



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
October 17, 2019**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, October 17, 2019 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, Mr. Kurt Heidel, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, Mr. Raymond Rose and Mrs. Kimberly Stilwell. Absent was Ms. Katina Bearden. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Mr. Brian Hostetler, Mr. Gavin Lawler, Mr. Matthew Moyer, Mr. Robert Decker, members of the press, and interested citizens.

PRESENTATIONS

Refinance Series 2017 Bank Loan

Mr. Schlesinger provided a handout to all Board Members outlining the maximum parameters for the refinance. He noted the option to move forward with the refinance in this calendar year provides flexibility to refinance potential existing debt in the 2020 year. Mr. Schlesinger explained the current loan has a variable rate that could reset at approximately 4.5%. By locking in at a long term rate of under 2.55%, it reduces the interest rate risk and provides overall savings ranging at approximately \$300,000 to \$500,000 spread out over the term of the loan. The schedule for the refinance would be to approve a parameters resolution as presented on tonight's agenda with a settlement date in December 2019.

MINUTES

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on September 19, 2019 for Board approval.

LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Jampo presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of September 2019 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2019-2020-024**.

TREASURER REPORT

Mrs. Jampo presented the Treasurer's Report for the period of September 2019 and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2019-2020-025**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE – Mrs. Francis

The Committee met on October 10. The Boy Scouts of America gave a presentation on starting an

elementary after-school program in each of the elementary buildings. Representatives from the Cradle of Liberty Council stated the program would be fully funded by them with no out of pocket expense to the district. The goal of the program is for the school district to take ownership of the program. The Committee asked the administration to look into to the district's liability and legal implications. The remainder of the committee meeting was focused on Student Board Representative interviews.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – Mrs. Lawrence

The committee met on October 10. The committee heard updates on the progress of the Middle School Improvement Plan and the Multi-Tiered System of Supports(MTSS). The district along with the MCIU will look at the current math/reading structures and behaviors to build upon the Core program. Special Education is looking to purchase supplemental and remedial curriculum in support of the MTSS.

FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. Heidel

The committee met on October 3. Highlights from the meeting was a presentation on roof alternates to North End Early Learning Center (Annex) Roofing project, the continuance of lead testing at new locations within the building and a quote to resurface the running track. The committee was in agreement to move forward with 3 alternates for the Annex Roof Project and asked the administration to negotiate on the costs. Mr. Rodriguez gave the committee updates on a Market Street proposal for a facility sponsorship and an investigation plan to explore options for a Kindergarten Center at the Edgewood Elementary building.

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Mr. Rose

The committee met on October 3. The committee reviewed two policies and one new position as presented on tonight's board agenda for approval.

BOROUGH LIAISON – Mr. Rose

No report.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT – Mrs. Barnhill

No report.

PSBA/MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE - 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)

Trenita Lindsay, resident, asked the Board for information on the ending of the Parks & Receptions summer program at the school district's Edgewood building. She stated that an announcement was made at the recent Borough Council meeting.

Board Members Comments (consent items): None.

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

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

All members were in favor. Ayes: Eight. Nays: None. Absent: One. Motion carried.

BOARD ACTION: CONSENT

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

PERSONNEL

POSITIONS

Exempt: Transition Coordinator - Job Description: **Addendum #2019-2020-026**

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Professional

Ratify Samantha Johnson, Elementary Librarian, resignation effective October 11, 2019 (*previously approved effective October 18, 2019*).

Exempt

Ratify Rachel Vermeulen, Pre-K Counts Long Term Substitute Teacher, North End, resignation effective October 8, 2019; hire date September 3, 2019.

Classified

Ratify Leonard Young, Custodian 1, termination effective October 1, 2019 (*previously approved effective September 19, 2019*).

Ellen Ranco, Classroom Assistant, High School, resignation effective October 18, 2019; hire date December 4, 2018.

Ratify Joshua Kelly, Part-time Elementary Cleaner, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective October 9, 2019; hire date February 23, 2016.

Ratify Donna D'Arcangelo, Substitute Support Staff, resignation effective October 1, 2019; hire date May 28, 2013.

Co-Curricular Assignments: 2019/2020 Fall Sports

Ratify Scott Braunsberg, HS, Golf Head Coach, resignation effective September 18, 2019

Ratify Eric Santiago, MS, Football, Assistant Coach, resignation effective September 18, 2019

Co-Curricular Event/Game Manager

Ratify Chris Petro, MS/HS, resignation effective September 18, 2019

LEAVES

Professional

Ratify Rita Burkheimer, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 11, 2019, end date tbd.

Ratify Diane Hahn, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 20, 2019, end date tbd.

Exempt

Ratify Marissa Bush, Student Services Program Coordinator, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective October 16, 2019, end date tbd.

Classified

Ratify Karen Carter, Classroom Assistant, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 19, 2019, end date tbd.

Ratify Linda Chubb, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, request for leave of absence, effective September 23, 2019, end date tbd.

Ratify Paul Davis, Part-time Elementary Cleaner, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence, effective September 30, 2019, end date tbd.

Mary Ann Moyer, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, request for leave of absence, effective October 28, 2019, end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

Professional

Marissa Wells, from Long Term Substitute Teacher to Elementary Special Education Teacher, initial assignment to be Franklin Elementary, effective date October 21, 2019, \$45,000/yr + stipend in accordance with Professional Agreement, Step 1-Bach(replacing Frattarelli).

Classified

Sadira Hueber, from Part-time Nurse to Full-time Nurse, Barth Elementary, effective October 21, 2019, \$22.15/hr (replacing J Malocu).

Ratify Heather Allan, from Kindergarten Assistant/Lunch Proctor to Classroom Assistant, Middle School, effective date October 15, 2019, \$14.63/hr.

ELECTIONS

Professional

Ratify Susan Nitto, Elementary Teacher, initial assignment to be Barth Elementary, effective October 14, 2019, \$49,000/yr, Step 1- Mast (contract S. Johnson).

Sarah Turock, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown Middle School, effective November 11, 2019, \$49,000/yr, Step 1 - Mast. (contract of E. Rega).

Classified

Ratify Pamela Knittle, Substitute Support Staff, effective September 23, 2019, hourly rate per schedule. This is in addition to her roles as Student Proctor and Kindergarten Assistant.

Ratify Gina Saichareune, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Barth Elementary, effective September 24, 2019, \$11.74/hr (replacing T. Brown).

Ratify Marisa Natale, Intervention Assistant, Rupert Elementary, effective October 7, 2019, \$13.65/hr (replacing K. Walker).

Ratify Chantel Beckett, Part-time Pre-K Counts Classroom Assistant, North End, effective October 7, 2019, \$13.65/hr (grant funded).

Ratify Roseann Cavallaro, Intervention Assistant, Franklin Elementary, effective October 11, 2019, \$13.65/hr (replacing M. Savarese).

Hayley Steltz, Classroom Assistant, Middle School, effective October 21, 2019, \$13.65/hr (replacing J. Murray).

Ratify Jasmine Shawell, Classroom Assistant, Middle School, effective October 15, 2019, \$13.65/hr (replacing E. Sugaski).

Darlene Fegley, Classroom Assistant, Middle School, effective October 28, 2019, \$13.65/hr (replacing C. Love).

Ratify Diane Mossman, Lunch Proctor, Lincoln Elementary, effective August 26, 2019, \$11.74/hr (replacing S. Mock). This is in addition to her role as Breakfast Proctor.

Michelle Soto, Part-time Kindergarten Assistant, Rupert Elementary, effective October 21, 2019, \$13.65/hr. This is in addition to her role as Student Lunch Proctor, Rupert Elementary, effective October 21, 2019, \$11.74/hr (replacing H. Allan).

John Gresko V, Substitute Support Staff, effective October 21, 2019, hourly rate per schedule.

Candice Pufko, Substitute Support Staff, effective October 21, 2019, hourly rate per schedule.

Lizzette Sanitago, Substitute Support Staff, effective October 25, 2019, hourly rate per schedule.

Homebound Instruction, \$30/hr

Ratify Jill Bolonski, Lincoln Elementary, from August 28, 2019, end date tbd, assignment not to exceed 5 hrs/week.

Ratify Karen Seemann, Lincoln Elementary, from August 28, 2019, end date tbd, substitute to Jill Bolonski, assignment on as-need basis.

Compensation for Missed Planning Time, \$24/period

<u>Name</u>	<u>Bldg</u>	<u>Missed Planning Times</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>description</u>
Justine Donnelly	HS	4 missed planning times	\$ 96.00	(8/26/19 to 8/29/19)
Justine Donnelly	HS	19 missed planning times	\$456.00	(9/3/19 to 9/30/19)
Michaela Johnson	HS	17 missed planning times	\$408.00	(9/3/19 to 9/30/19)

Career and Technical Education Career Coach, \$30/hr (funded by Perkins Grant)

Ratify Susan Pritt, Part-time Career Coach, effective October 16, 2019

21st Century iSucceed Tutor, \$30/hr. (grant funded)

Ratify Terrence Shawell, Tutor, effective September 16, 2019

Horizontal Salary Movement, October 15 deadline - *Addendum #2019-2020-027

CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following co-curricular assignments as presented:

- Additions: Co-Curricular Assignments 2019/2020 Fall Sports
 Gary Allan, MS, Football Assistant Coach, Level 1, \$2,398.00
 Shanna Tucker, HS, Hockey Assistant Coach, Level 1, \$2,470.00
 Kiersten Cruz, MS Soccer/Boys Assistant Coach, Level 1, \$1,484.00
 Chris Petro, MS, Soccer/Girls Assistant Coach, Level 1, \$1,484.00
- Co-Curricular Assignments 2019/2020 Non- Athletics * **Addendum #2019-2020-028**

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following tuition reimbursements:

<u>Professional</u>	<u>(9/30 deadline)</u>	
Carol Livingston	PMS	\$3,000.00
Matthea Miller	Barth	\$1,425.00
Ashley Ermold	PHS	\$180.00

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	Maureen Jampo	Business Managers Workshop - 2019	Skytop, PA	10/02/2019 - 10/04/2019	\$540.00 pd by dept budget
Admin	Laurie Kolka	CASEL Int'l SEL Conf.	Chicago, IL	10/02/2019 - 10/04/2019	\$1,781 pd by Second Step Grant
Admin	Diane Meck Christine Sellers	Child Acctg. Confer.	Hershey, PA	11/13/2019 - 11/15/2019	\$950 ea./pd by dept budget
Admin	Laurie Kolka Dennise Leschak	ECR MTSS K-2 Reading Implementation	Harrisburg, PA	10/22/2019 - 10/24/2019	\$800 ea/ pd by ECRI Grant
Rupert	Matthew Moyer				
Admin	Laurie Kolka Dennise Leschak	ECR MTSS K-2 Reading Implementation	Harrisburg, PA	01/08/2020 - 01/09/2020	\$800 ea/ pd by ECRI Grant
Rupert	Matthew Moyer				

POLICIES

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2019-2020-029:**

- Policy 103
- Policy 349: Retirement

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2019-2020-030:**

- Martin Luther School
- New Story School
- Woods Services Inc.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL AND LITIGATION.

The Board adjourned at 7:37 pm.

The Board reconvened at 8:00 pm.

NON-CONSENT

Mr. Rodriguez presented the non-consent items for board consideration. Each non-consent item was presented for Board discussion .

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

None.

NON-CONSENT: PARAMETERS RESOLUTION REFINANCE SERES 2017

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Parameters Resolution 2017 Refinance as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2019-2020-031**.

It was moved Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mrs. Stilwell that the Board approve the parameters resolution as presented .

Upon roll call vote, all members present vote aye: Ayes: Eight. Nays: Absent: One. Motion carried.

NON-CONSENT: SPECIAL EDUCATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Motion to approve Special Education award settlement pursuant to the terms and conditions outlined in the confidential settlement release agreement. The Board Secretary is further authorized to sign the settlement agreement on behalf of the Board

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the special education settlement agreement as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2019-2020-032**.

Upon roll call vote, all members present vote aye. Ayes: Eight. Nays: None. Absent: One. Motion carried.

INFORMATION

- Monthly Meeting Notice: October 2019
- Tenure Recognition of eligible professional staff 2019/2020

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. Decker was pleased to announce that there are 72 cast members for the district's spring musical "Seussical". He noted it has been a great start to the new school year and he thanked the Board for providing opportunities for the students to travel abroad.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Armato recognized Emily Weber on her achievement, earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. He congratulated Mr. Rodriguez on his election as president of Pennsylvania League of Urban Schools. Mr. Armato spoke about the need to continue advocating for fair funding as all districts start the 2020-2021 budget process.

Mr. Rose encouraged everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to get the legislatures attention on the importance of fair funding by joining the Facebook Advocate for Pottstown Schools. He reminded everyone of several upcoming events taking place in the borough.

Mr. Heidel was pleased to see flyers going out for the Father Daughter dance to be held on November 15. He expressed his disappointment with Borough Councils decision to award Boyertown Multi-Service a two year contract to run the Ricketts Center.

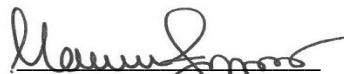
Mrs. Barnhill is pleased with the positive start to the new school year. She supports the live streaming of the committee meetings, sharing information with the public and looks forward to the opportunities to empower the public and board.

Mrs. Lawrence agreed with Mr. Heidel's comments regarding the Ricketts Center. She believes management of the center should stay in Pottstown.

Mr. Rodriguez is grateful the opportunity to serve as President of the Pennsylvania League of Urban Schools. He thanked the Board for their support. He reminded everyone to update their enrollment in the "text messaging" due to the changes in the laws.

Mrs. Francis called for a motion to adjourn.

It was moved by Mrs. Stilwell and seconded by Mr. Heidel that the board adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.



Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary