

**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
May 23, 2016**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Monday, May 23, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria of the Pottstown High School with President Mrs. Kimberly Stilwell presiding. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Andrew Kefer, Mrs. Polly Weand, Mr. Emanuel Wilkerson and Mr. Ron Williams. Absent were Mrs. Amy Bathurst Francis, Mr. Kurt Heidel and Mr. Thomas Hylton. Also present were Superintendent, Dr. Jeffrey Sparagana; Board Secretary, Mrs. Linda S. Adams; Director of Human Resources, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representative, Mr. Kenil Patel; Lt. Col. James Porter, Ms. Pamela Bateson, Mrs. Dulcie Rothermel, Mr. Jay Schroder, Mr. Ryan Oxenford, Mr. Kevin Downes, Mrs. Calista Boyer, Mr. Matthew Moyer, Mr. Matthey Boyer, Mr. David Todd, Mrs. Danielle McCoy, Mrs. Elisabeth Yoder, Mr. John Armato, a member of the press, and interested citizens and representatives of the Federation of Pottstown Teachers.

MUSIC: The Three Gentlemen, directed by Mr. Vought

AWARDS

JROTC Distinguished Unit Award

Dr. Sparagana recognized the Pottstown School District JROTC with the Distinguished Unit Award. Mrs. Stilwell and Dr. Sparagana presented the award to Lt. Col. James Porter and the JROTC Cadets.

Mr. Heidel entered the meeting at 7:04 pm.

NAMM – National Association of Music Merchants Foundation

Mr. Kelly, Zeswitz Music, presented the Best Communities for Music Education award to the music department. Accepting the award on behalf of the Pottstown School District were Mr. Michael Vought, Mrs. Nancy Mest, Mr. Ben Hayes and Mr. Robert Benton.

Mr. Hylton entered the meeting at 7:08 pm.

MUSIC: Middle School Jazz Band, directed by Mr. Hayes

Mrs. Francis entered the meeting at 7:12 pm.

State Representative Citation of Education

Senator Mensch presented a Citation of Education to Dr. Sparagana in recognition for his 43 years of service in education and his accomplishments in Pottstown.

Teacher of the Year

Mr. Rodriguez introduced the building nominees for the 2015-2016 Teacher of the Year. Dr. Sparagana and Mrs. Stilwell presented each honoree with a framed award certificate.

Pottstown High School:

Eileen Basham

Pottstown Middle School 7th/8th:

Benjamin Hayes

Pottstown Middle School 5th/6th :

Deborah Wilson

Franklin Elementary School:

Darla Stout

Rupert Elementary School: Nicole Leh
Elizabeth B. Barth Elementary School: Deena Alexander
Lincoln Elementary School: Michael Koman

Dr. Sparagana announced the recipient of the 2015-2016 District Teacher of the Year Award. Dr. Sparagana and Mrs. Stilwell presented the winner with a plaque.

Pottstown Teacher of Year: Benjamin Hayes

The Board took a short recess to congratulate the teachers and staff.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Caldwell and Mrs. Rieger along with the AP History students, gave a presentation on their recent trip to Berlin, Prague, Krakow and Budapest. Each student spoke about his/her experience.

HEARINGS FROM THE PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS (General)

David Miller, 96 Cedar Street, gave a taxpayer's perspective about the recent conversations on negotiations and teachers contract. Tonight's presentations indicate education is alive and well in Pottstown. He expressed his frustration with the remarks by the teachers "feeling unappreciated", feeling undercompensated". Mr. Miller asked the Federation to present a plan, outlining the specifics. The taxpayers and the school board as representatives of the taxpayers will review and make the decision. Robert Decker, PSD Teacher, addressed the Board with his concerns about maintaining open communications and collaboration between the Board and Federation of Pottstown Teachers. His solution is to take the emotion out of the picture and focus on the students, listen to what all are saying. He expressed his fear that the students will suffer if a fair and equitable solution to the problems is not found.

Kevin Krause, 17 East Seventh Street, asked the Board about cost saving measures. The taxpayers have put their faith in the Board through their campaign promises. He reminded the Board that they were elected by the taxpayers and they represent the voice of the taxpayers. He expressed his fear that the Federation and School Board will lose their existence and jeopardize the idea of Pottstown students returning to Pottstown as teachers in the Pottstown School District.

Brandon Tinson, 960 N. Warren Street, PHS Senior and Trojan Hero, thanked the Board, Administration and Faculty for their collective efforts to support him in his education. He will be attending Susquehanna University with a tuition scholarship. He spoke in support of the teachers and coaches and the impact they have had on his life.

MINUTES

Mrs. Adams presented the minutes from the Combined Committee of the Whole and the Regular Board meeting held on April 25, 2016 for Board approval.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mr. Williams that the minutes be approved as presented.

All members present voted aye. None opposed. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Adams presented the list of bills from the various funds for the period of April 2016 for Board approval.

It was moved by Mr. Kefer and seconded by Mr. Heidel that the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of April 2016 be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-067**.

All members present voted aye. None opposed. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Adams presented the Treasurer's Report for April 2016 for Board approval.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Treasurer's Report for April 2016 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-068**.

All members present voted aye. None opposed. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Dr. Sparagana presented the Consent Items for Board approval.

CONSENT

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the following consent items be approved in accordance with Policy 005, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

PERSONNEL

POSITIONS

Administrative

- (1) Elimination of Part-time Supervisor of Federal Programs and RTII Intervention
- (2) Assistant to the Superintendent for Education

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Administrative

Ashia Cooper, Assistant Principal, Middle School, resignation effective June 21, 2016; employed since August 10, 2015.

Professional

Amy Gazzillo, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, resignation effective June 30, 2016; employed since October 6, 2004.

Janet Roncase, Special Education Teacher, Pottstown High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective August 26, 2016; employed since August 25, 2004.

Ratify Kimberly Budner, Special Education Teacher, Pottstown High School, resignation effective May 2, 2016; employed since August 23, 2006.

Leslie Smoyer, Elementary Special Education Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, resignation effective June 21, 2016; employed since August 18, 2008.

Ratify Christopher Petro, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, termination due to end of assignment, effective April 29, 2016.

Classified

Ratify Alane Knudson, Substitute Support Staff, termination effective April 29, 2016.

Correction to retirement date

Danny Youse, Custodian I, Pottstown High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective date June 30, 2016.

LEAVES

Professional

Ratify Leslye Blackwell, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 14, 2016, end date tbd.

Ratify Shannon Wagner, Elementary Teacher, Rupert Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 27, 2016, end date tbd.

Classified

Ratify Jennifer Fichthorn, Part-time Housekeeper, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 18, 2016, end date April 25, 2016.

Ratify Janet Bentz, Food Service, Pottstown High School, request for leave of absence, covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 18, 2016, end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION AND/OR SALARY

Administrative

Stephen Rodriguez from Director of Human Resources to Acting Superintendent, effective June 30, 2016, \$625/day.

Laurie Kolka, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, return to full-time status, effective July 1, 2016, no change in daily rate.

Laurie Kolka from Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction to Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, effective July 1, 2016, from \$87,363 to \$95,000.

Classified

Ratify Stacey Foster from Classroom Assistant to Intervention Assistant, Franklin Elementary, effective April 26, 2016 (replaces K. Confino); no change in hourly compensation.

Kristina DiCampello from Breakfast/Lunch Proctor and Kindergarten Assistant to Classroom Assistant, Franklin Elementary, effective May 24, 2016, \$13.65/hr (replaces S. Foster)

ELECTIONS:

Classified

Ratify Jennifer Jarolin, PEAK Pre-K Coach, effective May 11, 2016, 4 hrs/day, \$25/hr. (position grant funded).

Ratify Melanie Morais, Central Registration/Student Services Support Clerk, Administration Building, effective May 13, 2016, \$14.04/hr (replaces A. Mutter).

Nathaniel Gonzalez, Summer Cleaner, effective June 15, 2016, \$11.51/hr.

Logan Pennypacker, Summer Cleaner, effective June 15, 2016, \$11.51/hr.

Mason Pennypacker, Summer Cleaner, effective June 15, 2016, \$11.51/hr.

Homebound Instruction, \$29/hr

Ratify Darla Stout, Franklin Elementary, from May 10, 2016 to June 14, 2016, assignment not to exceed 5 hours per week.

Ratify Susan Hallman, Franklin Elementary, from May 10, 2016 to June 14, 2016, assignment not to exceed 5 hours per week.

Elementary Summer Reading Camp, paid through 21st Century CoHoart 7 grant funds. Program runs from June 27th to August 4, 2016.

Teachers/Substitute Teachers: All Pottstown School District Teacher-Certified staff members are approved on an "as need" basis as 21st Century Teachers, rate of \$29.00/hour, and as 21st Century Classroom Assistants, rate of \$13.65/hr.

Classroom Assistants/Substitute Classroom Assistants: All Pottstown School District Classroom Assistants are approved on an "as need basis" as 21st Century Classroom Assistants, rate of \$13.65/hr.

Coordinator : Laureen Gresko \$ 29/hr
Nurse: TBD
Clerical Support: Krista Hillegass-Benfield \$ 13.65/hr

Summer Food Service Program, effective June 15, 2016 through August 26, 2016.

- (1) Christina Kane, Summer Food Service Manager, \$15.55/hr
- (2) Jane Bentz, Summer Food Service Worker, \$12.28/hr.
- (3) Giovinna Weller, Summer Food Service Worker, \$12,28/hr.
- (4) Andrea Kulp, Summer Food Service Worker, \$12.28/hr.
- (5) Melanie Long, Summer Food Service Worker, \$12.28/hr.
- (6) Joyce Grebe, Summer Food Service Worker, \$12.28/hr.

Summer Cleaning/Maintenance Program, \$11.51/hr, effective June 15, 2016 through August 26, 2016.

Summer Maintenance/Grounds - Jacob Bean
Summer Cleaning - Beth Bean, Robert Yost, Charlie Tesno, Craig Gensil,
 Dionne Phillips, Jacqueline Keller Jake Fetterman, Janice Bobst,
 Jeffrey Endy, Tonya Brown, Jennifer Fichthorn, Josh Kelly,
 Judy Bermudez, Julia Soto, Lisa Mc Cann, Melissa Caballero,
 Michelle Evans, Philip Thees, Tara Cifelli, Zachary Davis,
 Cynthia Edmunds

Middle School and High School Summer Program paid through 21st Century Grant Fund.
Program runs from June 27, 2016 through August 5, 2016.

Teachers/Substitute Teachers: All Pottstown school District Teacher-Certified staff member are approved on an "as need" basis as 21st Century Instructors, \$29/hr, and as 21st Century Classroom Assistants, \$13.65/hr.

Classroom Assistants/Substitute Classroom Assistants: All Pottstown School District Classroom Assistants are approved on an "as need" basis as 21st Century Classroom Assistants, \$13.65/hr.

Transportation for 2016 ESY Summer Program

All Pottstown School District Van Drivers and Substitute Van Drivers are approved on an "as need" basis, rate \$14.04/hr

All Pottstown School District Van Assistants and Substitute Van Assistants are approved on an "as need" basis, rate \$11.92/hr.

District Pupil Services ESY 2016 Summer Program

All Pottstown School District Life Skills and Learning Support Teachers are approved on an as need basis, \$29/hr, in accordance with the Pupil Services Summer schedule.

All Pottstown School District Life Skills Assistants and Learning Support Assistants are approved on an as need basis, \$13.65/hr, in accordance with the Pupil Services Summer schedule.

All Pottstown School District Psychologists and Occupational Therapists are approved on an as need basis, in accordance with the Pupil Services Summer schedule, rate to be daily rate of salary.

Mentors 15-16

Bldg	Mentor	New Teacher	Stipend
High School	Angela Spinozzi	Jaqueline Stein	\$528.50
High School	Missy DiBlasi	Craig Olivier	\$528.50
Barth	Kelli Wolfel	Traci Miller	\$528.50
Franklin	Jane Hospador	Melissa Lopez	\$528.50
High School	Jake Porter	Anthony Kearse	\$528.50
High School	Michaela Johnson	Niamah Rhodes	\$528.50
High School	Diane Fox	Jennifer Mohr	\$528.50
Middle School	Ginger Angelo	Samuel DeAngeli	\$528.50
Rupert	Jamie Fazekas	Nicole Valenti	\$528.50
Franklin	Diana Hofmanner	Megan Keeney	\$528.50
Barth	Kathy Eagle	Molly Beer	\$528.50
Middle School	Kristen Ellis	Amanda Moll	\$528.50
Middle School	Amy Gazillo	Nicole Foracker	\$528.50
High School	Kristen Cherneskie	Kelly Bucca	\$528.50
Middle School	Vanessa Barniak	Beth Morello	\$528.50
High School	Kelly Smale	Ryan Folk	\$528.50
Franklin	Jane Hospador	Kaylee Shumaker	\$264.25
	Diana Hofmanner		\$264.25
Middle School	Vanessa Barniak	Samantha Mazzie	\$528.50
Middle School	Jen Burkholder	Corey Trego	\$528.50
Franklin	Leon Kanopka	Karen Confino	\$528.50

Mentors 14-15

Bldg	Mentor	New Teacher	Stipend
Middle School	Schwoyer Desiree	Aaron Hinnershitz	\$523.50
High School	Harner Jackie	Alyssa Elias	\$523.50

High School	Blaum Sarah	Amanda Scholwinski	\$523.50
Rupert	Gresko Lauren	Athena Singer/Procsal	\$261.75
High School	Yoder Beth	Athena Singer/Procsal	\$261.75
High School	Arms Dennis	David Woodley	\$523.50
Middle School	DiDonato Michael	Erin Bumbaugh	\$523.50
High School	Porter Jake	Gary Allen	\$523.50
Middle School	Bergey Jason	Nicole Ryals	\$523.50
Middle School	Torrence Aaron	Victoria Redmond	\$523.50
Middle School	DiDonato Michael	Danielle Lawrence	\$523.50
Middle School	Ellis, Kristen	Elizabeth Rega	\$523.50
Rupert	Trainer, Krista	Lauren Crean	\$523.50
Middle School	Moore, Arden	Molly Lawless	\$523.50

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Administrative

Diane Meck - Admin Bldg. - \$2,628.00

2015-2016 Co-Curricular Activities Assignment (not a professional category)

Ratify Jake Bean, MS/HS Event Manager \$1,000 (replaces S. Anspach)

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

Bldg	Name	Conference Title	Conference Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Admin	Mary Rieck	CIZ Grantee Networking Meeting	Camp Hill	05/05/2016-05/06/2016	\$80.00 To be paid from the Community Innovation Zone Grant
Admin	Mary Rieck	Pre-K Counts State Grantee Meeting	State College	05/02/2016	\$262.00 To be paid from the Pre-K Counts Grant

FIELD TRIPS

<u># of students and/or group</u>	<u>Conference name/activity</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Date of trip</u>	<u>Cost to student</u>	<u>Cost to district-substitutes</u>	<u>Chaperones</u>
10-20	AP European History	Milan, Venice, Florence, Rome, Assisi, & Pompeii	03/20/2017-03/28/2017	\$1,800.00	\$210-\$230	David Caldwell Kristen Ellis Mark Agnew

TEMPORARY SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENT

Appointment of Mrs. Amy Bathurst Francis as Temporary School Board President for the sole purpose of signing her daughter's high school diploma (Class of 2016).

Appointment of Mr. Emanuel Wilkerson as Temporary School Board President for the sole purpose of signing his high school diploma (Class of 2016).

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-069**:

1. Camphill Special School
2. Martin Luther School
3. Wordsworth Academy
4. Opportunities School
5. Austill's Rehabilitation Servs.
6. Cumberland Therapy Services LLC
7. MCIU: Technology Services Discovery Education
8. MCIU: Technology Services Moodle Plus
9. MCIU: Internet Services

BID AWARDS

The Superintendent recommends purchase orders be awarded to the companies as presented, the award in each case being made to the lowest bidder meeting the required specifications and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-070**.

1. MCIU Joint Purchasing Custodial Supplies
2. MCIU Joint Purchasing Paper Supplies

DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the financial institutions as the depositories for the school district's funds for the 2016-2017 school year as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-071**.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the student accident insurance coverage for the 2016-2017 school year to be placed with Axis Insurance Company through American Management Advisors as the plan administrator.

2016-2017 Student Accident Insurance: Said coverage should have the following rates (prices listed below reflect no change over the 2015-2016 prices):

School Time: \$36.00 / 24 Hour Coverage: \$130.00 / Dental: \$8.50

Football Insurance Coverage: \$60 per player

EDGEWOOD PARKING OVERLAY

The Facility Committee recommends the Board approve the Edgewood parking overlay as presented at the May 12, 2016 committee meeting: Maloney Paving - \$16,590.00

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS PROJECT CHANGE ORDERS

The Facilities Committee recommends the Board approve the Elementary Schools Project change orders as presented at the May 12, 2016 committee meeting and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-072**.

ANNEX BUILDING APPRAISAL

The Facilities Committee recommends the Board authorize the administration to obtain a current appraisal for the 940 Franklin Street.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Board approve the above consent items.

Upon roll call vote, all members votes aye for the above consent items. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried

NON-CONSENT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following non-consent Personnel items:

PERSONNEL

Change in Position and/or Salary

Stephen Rodriguez from Acting Superintendent to Assistant to the Superintendent for Education, effective upon end of assignment as Acting Superintendent, compensation tbd.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mr. Kefer that the Board approve the above non-consent personnel item.

Mrs. Weand opposes the motion as part of her opposition to the reorganization proposed earlier this year. She also feels this position will cause budgetary problems for next year's budget, especially not knowing the compensation for the position.

Mr. Hylton supports the motion. He sent the Board Members his calculations from past administration salaries and noted that the district is saving approximately \$55,000. He feels positive that upon the hiring of a new superintendent and rethinking how the district does certain things, the administration totals should remain down as in 2012 when Dr. Sparagana took over from Dr. Lindley

Mrs. Francis clarified the per diem salary for Dr. Sparagana is \$689 and Mr. Rodriguez is \$625. The district will be paying less.

Discussion continued among the Board with concerns of approving the position of Assistant to the Superintendent of Education and compensation for the position.

Mr. Williams called the vote.

Upon roll vote, the vote to continue the discussion was recorded as follows: Mr. Hylton: nay, Mr. Kefer: nay, Mrs. Stilwell: nay, Mrs. Weand: aye, Mr. Wilkerson: aye, Mr. Williams: nay, Ms. Bearden: aye, Mrs. Francis: nay, Mr. Heidel: aye. Ayes: Four. Nays: Five. Motion denied.

Mr. Kalis clarified the motion for board action is approving Stephen Rodriguez from Acting Superintendent to Assistant to the Superintendent for Education, effective upon end of assignment as Acting Superintendent, compensation tbd

Upon roll call vote, the vote to approve the above non-consent personnel item was recorded as follows: Mr. Kefer: aye, Mrs. Stilwell: aye, Mrs. Weand: nay, Mr. Wilkerson: nay, Mr. Williams: aye, Ms. Bearden: nay, Mrs. Francis: aye, Mr. Heidel: aye, Mr. Hylton: aye. Ayes: Six. Nays: Three. Motion carried.

Change in Position and/or Salary

Lindsay Hendricks, Psychologist, Franklin Elementary, effective June 3, 2016, \$53,698/yr (replaces K. Trainer).

It was moved by Mrs. Weand and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the above non-consent personnel item.

Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye for the above non-consent personnel item. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

PLANCON H: FRANKLIN, LINCOLN & RUPERT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the PlanCon H for Franklin, Lincoln and Rupert Elementary as presented a copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-073**.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Ms. Bearden that the Board approve PlanCon H for Franklin Elementary.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye for Franklin Elementary PlanCon H. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mr. Heidel that the Board approve PlanCon H for Lincoln Elementary.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye for Lincoln Elementary PlanCon H. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Ms. Heidel that the Board approve PlanCon H for Rupert Elementary.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye for Rupert Elementary PlanCon H. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF BOARD TREASURER

In accordance with Section 404 of the School Code, the Board shall annually elect a Treasurer to serve for one year beginning the first day of July following such an election. The Treasurer's term shall run from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

Mrs. Stilwell nominated Ms. Bacallao as Board Treasurer.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mr. Wilkerson to nominated Ms. Bacallao as Board Treasurer.

Mr. Kefer made a motion to close the nominations. Mrs. Francis seconded the motion.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye to close the nominations for treasurer.

Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye for Ms. Bacallao as Board Treasurer. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Ms. Bacallao was declared Treasurer.

2016-2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mrs. Adams reviewed the 2016-2017 proposed budget as presented for Board approval.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mr. Kefer that the Adoption of the 2016-2017 Proposed Budget be approved and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-074**. Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD EXCLUSION RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2016 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2015-2016-075**.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mr. Williams that the Board approve the Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution as presented.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

LERTA Resolution:

Motion to support in concept the recommendations assembled and presented by the ad hoc committee formed by the Board and Borough Council following the joint meeting held on February 23, 2016 involving the LERTA program. The Board's solicitor is hereby authorized to continue to work with the Administration and the Borough's solicitor to finalize all remaining aspects of the proposed LERTA program for final review and approval by the Board at a future meeting date.

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the above motion as presented.

All members present were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

Residency Policy: Mr. Kalis stated he had followed up on other options for a program at the request from a previous Policy Committee. He explained a Residency Policy would need to be reviewed by the Policy Committee and suggested gathering information to formulate a complete policy and explore other options for the Policy Committee to review at their June 2nd committee meeting.

Mr. Hylton expressed his concern on whether there is enough time to offer a residency incentive to the potential candidates for two administrative positions to be filled. He made a motion that the Board authorizes the administration to offer potential candidates for the two administrative positions a \$10,000 forgivable loan to purchase a house in Pottstown. Mrs. Francis seconded the motion.

All Board Members support the incentive program. The general consensus was to formulate a policy to be reviewed by the Policy Committee at their June 2nd meeting. All Board Members were in agreement to direct Mr. Rodriguez to offer the two potential candidates a \$10,000 forgivable loan to buy a house in Pottstown.

Mr. Hylton withdrew his motion and Mrs. Francis agreed.

Ad Hoc Committee: Meet and Discuss with Federation on day to day district operations:

Mr. Wilkerson asked for direction on how to move forward with an ad hoc committee for meet and discuss between the Federation of Pottstown Teachers, district administrators and school board on issues related to day-to-day operations.

Mr. Kalis directed the Board to communicate with the superintendent on the issues they are interested in discussing. He reminded the Board that the superintendent has frequent meet and discuss meetings with the Federation.

Dr. Sparagana noted that the purpose of the Board is budget and policy; the administration is day-to-day operations. He caution that mingling the two can cause micromanaging and slow down the day-to-day activities.

Board Members discussed the practice of including board members in meet and discuss meetings.

The Board was in agreement to ask the superintendent for his thoughts about an ad hoc committee and to present his recommendations at a future meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (30 minutes)

Discussion: How can we be more cost effective?

Mr. Krause stated that his earlier comments from the Hearings of the Patrons reflect this discussion period.

Mr. Hylton inquired about his request for salary and benefits information.

Mrs. Adams noted that the information is being worked on.

INFORMATION

1. Monthly Meeting Notice

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Yoder congratulated the nominees for Teacher of the Year and also the music teachers and students for the achievements. She congratulated Dr. Sparagana on his retirement. Mrs. Yoder spoke about information that has been disseminated in the past week. She noted that teachers have their own families and lives to live. She explained the step schedule and horizontal moves and presented a Power Point on tuition costs and reimbursements and step comparisons. The Federation is active in the fair funding petitions, demonstrations, etc. There is only so much time that teachers have available. Mrs. Yoder asked the School Board to get information out to the families, churches and other community organizations for their help in promoting fair funding.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Heidel congratulated everyone for their achievements as recognized tonight. He acknowledged the frustrations felt by the teachers and the difficult choices that everyone makes. He believes that things can be turned around by working together.

Mrs. Weand – no comment.

Mr. Williams – no comment.

Mr. Kefer recognizes the difficult job the Board and teachers are confronted with. He believes in educational equity and will continue to support a fair funding formula.

Mrs. Francis announced the grand opening of FARM will take place this Thursday. It will be a great event.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Ms. Bearden congratulated the nominees for Teacher of the Year. She spoke about the resiliency of the community, students, teachers and the Board and believes Pottstown will bounce back.

Mr. Wilkerson congratulated the nominees for Teacher of the Year. He thanked Mr. Tinson for his comments. He thanked the Board, teachers and administrators for their collaboration to bring the Class of 2016 to a successful graduation.


Mr. Patel thanked the Teachers and staff for all they efforts to make education better. He asked the Board and Administration to continue to work with the teachers.

Dr. Sparagana congratulated the music department for the outstanding achievement award presented to them this evening. He congratulated the JROTC, nominees for Teacher of the Year and Mr. Hayes for Teacher of the Year. Dr. Sparagana was humbled by Senator Mensch's appearance and shared acknowledgments he received with everyone in the district for their efforts and support.

Mrs. Stilwell congratulated all teachers and appreciates the Teacher of the Year awards. She extended an invitation to all Board Members to participate in a meeting with the Speaker of the House in Harrisburg on Wednesday, May 25th.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Kefer and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Board adjourns. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at pm.


Linda S. Adams
Board Secretary