications from Mr. Hartman.

Mr. Hartman apologized to Ms. Harris. He was not aware that she did not have his cell phone number.

Mr. Huss explained that the Neighborhood Schools Committee and the Facilities Committee will work together. The Neighborhood Schools Committee will bring data into the Facilities Committee. The Facilities Committee will bring the data to the board.

Mr. Hylton affirmed that the Neighborhood Schools Committee's purpose would be to gather information. He recommended that Mr. Doug Yerger, Director of Public Works, be included in the task force. The information given to Mr. Yerger several years ago was entered into the borough's GIS system. Mr. Hylton felt it would be beneficial to the district if Mr. Yerger could provide updated GIS information.

Upon roll call, the vote to establish the Neighborhood Schools Committee as a subcommittee to the Facilities Committee as directed by the board president was recorded as follows: Mr. Hartman: aye, Mr. Huss: aye, Mr. Hylton: nay, Mrs. Pargeon: aye, Mr. Wausnock, nay, Mrs. Weand: aye, Mr. White: Nay, Mrs. Wilson: aye, Ms. Harris: nay. Ayes: five. Nays: four. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

1. Policy 201: Admission of Students
2. Technology Update: February 2010
3. Spotlighting Pottstown School District Program
4. Website Report: February 2010
5. Monthly Meeting Schedule: April 2010
6. PEAK Update: March 2010

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Marchek thanked Mr. Huss and Mrs. Weand for their kind words regarding the efforts that the federation made with the parent survey. She thanked Mr. Huss for including the Federation and teachers in the task force. The Federation appreciates the school board's willingness to support the children in the most fiscally responsible way.

ROUND TABLE

Mrs. Pargeon and her family enjoyed attending Family Fest. She volunteered at the Mobile Dentist and was impressed with the smooth operation. Mrs. Pargeon reminded the board of the upcoming Eagle Eye Mobile on Monday at the middle school.

Mr. Hartman thanked the students and parents for coming out tonight. He appreciated the remarks from the public. Their opinions and ideas are positive feedback. Mr. Hartman thanked Mr. Huss for demonstrating his leadership and his initiative in forming the task force.

Mrs. Weand thanked Mr. Huss. She sees tonight's events as an opportunity to move forward in a positive manner.

Mr. Wausnock stated that he had toured the Annex and the five elementary schools with Mr. Krem. He thanked the staff for keeping him informed.

Mr. White enjoyed the writing awards. He thanked the patrons for coming out tonight. Mr. White apologized for his repetitive remarks. He appreciated the respect shown among the board members.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Mrs. Wilson commended the Rupert students for their writing awards. She will miss Mrs. Smith who is retiring this year. Mrs. Wilson expressed her appreciation to the patrons for coming out tonight and speaking their opinions.

Ms. Harris congratulated the Rupert students and staff for their great presentation tonight. She expressed the importance of the teachers in shaping the lives and future of the children. Ms. Harris thanked Mr. Huss for putting together a task force. She recommended that Mr. Hylton and Mr. Hartman co-chair the committee. She would like more information regarding the interest rate on the $28 million that Mr. Huss had spoken about. Ms. Harris had attended a safe driving assembly at the high school. She is interested in getting a motion passed to include safety education in the school curriculum.

Dr. Sparagana invited the board to attend the next Parent Literacy night on Wednesday, April 7th.
It is a great opportunity to see what the staff is doing to help Parents teach their children to read.

Dr. Lindley expressed his appreciation for the intellect and positive commitment of the board to see the district through the few years with quality.

Mr. Krem - no comment.

Mr. Huss thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. He asked everyone to work together on this new venture

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Harris and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the Board adjourn. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 10:06 pm.

Linda S. Adams
Board Secretary