



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 16, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium 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, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, Mr. Raymond Rose and Mrs. Kimberly Stilwell. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez, Board Secretary, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; members of the press and interested citizens.

Mrs. Francis announced the Board met in an executive session for the purpose of personnel. The Board has directed the administration that there is to be no change to position in the music department.

**AWARDS**

NAMM - Mr. Kelly, Zeswitz Music, presented the Best Communities in Music Education award to the district and music department. The award recognizes the district, teachers, students and parents that excel in music education. Accepting the award on behalf of the Pottstown School District were Mr. Stephen Rodriguez, Mrs. Amy Francis, and the music staff.

Foundation for Pottstown Education - Mr. Rusiewicz gave an updated of the Early College Program and the growth of the program. To date a total of 54 students have completed the course. All the graduates have entered into secondary education or enrolled in colleges or universities. He introduced the Early College graduates and presented each graduate with a certificate.

Dow Book Giveaway – Mr. Moyer presented a brief video illustrating the Dow Book Giveaway sponsored through United Way. Approximately 2,000 books were given away.

Therapy Animal Pilot Program – Mr. Moyer introduced Mrs. Valenti (Rupert Teacher) and “Reggie” (therapy dog). Mrs. Valenti spoke about the positive impact Reggie has had on the students in her class. She looks forward to continuing the program. Mr. Rodriguez noted the district is considering policy implications and is hopeful to have a policy prior to the start of the new school year.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

District Single Audit Review - PDE letter acknowledging approval.

Keim Street Bridge – Montgomery County Officials, Public Meeting: May 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Montgomery County Community College.

**MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on April 25, 2019 for Board approval.

## **LIST OF BILLS**

Mrs. Jampo presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of April 2019 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2018-2019-079**.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Jampo presented the Treasurer's Reports for April 2019 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2018-2019-080**.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS – Ms. Bearden

The committee met on May 9. Highlights from the meeting included

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – Mrs. Lawrence

The committee met on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The majority of the meeting was focused on a music presentation addressing the miscommunication regarding a cut in the music program. The curriculum portion of the meeting was an on moving the elementary report card system to a more Standard Based system. update on the middle school A-TSI (Additional Target and Support Improvement Plan).

A-TSI Update: Mr. Hostetler gave an overview of the plan and the processes already in place. The middle school was identified as an Additional Target and Support Improvement Plan based on three categories (student disabilities, economical disabilities and bi-population). The improvement team is comprised of staff, school board, community members and parents. The improvement process identified three (3) areas for improvement (evidence-based instructional practices, multi-tiered system of supports for academic & behavior, and a climate focus on culture and comprehensive belief that all students can succeed.). The plan will be on display for 28 days, followed by Board approval on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

### FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. Heidel

The committee met on May 2. The committee heard two presentations (P.A.I.D update and PCTV leased spaced at the high school). The committee recommends the 2019 Building Envelope project alternates, the Edgewood Flooring Restoration, contracts, custodial bid awards and student accident insurance renewal as presented on tonight's agenda.

### POLICY/PERSONNEL – Mr. Rose

The committee met on May 2. The committee recommends the two personnel positions as presented on tonight's agenda including the four (4) policies regarding taxes, payroll and payment of bills.

### BOROUGH LIAISON – Mr. Rose

Highlights from Borough Council's Committee of the Whole meeting were presentations honoring Mr. William Hurter's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday, recognition of Pottstown Police Officer of the Year, and P.A.R.T. on service improvements.

### PSBA/MCIU/MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE – Mrs. Stilwell

No report.

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Rodriguez, presented the consent items for Board discussion and approval. Administrators reviewed the consent items presented for Board approval.

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

None.

## **Board Members Comments (consent items)**

None.

## **BOARD ACTION: Minutes, List of Bills, Treasurer's Report**

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approves the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on April 25, 2019, the list of bills and Treasurer's Report for the period of April 2019.

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

## **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

## **PERSONNEL**

### **POSITIONS \* ADDENDUM #2018-2019-081.**

Administrative: Director of Education (Job Description)

Exempt: Payroll and Accounts Payable Specialist (Job Description)

## **RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS**

### Exempt

Lana Dickinson, School Psychologist, Admin, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective December 31, 2019; hire date June 21, 2000.

### Co-Curricular Assignments

Arden Moore, Special Education Department Chair, MS, resignation effective June 11, 2019

## **LEAVES**

### Professional

Ratify Lyudmila Migachev, Long Term Substitute Pre-K Counts Teacher, request for leave of absence, effective May 1, 2019, end date tbd.

Lauren Himmelreich, Elementary Teacher, Pottstown Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date October 14, 2019, end date tbd.

### Exempt

Rena Manela, Virtual & Alternative Learning Facilitator, Pottstown High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date September 22, 2019, end date tbd.

## CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

### Exempt

Patricia Calvario, from Payroll Clerk to Payroll and Accounts Payable Specialist, Admin., effective May 19, 2019, \$45,900/yr (replacing M. Peters)

Christina Sellers, from Secretary to Child Accounting/PIMS Specialist, Admin., effective July 1, 2019, \$42,000/yr (replacing M. Bush).

### Classified

Ratify Kelly Roth, from Part-time Cafeteria Worker to Substitute Support Staff, effective April 25, 2019, hourly rate per schedule.

## ELECTIONS

### Professional

Lynn Childs, Special Education Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective August 20, 2019, \$45,550/yr + Special Education stipend in accordance with Professional Agreement, Step 2-Bach (Contract of K. Corominas).

### Classified

Ratify Luis Hernandez, Summer IT Intern, Administration Building, effective May 7, 2019, \$12.00/hr.

## MENTOR ASSIGNMENTS

### Mentors 18-19

<u>Bldg</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>New Teacher</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
PHS	Kelly Smale	Bartman, Brooke	\$545.00
PMS	Ian Lawrence	Bucci, Iris	\$545.00
Franklin	Cynthia Kuklinski	Diodati ,Heather	\$272.50
PMS	Nickolas Mitchell	Dormer, Emilie	\$136.25
PMS	Jason Bergey	Evans, Patricia	\$545.00
Lincoln	Diane Hahn	Duncan,Samantha	\$272.50
Rupert	Treena Ferguson	Fretz, Kathryn	\$545.00
Barth	Bradley Mayberry	Gokey, Laura	\$408.75
Franklin	Theresa Spitko	Gunderson, Tamara	\$545.00
PMS	Aaron Torrence	Hall, Christine	\$545.00
PMS	Catherine Knapke	Harr, Adrienne	\$272.50
PMS	Nickolas Mitchell	Hayes, Jade	\$545.00
Rupert	Allen Ferster	Hogan, Lindsay	\$545.00
PHS	Michaela Johnson	Irick,Steven	\$545.00
PHS	Andrew Bachman	Konnick, Stephanie	\$136.25
Franklin	Bridget Volinskie	Lepkowski,Christina	\$272.50
PHS	Theresa Dundon	Lineman, Jessica	\$272.50
PMS	Erin Bumbaugh	Lucas, Lindsey	\$545.00
Barth	Megan Walsh	McDevitt,Amada	\$272.50
PHS	Kevin Pascal	McShea, Victoria	\$272.50
PMS	Erin Bumbaugh	Morasco, Theresa	\$545.00
Franklin	Jennifer Palladino	Murray, Danielle	\$408.75

PMS	John Martin	Nullmeyer, Matthew	\$272.50
PMS	Rachel, Ficca	Pershous Olson, Rebecca	\$545.00
PMS	Arden Moore	Santiago, Eric	\$545.00
PMS	Ginger Angelo	Schwartz, Victoria	\$272.50
PMS	Richard Saylor	Snyder, Mark	\$272.50
PHS	Kirsten Cherneskie	Spade, Emma	\$545.00
Barth	Kathryn Eagle	Winneberger, Jennifer	\$545.00
Barth	Jaime Stringer	Zacharias, Brittany	\$408.75

Mentors 17-18

<u>Bldg</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>New Teacher</u>	<u>Stipend</u>
Barth	Andrea Hunsberger	Alderfer, Gerouldine	\$545.00
Rupert	Corina Miller	Bellevou, Ashley	\$545.00
Rupert	Lauren Crean	Brasco, Georgia	\$545.00
PHS	Dave Caldwell	Chase, Christine	\$545.00
PMS	Lauren Himmelreich	Smith-Corropolese, Krista	\$545.00
Franklin	Theresa Spitko	Frattarelli, Jennifer	\$545.00
PHS	Corby Drone	Gibbons, Liam	\$408.75
PHS	Dave Woodley	Hashem, Lyndsay	\$272.50
Rupert	Cathleen Emerick	Hultz, Kelsey	\$545.00
PHS	Dave Woodley	Irwin, Jeanann	\$408.75
PHS	Andy Bachman	Jarrett, Evin	\$545.00
PMS	MaryAnn Hill	Livingston, Carol	\$545.00
Franklin	Susan Hallman	Malfaro, Stephanie	\$545.00
PMS	Hilary Tutrani	Moyer, Alison	\$545.00
PHS	Helen Bowers	Nau, Christy	\$545.00
Barth	MaryEllen Lammey	Roethlisberger, Stephanie	\$545.00
PMS	Geoffrey Thomas	Samohod, Matthew	\$545.00
PHS	William Parks	Shafer, Kelsey	\$545.00
Barth	Kelli Wolfel	Smith, Rachel	\$408.75
PMS	Geoffrey Thomas	Tupper, Jesse	\$545.00
PMS	Hilary Tutrani	Walker, Renee	\$545.00
Barth	Sherri Stagemyer	Wambold, Cheryl	\$545.00

**PROFESSIONAL LEAVES**

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

<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conf. Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates Attend</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Admin	Heather Dailey	21st Century 2019	Washington,	07/16/2019 -	\$1,402 pd by
PMS	Richard Saylor	Summer Symposium	DC	07/18/2019	21st CCLC Grant
Annex	Stephanie Braccili Kimberly Brown	Pre-K Counts / Head Start Supplemental Asst. Prgm Instr.Inst.	Altoona, PA	06/11/2019 - 06/12/2019	\$600.00 pd by Pre-K Counts Grant

**FIELD TRIPS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following field trips:

<u>#students</u> <u>/group</u>	<u>Conference:</u> <u>Name/Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date of Trip</u>	<u>Cost to</u> <u>Student</u>	<u>Cost to</u> <u>District</u>	<u>Chaperone(s)</u>
2	Dow Global Citizenship	Masasai Mara Region, Kenya	06/28/2019 - 07/09/2019	\$0.00	\$0.00	Andrew Bachman

**POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2018-2019-082:**

- Policy 605: Tax Levy
- Policy 606: Tax Collection
- Policy 615: Payroll Deductions
- Policy 616: Payment of Bills

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATEWIDE CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL FUNDING REFORM**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2018-2019-083**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORT SB 34 AND HB 526**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve r as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2018-2019-084**

**CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2018-2019-085:**

- Austill's Rehabilitation Serv Inc Addendum
- Pediatric Therapeutic Services
- MCIU Technical Leadership / Support Staffing
- General Healthcare Resources
- CMD Services Inc.
- School Operation Services Group (SOS - Substitute Custodial)

**2019 BUILDING ENVELOPE PROJECT**

The Superintendent recommends that purchase orders/contracts be awarded to the companies indicated, the award in each case being made to the lowest bidder meeting the required specifications.

Jones Masonry Restoration Corporation -Alt#Lincoln 1: New Aluminum Panel	\$5,000
Alt#Barth 1: Termination Bar Removal	\$3,200
Alt#Barth 2: Wood Panel Replacements	\$6,000

**EDGEWOOD FLOORING RESTORATION**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Edgewood Flooring Restoration as follows:

- Abatement: USA Environmental Management Inc \$ 9,600.00
- Flooring: Franklin Flooring Inc. \$10,007.00

**MCIU JOINT PURCHASING CUSTODIAL BID AWARD**

The Superintendent recommends the 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

Cooper Friedman Electric	\$944.66
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Interboro Packaging	\$802.80
Office Basics	\$1,039.92
Penn Jersey Paper Company	\$376.92
Pa Paper & Supply	\$4,394.48
Pyramid School Product	\$873.92
Unipack	\$262.00
w.b.mason co inc.	\$2,358.38
Total Custodial Bid Award:	\$11,053.08

**STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2019-2020**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Student Accident Insurance 2019/2020 coverage provided by Alive Risk Ltd. through American Management Advisors as the plan administrator at the following rates: (prices listed below reflect no change over the 2018/2019)

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

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

**NON-CONSENT:**

The non-consent items were presented for board consideration.

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

Comments from the public, students and staff focused on budget considerations in related arts.

- |                  |                 |                 |               |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Scott Hoffmaster | Chloe Hebert    | Logan Ruyak     | Reilly Owens  |
| Lisa Rulli       | Tammy Vontor    | Alivia Lopez    | Jessica Moyer |
| Emily Hart       | Kayleigh Gibson | Theodore Freese | Laura Johnson |
| Andrew Green     | Julia Wilson    | James Wilson    | Pam Broughton |

Representative Joseph Ciresi spoke about the importance of advocacy. He asked everyone to attend the June 12 Fair Funding Day of Action in Harrisburg.

**Board Comments:** None.

**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, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Mrs. Stilwell consented to continue as Treasurer.

It was moved by Ms. Bearden and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence to approve Mrs. Stilwell as Treasurer.

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

## **ADOPTION OF 2019/2020 PROPOSED BUDGET**

Mrs. Jampo gave a detailed overview of 2019/2020 Proposed budget. The total proposed budget for 2019/2020 is \$64,302,813 representing a proposed tax increase of 3.3% at the adjusted index, \$97,000 from fund balance and \$363,324 from PSERS reserve. Budgetary challenges include Special Education Funding Subsidy and Special Education expenditures, declining tax base, and charter school tuition costs.

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board adopt the 2019/2020 Proposed Budget as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2018-2019-086**.

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

## **INFORMATION**

- Monthly Meeting Notice: June
- Board & Administrator Professional Development

## **FEDERATION REMARKS**

Mrs. Yoder thanked everyone for supporting the students and related arts. She thanked the Board for not cutting funding that supports the arts. She spoke about how related arts impacts lives and the importance to advocate for fair funding so district's are not faced with cutting programs. The Federation is helping to provide busing and child care for the trip to Harrisburg on June 12<sup>th</sup> (Day of Action ).

## **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Heidel thanked everyone for coming out and thanked Mr. Hostetler for the A-TSI update. He recognizes the tough decisions to be made by the Board. Mr. Heidel extended his congratulations to the graduates of 2019.

Mrs. Barnhill thanked everyone for coming out and stressed the importance to get to Harrisburg and show support for fair funding.

Mrs. Lawrence thanked everyone for sharing their stories. She recognizes the importance of the arts, the great teachers in the district and encourages everyone to advocate for fair funding.

Mrs. Stilwell thanked everyone for coming out and encouraged everyone to advocate for fair funding.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Mr. Armato spoke about tonight's presentations and comments as reasons for "Proud to be from Pottstown". He stated he is not willing to support any decision in reducing /eliminating opportunities for role models that have direct contact with students. Mr. Armato stated that pinning one group against another is not resolving the issues. He noted that Pottstown has some of the lowest paid teachers and administrators in Southeast Pennsylvania. The budget issues are not salary related; the problem is in Harrisburg. He encouraged everyone to make the trip to Harrisburg and advocate for fair and equal funding.



Mr. Rose provided some steps to take to advocate for fair funding. Busing and childcare is being worked for the trip to Harrisburg. He encouraged everyone to join the “Advocates for Pottstown” facebook page. The facebook page provides courses of action to support fair funding.

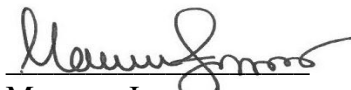
Ms. Bearden stated that it is not the goal of the Board to make cuts. She recognizes the importance of related arts and the importance of advocating for equal funding. She talked about the changes in the tax base and the impact on education. She asked everyone for their help.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked everyone for coming out. He expressed his appreciation to the Board for making tough decisions with thoughtfulness and a willingness to listen to the concerns of the public. He encouraged everyone to call the legislators in support of fair funding.

Mrs. Francis thanked everyone for their support and their passion for the students and the community. It is what makes the job of the Board a difficult one. She noted that each year the Board is faced with the difficult task of balancing the budget, facing issues that are out of their control.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.

  
Maureen Jampe  
Board Secretary