



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
May 17, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 7:00 PM in the Cafeteria of the Pottstown High School with President Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Kurt Heidel, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, Mr. Raymond Rose, Mrs. Kimberly Stilwell, and Mr. Emanuel Wilkerson. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Mrs. Kelly Leibold, Mr. Joseph Schroeder, members of the press and interested citizens.

PRESENTATION

Co-Curricular Student Support: GoFourth

Mr. Anspach presented Mrs. Francis with a check in the amount of \$1,000. Co-Curricular athletic teams donated funds to support the Go-Fourth event.

Teacher of the Year

Dr. Cellini introduced the building nominees for the 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year. Mr. Rodriguez and Mrs. Francis presented each honoree with a plaque.

Franklin Elementary:	Susan Hallman
Pottstown High School:	Kristen Ellis
Elizabeth Barth Elementary School:	Kelli Wolfel
Lincoln Elementary:	Jill Bolonski
Pottstown Middle School 7 th /8 th :	Jason Bergey
Pottstown Middle School 5 th /6 th :	Dana Didonato
Ruppert Elementary School:	Britney Oxenford

Mr. Rodriguez announced the recipient of the 2017-2018 District Teacher of the Year Award. Mr. Rodriguez and Mrs. Francis presented the winner with a plaque.

Pottstown Teacher of Year: Kelli Wolfel

The Federation of Pottstown Teachers presented each honoree with a bouquet.

**The Board adjourned for a brief recess at 7:23 pm.
The Board reconvened 7:37pm.**

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Senator Mensch: Qualified Opportunity Zone

Letter from Grace Foundation: PSD Trojan Fundraiser

MINUTES

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on April 19, 2018 for board approval.

LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Jampo presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of April 2018 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-084**.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Jampo presented the Treasurer's Reports for April 2018 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-085**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS - Ms. Bearden

The committee elected to attend STEAM night. Ms. Bearden recognized the Middle School band and the Parks & Recreation dance recital for their outstanding performances.

STUDENT BOARD REPORT – Ms. Bearden

The Student Government members participated in assisting at the voting polls. May events include JROTC awards, Senior Awards, National Honor Society Banquet on May 31, Prom on May 18, Baccalaureate scheduled for June 7 and Graduation on June 8.

CURRICULUM / CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE – Mrs. Lawrence

The Curriculum and Co-Curricular Committee met on May 3. The committee continues to work on collaborating with Montgomery County Community College. The committee is recommending board approval of the Math Adoption Grades 7 to 12 as it appears on tonight's agenda. Co-Curricular updates included a report on the achievements and student participation for all co-curricular activities and a facilities update on the Franklin fields, softball field and track.

FACILITIES / FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. Heidel

The Facilities / Finance Committee met on May 10. Facility items reviewed by the committee were an update on capital expenses projected over the next seven years including an update on the Admin Building's HVAC assessment. It was determined the committee will continue to review options. Other facility projects discussed were the condition of the Grigg Stadium track, progress on the meadow at Edgewood and the Rotary Tree Nursery project. Finance topics were a presentation by P.A.I.D., contracts for board approval as presented on tonight's agenda, an update on the formation of a Budget Advisory Committee and the 2018/2019 Proposed Budget presentation.

○ Grigg Stadium Track: Mr. Mitterling, Technical Sales Representative, Nagel Athletic Services
Mr. Mitterling presented a proposal to resurface the track. He reviewed the track conditions as outlined in the inspection report. Deterioration is evident which includes loose track on the runways. The life span for track resurfacing is approximately seven to eight years depending on the application process. The current track was resurfaced in approximately 2003 and again in 2011.

Board Members were in agreement to send the proposed track resurfacing back to committee for more discussion.

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - MRS. Lawrence

The Policy/Personnel Committee met on May 10. The committee is recommending board approval of seven (7) policies, Exempt Guidelines and a change in a job title as presented on tonight's agenda.

Other topics discussed were lesson planning, dress code, and summer hours of operation for staff and buildings.

BOROUGH LIAISON REPORT – Mr. Heidel (no report).

PSBA/MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE /MCIU REPRESENTATIVE REPORT – Mr. Wilkerson
Legislative alerts include HB1914 addressing outsourcing procedures for non-instructional services, SB 2 changes in language regarding eligibility and HB 638, Cross-filing of School Board Candidates, was approved by the house and is moving to the senate.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Rodriguez presented the consent and non-consent items for Board discussion and approval. Administrators reviewed the consent items as presented on the board agenda.

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS (general and consent items)

Evan Brandt, resident, inquired about consent items on the agenda. He asked for clarification on how consent items are achieved prior to the monthly meeting and what determines consent / non-consent?

- Mrs. Stilwell stated the committee consents to items placed on the board agenda. Any issues at the committee level determines a non-consent item.
- Mr. Kalis added that depending on the action required (a full board roll call vote) would be a non-consent item.
- Mrs. Francis noted that at any time during the board meeting, a board member may request to move an item to non-consent.

Shana Williams, resident, expressed her concerns about the closing of the YMCA. She is looking for support from community organizations, neighboring communities and the school board to stop the closing of the Y. The NAACP met at YWCA with other community members and are planning a rally to support the mission to stop the closing of the Y.

Board Members Comments (consent items)

None.

BOARD ACTION Minutes, List of Bills and Treasurer’s Report

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mr. Wilkerson that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on April 19, 2018, the list of bills for the period of April 2018 and the treasurer’s report for April 2018.

All members were in favor. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

CONSENT

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

POSITION(S)

Classified

Information Management Specialist to Data Management Specialist - Addendum #2017-2018-086

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Administrative

Michael Dziura, Assistant Principal, Pottstown Middle School, resignation effective July 12, 2018; employed since August 22, 2017.

Exempt

Ratify Michilea Patterson, PEAK Community Engagement Coordinator, resignation effective May 10, 2018; employed since October 2, 2017.

Classified

Ratify Denise Williams, Temporary Intervention Assistant, Pottstown Middle School, resignation effective May 6, 2018; employed since January 17, 2018.

Maria Cain, Transportation Clerk, Administration Building, resignation effective May 18, 2018; employed since December 20, 2017.

Co-Curricular Assignments

Ratify Oscar Gans, Asst. Track Coach, Pottstown High School, effective April 30, 2018.

LEAVES

Classified

Ratify William Grim, Custodian II, Elizabeth B Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence, covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective May 7, 2018, end date tbd.

Ray Golden, Custodian II, Rupert Elementary, request for leave of absence, covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective June 19, 2018, end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION AND/OR SALARY

Ratify Andrea Kulp, Full-time Cafeteria Worker, Pottstown High School, from 7.0/hrs day to 7.5/hrs. per day, effective September 9, 2016, no change in hourly compensation rate.

Shilid Ford-Bey, from Full-time to Intermittent Copy Center Printing Clerk, Administration Building, effective May 21, 2018, no change in hourly rate.

ELECTIONS:

Classified

Ratify Kimberly Baldwin, Attendance Clerk, Pottstown High School, effective May 7, 2018, \$14.04/hr, (replacing R. Blackwell).

Ratify Ronald Sterner, Substitute Support Staff, effective May 16, 2018, hourly rate per schedule.

Ratify Marissa Bush, Child Accounting Specialist, Administration Building, effective April 26, 2018, \$19.00/hr (replacing C. Miller).

Ratify Robert Macadangdang, Substitute Support Staff, effective May 2, 2018, hourly rate per schedule.

Ratify Nicholas Vivian, Substitute Support Staff, effective May 11, 2018, hourly rate per schedule.

Compensation for Missed Planning Time, \$23/hr

Michaela Johnson - PHS - 8 missed planning times - \$184.00 (4/9/18 to 4/20/18)

PAYMENT OF SICK LEAVE

Accumulative Sick Leave Payment at time of retirement

Carol Miller, In accordance with Support Guidelines, \$9,918.40

MENTORS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following mentor as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-087**.

SUMMER PROGRAMS 2018

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following 2018 Summer Programs as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-088**.

FIELD TRIPS

The Superintendent recommends the following field trips be approved as presented:

#Students	Conference			Cost	Cost to	
...Groups	Name / Activity	Destination	Date of Trip	to Student	District	Chaperone(s)
2	Engineering Club	Quito, Ecuador, Chimborazo Region	07/05/2018 - 07/14/2018	\$0.00	\$0.00	Andrew Bachman
60	PHS Marching Band	Disney World & Univs.Studios, FL	11/09/2018 - 11/13/2018	\$1,147.00	\$945 - \$1,035	Michael Vought Kevin & Kelly Owens Julie and Jim Wilson Tony Wunderlich Gayle Aquino PSMA, tbd

POLICIES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following policies as presents and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-089**.

124: Alternative Instruction (replacing 5160)

212: Reporting Student Progress (update)

335: Family and Medical Leaves (replacing 2810 & 4250)

618: Student Activity Fund (replacing 8230, 8242,8250)

800: Records Management

819: Suicide Awareness, Prevention & Response (update)

912.1: Research Involving District Students, Faculty, Staff, Facilities

EXEMPT GUIDELINES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Exempt Guidelines as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-090**.

MATH RESOURCE ADOPTION GRADES 7 to 12

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Math Resource adoption as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-091**.

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-092**.

1. Invo HealthCare Associates
2. New Story Schools
3. Martin Luther School ESY
4. The Pathway School ESY
5. Timothy School ESY
6. Devereux Foundation ESY
7. MCIU: Internet/Internet Services
8. MCIU: Discovery Education
9. PA School for the Deaf ESY
10. Frontline Education
11. MOU Interim Adm. Transportation Services

MCIU JOINT PURCHASING 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 a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-093**.

MCIU INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR SHARED STUDENT SERVICES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the MCIU Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Student Services as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-094**.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

Student Accident Insurance 2018/2019 coverage provided by All Risk Ltd. through American Management Advisors as the plan administrator at the following rates: (prices listed below reflect no change over the 2017/2018 prices)

School Time:	\$ 36.00
24 Hour Coverage:	\$130.00
Dental:	\$ 8.50
Football insurance:	\$60.00 per player

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

NON-CONSENT:

Administrators presented the non-consent items for discussion and board action.

ELECTION OF 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, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

Mr. Wilkerson nominated Mrs. Stilwell.

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mr. Wilkerson to close the nominations and proceed with roll call vote to approve Mrs. Stilwell as Treasurer.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Mrs. Stilwell: abstain, Mr. Wilkerson: aye, Mrs. Lawrence: aye, Ms. Bearden: aye, Mr. Heidel: aye, Mr. Armato: aye, Mrs. Francis: aye, Mrs. Barnhill: aye, Mr. Rose: aye. Ayes: Eight. Abstention: One. Motion carried.

Board Comments: Non-Consent

Board Members inquired about outsourcing crossing guards, how savings in transportation is determined , what would need to be done to have a zero tax increase, other state funding options and refinance options.

Mrs. Jampo stated the crossing guards are outsourced. A price increase is anticipated and determined to be similar to other years. She explained that due to recent legislation, the district is not eligible for refinance options this year.

Mr. Rodriguez explained how the transportation savings is being determined. The district is preparing to submit a Request for Proposal to outsource the district transportation as a result of shortfalls experienced in the budget process. This decision was made as a means to balance the budget and not cut programs. He clarified that if the board would direct the administration to balance the budget without a tax increase, the district would need to cut back on programs (example: co-curricular, foreign languages, arts, music..). He confirmed that state funding options are exhausted.

Hearings from Patrons of the Schools (limited to non-consent items)

David Miller, resident, asked the Board Members to vote no on the preliminary budget. He opposes payment to P.A.I.D. He asked what program generates a catering bill as indicated on the list of bills. He supports the track and all athletic events.

HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2018 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-095**.

It was moved by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mrs. Stilwell that the board approve the Homestead Farmstead Resolution as presented.

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

ADOPTION OF 2018/2019 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mrs. Jampo gave a detailed overview of the 2018/2019 Proposed budget. The total proposed budget for 2018/2019 is \$62,677,927.00 representing a proposed tax increase of 3.5% from the current budget. The proposed budget includes utilizing PSERs reserve in the amount of \$432,873. Mrs. Jampo reviewed the budgetary challenges which includes a loss in tax revenue and refund of tax assessments.

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mrs. Stilwell that the Board adopt the 2018/2019 Proposed Budget as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2017-2018-096**.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Mrs. Francis: aye, Mr. Heidel: nay, Mr. Rose: aye, Mr. Armato: aye, Ms. Bearden: aye; Mrs. Barnhill: nay, Mr. Wilkerson: aye; Mrs. Stilwell: aye, Mrs. Lawrence: aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: Two. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

HIGH SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to suspend the temporary dress code at the high school and make it a permanent dress code. Mrs. Francis seconded the motion.

Board Discussion:

None.

Hearings from the Patrons:

Mr. Miller is in favor of a uniform policy. He believes uniforms demonstrate self respect and respect for others. He considers the motion as being made under “New Business” is unfair to the community.

Shana Williams supports dress code for all ages. Uniforms create an expense for families.

Upon roll call, all members voted to suspend the temporary dress code at the high school and make it a permanent dress code. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

K-8: REMOVE UNIFORMS, REPLACE WITH DRESS CODE

Mr. Wilkerson made a motion to suspend the uniform attire code K-8 and direct the Policy Committee to take the current high school dress code and make a comprehensive professional attire code for the entire district. Mrs. Lawrence seconded the motion.

Board Discussion:

Board Members discussed options for a dress code versus uniforms. The general consensus of the Board favors appropriate attire versus specific colors, etc. The Board was in agreement to make the change effective with the start of the 2018/2019 school year.

Mr. Rodriguez stated the administration will support the decision of the Board and will communicate the Board’s direction to the parents and community prior to the end of the school year. He asked that the Board be thoughtful as to the apparel going forward and not attach specific caveats that would revert back to specific types of clothing (ex: polo shirt, etc).

Mrs. Francis clarified the motion is to remove the uniforms K-8 and replace with a stringent somewhat dress code for the following school year.

Hearings from the Patrons:

Mr. Bradshaw, parent, stated he is in favor of the motion to remove the uniform policy. He talked about the expense and the stigma associated with wearing uniforms.

Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye to remove the uniforms from K-8 and replace with a dress code. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

1. Monthly Meeting Notice: June 2018
2. PHS Wrestling: 2017/2018

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Liebold congratulated all the teachers and recipients ‘of the awards. She thanked the Board for their decision to remove the uniform policy.

ROUND TABLE

Board Members congratulated the teachers and for their representation of all the professional staff that do a great job teaching the students.

Mr. Wilkerson was proud to hear the stories of the teachers. He commended the Board for making good decisions for the students.

Mr. Armato looks to a final budget that provides a quality education for the students and mindful of the community that supports the school district.

Mr. Rose invited the public to attend the coalition meeting to stop the closure of the Y and the “Let’s Talk” to be held at Barth Elementary.

Ms. Bearden was glad for the Board’s action to remove the uniform policy.

Mr. Hiedel looks forward to the graduation ceremonies.

Mrs. Barnhill thanked the administration for their hard work to prepare a balanced budget.

Mrs. Lawrence was glad to move forward with a dress code and is hopeful that the energy spent on opposing the closure of Y will promote other entities to step in and take over.

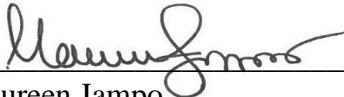
Mrs. Stilwell looks forward to continuing working on the budget and following up with grant opportunities.

Mr. Rodriguez spoke about the grant process and stated the district is always seeking opportunities for grant awards. He noted the catering expense that was on the list of bills was grant funded. District updates included the positive exposure via live streaming the board meetings; Mrs. Francis was the recipient of the Tri County Chamber of Commerce WOW award; May 18th is a Professional Development Day which includes a ride on the Colebrookdale RR; May 22nd is PA League of Urban Schools visit to Harrisburg; Foundation for Pottstown Education supported Middle School students to attend an I5 event in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Francis thanked everyone for their support and appreciated receiving the WOW award. She spoke of behalf of the board that brought on the uniform policy, it was an effort to support the community and make it better. “Today is a new day.”

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Wilkerson and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the meeting adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:33p.m.



Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary