MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

April 17, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, April 17, 2008 at 7:30 PM in the Second Floor LGI Room of the Pottstown Middle School with President, Mr. Richard Huss presiding. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mrs. Amy Francis, Mrs. Michele Pargeon, Mr. Dennis Wausnock, Mrs. Julia Wilson and Mrs. Judyth Zahora. Absent: Mr. Edwin Edwards, Mr. Robert Hartman and Mr. Nat White. Also present were: Superintendent of Schools, Mr. David P. Krem; Assistant Business Administrator, Mrs. Penny O'Donnell; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Reed Lindley; Director of Education and Human Resources, Mr. Jeffrey Sparagana, Ms. Pamela Bateson, Mrs. Robin Anderson, Mrs. Cathy Marchek, Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Gail Cooper, Mr. Mike Wilcox, Mrs. Lori Hoch, Mrs. Pamela Bateson, Mr. Kurt Adam, a member of the press, and interested citizens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 18, 2008 be approved as amended.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mrs. Wilson that the minutes of the committee of the whole meeting held on April 3, 2008 be approved.

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

It was moved by Mrs. Zahora and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Financial Report for the General Fund, including reports of receipts and expenditures for the month of March 2008 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2007-2008-080.

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

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

It was moved by Mrs. Zahora and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Tax Collector's Report, as prepared by Mrs. Linda S. Adams, be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2007-2008-081.

The 2007 Interim showing $979.14 collected in February.

LIST OF BILLS

It was moved by Mrs. Zahora and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the list of bills for the General Fund totaling $1,118,282.45; the Athletic Fund totaling $8,967.34; the Elementary Activity Fund totaling $3,663.15; the Data Processing Fund totaling $5,881.65 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2007-2008-082.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

AWARDS

Mrs. Lori Hoch presented the writing award winners from Lincoln Elementary.

Kindergarten – Emme Wolfel
First Grade - Johnay Cranford
Second Grade – Hassan Wilkes
Third Grade - Dillon Brandt
Fourth Grade - Breana Bodnar
Fifth Grade - Sara Pargeon

Mr. Huss thanked all of the families for attending. The awards continue to be a wonderful part of the meeting.

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS

Mr. Mike Wilcox addressed the board concerning the elementary buildings. He hopes the board will make the community aware of the costs to maintain five buildings. Previously, three schools were being considered as well as a centers concept. A three-school plan would seem to have benefits. Five elementary buildings require five principals, five libraries, five gyms. The board should consider all costs associated with the elementary buildings. His biggest concern is that the board keeps taxpayers informed and he wants the school board to weigh all options carefully.

SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

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

PROFESSIONAL RESIGNATIONS

David C. Kemper, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, resignation effective March 17, 2008, employed since October 20, 2007.

Claire Thomas, Special Substitute Teacher, resignation effective March 27, 2008, employed since October 29, 2007.

CLASSIFIED RESIGNATIONS

Gaybrielle Williams, Part-Time Housekeeper, Barth Elementary School, termination effective March 19, 2008, employed since June 27, 1994.

Rebecca S. Villegas, Special Education Classroom Assistant, Barth Elementary School, resignation effective April 11, 2008, employed since August 23, 2006.

Sheila Baltimore, Student Proctor, Pottstown High School, termination effective April 2, 2008, employed since October 15, 2007.

Geraldine Turlington, Part-time Housekeeper, Rupert Elementary School, termination effective April 4, 2008, employed since May 12, 1999.

CO-CURRICULAR RESIGNATION

Deborah J. Demko, resignation as English Department Chairperson, Pottstown High School, effective the end of the 07-08 school year.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Professional

Calista Boyer, Literacy Coach, Edgewood Elementary School, request for an extension of childrearing leave of absence, effective through May 6, 2008.

Lisa Kaye Rossi, Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, request for medical leave of absence, effective March 26, 2008, end date to be determined.

Amy Skarbek, Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, request for childbearing/childrearing leave of absence, effective May 28, 2008 through the end of the 2008-2009 school year.

Vanessa Barnaik, Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, request for childbearing leave of absence, effective April 29, 2008 through the end of the 2007-2008 school year.

Theodore Freese, Librarian, Rupert Elementary School, request for professional development sabbatical, effective for the 2008–2009 school year.

Classified

Nancy Lavinia, Part-Time Cafeteria Worker, Pottstown High School, request for medical leave of absence, effective March 18, 2008, end date to be determined.

Sandra Wright, Van Driver, request for leave of absence, effective April 1, 2008, end date to be determined.

CLASSIFIED ELECTIONS

Pat Ambler, Part-Time Cafeteria Worker, initial assignment to be Barth Elementary School, effective March 25, 2008. This is in addition to her position as a Lunch Program Aide, $10.46/hour, replacing N. Diane Wise.

N. Diane Wise, Substitute Cafeteria Worker, effective March 31, 2008, $9.72/hour.

Catherine A. Retzner, Title I Classroom Assistant, initial assignment to be Barth Elementary School, effective April 14, 2008, $12.74/hour, replacing N. Kristi Witzel.

Theresa L. Dech, Special Education Classroom Assistant, initial assignment to be Barth Elementary School, effective April 14, 2008, $12.74/hour, replacing Jeni Kohl.

Jill Fox, Substitute Playground Aide, effective March 31, 2008, compensation for whom substituting. This is in addition to her position as a Part-time Housekeeper.

Lisa A. Heverly, Part-time Playground Aide, Initial assignment Barth Elementary School, effective April 14, 2008, $13.20/hour, replacing Diane Wise.

Kimberly Retner, Substitute Breakfast Aide, effective April 4, 2008. This is in addition to her position as a Playground Aide at Franklin Elementary School, $11.79/hour.

Rhonda Shumaker, Substitute Lunch Program Aide, effective April 2, 2008. This is in addition to her positions as a Playground Aide and a Breakfast Aide at Lincoln Elementary School, $9.72/hour.

Jane K. Hospador, Substitute Playground Aide, effective April 9, 2008. This is in addition to her position as a Breakfast Aide at Barth Elementary School, compensation for whom substituting.

Philip Thees, Substitute Van Driver, effective April 10, 2008 $13.11/hour.

21st Century Community Learning Centers
All salaries paid through 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant

Casey O'Donnell	Security	$15/hr.	
Jacob Bean	Security	$15/hr.	
Bob Fine	Security	$15/hr.	
James Martinez	Substitute Security	$29/hour	Per Professional Agreement
Darla Stout	Assistant	$12.03/hour	
Lisa Stauffer	Assistant	$12.03/hour	
Vanessa Unger	Tutor	$29/hour	Edgewood Elem.

Administration

Lisa M. Snyder, Supervisor of Special Education – Grades 2-6, effective date to be determined, $83,200/year, replacing Pamela Bateson.

PROFESSIONAL ELECTIONS

Thomas P. Leinhauser, Special Substitute Teacher, effective date to be determined, $100/day.

Laurie Fennimore, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective April 1, 2008, $90/day and in accordance with Board Policy 3920.

Charlene L. Bailey, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective April 2, 2008, $90/day and in accordance with Board Policy 3920. This is in addition to her position as a Substitute Classroom Assistant.

Tanisha Wilcox, Special Substitute Teacher, effective March 4, 2008, $100/day.

Norma Jean Weatherly, Floater Substitute Teacher, effective April 16, 2008, $186/day.

Perry Augustine, Computer Literacy Teacher, initial assignment Pottstown Middle School, effective date to be determined, $41,512, B+15, step B, replacing Angela Owarzani.

Ellen M. Kanaley, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective April 9, 2008, $90/day and in accordance with Board Policy 3920.

Andrea M. Darlington, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective April 9, 2008, $90/day and in accordance with Board Policy 3920.

Danielle L. Jolly, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective April 15, 2008, $90/day and in accordance with Board Policy 3920.

Berkley J. Ellis, Per Diem Substitute Teacher, effective April 16, 2008, $90/day and in accordance with Board Policy 3920.

EXEMPT ELECTION

Tanna R. Wagner, Part-Time Resource Development Specialist, Administration Building, effective April 4, 2008, $24,000/year, New Position, funded through the Pre-K Counts Grant.

INSTRUCTION IN THE HOME

Robin Wagar, Lincoln Elementary School, effective March 6, 2008 through June 9, 2008, not to exceed two (2) hours per week, $29/hour.

CO-CURRICULAR ELECTION

Chad Antonio, Security Proctor, effective for an additional 60 days of the 2007-2008 school year, $29/hour ($1,740).

POTTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING
All salaries paid through 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant

James Martinez	Instructor	$29/hour
Evelyn Dudonis	Instructor	$29/hour
Deborah Bosler	Instructor	$29/hour
Justine Donnelly	Instructor	$29/hour
Frank Dakota	Instructor	$29/hour
Edward Ott	Instructor	$29/hour
Denice DeAntonio	Instructor	$29/hour
Melissa Schubert	Instructor	$29/hour
Deborah Demko	Instructor	$29/hour

MONTGOMERY COUNTY JOB READINESS PROGRAM
All salaries paid for through Positive Transition into Employment Grant

Terica Andrews	Instructional Assistant	$13.00/hour

CHANGES IN POSITION AND/OR SALARY

Marybeth Reinhart, from Special Education Classroom Assistant to Library Assistant, initial assignment to be Franklin and Edgewood Elementary Schools, effective March 25, 2008, no change in compensation, replacing Shirl Harp.

Kelly Skokowski, from Title I Classroom Assistant to Special Education Classroom Assistant, initial assignment to be Franklin Elementary School, effective April 8, 2008, no change in compensation, replacing Marybeth Reinhart.

Jenni R. Kohl, from Special Education Classroom Assistant to Title I Classroom Assistant, initial assignment to be Franklin Elementary School, effective April 7, 2008, no change in compensation, replacing Kelly Skokowski.

CORRECTION TO CHANGE IN POSITION AND/OR SALARY

David A. Pihanich, from Maintenance Mechanic III, Grade 10 to Master Maintenance Mechanic, Grade 13, assigned to Pottstown High School, effective January 1, 2008. His position, grade and hourly rate were incorrectly listed and approved at the February 21, 2008 School Board Meeting, $21.48/hour.

PAYMENT OF ACCUMULATED SICK LEAVE

Sandra Robinson, Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, in accordance with the Professional Agreement - $6,240, (156 days), effective March 14, 2008.

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Stephanie	Blanchard	Pottstown Middle School	1,600.00	
Jill	Bolonski	Lincoln Elementary	835.00	
Scott	Braunsburg	Pottstown High School	996.00	
Jeffrey	Delaney	Pottstown High School	1,276.00	remaining balance
Brooke	Dunlap-Martin	Barth Elementary	1,035.00	
Jennifer	Eidle	Pottstown Middle School	760.00	
Aliceclair	Faust	Pottstown Middle School	1,035.00	
Bernard	Gallagher	Pottstown Middle School	835.00	
Diane	Hahn	Franklin Elementary	835.00	
Denise	Kuleski	Pottstown Middle School	1,035.00	
John	Lewiski	Pottstown High School	1,267.94	
Thomas	Medvetz	Pottstown High School	1,035.00	
Judith	Miller	Pottstown High School	1,117.20	
Sara	Miller	Pottstown High School	835.00	
Teresa	Niemann	Rupert Elementary	1,394.82	
Jayne	Pollock	Franklin Elementary	835.00	
Stacy	VanDruff	Lincoln Elementary	835.00	
Todd	Williams	Pottstown High School	835.00	

ADOPTION OF JOB DESCRIPTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following job description of Secretary to the Supervisor of Transportation/Communications Coordinator and/or Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds and a copy be filed in the Secretary's Office as addendum #2007-2008-083.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following professional leaves:

Building	First Name	Last Name	Conference Title	Conference Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Admin.	Mary	Rieck	PreK Counts Meeting	State College, PA	5/8/08-5/9/08	Approx. $245.00 Paid by PEAK Grant
Middle	Robert	Stevens	21st Century Community Learning Conference	Dallas, TX	7/14/08-7/17/08	Approx. $1070.00 Paid by 21st Century Grant
Rupert Middle Rupert Rupert	Matthew Vanessa Deb Laurie	Moyer Saylor Gratzinger Gresko	21st Century Community Learning Conference	Dallas, TX	7/14/08-7/18/08	Approx. $4400.00 Paid by 21st Century Grant
Middle	Vanessa	Saylor	After-School Institute	Baltimore, MD	5/7/08 – 5/9/08	Approx. $790.00 Paid by 21st Century Grant

ALUMNI HONOR ROLL NOMINEES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following alumni honor roll nominees for 2008:

NOMINEES:	Mr. Harvey Wilson (posthumously)	Class of 1931
	Mr. Ronald Downie	Class of 1953
	Mr. Aram Ecker	Class of 1975
	Mr. Aaron Beasley	Class of 1991
ALTERNATES:	Mr. William Kerr	Class of 1954
	Mr. Larry Harvey	Class of 1956

REVISED 2007-2008 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the revised 2007-2008 school calendar and a copy be filed in the Secretary's Office as addendum #2007-2008-084.

2008-2009 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2008-2009 school calendar and a copy be filed in the Secretary's Office as addendum #2007-2008-085.

MCIU 2008-2009 SPECIAL EDUCATION COST PLAN/CONTRACTED SERVICES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the MCIU 2008-2009 Special Education Cost Plan/Contracted Services and a copy be filed in the Secretary's Office as addendum # 2007-2008-086.

BID AWARDS

The Superintendent recommends the Board authorize purchase orders to the companies indicated 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 #2007-2008-087.

1. Custodial
2. General Supplies
3. Cosmetology Supplies
4. First Aid General Supplies

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

Dr. Sparagana introduced Lisa Snyder, the new Supervisor of Special Education –Grades 2-6. She is excited to be working in the Pottstown School District.

INFORMATION

1. Conferences for Administrators, Supervisors, and Teachers – Dr. Lindley
2. PSBA School Design and Construction Conference – Mrs. Adams
3. Public School Employees' Retirement Board Nomination – Mrs. Adams
4. WPAZ Educational Forum – Mr. Armato
5. Educational Benefits – Dr. Sparagana

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mrs. Zahora questioned the 2008-2009 school calendar. The November conferences state Elementary only. When are the High School conferences? Mr. Krem indicated the High School conferences are scheduled for October 14, 2008.

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Cathy Marchek stated the Federation supports the school board concerning the safety of our children. The staff appreciates the collaboration on uniforms and elementary construction.

REMARKS BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Mrs. Francis asked Mrs. Marchek the Federation's feeling on school uniforms. Mrs. Marchek stated they are happy to be involved in the implementation.

Mr. Huss thanked the administration for a great session on Saturday. Things are starting to come together and he feels this board is up for the challenge. Once again, he enjoyed hearing from the young readers this evening.

Mrs. Pargeon shared the board received two presentations on Saturday. One from the administration concerning the educational process and one from the architects regarding what to expect from the PlanCon process. The board is reviewing this information. She requested that the board recognize Mr. Tom Hylton with a letter from Mr. Kalis thanking him for his study. She also requested Mr. Kalis prepare a letter for the architects stating any information they receive is to be from the Superintendent, the Business Administrator or Mr. Kalis. A tentative meeting has been scheduled for May 22, 2008 regarding our elementary schools. She had the opportunity to attend the community celebration hosted by PEAK. She and her family had a wonderful time. She has received information regarding safe routes to school.

Mr. Wausnock was happy tonight's meeting was so long.

Dr. Lindley advised Dr. Villa was in the district today working with staff on co-teaching strategies. The district is fortunate to have someone of renown sharing his knowledge and skill.

Mr. Krem shared that two district programs received reviews this week. Our career and technical program has completed a rigorous review and the administration is pleased with the report. The Food Service department was also reviewed and faired exceptionally well.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mrs. Zahora that the Board adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

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Penny O'Donnell, Substitute Secretary