



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
October 24, 2016**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Monday, October 24, 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, Mrs. Amy Bathurst Francis, Mr. Kurt Heidel, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mr. Ron Williams and Mr. Emanuel Wilkerson. Absent were Mrs. Polly Weand and the vacancy created by Mr. Andrew Kefer's resignation. Also present were Acting Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Mrs. Linda S. Adams; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Mr. Nyles Rome and Mr. Jaylen Chestnut; Mrs. Danielle McCoy, Mr. David Todd, Mr. Joseph Schroeder, Mr. Matthew Moyer, Mr. John Armato, Mr. Michael DiDonato, members of the press, and interested citizens.

PRESENTATION

Management Information Systems (MIS) Program

Mr. Woodley and Mr. Damian Perez (high school student) gave an overview of the Career and Technical Program "Management Information Systems (MIS)". Mr. Perez presented a Power Point and described the various calls they respond to within the district. The program provides opportunities for the students to develop a variety of management skills and helps to make them well rounded individuals.

AWARDS

Superintendent Recognition Award

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Superintendent Recognition Award to Mr. Woodley for his outstanding work and dedication to the district. Mr. Woodley's efforts and passion has advanced the mission of the district and promotes a positive effect on morale and school spirit.

Tri-County Area Chamber of Commerce Award for Economic Development

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Tri-County Area Chamber of Commerce Economic Impact Award to the Board. This award was presented to the School Board and Borough at their annual luncheon in recognition of the LERTA ordinance and resolution. The Economic Impact Award signifies an investment in stimulating job growth in the community.

Pennsylvania Historic Preservation Award

Mr. Moyer, along with Dr. Sparagana and Mrs. Stillwell, had the privilege of attending the Commonwealth's Preserving Pennsylvania Award luncheon dedicated to recognizing the protection of historic, architectural, significant properties. Rupert Elementary was the recipient of the Sustainability and Historic Preservation award.

ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. Stilwell called for nominations for Vice-President.

Mr. Williams nominated Mrs. Francis.

There were no other nominations for the office of Vice-President.

Mr. Heidel moved to close the nominations and vote for the office of Vice President. Mr. Williams seconded the motion.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye to close the nominations and approve Mrs. Francis as Vice-President. None opposed. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

Mrs. Francis was declared the newly elected Vice-President.

MINUTES

Mrs. Adams presented the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 22, 2016 and the Regular Board meeting held on September 29, 2016 for Board approval.

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

All members present voted aye. None opposed. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried

LIST OF BILLS

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

It was moved by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mr. Williams that the list of bills be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-026**.

All members present voted aye. None opposed. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Wilkerson that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-027**.

All members present voted aye. None opposed. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY COMMITTEE

Mr. Wilkerson gave a report on the Policy Committee meeting held on October 6. Members of the committee met with the Foundation's Executive Committee to discuss the residency initiative. Board and Committee members present were in agreement to pay the cost (not to exceed \$5,000) for a third party tax analysis of the Foundation's 503C status for the purpose of verifying the legal aspect of administering the residency program. Committee members and administration met to review the student uniform/dress code surveys. More discussion on this topic will take place at the next committee meeting including review of the bullying policy.

CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE

No October meeting.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Ms. Bearden gave a report on the Community Relations Committee meeting held on October 6. The committee continues its efforts to support the district calendar of events and to work on the community outreach, annual awards program and scholarship acknowledgments. The committee will be setting up interviews for the junior student board representatives. Other topics of discussion include pursuing a Student Board Representative policy that would allow credits for students who serve as student board representatives and looking for ways to build school spirit.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Mr. Chestnut was glad to report the seniors were victorious during spirit week. Mr. Rome and himself were nominated for Homecoming King. Mr. Rome and Ms. Angela Rivera were the Homecoming King and Queen. Several students who attended the Gilbertsville College Fair were accepted into a college.

Mr. Rome and Mr. Chestnut attended the PSBA School Leadership Conference. Their presentation was focused on bullying. The topic prompted a long discussion among the students.

CURRICULUM AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Mr. Wilkerson gave a report on the Curriculum & Technology Committee meeting held on October 6. Highlights from the committee meeting included an overview of Google applications and an update on the Raising a Reader program. It was determined that more information is needed before taking action on this program. The committee reviewed information regarding Building and Trades students participation in the Habitat for Humanity Program. The committee supports an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) that would outline specific terms stating the students will not work on any non-profit buildings in the community.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Mr. Heidel gave a report on the Facilities Committee meeting held on October 13. The committee reviewed and discussed proceeding with the Franklin Fields improvements. It was the general consensus of the committee to recommend the Franklin Fields Improvement Project to the Board for approval.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Francis gave a report on the Joint Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on October 10. Two candidates were interviewed for the board vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Kefer. Mrs. Adams reviewed the bond refinancing, the 2012-2013 School Based Access settlement

agreement and acknowledgment of PlanCon H and K approvals by PDE as presented on tonight's agenda. An executive session was held for the purpose of Personnel discussions regarding Act 93, Support and and Exempt staff compensations.

MCIU/PSBA/MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Williams reported the Montgomery County IU will be voting on a tentative agreement with the Education Association at their October meeting. Copies of the approved agreement will be available for Board Members interested in a copy. Mr. Williams distributed copies of HB 530: Charter School Reform. Mr. Williams encourages everyone to contact their legislators opposing this bill.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Dr. Cellini reviewed all personnel consent and non-consent items. Mr. Rodriguez presented the Consent Items for Board approval.

Mrs. Adams reviewed consent and non-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

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Professional

Rebecca Heiser, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown High School, resignation effective when position is filled or December 16, 2016; employed since August 25, 2009.

Classified

Ratify Janet Bentz, Cafeteria Worker, Pottstown High School, resignation effective October 19, 2016; employed since October 9, 2002.

Althea Reilly, Classroom Assistant, Pottstown High School Virtual Learning, resignation effective October 21, 2016; employed since September 6, 2016.

Kenneth Bainbridge, Substitute Van Driver and Substitute Van Aide, resignation effective October 26, 2016; employed since May 21, 2014.

Ratify Jordan L. Thomas, Custodian 1, Pottstown High School, resignation effective October 21, 2016; employed since November 11, 2014.

2016-2017 Co-Curricular Assignments

Ryan Regensburg, Middle School Assistant Boys Basketball Coach, resignation effective October 24, 2016.

LEAVES

Professional

Ratify Jennifer Eidle, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date to be October 5, 2016; end date tbd.

Ratify Ellen Eisle, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective October 7, 2016; end date October 11, 2016.

Ratify Jennifer Groff, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 29, 2016; end date tbd.

Mindy Bodolus-Inman, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective November 4, 2016; end date tbd.

Scott Braunsberg, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective date November 11, 2016; end date tbd.

Megan Emery (Meier), Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated date to be April 29, 2017; end date tbd.

Amanda Scholwinski, Guidance Counselor, Pottstown High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated date to be May 1, 2017; end date tbd.

Classified

Ratify Barbara Hollenbach, Classroom Assistant, Pottstown High School, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 13, 2016; end date tbd.

Ratify Patricia Calvario, Administrative Clerk, Administration Building, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective October 14, 2016; end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION AND/OR SALARY

Exempt

Ratify Valerie Jackson, from Community Parent Organizer to Community Engagement Coordinator, effective October 3, 2016, \$45,000/yr., grant funded (replaces J. Bennett).

Classified

Ratify Gerard Gleeson, from Substitute Support Staff to Classroom Assistant, Pottstown High School, effective October 3, 2016, \$13.65/hr. (replaces K. Maurer).

ELECTIONS:

Professional

Ratify Katelyn Diehl, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, effective October 24, 2016, \$194/day (coverage for J. Thompson).

Gina Davila, Elementary Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, effective November 3, 2016, \$47,000/yr., Step 7 - Bach (replaces T. Simpson)

Melissa Brown deGerena, Secondary Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, effective November 2, 2016, \$51,000/yr., Step 3 M+30 (contract of J. Mitchell-Winterbotton).

Exempt

Amber Deyo, School Psychologist, Franklin Elementary, effective November 17, 2016, \$54,000/yr., (replaces R. Schoener).

Classified

Ratify Mary Price, Human Resource/Curriculum Clerk, Administration Building, effective October 10, 2016, \$14.95/hr. (replaces C.Golden).

Ratify Margaret Benfield, Secretary to Supervisor of Transportation & Communication; effective October 17, 2016, \$18.23/hr. (replaced D. Gratzinger).

Ratify Susan Ross, Part-time Secretary to Director of Student Services, effective October 17, 2016, \$14.04/hr. (new position).

Ratify Carrie Love, Part-time Student Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective October 3, 2016, 3 hrs/day, \$11.74/hr. (replace J. Malauulu).

Ratify Douglass Ryan, Substitute Support Staff, effective October 3, 2016, hourly rate per schedule.

Compensation for Missed Planning Time, @\$23 per period: August 29 to September 30, 2016
Michaela Johnson - 22 missed planning times - \$506.00

Little Shop of Horrors Musical Production Team

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Vocal Director	Thomas Marsden	\$ 2,500.00
Producer/Stage Mgr.	Robert Decker	\$ 4,000.00
Set Designer	Candi Haas Simmons	\$ 2,500.00
Properties Mgr.	Candi Haas Simmons	\$ 500.00
Costume Designer	Elisabeth Yoder	\$ 1,000.00
Hair & Make-up	Diane Shoffstall	\$ 500.00
Accompanist	Amy Anderson	\$ 1,000.00
Orchestra Director	Michael Vought	\$ 1,250.00
Theatrical Director	Chris Sperat	\$ 3,500.00
Choreographer	Lauren Emes	\$ 1,000.00
Set Construction Mgr.	Kyle O'Neill	\$ 800.00
Sound Director	Thomas Marsden	\$ 800.00
Lighting Director	Nick Yashinsky	\$ 1,300.00
Publicist/House Mgr.	Kyle Oneill	\$ 1,000.00

21st Century Tutor:

Deirde Yeager, 21st Century Academic Enrichment Tutor, \$29/hr.

CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS ***Addendum #2016-2017-028**

2016-2017 Co-Curricular Assignments: Sports (Athletic)

2016-2017 Co-Curricular Assignments: District/Building (Non-Athletic)

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT: 9/30/2016 deadline

Professional

David Roberts PMS \$1,621.00

HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT *Addendum #2016-2017-029

Horizontal Salary Movement: 10-15-2016

FIELD TRIPS

Students/.. Conference

<u>....Groups</u>	<u>Name/Activity</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Date of Trip</u>	<u>Cost to Student</u>	<u>Cost to District</u>	<u>Chaperone(s)</u>
12 - 18	EF Tours -	Germany	04/02/2018 - 04/11/2018	\$3,305.00	\$1,470 to \$1,610	Robert Decker Alyssa Elias

POLICY(S)

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve Policy 349:Retirement as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-030.**

AMENDED EMPLOYEE CONTRACT: BUSINESS MANAGER

Motion to approve the amended employment contract of the business administrator as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-031.**

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-032.**

1. Pediatric Therapeutic Services
2. Naviance Inc.
3. The Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the above consent items be approved. All members present voted aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

NON CONSENT: PERSONNEL

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following non-consent Personnel items and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-033.**

- A. Approval of 2016-2017 Support Salaries
- B. Approval of 2016-2017 Exempt Salaries
- C. Approval of 2016-2017 Act 93 Salaries

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Ms. Bearden that the above non-consent personnel item be approved.

Mr. Hylton noted that he does not fully support the salary increases. He will be voting no.

Upon roll call vote, the vote for the above non-consent personnel items was recorded as follows:
Mr. Hylton: nay, Mrs. Stilwell: aye, Mr. Wilkerson: aye, Mr. Williams: nay, Ms. Bearden: aye,
Mrs. Francis: aye, Mr. Heidel: aye. Ayes: Five. Nays: Two. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following professional leaves as presented:

<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates Attend</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Admin	Linda S. Adams Maureen Jampo Robert Kripplebauer Richard Hug Diane Meck	PASBO Conference	Pittsburg, PA	3/21/2017 - 3/24/2017	\$300.00 ea.- pd by dept budget
HS	Steven Park Michaela Johnson Michael Pagana Naimah Rhodes Dave Woodley	Integrated Learning Conf.	State College, PA	11/02/2016- 11/04/2016	\$515.00 ea. pd by Perkins Grant
Admin	Mary Rieck	CIZ Networking Mtg.	Gettysburg, PA	11/29/2016 – 11/30/2016	\$180.00 pd by Pre-K Counts Grant
Admin	Deena Cellini	War Stories – The Battle Continues	Harrisburg, PA	03/01/2017 - 03/03/2017	\$1,070 pd by dept. budget

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Board approve the Professional Leaves as presented.

Mr. Hylton noted that the conference titles are not always very clear. He would like more detail on the conferences and dollar amounts spent on the conferences.

Mr. Williams agreed with Mr. Hylton's comment on clarity. He noted his reluctance to vote in favor of a spending \$1,000 on a conference.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the conference in Harrisburg is professional development for human resource personnel across the state to learn from others mistakes and recommends this conference as a valuable resource.

Upon roll call vote, the vote to approve the non-consent professional leaves as presented was recorded as follows: Mr. Wilkerson: nay, Mr. Williams: aye, Ms. Bearden: nay, Mrs. Francis: aye, Mr. Heidel: aye, Mr. Hylton: nay, Mrs. Stilwell: aye. Ayes: Four. Nays: Three. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

ACCESS COST SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Motion to approve the settlement agreement between the district and the Pa. Dept. of Human Services to settle all claims arising out of the cost settlement process for the 2012-2013 School Based Access Program, with such settlement contingent upon similar execution by the Department.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Board approve the Access Cost Settlement as presented and a copy be file in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-034**.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye to approve the non-consent Access Cost Settlement Agreement as presented. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

PLANCON ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge PDE's review and approval of PlanCon Part H Project Financing and PlanCon Part K issuance of General Obligation, Series 2015 as presented.

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the PlanCon Acknowledgements as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-035**.

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

FRANKLIN FIELDS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Motion to approve the Franklin Fields Improvement Project as presented at the Facilities Committee meeting of October 13, 2016.

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mrs. Francis that the Board approve the Franklin Fields Improvement Project as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's offices as **Addendum #2016-2017-036**.

Upon roll call vote, the vote to approve the Franklin Field Improvement Project was recorded as follows: Mr. Heidel: aye, Mr. Hylton: nay, , Mrs. Stilwell: aye, , Mr. Wilkerson: aye, Mr. Williams: nay, Ms. Bearden: nay, Mrs. Francis: aye. Ayes: Four. Nays: Three. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION APPROVING ISSUANCE OF BOND REFINANCING

Motion to approve the resolution for the issuance of the School District's General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2016 as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Francis and seconded by Mr. Heidel that the resolution for the issuance of school district's general obligation bonds, series 2016 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2016-2017-037**.

Upon roll call vote, all Board Members present voted aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

New Board Member Discussion

Mr. Kalis reviewed the interview process and selection of a new school board director. He explained it is the prerogative of the Board to discuss and vote for a candidate or to solicit other candidates. An abstention vote is considered a no vote.

It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the selection of a new school board director. Board Members thanked both candidates and commended the candidates for their qualifications and desire to serve on the Board.

The vote to select a new school board director was recorded as follows: Mrs. Francis: Susan Lawrence, Mr. Hylton: Susan Lawrence, Ms. Bearden: Susan Lawrence, Mr. Wilkerson: abstain, Mrs. Stilwell: Susan Lawrence, Mr. Williams: Bonita Barnhill, Mr. Heidel: Susan Lawrence. Susan Lawrence: Five. Bonita Barnhill: One. Abstention: One. Absent: Two.

Mrs. Lawrence, upon acceptance, will be sworn in either at the next board meeting or by private arrangements with the magisterial court.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

INFORMATION

1. Monthly Meeting Notice

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. DiDonato congratulated Mr. Woodley, Mr. Moyer and the elementary buildings for the awards and recognitions they received. Mr. DiDonato spoke about various community and districts events that are being sponsored by the Federation of Pottstown Teachers. He thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his leadership in the October 6 Walk-In event. The Federation recognized Dr. Cellini and Mrs. O'Neill for their dedicated service and welcomed them to the administrative team.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Heidel – no comment.

Mr. Williams congratulated the 2016 Alumni Honor Roll inductees. He congratulated the student board representatives on their contributions at the PSBA Student Delegate Conference. He thanked Mr. Kalis for reviewing with the public the topics of discussion held at the recent board workshop. Mr. Williams indicated that he will continue to advocate for transparency.

Mr. Wilkerson congratulated Mrs. McCoy on her induction into the Alumni Honor Roll. He welcomed Mrs. Lawrence.

Ms. Bearden congratulated the alumni inductees. She noted that her reason for voting against the Franklin Field Project was because she felt the project would exceed the estimated cost, therefore, causing a burden on the taxpayers.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Mrs. Francis congratulated Mrs. McCoy.

Mr. Rome congratulated Mr. Marvin Pearson on all his accomplishments and well deserved national recognition.

Mr. Chestnut – no comment.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked Pottstown Junior Janna Kimmel for her participation as a guest speaker for P.O.W.E.R in support of fair funding. He congratulated the alumni honor roll inductees and noted

that there have been over 19,000 graduates from Pottstown. Mr. Rodriguez expressed his appreciation to the Foundation for Pottstown Education and the Pennsylvania Philharmonic Orchestra for providing our students with an opportunity to experience the arts.

Mrs. Stilwell congratulated Mr. Woodley.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Heidel that the Board adjourns. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.


Linda S. Adams
Board Secretary