

# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD WORKSHOP MINUTES July 9,2020

The Virtual Board Workshop of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, July 09,2020 at 7:00 PM. Upon roll call the following members were present: Mrs. Amy Francis, Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; High School Principal, Mrs. Danielle McCoy; and Mrs. Me'lisa Morgan, Athletic Director.

# **BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

#### Phased Re-Entry Plan for Pre-Season Co-Curricular Activities

Me'lisa Morgan, Athletic Director, reviewed the pre-season conditioning plan for grades 9 thru 12. The pre-season conditioning is voluntary and the plan will be updated as guidelines change (PDE, PIAA,). The focus right now is on Football. Activities will take place outdoors, stadium restrooms will be utilized for the pre-season conditioning, limited to one student at a time and sanitized every ½ hour. Sanitizer will be available to athletes at all times. Equipment will be sanitized after each use and again when in storage at the end of the practices. Social distancing will be in effect, no visitors will be allowed to interact with athletes. Temperature checks will be taken daily for athletes and staff.

It was moved by John Armato and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill to approve the pre-season plan as presented. A copy will be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-001. Upon roll call, all members voted aye. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### SUMMER ROOFING PROJECT UPDATE

Mrs. Jampo stated the summer roofing projects at Lincoln and High School are scheduled to start next week. The cost is \$636,000 which includes one large section at the High School and five sections at Lincoln Elementary.

# **CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING**

Mr. Rodriguez presented an introduction on safe schools video for discussion. The goal of the course was to provide an overview of racial bias and ways to work collaboratively. Board Members were in support of moving forward with training programs for staff and students. Teaching cultural diversity is important to be a part of Curriculum. Everyone present was in agreement to continue cultural competency training.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Ms. Bearden and seconded by Mr. Rose to adjourn. All were in favor. None opposed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm followed by an Executive Session for Personnel and Safety.

Maureen Jampo Board Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING Thursday, July 30, 2020

A Special Virtual Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, July 30, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The following School Board members were in attendance: President, Mrs. Amy Francis; Vice- President, Ms. Katina Bearden; Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Ms. Maureen Jampo; Solicitor, Ms. Alicia Luke; Mrs. Elisabeth Yoder, Federation President; members of the press and interested citizens.

#### COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Francis announced the Board held an executive session on Monday, July 27, 2020 for the purpose of health, safety and security issues affecting the District.

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the items presented on tonight's agenda for Board action.

# $\underline{2020/2021}$ HEALTH & SAFETY RE-OPENING PLAN FOR THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Mr. Rodriguez presented a Power Point presentation outlining the Health & Safety Re-opening Plan describing virtual leaning through Synchronous Instruction Model for the first semester of The 2020/2021 school year. The plan addresses academics, professional development, co-curricular activities plan, safety protocols, cleaning & sanitation, transportation plan, health protocols and positive case protocols.

Board Comments: Members were in agreement to keep the start date at August 24<sup>th</sup>. Members asked if there are considerations in place to address seniors to meet graduation requirements and Career & Technical Education for CTE students.

The High School Pandemic Team is working options to honor requests of students. The Administration is exploring a shorten version for CTE contingent upon staffing, availability of students, etc..

# COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

Mr. Rodriguez explained the COVID-19 Emergency Resolution allows the district to provide various models of education for the 2020/2021 school year. The resolution must be approved by the Board and submitted to the Secretary of Education for approval.

#### HEARINGS FROM PATRONS

Mr. Rodriguez shared public comments via Facebook. Public comments expressed support for

virtual learning, shared disagreement going 100% virtual, asked for better communication with teachers, requesting information on chromebook distribution, technology support, childcare support agencies and concerns regarding fall sports and co-curricular activities.

# **BOARD ACTION**

# **COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends the Board adopt the COVID-19 Emergency Resolution as presented for submission to PDE Secretary of Education. A copy to be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-002.

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board adopt the resolution as presented.

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

# 2020/2021 HEALTH & SAFETY RE-OPENING PLAN FOR THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Health & Safety Re-opening plan for the start of the 2020/2021 school year virtually with synchronous learning for the first semester.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-003**.

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

# **BOARD DISCUSSION ITEM**

Consideration of the current athletics plan: Mr. Rodriguez shared with the Board the PSD coaches desire to play sports and looking for direction from the Board to proceed.

Board Members expressed their concerns for the health and safety of the students and staff. Discussion focused on ways to provide social, emotional and physical support for students while ceasing all Fall Sports. The general consensus of the Board was that the administration bring back to the Board a recommendation/resolution for further discussion at the August 6<sup>th</sup> Curriculum/Co-Curricular Committee meeting.

# FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Yoder thanked the Board for voting for virtual learning. She recognizes the decision is the best for safety measure for students, staff and community. The teachers will continue to work to provide an exceptional, comprehensive learning program.

#### ROUND TABLE

Mrs. Lawrence agrees with decision to move forward with virtual learning.

Mr. Rose thanked the public for their comments. The Board is listening to the community and aware of the hard times.

Mr. Kline expressed frustration making decisions without medical guidance and support. He encouraged parents to talk with their children.

Ms. Bearden supports the decision and recognizes it is the best decision for the entire district. She encourage everyone to communicate.

Mrs. Barnhill Thanked the administration, teachers, and community for their participation in the surveys. Supports the best decision for the District.

Mr. Armato commended everyone for the amount of work that went into the re-opening plan He looks forward to a decision for athletics.

Mrs. Johnson thanked the administration, teachers, and staff. The decision to go virtual comes with more decisions.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked Mrs. Yoder for her comments. The administration will do their best work for everyone, recognizing mistakes are inevitable.

Mrs. Franics thanked parents, administration and federation. She expressed her appreciation to the Board for making the right decision.

#### **ADJOURN**

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 9:16 pm.

Maureen Jampo, Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 20, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Mark Fitzgerald. Joining the meeting was Federation second Vice-President, Mrs. Kelly Liebold.

# **PRESENTATIONS**

#### Food Distribution Plan

Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the District's Food Distribution Plan for the re-opening of the 2020-2021 School year during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester's virtual learning program. Two options will be available for food distribution to the students. Option 1 is a Monday pick up at the High School; Option 2 is delivery if parent/guardians are unable to do pickup. Details of the Food Distribution Plan will be posted on the District website.

# **COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Rodriguez acknowledged two letters from state legislatures in support of Violence & Delinquency Competitive grant and Continuity of Education Equality grant totaling approximately \$1.1 million.

#### **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Board meeting held on June 18, 2020, the Board Workshop held on July 9, 2020, the Special Board meeting held on July 30, 2020

# **LIST OF BILLS**

Mrs. Jampo presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of July 2019, June 2020 and July 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-004.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Jampo presented the Treasurer's Reports for June 2020 and July 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-005**.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Mrs. Barnhill

The Committee met virtually on August 6. Policy 170 and Policy 808 were discussed and are recommended to the Board for approval on tonight's agenda. Personnel items discussed and recommended by the Committee for Board approval include a motion to furlough staff as needed and a temporary Workout Coach job description to provide online and offline outdoor workouts for students.

# **CURRICULUM COMMITTEE** – MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on August 6. The Committee reviewed the updated Phased Health & Safety Plan for Athletics stating Fall sports and related activities are cancelled and suspending Winter sports till January 2021. Board action was taken, approving the updated plan with a vote of eight ayes, one absent. A copy of the Updated Phased Health & Safety Plan for Athletics will be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-006. Board Members heard a presentation from Mrs. McCoy on a plan to provide a Co-Curricular Google Classroom for all athletics including plan. All members were in agreement to move forward with the plan.

# FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on August 13. Facility updates included the roofing project at Lincoln and the High School which is near completion, receipt of fogging equipment that will be used to sanitize the buildings and staff training for COVID-19 cleaning. The Committee will review a proposal regarding meadows at the elementary buildings at the September meeting. The Committee reviewed and recommends the Furlough motion and Resident Student Transportation Resolution to the Board for approval on tonight's agenda including the Consent items as presented on tonight's agenda. Mr. Hylton asked the administration to consider providing Board access to virtual classrooms for observation purposes. Mr. Rodriguez recommended the Board allow some time for the teachers to adjust and get settled.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on August 13. Mr. Rodriguez shared with the Committee information on chromebook delivery and results from the food distribution survey. Advocacy meetings continue weekly. Each meeting varies by groups (School Board Directors from across the state, community members and workshops).

# STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE - MR. KISHAN PATEL

Extra-Curricular students are meeting virtually. Clubs are organizing to present virtual meetings. The overall student perspective is the confidence to push through these challenging times.

# **BOROUGH LIAISON** - MR. ROSE

No report.

#### MCIU - MRS. BARNHILL

No report.

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSBA – MRS. JOHNSON

The Montgomery County School District Legislative Committee will meet on August 19. PSBA Platform Committee met on August 1 and proposed their alternative fair funding proposal to approve by the Delegate Assembly in November.

# 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)**

Public comments shared concerns about transportation for resident students.

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

Mr. Rose expressed his hesitation to vote in favor of the Resident Student Transportation Resolution. He voiced concerns for the students and families affected by the resolution.

Board Members discussed issues that occur every year regarding transportation. It was agreed that the Board remain consistent in its policy.

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

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on June 18, 2020, the minutes from the Board Workshop held on July 9, 2020, the minutes from the Special Board meeting held on July 30, 2020, the List of Bills from the period of July 2019, June 2020 and July 2020 and the Treasurer's Report for June and July 2020.

Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

# **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

# **PERSONNEL**

#### **POSITIONS**

# Classified

Workout Coach: Temporary Stipend Position - Job Description: Addendum #2020-2021-007.

#### RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

## Administrative

Kimberly Boswell, Assistant Principal, Middle School, resignation effective September 15, 2020; hire date November 19, 2018.

Amanda Fraterman, Special Education Supervisor, Secondary, resignation effective when position is filled or September 20, 2020; hire date February 13, 2017.

# **Professional**

Jade Hayes, Middle School Teacher, resignation effective August 29, 2020; hire date August 21, 2018.

Ratify Marisa Moley, Long-Terms Substitute Teacher, resignation effective August 18, 2020; hire date August 18, 2020.

Ratify Jennifer Groff, Elementary Teacher, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective August 14, 2020; hire date June 28, 1994.

#### Classified

Sheree A. Kulp, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement effective September 30, 2020; hire date September 12, 2001.

Ratify Joanne Loeper, Cafeteria Worker, High School, resignation effective August 17, 2020; hire date February 19, 2014.

Ratify Paul Davis, Jr., Elementary Cleaner, Lincoln Elementary, resignation effective March 9, 2020; hire date November 28, 2017.

Ratify Jessica Egolf, Classroom Assistant, High School, resignation effective December 11, 2019; hire date November 1, 2018.

Ratify Kimberley White, Intervention Assistant, Barth Elementary, resignation effective August 17, 2020; hire date February 27, 2012.

Nile Watkins-Frazier, Custodian, Middle School, resignation effective August 21, 2020; hire date December 3, 2019.

Ratify Alejandra Ingram, Paraprofessional, Middle School, resignation effective August 18, 2020; hire date August 27, 2001.

Ratify Stephanie Spargur, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective August 13, 2020; hire date March 2, 2020.

Ratify Kelsey Speilman, Secretary, High School, resignation effective August 3, 2020; hire date October 6, 2016.

Ratify John Gresko, Substitute Support Staff, resignation effective August 17, 2020; hire date October 21, 2017.

Ratify Suzanne Whalen, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, termination due to end of assignment effective June 8, 2020; hire date December 4, 2019.

Ratify Marisa Natale, Intervention Assistant, Rupert Elementary, termination due to end of assignment effective June 8, 2020; hire date October 17, 2019.

Ratify Terminations due to no work activity over 1 year, effective June 30, 2020:

Melanie Long	Richard Stilwell	Judith McGinn	Kelly Bianca
John Burdan	Barbara Mentzer	Jennifer Jarolin	Randy Bainbridge
Cerrissa Carter	Alivia Lopez	Hanna Shankle	Aniya Jackson-Thorpe
Ronald Sterner			

#### **LEAVES**

#### Professional

Ratify Katie Minger, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for medical sabbatical effective August 17, 2020, end date to be end of 2020/2021 school year.

Theresa Morasco, Middle School Teacher, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date January 4, 2021; end date tbd.

Samantha Hill, Middle School Teacher, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date December 18, 2020; end date tbd.

Ratify Christine Lepkowski, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date August 17, 2020; end date tbd.

Ratify Lynn Childs, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 24, 2020; anticipated end date to be September 11, 2020.

#### Classified

Devon Bonenberger, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date to be November 23, 2020, end date tbd.

Jessica Friend, Secretary, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Families First Coronavirus Response Act, effective August 31, 2020, end date to be November 6, 2020.

#### CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

#### Professional

Ratify Amanda Walsh, from Long Term Substitute Teacher (coverage for S. Vandruff) to Long Term Substitute Teacher (coverage for C. Lepkowksi, effective August 17, 2020, \$194/day.

#### Classified

Ratify Stacie Horne, from Student Proctor/Substitute Support Staff to Paraprofessional, Rupert Elementary, effective August 17, 2020, \$13.65/hr (replacing outside contractor - GHR).

#### **ELECTIONS**

#### Administrative

Danielle Davis, Assistant Principal, Middle School, effective October 12, 2020, \$82,781/yr (replacing K. Boswell).

#### Professional

Ratify Skylar DiGiuseppe, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective August 17, 2020, \$194/day (coverage for K. Minger)

Ratify Thomas DiMauro, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Middle School, effective August 17, 2020, Mast-Step 2, \$50,000/yr (contract of J. Hayes)

Ratify Nicole Pearson, School Counselor, initial assignment to be Middle School, effective August 17, 2020, Mast +30 Step 2, \$53,000/yr )(new position for Edgewood Program)

Ratify Krystle Rothenberger, Elementary Teacher, initial assignment to be Middle School, effective August 17, 2020, Bach-Step 2, \$46,000/yr (contract of L. Himmelreich)

Ratify Rebecca Sayler, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 17, 2020, \$194/day (coverage for V. Damiano)

## **Exempt**

Ratify Dacey Horohoe, Student Services Program Coordinator, Administration Bldg., effective July 14, 2020, \$38,200/yr (replacing A. Jordan)

#### Classified

Ratify June Malocu, School Nurse, Middle School, effective August 17, 2020, \$17.63/hr.

Ratify Erica Pauletter Scott, Substitute Nurse, effective August 17, 2020, \$17.46/hr.

Jadea Wilkerson, Secretary, High School, anticipated effective date August 24, 2020 pending clearances and onboarding materials, \$14.04/hr (replacing K. Speilman).

#### 2020 SUMMER ESY Additions

Ratify All Pottstown Teacher-Certified Life Skills, Learning Support, \$30/hr on an as need basis.

Ratify All Pottstown Assistant Life Skills, Leaning Support, \$13.65

#### TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

<u>Name</u>	<b>Building</b>	6/20/20 Deadline
Danielle Lawrence	Middle School	\$1,452.00
Megan Rogers	High School	\$705.00
Rebecca Jones (course 1)	Middle School	\$1,464.00
Rebecca Jones (course 2)	Middle School	\$1,464.00
Diane Fox (course 1)	High School	\$1,524.30
Diane Fox (course 2)	High School	\$676.86
Amanda McDevitt	Barth	\$558.00
Chris Petro	Middle School	\$1,452.00
Sharon Armentrout	Franklin	\$2,100.00

#### **FURLOUGHS**

Motion to authorize the Administration to take any and all necessary steps to furlough and/or reduce hours of exempt and support staff employees and positions due to a lack of work for these employees in their positions as the result of the ongoing COVID-19 Crisis and the District's determination to utilize online/virtual learning to begin the school year to maximize the health and safety of the school community. To the extent such furloughs or reductions in hours occurs, the Administration shall bring back the specific names for ratification by the Board. The effective date of such actions shall be based on Administration determination. The Administration is so authorized to recall employees to the extent work becomes available during the course of the 2020/2021 school year.

#### **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-008:

- Policy 170: Discrimination Based on Sex (Title IX)
- Policy 808: Food Service

#### **ATTENDANCE OFFICERS 2020-2021**

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge the following list of 2020-2021 Attendance Officers:

Principals: Mr. Ryan Oxenford, Ms. Beth Kramer, Mrs. Calista Boyer, Mr. Matthew Moyer,

Mr. Brian Hostetler, Mrs. Danielle McCoy

Assistant Principals: Mr. Gavin Lawler, Mr. Mike Ishler, Mrs. Danielle Davis

Director of Career & Tech. Education: Mr. David Livengood

High School Guidance Secretary: Ms. Kim Baldwin High School Attendance Clerk: Ms. Debbie Katch

Middle School Secretary: Mrs. Kelly Ortlip Middle School Clerk: Mrs. Aprille Doherty

PMS Student Service Coordinator: Mr. Levert Hughes Director of Student Services: Dr. LaTanya White Director of Special Education: Mrs. Cheryl Morett

#### **HOURS OF OPERATION 2020-2021**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2020-2021Hours of Operation and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-009.

# EMERGENCY INSTRUCTIONAL TIME TEMPLATE

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Emergency Instructional Time Template and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-010**.

#### **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2019-2020-011**:

New Story School Melmark, inc.
Kelly Services 2020/2021 Addendum Melmark, inc.
MCIU: Technology Cloud Services Melmark, inc.

The Camphill School

## MCIU JOINT PURCHASING AGREEMENT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the MCIU Joint Purchase Agreement and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-012**.

#### PLANCON K GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES OF 2020

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge the PlanCon K for GOB Series of 2020 and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-013.

#### PSD WORKERS COMPENSATION MEDICAL PROVIDERS PANEL

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the PSD Workers Compensation Medical Providers Panel as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-014.

#### RESIDENT STUDENT TRANSPORTATION RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resident student transportation resolution and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-015.

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

#### **INFORMATION**

Virtual Meetings: Mrs. Francis announced the Board will continue holding virtual meetings until the Governor's guidelines allow public gatherings that can assure

Monthly Meeting Notice: Mrs. Jampo shared the September 2020 meeting notice.

#### FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Liebold stated she feels supported by the administrators and the decisions made as the teachers prepare to begin remote learning. She asked the Board for a grace period as everyone is learning the virtual program. She thanked the Board for their support.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Armato stated he is proud of the administration, the professional and support staff for the work they do under unique circumstances. He encouraged Board members to be aware of the anxiety all are experiencing and to be supportive of one another.

Mr. Rose thanked the administrators and teachers for their hard work during the summer.

Mrs. Barnhill agreed with Mr. Rose. She thanked the teachers for working hard to get everything together to meet the needs of the students.

Mrs. Lawrence thanked the staff for all they are doing. She recognizes the difficult task of planning lessons for remote learning. Mrs. Lawrence offered grief support

Mr. Hylton expressed his hope that no one would worry about observing virtual classrooms. The observations are not shared with anyone. He noted this Board is the best Board he has experienced. He asked the administration to share with the Board an update on enrollment numbers as changes may occur in cyber charter enrollments, etc. due to the virtual learning.

Ms. Bearden thanked the administration and staff for their hard work pre-planning to provide the students with the best education possible. She encouraged everyone to show patience. Ms. Bearden welcomed back the students and staff to the new school year.

Mr. Kline echoed all the Board comments.

Mrs. Johnson recognizes the feeling of mixed emotions and the need for patience. She trusts that the community will see some unexpected silver linings. Mrs. Johnson appreciates all the work everyone is doing.

Mr. Rodriguez looks forward to the start of school on Monday. He recognized the teachers for their dedication and is confident things will go great. He thanked the Board for their support.

Mrs. Francis is confident that the District will do the best it possibly can and will be a good example for other districts.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Ms. Bearden and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board adjourns. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Maureen Jampo Board Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES September 17, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Board Secretary, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representative, Kishan Patel. Joining the meeting was Federation Vice-President, Mr. Robert Decker.

# **COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Rodriguez shared information on a statewide parenting series for parents and caregivers.

## **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Board meeting held on August 20, 2020.

#### LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of August 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-016**.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for August 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-017.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# **Board Discussion**

Board Members discussed options about sharing committee reports at the Board Meeting. The general consensus of the Board was in support of providing summaries of the committee meeting reports.

#### **POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE** – MRS. FRANCIS

The Committee met virtually on September 3. Five policies and a healthcare resolution were reviewed and recommended to be placed on tonight's Board agenda for approval. Information items regarding furloughs was presented.

#### CURRICULUM /CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE- MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on September 3. Mr. Rodriguez gave updates on various items from the opening of school. The TSI plans were reviewed by the Committee and placed on tonight's agenda for Board approval. The Committee heard a presentation from the Wellness Director on various opportunities for staff members to participate in programs and events.

#### FACILITIES / FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on September 10. Highlights from the meeting focused on establishing meadows in designated areas at the elementary buildings. It was the general consensus of the Board to place the meadow expansion project on tonight's agenda for approval. The Committee received an estimated savings in transportation costs for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter due to the virtual education program.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on September 10. The focus of discussion was on advocacy and how to reach other communities and school districts. Other items discussed were a Train the Trainer Workshop and parent engagement ideas.

# STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Kishan Patel gave an overview of some virtual co-curricular activities that included learning marching design and clubs working on mentorships with elementary students to transition to virtual learning. He noted that for the 20/21 school year, students will not be required to do a graduation project.

#### **BOROUGH LIAISON - MR. ROSE**

Mr. Rose attended Borough Council COW meeting on September 9. Two new businesses will be opening up on High Street, the Library is offering curb side pickup and the Halloween Parade is currently still scheduled to take place. A town cleaning challenge took place last week between Pottstown and Reading. An upcoming comedy event is being planned by Parks and Recreation to take place in Memorial Park.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT - MRS. BARNHILL

The MCIU meets next Wednesday. Construction at the building is still taking place. Late Fall is the target date to get back to holding the monthly meetings in the building.

#### MCSDLC / PSBA REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

No Montgomery County School District Legislative Committee meeting this month. PSBA Election Of Officers, recommending Daniel O'Keefe for Vice President. All other offices are only one candidate running for office.

# **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)

Public comments shared interest in starting sports and support regarding sharing committee report summaries at the Board meeting.

## **Board Discussion:**

Board Members discussed the importance to provide opportunities for public comment during virtual Board meetings. All were in agreement to look into ways to have hearings from patrons via virtual communication.

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

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Armato that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on August 20, 2020, the List of Bills from the period of August 2020 and the Treasurer's Report for August 2020. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

# **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

It was moved Ms. Bearden 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**

#### RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

#### Professional

Ratify Evin Jarrett, Career & Technical Education Teacher, High School, resignation effective August 18, 2020; hire date October 9, 2017.

Hope Davis, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective October 26, 2020; hire date August 17,2020.

# Classified

Ratify Lisa Meyer, Paraprofessional, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective September 11, 2020; hire date September 19, 1994.

Ratify Mary Ann Moyer, Cafeteria Worker, High School, resignation effective August 18, 2020; hire date January 2, 2002.

Ratify Zach Risell, Intervention Assistant, Middle School, resignation effective September 11, 2020; hire date November 25, 2019.

Ratify Marybeth Reinhart, Library Assistant, Franklin Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective September 10, 2020; hire date November 10, 2000.

Ratify Paige Jones, Student Intern, Administration Building, resignation effective September 1, 2020; hire date July 15, 2019.

Ratify Marisa Walker, Student Intern, Administration Building, resignation effective September 1, 2020; hire date July 2, 2019.

#### **LEAVES**

#### Professional

Ashleigh Lichtenwalner, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date February 27, 2021; end date tbd.

Lisa Kolb, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective October 6, 2020; end date tbd.

Beth Mason, Special Education Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 31, 2021, end date tbd.

#### **Exempt**

Ratify Rena Manela, Virtual & Alternative Learning Facilitator, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 24, 2020, end date tbd.

#### Classified

Ratify David Willman, Custodian, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 11, 2020, end date tbd.

John Zern, Custodian 1, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 21, 2020, end date tbd.

Narjiss Boudadi, Paraprofessional, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective date December 17, 2020, end date tbd.

#### **ELECTIONS**

#### Professional

Ratify Jessica Moyer, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, effective September 9,2020, \$46,000/yr, Step 1-B+15 (contract of P. Eaton).

Ratify Laura Tansits, Long-Term Substitute Guidance Counselor, High School, anticipated effective date September 18, 2020, \$194/day (coverage for A. Conlan).

# **Exempt**

Mieke Mazur, Acting Supervisor of Special Education-High School, Administration Building, effective pending certification, \$75/day stipend until position is filled. This is in addition to her role as School Psychologist.

#### Classified

Anne Voynar, Intervention Assistant, Barth Elementary, effective September 21, 2020, \$13.65/hr (replacing K. White)

Workout Coaches, Stipend @ \$650 (approval pending student participation)

Gary Allan Jeff Delaney Megan Miller Manny Paez

#### **FURLOUGHS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the furloughs as presented and a copy be file in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-018**.

#### HEALTHCARE RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the healthcare resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-019**.

# **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-020:

Policy 314: Physical Examinations

Policy 314.1: Disclosure of Covid-19 Exposure

Policy 334: Sick Leave

Policy 340: Responsibility of Student Welfare

Policy 803: School Calendar

#### TSI SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the TSI School Improvement plans for Franklin Elementary and Rupert Elementary as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-021.** 

## **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-022**:

The Pathway School MCIU: Zoom Licensing
Southwood Psychiatric Hospital MOU: STRIVE Initiatives
Fairwold Academy River Rock Academy

#### MEADOWS PROJECT EXPANSION

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Facilities Committee to proceed with the expansion of the meadows project at a cost not to exceed \$21,500.00

#### SCHOOL PHYSICIAN AND DENTIS RATES 2020-2021

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following school physician and dentist rates for 2020-2021 school year:

Community Health & Dental Care Inc.: \$38/hr (6 physicals per hr.)

\$60/bldg. (annual consultant fee per building)

Dr. John Anderson - \$11.00 per school physical; \$75 consultant

Dr. Carl Pardini and Dr. Louis Raven - \$4.80 per exam

## SETTLEMENT OF 2019 PER CAPITA AND 2019 OCCUPATION TAX DUPLICATE

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the settlement of the 2019 Per Capita/Occupation Tax Duplicate and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-023**.

Upon roll call vote, all members presented voted aye for the above Consent items.

Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL AND LITIGATION

The Board adjourned at 7:58 pm.

The Board reconvened at 8:15 pm.

#### **NON-CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Non-Consent items for Board discussion and Board action. Administrators and the District Solicitor reviewed each item followed by Hearings from the Patrons.

**HEARINGS FROM PATRONS** (limited to Non-Consent Items):

None.

#### SUPERINTENDENT ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Ms. Bearden that the Board accept the evaluation report of the Superintendent in accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Education evaluation process to be posted on the District website and an copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-024.** 

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

#### ADJUDICATION DECISION

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board **approve the** adjudication decision regarding an employment status as presented to the Board in the executive session and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-025**.

Upon roll call vote, the vote for the non-consent adjudication decision was recorded as follows: Rose: aye, Lawrence: nay, Kline: aye, Johnson: aye, Hylton: aye, Francis: aye, Bearden: aye, Barnhill: Aye, Armato: aye. Ayes: Eight. Nays: One. Motion carried.

# SPECIAL EDUCATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the 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. Addendum and a copy be file in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-026.** 

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

#### PSBA ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Rose that the Board participate in the voting procedures of PSBA Election of Officers endorsing the candidates of choice. The voting ballot to be submitted by the Board Secretary and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-027.** 

President Elect: David Hein Sectional 2 Advisor: Aimee Kemick
Vice President: Daniel O'Keefe Sectional 4 Advisor: Brian Petula
Treasurer: Michael Gossert Sectional 6 Advisor: Andrea Christoff

Western at Large: Marsha Pleta Trustee: Michael Faccinetto and Marianne Neel

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

# **INFORMATION**

Monthly Meeting Notice: October 2020Pottstown Pride: Spring and Summer 2020

## FEDERATON REMARKS

Mr. Decker thanked the Board and Administration for their support, leadership and hard work during these difficult times. He noted that it is a challenging time for the teachers.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Rose thanked all the people for Facebook comments. The Board welcomes their comments and encourages participation also at the committee level.

Mrs. Lawrence recognizes this stressful time for the teachers. She is willing to start a virtual grief support at the high school level.

Mr. Armato was very impressed with the teachers, learning new teaching techniques and the student response. He strongly agrees it is important to provide patrons the opportunity to speak at Board meetings.

Ms. Bearden, recognizing that COVID is unique, believes the District acted in the best interest of students, staff and community. The Board will continue to assess the situation as things progress in a safe manner. She asked the community to continue to support the local businesses during these difficult times.

Mr. Kline – no comment.

Mrs. Johnson noted the Board's decision to delay sports was for health and safety reasons. She is in favor of looking at reasonable, low risk options for consideration. The priority should be wellness and academics for the students, recognizing COVID has created difficult choices.

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Mrs. Barnhill thanked the Board for their support and agreed with Mrs. Johnson's comments.

Mr. Rodriguez expressed his appreciation and thanks to the Board for their service. The Board has faced tough decisions and has shown respect for the community, students and staff.

Mrs. Francis stated she is aligned with the thoughts of the Board and does not want to feel pressured in moving too quickly. She would like to get through the flu season and continue taking safe steps.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the meeting adjourns. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Maureen Jampo

**Board Secretary** 



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 15, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representative, Kishan Patel. Joining the meeting was Federation Second Vice-President, Mrs. Kelly Leibold.

# **PRESENTATION**

# **PSBA: School Board Service Recognition**

Ms. Karen Devine, Director of Member Services, recognized Mrs. Amy Francis for eight years of service as a School Board Director. She presented a certificate of service to Mrs. Francis and thanked all School Board Directors for their dedication to public service.

# **October District Pandemic Update**

Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the successes and challenges of the phased re-entry plan for the re-opening of the 20/21 school year. Some successes include iPad distribution to Kindergarten students, increased internet bandwidth in all buildings, increased in-person Special Education offerings and CTE & BSLS in-person/hybrid models; challenges seen include a decline in attendance, participation/engagement, assignment completion, student mental health. Food distribution serves an average of 10,000 meals per week. Sports and Co-Curricular activities have started with safety precautions in place. The District cleaning system is consistently testing for efficiency. The District will be conducting a parent survey consisting of six categories that will provide significant information to determine which models for the future are possible. Survey results will be presented to the Board at the committee level for discussion and a recommendation to the full Board is anticipated to be presented at the November Board meeting.

#### **MINUTES**

Dr. Cellini presented the minutes from the Board meeting held on September 17, 2020.

#### LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of September 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-028**.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for September 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-029.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Mrs. Barnhill

The Committee met virtually on October 1. The committee reviewed and recommends Policy 815: Electronic Records/Signatures for Board approval as presented on tonight's agenda. Policy 170:Non-discrimination based on sex is changed to Policy #102.1 as recommended by PSBA.

#### CURRICULUM /CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE- MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on October 1. The committee heard comments from the public supporting the return of Fall sports. The general consensus of the Board was to re-open Fall sports in accordance with safety guidelines. Mrs. Kolka reviewed the TSI School Improvement Plan for the High School and is presented on tonight's agenda for Board approval.

#### FACILITIES / FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on October 8. Flags have been placed at the designated areas for the planting of meadows at the elementary buildings. Mr. Connor provided the committee with testing data on the cleaning equipment and air quality preparations for the opening of the buildings. The District received a \$1.7 million CARES grant for needed improvements created by the COVID requirements. Electrical and HVAC upgrades to the Edgewood building are applicable improvements. The Committee supports the Administration's recommendation to move forward with advertising for a bid award under the Reynolds Guaranteed Energy Savings Agreement. The bid notice is anticipated to be presented at the October 15 Board meeting or at the November 5 Policy/Personnel Committee for board action. The deadline for spending the grant funds is December 30, 2020.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on October 8. The committee heard a presentation from Mr. Rusiewicz, Executive Director of the Foundation for Pottstown Education and from Dr. Myra Forrest, Education Advocate for the Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation. Mr. Rodriguez provided the topics to be included in the upcoming parent survey for the reopening of school. Board Members were invited to participate in the interviews for Student Board Representatives. The Committee continues to pursue ways to engage others in advocating for education (fair funding, education equity, etc.).

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – KISHAN PATEL

The student response to the opening of Co-Curricular Activities and athletics has been positive. Students are glad to be back.

#### **BOROUGH LIAISON - MR. ROSE**

Mr. Rose attended October Borough Council COW meeting. P.A.I.D. stated several new businesses are opening downtown. The Borough Manager and Finance Director made a preliminary budget presentation that included a proposed 3.5% tax increase. The Mayer announced the Halloween Parade will take on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT - MRS. BARNHILL

Some staff are back in the building on a limited schedule. The IU Board discussed House Bills #2788 and 2789.

# MCSDLC / PSBA REPRESENTATIVE - MRS. JOHNSON

School leaders met with Senator Mensch on October 8<sup>th</sup> as part of Advocacy Day. The group discussed several reform topics including mandate relief, charter reform, and the prudent use of CARES act money.

# 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)**

Residents Rachel Bruno, Lewis Mazzerle and Patricia Smith shared the struggles and challenges they face with virtual learning. The residents spoke in support of in-person learning.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on September 17, 2020, the List of Bills from the period of September 2020 and the Treasurer's Report for September 2020. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

# **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

# **PERSONNEL**

# RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

## Professional

Ratify Stephanie Konnick, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective September 30, 2020; hire date April 23, 2019.

#### Classified

Ratify Kristen (Pursell) Walker, Paraprofessional, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective October 6. 2020; hire date January 2, 2019.

Diane Martz, Secondary Cafeteria Manager, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective December 2, 2020; hire date August 26, 1996.

#### LEAVES

## Professional

Ratify Lisa-Kay Rossi, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 21, 2020; end date tbd.

Charity Heimbach, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date April 2, 2020; end date tbd.

#### Classified

Ratify Jodi Finnegan, Kindergarten Classroom Assistant, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence effective September 25, 2020; end date tbd.

Sarah Bennett, Intervention Assistant, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date April 10, 2021; end date tbd.

Maria Henzes, Special Education Classroom Assistant, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective November 6, 2020; end date tbd.

#### **ELECTIONS**

#### Professional

Rachel Gonzales, Secondary Teacher, High School, effective upon emergency certification, \$49,500/yr, Step 1- Mast. (contract of S. Konnick).

#### Classified

Ratify Britney Oxenford, Intervention Assistant, Rupert Elementary, anticipated effective October 6, 2020, \$13.65/hr (replacing K. Walker).

# 21st Century After School Tutoring Program (funded by 21st Century Grant)

All PSD Teacher-Certified staff members are approved as 21st Century Tutors, \$30/hr on an asneed basis and as 21st Century Classroom Assistants, \$13.65/hr on an asneed basis.

All PSD Classroom Assistants are approved as 21st Century Classroom Assistants, \$13.65/hr on an asneed basis.

#### **CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following Co-Curricular Assignments:

2020-2021 Co-Curricular Fall Sports- additions/corrections \*Addendum #2020-2021-030

#### 2020-2021 Co-Curricular Non-Athletics \*Addendum #2020-2021-031

Administration recommends approval of the co-curricular assignment schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. Payments of co-curricular stipends shall be contingent upon the reopening of schools and the ability as determined by the Administration to provide such co-curricular offerings to students consistent with CDC guidelines and guidelines from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The District reserves the right to prorate or not pay stipends in the event of a school closure, school modification, and/or discontinuation of the activity due to pandemic or other events surrounding the pandemic.

#### HORIZONTAL SALARY MOVEMBENTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the Horizontal Salary Movements as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-032**.

#### **TUITION REIMBURSEMENT**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the Tuition Reimbursements as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-033**.

#### **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-034:

• Policy 815.1: Electronic Records/Signatures

#### **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-035**.

MOU: Art Fusion (21st Century)	MOU: Greater Pottstown Tennis & Learning (21st Century)
MOU: Red Cloud (21st Century)	MOU: Public Health Management Corp. (21st Century)
MOU: YWCA (21st Century)	MCIU: Title 1 Addendum
MOU: Unfinished Athletics (21st Century)	CCIU: Title 1
Deverux Foundation (21st Century)	MCIU: Montg.County CARES Act Funding

#### TSI PLAN: HIGH SCHOOL

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the High School TSI Plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-036**.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Motion to approve the 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 and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-037.

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

#### **NON-CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Non-Consent item for Board discussion and Board action.

# **HEARINGS FROM PATRONS** (limited to Non-Consent Items):

None.

#### ATHLETIC & CO-CURRICULAR HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the Athletic & Co-Curricular Health & Safety Plan. The previous Athletic Health & Safety Plan has been updated and adjusted to reflect Co-Curricular Activities.

It was moved by Ms. Bearden and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the Athletic & Co-Curricular Health and Safety Plan as presented to include Co-Curricular Activities and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-038.** 

Upon roll call vote, the vote for the Athletic & Co-Curricular Health and Safety Plan was recorded as follows: Bearden: aye, Francis: aye, Hylton: aye, Johnson: aye, Kline: aye, Lawrence: nay, Rose: aye, Barnhill: nay, Armato: aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: Two. Motion carried.

#### **INFORMATION**

- Tenure Recognition of Eligible Professional Staff 2020/2021
- Monthly Meeting Notice: November 2020

#### FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Leibold voiced the Federation's concerns on the re-opening of the schools, the effects to students, families, and staff. She expressed concerns for people with compromising conditions and the struggles parents are having with virtual learning. The Pandemic Task Force is working diligently to planning the next steps. The Federation appreciates all the work that the Board and Administration are doing. She noted that no decision is a good decision.

## **ROUND TABLE**

Ms. Bearden stated that the Board's decision on the re-opening of the schools is based on what is best for the students. There is no political agenda. The Board considers lots of logistics. She appreciates what the teachers are doing.

Mrs. Barnhill stated that no decision is made lightly and she looks forward to safe options.

Mrs. Johnson thanked everyone for sharing their concerns. She looks to make the best decision with the least negative consequences. She encouraged everyone to participate in the survey and to vote at the November election.

Mr. Kline stated that as a retired educator, he recognizes and appreciates the great job the teachers are doing during these challenging times.

Mrs. Lawrence stated that her "no" vote was because of her concerns for the health and safety of the students, families and staff. It is not an easy decision.

Mr. Armato was pleased to see the positive response to voter registration that took place at Smith Plaza and the mindfulness of this community. He stated he is not a fan of virtual learning and supports moving quickly for a safe return to in-person education.

Mr. Rose thanked the patrons for voicing their concerns. All comments are appreciated. He encouraged everyone to vote at the November elections.

Mr. Rodriguez recognized that all are experience COVID stress and fatigue. He is grateful for the patrons comments. The administration will do its best for what is safe for students and staff. He thanked everyone for the work being done.

Mrs. Francis stated the Board takes into consideration a lot with every decision to be made. The Board Members support each other and decisions are not political. Every decision is made for the best community it can be. She is honored to be a part of this Board.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Ms. Bearden and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Maureen Jampo Board Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 19, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Absent were Mr. Steve Kline and Mrs. Susan Lawrence. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis. Joining the meeting was Federation Second Vice-President, Mrs. Kelly Leibold.

# **PRESENTATION**

# Pa. Principal Association: 2020 Principal of the Year

Mr. Matthew Moyer, Principal of Rupert Elementary, was presented the National Distinguished Principal of the Year Award. Dr. Paul Healey, Executive Director, presented Mr. Moyer with the award on behalf of the Pennsylvania Principal Association. Mr. Moyer has served at Principal for 15 years and has been instrumental in implementing programs that connect home to school.

# **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Board meeting held on October 15, 2020.

# LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Jampo presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of October 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-039**.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Jampo presented the Treasurer's Reports for October 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-040.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MRS. BARNHILL

The Committee met virtually on November 5. The committee reviewed and recommends Policy 904 Public Attendance at School Events for Board approval as presented on tonight's agenda. Two Personnel items were reviewed and presented for Board approval on tonight's agenda: 1) Long Term Substitute hires and 2) School Climate and Culture Coach.

# CURRICULUM /CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE – MRS. FRANCIS

The Committee met virtually on November 5. The committee was given a mental health update from Dr. White, Director of Student Services, and a presentation from the High School English/Language Arts Department on a revised curriculum framework. The committee was in agreement to recommend the novels as presented to be placed on tonight's board agenda for approval. A technology update was also provided to the committee.

# FACILITIES / FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on November 12. The committee heard facility updates regarding the air quality conditions in the district buildings, the O & S proposed 10 yr building systems physical needs assessment agreement and a recap of the Edgewood building electrical and HVAC upgrades

funded by the CARES Grant. Items recommended by the committee to be placed on tonight's agenda for board approval include the 10yr building systems needs assessment agreement, the GESA Amendment for the Edgewood upgrades, and the Act 1 Index /Budget resolution to limit property tax increase (not above the adjusted index of 4.4%).

# <u>Public Relations & Community Engagement</u> – Mr. Rose

The Committee met virtually on November 12. The committee was given a District Pandemic update from Mr. Rodriguez in preparation for a Phased School Re-Entry Plan for January 2021. Various hybrid models were presented as options for Board consideration. Advocacy updates included a new fair funding website for Pennsylvanians and PSBA Delegate Assembly approved the Equity Amendment.

# **BOROUGH LIAISON - MR. ROSE**

No report.

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT - MRS. BARNHILL

No report

# MCSDLC / PSBA REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

Legislative updates from Montco Legislative committee indicate changes in leadership and SB1216 could have a significant impact standardized testing, transportation mandates, flexibility with certifications, etc.

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

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on October 15, 2020, the List of Bills from the period of October 2020 and the Treasurer's Report for October 2020. Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

# **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

# **PERSONNEL**

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

# **Exempt**

Ratify Thomas Ellington, JROTC Instructor, High School, resignation effective November 15, 2020; hire date August 20, 2019.

# Classified

Ratify Jeffrey Angstadt, Elementary Head Custodian, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective November 14, 2020; hire date November 19, 2018.

Ratify Jessica Friend, Secretary, High School, resignation effective November 6, 2020; hire date September 6, 2016

Diane Nash, Executive Secretary, Superintendent Office, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021; hire date November 28, 1988.

Ratify Oscar Gans, Classroom Assistant, High School, resignation effective October 22, 2020; hire date May 20, 2019.

# Co-Curricular Assignments: Fall Sports 2020

Ratify David Bodolus, Assistant Football Coach, High School, resignation effective October 30, 2020.

#### LEAVES

#### Professional

David Roberts, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for Educational Sabbatical, effective January 19, 2021.

Ratify Lynn Childs, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective November 15, 2020; end date tbd.

#### Classified

Ratify Diane Martz, Cafeteria Manager, High School, request for leave of absence, effective November 11, 2020; anticipated end date to be December 1, 2020.

Sadira Hueber, School Nurse, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective May 25, 2021; end date tbd.

Kelly Ortlip, Secretary, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective December 1, 2020; end date tbd.

# **ELECTIONS**

#### Professional

Ratify Christina Mazur, Special Education Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective November 9, 2020, \$46,000/yr, + \$1,000 Stipend in accordance with the Professional agreement, \$3,000 Emotional Support stipend, Step 1 B+15 (contract of H. Davis)

Joshua Sebastian, Special Education Elementary Teacher, initial assignment to be Edgewood Programs, effective December 23, 2020, \$56,000/yr, + \$1,000 Stipend in accordance with the Professional agreement, \$3,000 Emotional Support stipend, Step 6 Mast+15.

Ratify Maria Zematis, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, anticipated effective date November 4, 2020, \$194/day (coverage for T. Morasco).

Ratify Ryan Yanchocik, Long Term Substitute Teacher, High School, anticipated effective date November 4, 2020, \$194/day (coverage for L. Childs).

#### Classified

Ratify Justin Sears, Intervention Assistant, Middle School, effective November 12, 2020, \$13.65/hr (replacing Z. Rissell).

21st Century After-School Program (funded by 21st Century grant)

Ratify Megan Mc Cain, Co-Coordinator, effective September 11, 2020, \$30/hr Ratify Jennifer Furniss, Co-Coordinator, effective September 11, 2020, \$30/hr

#### Horizontal Salary Movement

Ratify William Park, HS, from B+15, Step 15, \$61,500/yr to Masters, Step 15, \$76,000/yr New Salary.

Co-Curricular Assignments 2020-2021: Non-Athletic \* additions/corrections - Addendum #2020-2021-041.

#### FIELD TRIPS

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

# students	Conference:	Location	Date of Trip	Student Cost	District Cost	Chaperone(s)
1	Cross Country State Championship	Hershey	11/6/2020 - 11/7/2020	0	\$304.18	John Johnson

#### **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-042:

• Policy 904: Public Attendance at School Events

#### HS: ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS NOVEL ADOPTION

The Curriculum Committee and Superintendent recommend the Board approve the High School English/Language Arts Novel adoption for the 2021-2022 school year as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-043.

# **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-044**:

O & S Assoc 10 yr Assessment	New Story Schools – COVID Amendment
Reynolds GESA Amendment 1	New Story Schools – COVID Amendment
ePlus-Edgewood (switches) *grant funded	New Story Schools – COVID Amendment
ePlus-North End (ruckus) *grant funded	Malvern Academy
ePlus North End (switches) *grant funded	ePlus – North End (cabling) *grant funded
HigherAvailability Inc. –Edgewood *grant funded	

# RESOLUTION TO LIMIT SCHOOL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE 2021-2022

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the resolution to limit school property increase for the 2021-2022 school year as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-045.

## SUBSTITUTE TAX COLLECTOR APPOINTMENT RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the substitute tax collector appointment resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-046.

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

#### **NON-CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Non-Consents item for Board discussion and Board action. Administrators reviewed each item for Board approval.

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS (limited to Non-Consent Items): None.

#### PERSONNEL

#### **School Climate and Culture Coach**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the personnel position as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-047.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the School Climate and Culture Coach as presented.

Upon roll call vote, the vote for the was recorded as follows: Rose: aye, Barnhill: aye, Armato: nay, Bearden: aye, Francis: aye, Hylton: nay, Johnson: aye. Ayes: Five. Nays: Two. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

# **Long Term Substitute Hires**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the personnel long term substitute hires as presented. Long Term Substitute hires to serve as building subs for the remainder of the 20-21 school year. Staff will be brought on as successful candidates become available. After three (3) are hired, administration will return to the Personnel Committee to seek approval for additional hires if needed.

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the personnel long term substitute hires as presented.

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

#### PHASED SCHOOL RE-ENTRY HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Phased School Re-Entry Health and Safety Plan. The proposed plan includes the option to integrate hybrid in-person learning models for all willing families, starting January 19, 2021or after, assuming public health metrics related to Covid-19 indicate it is safe to do so.

Board Members expressed their concerns for the safety of students, families and staff, and how the challenges with hybrid models (academics, transportation, etc.) could be addressed. The general consensus of the Board was to move forward with the proposed plan to include the option to integrate hybrid in-person models as presented.

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Ms. Bearden that the Board approve the Phased School Re-Entry Health & Safety Plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-048.** 

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

# NEW BUSINESS: Discussion -Co-Curricular Health & Safety Plan

Mr. Rodriguez reviewed a Winter Sports report prepared by Ms. Morgan, Athletic Director. The County has declared a shutdown of in-person learning including sports for the next two weeks. The District will adhere to the Co-Curricular Health & Safety plan as previously approved by the Board. The report will be posted for public access.

#### INFORMATION

• Monthly Meeting Notice: December 2020

#### FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Leibold thanked the Board for their thoughtful considerations about progressing into the next phase of virtual education, recognizing the challenges and how best to serve the students, noting more discussion may need to take place again in January.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mrs. Johnson thanked Mr. Rodriguez and the Pandemic Task Force for the in-depth presentation. She is impressed with the great job the teachers are doing with virtual education and noted going hybrid will depend on everyone's individual behavior during the holidays.

Mrs. Barnhill thanked Mr. Rodriguez for the phenomenal updates. She sees that virtual education is doing the best under these difficult circumstances.

Mr. Armato recognizes the struggle to come up with the right /perfect answer. It is difficult mixing emotions with logic and the constant changing dynamics of the pandemic. He commends Mr. Rodriguez for his leadership abilities to make command decisions as the District moves forward.

Mr. Rose noted his reluctance is based on the situation and stated he is proud of the team work between the Board and Administration.

Ms. Bearden expressed her appreciation to the Lincoln and Rupert pilot teams. The Pandemic Task Force was very appreciative of all their efforts and data they provided. She encouraged everyone to do their best to minimize socialization during the holidays in expectation to get back to a safe school environment. She is grateful for the work of the veterans.

Mr. Patel was pleased to report on Co-curricular events taking place in the upcoming weeks. He recognized a fellow senior for his accomplishments in Cross Country competitions.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked everyone for the trust in the great team of administrators, teachers and staff working with him. He is thankful for the confidence shown and will do the very best for students and staff.

Mrs. Francis wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and recognized the importance to minimize socialization during the holidays.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the meeting adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm.

**Board Secretary** 



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING December 3, 2020

The Re-Organization Meeting for the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 6:30 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis.

# **Notice of the Organization Meeting**

Mrs. Jampo affirmed the Re-organization meeting was advertised as part of the 2020 Board meeting advertised on January 21, 2020 in the local newspaper.

# Nominations and Election of Temporary Chairperson

Mrs. Francis called for the nominations of a Temporary Chairperson.

Mr. Armato nominated Mr. Rose.

There were no further nominations for a Temporary Chairperson. It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill to close the nominations for Temporary Chairperson. All members voted aye to close the nominations. None opposed. Motion carried.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye to elect Mr. Rose as Temporary Chairperson. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

# **Nominations and Election of Board President**

Mr. Rose called for nominations for Board President.

Mr. Kline nominated Mrs. Francis

There were no further nominations for the Office of President. It was moved by Mr. Kline and seconded by Mrs. Johnson to close the nominations. All members voted aye to close the nominations and vote for the Office of President. None opposed. Motion carried.

Upon roll call vote, all members present voted aye to elect Mrs. Francis as Board President. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Amy Francis was declared the Board President.

# **Nominations and Election of Vice-President**

Mrs. Francis called for nominations for Board Vice-President.

Mrs. Barnhill nominated Ms. Bearden.

There were no further nominations for the Office of Vice-President. It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence to close the nominations. All members voted aye to close the nominations for the Office of Vice-President. None opposed. Motion carried.

Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye to elect Ms. Bearden as Vice-President. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

# Parliamentarian Procedures

Appointment of Parliamentarian/Approve Roberts Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure

It was moved by Mr. Rose and second by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the solicitor as Parliamentarian and approve Roberts Rules of Order and Parliamentary Procedure.

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

# **Committee Appointments for 2021**

Mrs. Francis asked that Board Members contact her any committee assignment preferences. Committee appointments and structure will be determined at the January Board Workshop. No committee meetings will be held in January.

# **Regular Board Meetings for 2021**

2021 Board Meeting Calendar will be discussed at the Board Workshop to be held in January. All members were in agreement to schedule a Board Workshop on January 14, 2021.

# **ROUND TABLE**

Mrs. Barnhill congratulated Mrs. Francis and Ms. Bearden. She looks forward to a great year.

Mr. Armato congratulated Mrs. Francis and Ms. Bearden. He appreciates their efforts and point of view.

Mr. Kline thanked Mrs. Francis and Ms. Bearden for accepting the positions and looks forward to continuing what has been started this year.

Mr. Hylton congratulated Mrs. Francis and has been impressed with how she has grown into the job over the years. He thanked Mrs. Francis and Ms. Bearden for the terrific jobs they do.

Mrs. Lawrence congratulated Mrs. Francis and Ms. Bearden on their deserving roles and great jobs.

Ms. Bearden was thankful for the nomination and congratulated Mrs. Francis. She is in agreement that this Board has been cohesive, able to talk through topics and respectful of each other's point of view.

Mrs. Johnson thanked Mrs. Francis and Ms. Bearden for their willingness to serve.

Mrs. Francis thanked everyone for their trust in her role as Board President. She thanked Ms. Bearden for her support.

Mr. Rodriguez looks forward to continuing working with the Board.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the meeting adjourns. All members voted were in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

> Maureen Jampo ( **Board Secretary**



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES December 17, 2020

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representative, Kishan Patel. Joining the meeting was Federation Vice-President, Mr. Robert Decker.

# **OATH OF OFFICE**

Judge Palladino administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Student Board Representative for the Junior Class, Mr. Jimi Chavalaporn.

# **PRESENTATION**

Montgomery County Democratic Committee: Outstanding Women Elected Leaders Award Mr. Armato was pleased to recognize two Pottstown Women Elected Leaders as recipients of this award: Mayor Stephanie Henrick and Mrs. Amy Francis. Mrs. Francis has served on the School Board for 14 years and has supported and guided numerous initiatives within the community and school district. Her leadership as a School Board Director has developed a culture on the Board that promotes a professional focus and a true desire to be centered on student achievement.

# Superintendent Update

Mr. Rodriguez presented a December District Pandemic update. Vaccinations and rapid testing are positive signs for the beginning of the end of the pandemic. Transmission rates have increased during the month of December. PDE Closure Guidelines vary in accordance with the number of students present versus number of transmissions. The proposed Phased Re-entry Plan is possible hybrid schedules for the High School and Middle School. Proposed Elementary Schools is a schedule for synchronous virtual groups. Parents have the option to stay virtual. The District has PPE supplies and the cleaning systems are working effectively. The District will continue to maintain regulations to social distance, wear masks and wash hands.

# **COMMUNICATION**

Senator Casey: Education Funding Letter - Mr. Rodriguez shared a letter from Senator Casey regarding education funding, the impact created by the coronavirus and the implementation of the CARES Act to provide financial support during the pandemic.

#### **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Board meeting held on November 19, 2020.

#### LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of November 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-049**.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for November 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-050**.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

# POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MRS. BARNHILL

The Committee met virtually on December 3. Two policies were reviewed and recommended for Board approval as presented on tonight's agenda. The committee was in favor of retiring nine policies (prior format) that are covered by other PSBA format policies and covered in guidelines and agreements. The Administration presented two personnel items for information purposes: 1) the AFJROTC program looks to dismantle, created by the absence of candidates for instructors and low enrollment. 2) Return of some furloughed cafeteria workers to fill time slots need to make breakfasts and lunched for students.

# CURRICULUM / CO-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE - MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on December 3. Mrs. Kolka gave the committee an overview of the Chapter 4 Academic Standards and Assessment update as of September 2020. Both elementary and Secondary levels will experience changes in science standards. Implementation of the changes will effective July 1, 2024.

#### FACILITIES / FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on December 10. Congratulations were extended to the new Franklin Elementary Head Custodian, Tonya Brown. The committee was in favor to move forward with the remediation plan at Edgewood to address the asbestos in the building. The remediation plan is presented on tonight's agenda for Board approval. Mrs. Jampo gave an overview of the Pa. Dept. of Auditor General's Performance Audit for the period of 2014 to 2019 and an update on the current local revenues for 2020/2021 budget. The overall increase (property taxes, EIT and transfer taxes) is \$416,081 above the projected budget revenues. Board approval items for tonight's agenda include Special Education contracts and Act 93, Exempt and Support Staff equity plan for 2021.

# PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on December 10. The Committee was pleased to recommend Jimi Chavalaporn, as the Student Board Representative to be sworn in at tonight's Board meeting. The Committee shared information on various services and opportunities for family engagement in the community. Mrs. Johnson gave a presentation on fair funding factors and how the state distributes Education funding. The district is underfunded by approximately \$11.5 million.

# **BOROUGH LIAISON** - MR. ROSE

Highlights from the December Borough Council meetings include approval of a warming center at the former St. Aloysius School, a tax increase of 2.9% and permission granted to local businesses to erect tents for indoor dining at Smith Plaza and Parking Lot 2.

# STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES - KISHAN PATEL AND JIMI CHAVALAPORN

Mr. Patel reported nine students placed at the DECA virtual competition and will be attending the virtual state competition. He recognized several student athletes that received honorable mention in football and boys and girls soccer. Darius Smallwood was named Cross Country Runner of the Year.

Mr. Chavalaporn congratulated Kishan Patel for his acceptance to Duke University. Mr. Patel was granted a full scholarship through the Questbridge National College Match. Musical rehearsals will begin virtually next week. The musical is scheduled to perform on March 15, 2021.

Both student representatives met with administrators to share their perspectives on hybrid scheduling.

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT - MRS. BARNHILL

No report

# MCSDLC / PSBA REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

PSBA has extended an invitation to all School Board Members to participate in a virtual round table discussion on advocacy.

# 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)**

Matthew Galamba, resident, spoke in support of the AFJROTC program. He asked that the administration pursue the Air Force to fill the instructor vacancy. The program is a great benefit to future cadets and a great asset to our country.

Dana Braunsberg, resident, spoke in support of the AFJROTC program. As a former participant in the program, she stressed the vital component the program played in her life. Former graduates of the program are exploring ways to fill the instructor vacancy.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on November 19, 2020, the List of Bills from the period of November 2020 and the Treasurer's Report for November 2020. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

# **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

# **PERSONNEL**

# RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

# Exempt

Ratify Roger Gauert, JROTC Instructor, High School, resignation effective November 6, 2020; hire date May 20, 2019.

#### Classified

Raphael Hueber, Part-time Elementary Cleaner, Barth Elementary, resignation effective December 23, 2020; hire date January 14, 2020.

## LEAVES

#### Administrative

Ratify Mary Ellen Urquhart, Assistant Business Manager, Administration Building, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective December 2, 2020; end date tbd.

Ratify Cheryl Morett, Director of Special Education, Administration Building, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective December 1, 2020; end date tbd.

#### **Professional**

Ratify Elizabeth Pickar, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective November 23, 2020; end date tbd.

## Classified

Ratify Amy Nagle, Paraprofessional, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective December 11, 2020; end date tbd.

Correction: Ratify Narjiss Boudadi, Paraprofessional, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective date December 9, 2020, end date tbd.

#### CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

## Classified

Ratify Tonya Brown, from Custodian 1 to Head Custodian, Franklin Elementary, effective November 19, 2020, \$17.19/hr (replacing J. Angstadt).

Ratify Diane Marcheskie, from Student Proctor to Full-Time Secretary, High School, effective December 1, 2020, \$14.04/hr (replacing J. Friend)

#### ELECTIONS

## Professional

Stephen Siever, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective date pending receipt of PDE Certification, \$55,000/yr, Step 12-Std (replacing E. Jarett).

Cora Harmon, Long Term Substitute Teacher, (floater), effective January 4, 2021, \$194/day; end of date to be end of 2020/2021 school year.

Hannah Robinson, Long Term Substitute Teacher, (floater). effective January 3, 2021, \$194/day; end date to be end of 2020/2021 school year.

Allison Collins, Long Term Substitute Teacher, (floater), effective January 13, 2021, \$194/day; end date to be end of 2020/2021 school year.

<u>21st Century After School Tutoring Program,</u> (funded by 21st Century Grant) Laurie Gresko, Co-coordinator, effective December 1, 2020, \$30/hr

## **FURLOUGH CHANGES**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the furlough changes of those employees who have returned to either partial or full hours from previous furlough status" and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-051.

#### **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-052:

- Policy 008: Organizational Chart
- Policy 204: Attendance

## **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-053**:

- New Story Schools
- New Story Schools

## EDGEWOOD ASBESTOS REMEDIATION PROJECT

Motion to approve the Edgewood Asbestos Remediation Project as presented. Funds, not covered by the CARES Grant, to be reallocated from the 2021-2022 building maintenance project budget and a Copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-054**.

# ACT 93, EXEMPT & SUPPORT STAFF COMPENSATOIN PLAN 2020-2021

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Act 93, Exempt & Support Staff Compensation Plan 20-21 as presented and copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-055.

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

#### **INFORMATION**

- School Board Workshop: January 14, 2021 6:30 pm
- School Board Regular Meeting: January 21, 2021 7:00 pm

## FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. Decker congratulated Jimi Chavalaporn, Junior Student Board Representative and Mrs. Francis, a recipient of the Montgomery County Democratic Committee's Outstanding Women Elected Leaders award. He thanked Mr. Rodriguez for sharing his District update. The professional staff expresses concerns about moving to a hybrid system. The District has experienced successes with virtual learning attributed to the District's stance to remain virtual at the opening of the school year. Concerns focus on COVID transmission, disruption to educational processes and successes. Consistency and stability are crucial to the education processes.

## **ROUND TABLE**

All Board Members extended their congratulations to the newly appointed Junior Student Board Representative, Jimi Chavalaporn and to Mrs. Francis, recipient of the Montgomery County Democratic Committee's award of Outstanding Women Elected Leaders.

Mrs. Johnson encouraged everyone to support the local businesses.

Mr. Kline thanked Mr. Rodriguez for the district update.

Mrs. Lawrence was in agreement with Mr. Decker's comments to stick with one plan. She recognizes nothing is perfect.

Ms. Bearden wished everyone a safe, happy holiday.

Mrs. Barnhill encouraged everyone to follow the quarantine guidelines during the holiday.

Mr. Rose echoed Mrs. Johnson's comment to support the local businesses.

Mr. Chavalaporn thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as a Student Board Representative. He is honored to be a part of process.

Mr. Patel congratulated Mrs. Francis and Mr. Chavalaporn. He looks forward to working together.

Mr. Armato stated he is grateful for the PSD team, focused on student achievement. He thanked all the staff and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked the public for their comments regarding the JROTC program. He stated the District does not want to lose the program. He welcomes the search for a new instructor. He congratulated Jimi Chavalaporn and commended him on his accomplishments. Mr. Rodriguez was ecstatic to hear Kishan Patel's acceptance to Duke University and proud to be witness to two Questbridge National College Matches in his career at PSD. He congratulated Mrs. Francis and wished everyone a happy holiday.

Mrs. Francis thanked everyone for their support and kind words. It has been a pleasure to serve the District and thanked everyone for being a team. She looks forward to smooth 2021 year and happy holidays.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the meeting adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Maureen Jampo Board Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE BOARD WORKSHOP January 14, 2021

Attendees: Mrs. Amy Francis, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, Mr. Raymond Rose, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez, Mrs. Maureen Jampo, Mr. Stephen Kalis.

## **PSD Virtual Education Update**:

Mr. Rodriguez shared data updates on the pandemic and the option to move forward with hybrid models for the second semester pushing for February 1<sup>st</sup>. Staff would report to the buildings on January 25. PDE made recommendations that elementary to return to in-person learning and the secondary remain virtual. This is voluntary for all school districts.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Virtual versus Hybrid

Mr. Rodriguez reviewed pros and cons for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter virtual vs hybrid. Virtual pros include consistency, safety and stability; cons include learning struggles and student disengagement. Hybrid pros include in-person learning advantages for some students, social distancing compliant, and options for parents; cons include mask coverings, no lunch, possible closures (disruption), differences in programing at elementary and substitute/staff shortages.

#### **Pandemic Task Force Reflections**

Option #1: Re-entry plan with Hybrid program on February 1, 2021(not supported by task force).

Option #2: Remain virtual for all of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period with the exception of certain

in-person programming (83% support of task force).

Option #3: State Guideline - Elementary return to hybrid (17% support of task force).

Board Members discussed the options, voicing concerns for who students struggling with virtual learning. The Superintendent was asked for his recommendation. Mr. Rodriguez stated he recommends staying virtual for all of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period. Mrs. Francis asked each Board Member for their input. The general consensus of the Board was to stay virtual (Option #2). Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Kline asked the Administration to look for ways to help students who are struggling with virtual learning. Mr. Rodriguez state the administration shares the same concern and is looking to find some level of in-person homework program and also looking at a very robust summer program (ESY).

## **Professional Development as Board Members**

	Committee	Schodulo	<b>Assignments</b>
1 1 '	Commiliee	Schedille.	Assignments

The Board and Committee meeting schedules presented follow the same structure as 2020. Committee Member Assignments remain the same. All Board Members were in agreement to place the meeting schedules on the January 21, 2021 Board Agenda for approval.

## ☐ Goals/Objectives, Budget/Policy/Oversight

Board Members viewed several resources for School Board Directors. Resources included Essentials of School Board Service and PSBA Standards for Effective School Governance, Code of Conduct.

#### ☐ Public and Board Communications

Board Members participated in a self-evaluation survey. Mrs. Francis asked that the Public Relations/Community Engagement Committee to add Board Education Resources/Programs as an agenda item to explore opportunities that Board Members can participate in.

## **Cultural Competence and Diversity Education**

# ★ Cultural Competence Work Update

Dr. White gave a presentation on the PSD Cultural Proficiency & Diversity Plan. The goal is to promote educational equity and the document will be embedded in the Comprehensive Plan. Highlights of the presentation focused on essential elements including goals and actions for staff, families & community, students, curriculum & instruction, and cultural climate and safety. The plan is an outline and will be changing as the district takes a look at where we are at, our accomplishments, etc.

# ★ Brainstorming Ideas for the Future

Board Members ideas centered on curriculum and instruction, increasing the number of minority students taking higher level courses (add an action item to establish a base to monitor the percentage of minority students taking higher level courses), financial resources similar to residency initiative and involve the community in showcasing diversity.

The workshop adjourned at 8:39 pm with a tour of the new academy.



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 21, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, January 21, 2021at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mrs. Bonita Barnhill., Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Absent were Mr. John Armato and Ms. Katina Bearden. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Second Vice-President, Mrs. Kelly Leibold.

## **PRESENTATION**

<u>Uniting for Action</u>: Dr. Forrest presented to the Board a copy of the Uniting for Action letter and case study for fair funding sent to legislators in Harrisburg and district offices. The case study contained data and graphs showing discrepancies in the funding formula in Pennsylvania (spending versus racial makeup/bias and in the equities in the distribution of funds to school districts.

## **COMMUNICATION**

Mr. Rodriguez gave a summary of the topics discussed at the January 14 Board Workshop. The agenda contained three sections consisting of a pandemic update, a review of school board governance and policies and ending with a discussion on cultural competency to be incorporated into the district's comprehensive plan.

#### **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Reorganization meeting held on December 3, 2020 and the Regular Board meeting held on December 17, 2020.

## LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of December 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-056**.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for December 2020 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-057**.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

No January committee meetings were held.

## **STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES** - KISHAN PATEL AND JIMI CHAVALAPORN

Kishan Patel reported progress is being made on launching the Interact club initiative to elementary Students. Student Government is moving forward with plans for Mr. Pottstown. DECA competition will take place next week; HOSA is looking to register for the April state competition. Mr. Patel recognized several college acceptances for high school students.

Jimi Chavalaporn gave a schedule outline for the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. The high school librarian will be offering in-person help for students in need of assistance and the musical is being postponed to May.

# **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)**

Laurie Conbeer, resident and parent of students of the Pottstown School District, shared her children's struggles (social and academic) with the virtual learning program. She supports and looks forward to a hybrid model that will provide both academic and social structure to the children.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Re-organization meeting held on December 3, 2020 and the Regular Board meeting held on December 17, 2020, the List of Bills from the period of December 2020 and the Treasurer's Report for December 2020. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

It was moved Mr. Kline 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**

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

#### **Professional**

Andrea Hunsberger, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021; hire date September 1, 1985.

Pamela Pascal, Certified School Nurse, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective April 9, 2021; hire date November 20, 1998.

#### Classified

Ratify Megan McCain, Community Coordinator, PTICC, resignation effective December 9, 2020; hire date September 23, 2019.

Ratify Vicki Baldwin, Breakfast/Lunch Proctor, Middle School, resignation effective January 4, 2021; hire date November 4, 2004.

Deborah McNamara, Intervention Assistant, Rupert Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021; hire date August 25, 2009.

Patricia Boyer, Intervention Assistant, Lincoln Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 11, 2021; hire date March 3, 2008.

#### LEAVES

## Professional

Ratify Benjamin DiPette, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective January 19, 2021, end date tbd.

Megan Rogers, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 26, 2021; end date tbd.

Marissa Wells, Elementary Special Education Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date August 24, 2021; end date tbd.

## Classified

Ratify Joyce Grebe, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, request for leave of absence effective January 4, 2021, end date tbd.

Ratify Collene Smith, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Rupert Elementary, request for leave of absence effective January 4, 2021, end date tbd.

Ratify Barbara Pollock, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, request for leave of absence effective January 6, 2021, end date tbd.

## CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

## Classified

Ratify Andrea Kulp, from Full-Time Cafeteria Worker to Full-Time Cafeteria Manager, High School, effective January 19, 2021, \$18.10/hr (replacing D. Martz).

#### ELECTIONS

## Professional

Anne Marie Fadden, Long Term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective date to be determined, \$194/day (coverage for K. Rahill).

## Classified

Jose Knight, 1:1 Paraprofessional, Middle School, effective January 25, 2021, \$13.65/ hr. (replacing S.White).

## **TUITION REIMBURSEMENT**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the tuition reimbursements as presented:

# Professional:

Name	School	12/31/20 Deadline
Victoria Collins	High School	\$ 900.00
Emily Dormer	Middle School	\$1,485.00
Amanda Fusco	High School	\$1,548.00
Stephanie Garber	Franklin	\$1,548.00
Laureen Gresko (course 1)	Rupert	\$1,485.00

Laureen Gresko (course 2)	Rupert	\$1,485.00
Christine Hall (course 2)	Middle School	\$ 660.00
Kelsey Hultz	Rupert	\$1,950.00
Steven Irick	High School	\$2,826.00
Carol Livingston (course 1)	Middle School	\$2,115.00
Carol Livingston (course 2)	Middle School	\$ 885.00
David Mabry (course 1)	Middle School	\$ 375.00
David Mabry (course 2)	Middle School	\$ 281.25
Amanda Matthews	Barth	\$1,500.00
Amanda McDevitt (course 1)	Barth	\$1,221.00
Amanda McDevitt (course 2)	Barth	\$1,221.00
Victoria McShea	High School	\$1,548.00
Jessica Mull	High School	\$2,388.00
William Parks	High School	\$ 940.00
Sarah Rizzuto (course 1)	Lincoln	\$1,500.00
Sarah Rizzuto (course 2)	Lincoln	\$1,500.00
Kaylee Weldon (course 1)	Franklin	\$1,551.00
Kaylee Weldon (course 2)	Franklin	\$ 900.00

## Support Staff/Exempt:

Heather Dailey (2 courses)	PEAK	\$2,922.66

## **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-058**:

- US Medical Staffing Addendum B
- Lincoln Center MHP: Bachelor's Level (grant funded)

## REAL ESTATE TAX EXONERATION RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the real estate tax exoneration resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-059.

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

Mr. Armato entered the meeting at 7:57 pm.

# NON-CONSENT: PHASED RE-ENTRY PLAN 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Non-Consent Phased Re-Entry Plan 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter item for Board discussion and Board action. Reflections from the Pandemic Task Force offered three (3) options for Board consideration. Option #1: re-entry with hybrid program beginning February 1, 2021 (not supported by the task force team), Option #2: remain virtual till the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter with exception of certain inperson programming (83% support by task force team), Option #3: elementary return to hybrid (17% support by task force team).

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS (limited to Non-Consent Items): None.

# NON-CONSENT: PHASED RE-ENTRY PLAN 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Phased Re-entry Plan 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter include virtual programming for all students with limited in-person offerings for certain groups including Pre-K, Special Education and CTE students.

It was moved by Mrs. Lawrence and seconded by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the Phased Reentry Plan 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter and a copy of the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan to be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-060.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Rose: aye, Lawrence: aye, Kline: nay, Johnson: nay, Hylton: aye, Francis: aye, Barnhill: aye, Armato: aye. Ayes: Six. Nays: Two. Absent: One. Motion carried.

#### **INFORMATION**

• Monthly Meeting Notice: February 2020

• Pottstown Pride: Fall Sports

# FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Kelly Leibold thanked the Board for their decision to keep everyone safe, a decision that is in the best interest of everyone. She thanked Dr. Cellini for keeping the staff updated on COVID-19 vaccine availability.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Rose recognizes the Board is trying to make the best of the worst decision.

Mr. Kline expressed his concern for the students who are falling behind. He would like to see a remediation plan.

Mrs. Johnson attended the P.A.I.D. conference. There was good conversation on economic development and is encouraged to see leaders of Pottstown pulling together for the same cause.

Mrs. Lawrence agrees that re-entry is not an easy decision but must look at safety first.

Mrs. Barnhill appreciated the parent comments, recognizing the difficult decision by the Board. She looks forward to offering some remediation for students who are struggling.

Mr. Armato shared the same sentiments made by Board Members and agrees with remediation efforts.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked the Board Members who were able to attend the P.A.I.D. conference. Economic growth in Pottstown is also beneficial to students (job opportunities and funding). The district will continue to pursue advocating at the federal level to secure funding. COVID relief funds continue to help with district costs due to the pandemic.

Mrs. Francis looks forward to Ms. Peggy Lee Clarks update at a future committee meeting. She reminded Board Members of an Executive Session for the Purpose of Personnel at the conclusion of tonight's meeting.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the meeting adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Maureen Jampo Board Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL.



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 18, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, February 18, 2021at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Absent was Mrs. Bonita Barnhill. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Vice-President, Mr. Robert Decker.

## PRESENTATION: Cultural Competency Update: Black History Month

Mr. Rodriguez shared with the Board the District's tribute to Black History Month, highlighting their stories and spotlights on what some of our classrooms are doing to honor Black History month. The stories can be found on the District's website.

#### **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Board Workshop held on January 14, 2021 and the Regular Board meeting held on January 21, 2021.

## LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of January 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-061**.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for January 2021to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-062.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Mrs. Francis

The Committee met on February 4. Four policies were reviewed and placed on the Board agenda for approval. A vaccine update was provided to the committee which will enable district staff an opportunity to receive the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, to be administered by priority groups for staff working with students. Personnel items reviewed and recommended for Board approval include Edgewood staffing needs and an additional technology technician as presented on tonight's agenda.

## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met on February 4. The Committee was in agreement to recommend a contract with Performance Fact Inc. as the strategic facilitator in preparation for the District's Comprehensive Plan due in March 2022 and the addition of a new course (AP Human Geography) for 2021/2022 school year. Other discussion items included a mental health update and a summer intervention program for general education students.

## FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met on February 11. The Committee received an overview of the June 30, 2020 Single audit reporting no decencies in internal controls and compliance including ample reserves for budgetary reserves. Facilities and Finance items recommended for Board approval include building repairs project for 2021, the MCIU Membership Services Budget for 2021/2022, PDE E-signature resolution and contracts as presented on tonight's agenda. Mrs. Jampo gave a first glance preliminary budget for 2021-2022 school year, proposing  $\theta$  tax increase, using ample reserves to cover the anticipated deficit.

#### 2021/2022 Preliminary Budget: first glance

Mrs. Jampo reviewed the budget timeline to date. An overview of the preliminary budget indicates a slight decrease in the tax base, significant savings in 2020/2021 virtual learning, and growth in the fund balance as determined in the June 30, 2020 audit. Budget assumptions are based on actuals resulting in flat or reduced subsidies for the 2021/2022 school year. The administration recommends using fund balance to balance the 2021/2022 budget with a zero tax increase. The Governor's 21/22 budget proposal included basic education subsidy, through the fair funding formula, resulting in \$25 million basic education revenue but was stated it will not pass.

## ☐ Board Comments:

Mr. Armato asked what the options are if the Governor's budget were to pass.

Mr. Rodriguez stated the District is hopeful for some level of change and outlined four options: increase in personnel, instructional programs, reduce taxes and improve facilities.

Mr. Hylton recognized the four options as Mr. Rodriguez's plans. He noted that within the last six budget years, four budget years were "no tax increase". He attributed that to good fiscal management by the administrators, Mr. Rodriguez and Mrs. Jampo.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met on February 11. The Committee heard a presentation on Social Media Interaction Statistics. Data was shared on page visits & likes, post reach, videos and in-person Board versus Zoom and fans. Committee members were interested in looking at ways to continue engaging the public in monthly meetings at the District moves to hybrid models. Advocacy discussion and engagement continues to grow, reaching other communities to support equitable funding for all school districts. Representative Joe Ciresi will give a presentation at next month's committee meeting.

## BOROUGH LIAISON - MR. ROSE

Items presented at the February Borough Council's Committee of the Whole meeting included information on a P.A.I.D. State of Economic Development meeting that focused on three core areas. P.A.I.D. is also working on a gift card program to support local businesses. The Borough has applied for two grants to assist in rebuilding the Memorial Park bridge that was destroyed by the Hurricane Isaiah.

## STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES – Mr. PATEL, Mr. CHAVALAPORN

Updates on club activities: the Interact Initiative pilot program is running; Student Government continues to plan for a virtual "Mr. Pottstown" and a DECA student will attend national's virtually for the School Based Enterprise. Several students were recognized as recipients of scholarships. Mr. Chavalaporn had the opportunity to attend the Foundation for Free Enterprise meeting.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSAB REPRESENTATIVE - Mrs. Johnson

Mrs. Johnson has been appointed the Chair for the Montgomery County Legislative Committee. The focus of the committee will be on educating the public and lawmakers about the need for charter reform. PSBA the Virtual Advocacy Day is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

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

It was moved by Mr. Armato and second by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the minutes from the Board Workshop held on January 14, 2021 and the Regular Board meeting held on January 21, 2021, the List of Bills from the period of January 2021 and the Treasurer's Report for January 2021. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

## **PERSONNEL**

**POSITIONS: Long Term Substitute Hires** 

#### **Professional**

(3) additional Long Terms Substitute Hires as building floaters for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year (in addition to initial provision Board approved on November 17, 2020).

#### RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

#### **Professional**

Lisa Kaye Rossi, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective September 10, 2021; hire date September 8, 1987.

Lauren Canfield, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective April 10, 2021; hire date February 18, 2020.

#### Classified

Ratify June Malocu, School Nurse, Middle School, resignation effective February 17, 2021; hire date August 17, 2020.

Devon Bonenberger, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, resignation effective March 1, 2021; hire date November 13, 2018.

Gary Wise, Paraprofessional, High School, resignation effective February 19, 2021; hire date October 28, 2019.

## **LEAVES**

## Professional

Christine Chase, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date May 12, 2021; end date tbd.

Amanda Matthews, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date August 2021; end date tbd.

Ratify Lindsay Hogan, Elementary Teacher, Rupert Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective February 5, 2021; end date tbd.

Rebecca Vega, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 16, 2021; end date tbd.

Kaylee Weldon, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 16, 2021; end date tbd.

Jennifer Kurian, Elementary School Nurse, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective February 24, 2021; end date tbd.

## Classified

Ratify Melanie Barkon, Pre-K Counts Assistant, North End, request for leave of absence, effective February 5, 2021; end date tbd.

Alicia Doster, Paraprofessional, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 18, 2021; end date tbd.

Lanie Manorek, ACCESS Clerk, Administration Bldg., request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date July 25, 2021; end date tbd.

#### **ELECTIONS**

## Professional

Ari Felber, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective date February 18, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for C. Petro).

## Classified

Ratify Tayla Haulcy-Clark, Paraprofessional, High School, effective date February 6, 2021, \$13.65/hr.

## CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS – Addendum #2020-2021-063

- 1. Co-Curricular Assignments 2020/2021 Fall: Sports & Non-Athletics
- 2. Co-Curricular Assignments 2020/2021 Winter Sports

## HORIZONTAL MOVEMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<b>From</b>	<b>Step</b>	<u>Salary</u>	<b>SPE</b>	<u>To</u>	<b>Step</b>	<u>Salary</u>	<b>SPE</b>	<u>Salary</u>
Samantha Duncan	Bach	3	\$46,500.00		Mast	4	\$51,000.00		\$51,000.00
Jennifer Furniss	M+15	1	\$51,500.00	1,000.00	M+30	2	\$53,000.00	1,000.00	\$54,000.00
Rebecca Jones	Bach	1	\$45,500.00		B+15	2	\$47,000.00		\$47,000.00
Carol Livingston	B+15	4	\$49,000.00		Mast	5	\$52,000.00		\$52,000.00
Beth Mason	B+15	3.83	\$48,830.00	1,000.00	Mast	4.83	\$51,830.00	1,000.00	\$52,830.00
Jaime Parris	Mast	3	\$50,500.00		M+30	4	\$55,000.00		\$55,000.00

## **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-064:

- Policy 200: Enrollment of Students
- Policy 201: Admission of Students
- Policy 202: Eligibility of Non-Resident Students
- Policy 622: Capital Assets/GASB 34 Statement

## AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY COURSE

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the AP Human Geography Course as presented at the February 4, 2021 Curriculum Committee meeting.

#### **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2019-2020-065**:

- 1. MCIU Psychological Services
- 3. New Story Schools

2. ePlus/E-rate

4. Valley Forge Educational Servic

## 2021 BUILDING ENVELOPE REPAIRS PROJECT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021 Building Envelope Repairs project as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-066**:

• O& S Assoc. 2021 Building Envelope Repair Project: High School & Franklin Elementary Roof Repairs/Replacement

## PDE E-SIGNATURE RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-067.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT FINANCIAL AUDIT 2019-2020

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge receipt of the Pottstown School District audit for the year ending June 30, 2020 as prepared by Herbein + Company Inc.

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

#### **NON-CONSENT**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the Non-Consent items for Board discussion and Board action.

## **CONTRACT**

It was moved by Mrs. Lawrence and seconded by Mrs. Bearden that the Board approve the Contract as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-068**.

• Performance Fact, Inc. (CARES grant funded)

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Armato: aye, Bearden: aye, Francis: aye, Hylton: nay, Johnson: aye, Kline: aye, Lawrence: aye, Rose: aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: One. Absent: One. Motion carried.

## MCIU MEMBERSHIP SERVICES BUDGET 2021-2022

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve MCIU Membership Services Budget 2021-2022 as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-069:

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

## PHASED SCHOOL REOPENING HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN- February 18, 2021

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the Phased School Reopening Health & Safety Plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-070.

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

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Monthly Meeting Notice: March 2021

#### **FEDERATION REMARKS**

Mr. Decker thanked the Buildings & Grounds and Custodial staff for all their work to ensure that our buildings are safe, secure and a healthy environment. Federation teachers obtained books to hand out to distribute to elementary students at the return of in-person learning.

## **ROUND TABLE**

Ms. Bearden extended her congratulations to Kishan Patel. She expressed her appreciation to the Board Members advocating for fair funding, to Mr. Rodriguez for his consistency and for the District' tribute to Black History.

Mr. Hylton appreciates the benefits of virtual meetings and asked the Board to consider continuing the virtual format. He asked Mr. Rodriguez to bring back to the Board a report/feedback from teachers on the advantages of virtual/hybrid learning. He suggested considering incorporating a hybrid learning program versus 100% in-person learning.

Mrs. Johnson encouraged everyone to keep up the efforts to get more voices heard; contacting legislatures, advocating for fair funding. Some legislatures have stated that they are not hearing from people who care.

Mr. Armato noted that Board Members look for the virtual concert "Ice Ride" created by 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade band members shared via PSD social media platforms. He is encouraged by the positive attitudes demonstrated by staff throughout the district and looks to positive actions resulting in positive results.

Mr. Kline supports Mr. Hylton's comments and looks to focus on the positives and create something better pre-pandemic.

Mr. Patel shared his appreciation of the District's recognition of Black History Month.

Mr. Chavalaporm thanked the administration for adding black history to the curriculum. He appreciates the District's tributes to Black History Month.

Mrs. Lawrence congratulated Kishan Patel.

Mr. Rose emphasized that every taxpayer should contact their legislatures to support fair funding.

Mr. Rodriguez noted the District continues to prepare for hybrid learning as staff and students have the opportunity to take advantage of COVID Assurance testing and the Pottstown positivity rate continues to drop. The administration will be conducting a survey on what has worked and has not worked with virtual learning, looking ahead as to what education will look like next year and beyond.

Mrs. Francis is proud to be on the Board and part of a great team. She thanked everyone for all they do and for making Pottstown a great place. She reminded Board Members there will be an executive session following the close of the meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Rose seconded by Mr. Hylton. All in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES March 18, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, March 18, 2021at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Second Vice-President, Kelly Leibold.

## Vaccine Update

Dr. Cellini was pleased to report that approximately 299 Pottstown staff members will have received a COVID vaccine by the end of next week.

# PRESENTATIONS (virtual)

- <u>Co-Curricular Winter/Spring Sports Update</u>: Athletic Director, Ms. Morgan, gave an update on student participation in sporting events. Three COVID cases were contracted outside of PSD facilities during the winter sports and were successfully mitigated thanks to the strict protocols and dedication of students and staff. The same protocols will be in place for the spring sports starting March 26.
- Middle School Play Preview Beauty & The Beast: preview performed by students
- <u>High School Play Preview Godspell:</u> preview performed by students
- <u>Back to School Building Safety Measures</u>: building principals reviewed COVID safety measures in their buildings.

## **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on February 18, 2021.

## LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of February 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-071**.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for February 2021to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-202-072**.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MRS. FRANCIS

The Committee met virtually on March 4. Four policies and personnel items were reviewed and recommended for Board approval as presented on tonight's agenda. A revised final calendar for the 2020/2021 school year was reviewed and is presented on tonight's agenda for Board approval.

## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on March 4. The AP Human Geography textbook for next school year was reviewed and presented for Board approval on tonight's agenda. The committee was given an update on Career and Technical programs for the 20/21 school year. Mr. Livengood touched on a possible change next year due to low enrollment in the MIS program, adding a new program "Logistic Materials and Supply Chain Management.

#### FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – Mr. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on March 11. The committee was in agreement to table discussion on the Grigg Memorial Field Study pending a tour of the areas outlined in the study. The committee heard a presentation on green infrastructure relating to borough parking lots. A design will be presented later this year for consideration. The committee was given a preliminary budget update, indicating an estimated \$1.7 million shortfall using reserve funds to balance the budget with a zero tax increase

□ 2021/2022 Preliminary Budget: 2<sup>nd</sup> look – Mrs. Jampo reviewed the preliminary budget as presented at the March committee meeting with a proposed timeline to adopt the Preliminary Budget for 2021/2022 at the April 22 Board meeting and the final budget in May. An increase in local tax revenues and a decrease in the worker's compensation premium reduces the anticipated shortfall to \$1,728,531. The proposed preliminary budget is a zero tax increase with use of fund balance to balance the budget. The ESSER III is part of the American Rescue Plan that was enacted last week. The District has not heard any official word on funds but it is anticipated to be approximately \$10m.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on March 11. Representative Joe Ciresi gave a presentation on legislative updates and best means of public communication to legislators. The committee was given statistic on the District's website comparing 2019 to 2020 and information items were shared with the committee on events that would help community members engage in advocacy.

BOROUGH LIAISON – MR. ROSE No update.

#### STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES – MR. PATEL, MR. CHAVALAPORN

Student Board representatives shared updates on student events. Events included participation in an interview by a Hill School student on racial and social inequities, seminar on interview tips, an informational webinar on Questbridge Scholarships, spotlighting senior college acceptances and the upcoming Foundation for Pottstown Education's annual showcase of the District musical "Godspell" that includes a take-out dinner prepared by the PSD Culinary students.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSAB REPRESENTATIVE - Mrs. Johnson

MCLC meeting was held on March 17. Legislative discussion focused on charter school reform challenges and explored ways to use social media as a tool to advocate for charter school reform. PSBA Virtual Advocacy day is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPRESENTATIVE – Mrs. Barnhill 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):**

Naomi Parson, student, addressed the Board with various research/study data on the immune system and viruses. She questioned the three safety measures versus the benefits of outdoors activities without masks.

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

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and second by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on February 18, 2021, the List of Bills from the period of February 2021 and the Treasurer's Report for February 2021. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

#### **POSITIONS**

#### Professional

- (2) Special Education Teachers, Edgewood Program
- (1) Physical Education Teacher, Part-time

## Classified

- (1) Coordinator/Receptionist, Edgewood Program
- (1) Technology Technician

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

## Professional

Laura Tansits, Long Term Substitute Guidance Counselor, High School, resignation effective June 11, 2021; hire date September 18, 2020)

Ratify Kelsey Rahill, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective March 5, 2021; hire date April 16, 2018.

Christy Nau, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective April 30, 2021; hire date August 22, 2017.

Correction: Ratify Laura Canfield, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective March 26, 2021; hire date February 18, 2020 (previously approved February 18, 2021).

## Classified

Ratify Britney Oxenford, Intervention Assistant, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective March 2, 2021; hire date October 6, 2020.

Ratify Jadea Wilkerson, Receptionist, High School, resignation effective March 5, 2021; hire date September 9, 2020.

Carolyn Dise, Custodian, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective July 8, 2021; hire date March 31, 2011.

Laderah Reinhart, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, resignation effective March 5, 2021; hire date February 21, 2017.

Ratify Jodi Finnegan, Classroom Assistant, Lincoln Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective March 4, 2021; hire date October 6, 2009.

Aprille Doherty, Secretary, Middle School, resignation effective March 19, 2021; hire date September 5, 2017.

## **LEAVES**

#### Professional

Matthew Fabian, Elementary Teacher, Franklin/Rupert Elementary, request for Professional Sabbatical, anticipated effective date August 16, 2021; estimated end date to be August 15, 2022.

## Classified

Charles Tesno, Part-time Housekeeper, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence effective March 24, 2021; end date tbd.

#### CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

## Classified

Ratify Erica Scott, from Substitute Support Staff to Nurse, Middle School, effective March 8, 2021, \$17.98/hr (replacing J. Malocu).

## **ELECTIONS**

## Professional

Ratify Martin Valle, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, effective date March 15, 2021, \$45,000/yr, Step 1-Bach (contract of L. Canfield.

# **Exempt**

Ratify Jeanne McGee, Social Worker, Administration Bldg., effective March 15, 2021, \$50,000/yr.

#### Classified

Ratify Kayla Murray, Intervention Assistant, Rupert Elementary, anticipated effective date March 8, 2021, \$13.65/hr. (replacing B. Oxenford).

Ratify Mustapha El Khachani, Custodian, Middle School, anticipated effective date March 15, 2021, \$15.25/hr. (replacing N. Frazer-Watkins).

Ratify Christopher Reder, Custodian 1, High School, anticipated effective date March 11, 2021, \$15.25/hr. (replacing T. Brown).

Moriah Hopkins, Receptionist, High School, effective March 29, 2021, \$14.04/hr (replacing J. Wilkerson).

Ratify Deborah Gratzinger, Temporary Executive Secretary, Administration Building, effective March 15, 2021, \$26.48/hr; end date to be May 31, 2021. This is in addition to her role as Enrollment Secretary.

# <u>District Summer Programs</u> (paid through 21st Century and CARES funding)

- 1. Teachers/Substitute Teachers: All Pottstown School District Teacher-Certified staff members are approved on an "as need" basis as Extended School Year or Summer Intervention Instructors, \$30/hr
- 2. Paraprofessionals/Substitute Paraprofessionals: All Pottstown School District Paraprofessionals are approved on an "as need" basis as Extended School Year or Summer Intervention Instructors, \$13.65/hr.

## **CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS**

• Co-Curricular Assignments 2020/2021: Spring Sports – Addendum #2020-2021-073

## **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-074:

- Policy 150: Title 1 Comparability Services
- Policy 218.3: Discipline of Student Convicted/ Adjudicated Sexual Abuse
- Policy 705: Facilities and Workplace Safety
- Policy 209: Health Examinations Screening

## 2020/2021 REVISED SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2020/2021 revised school calendar as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-075**.

## **TEXTBOOK ADOPTION: AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following AP Human Geography textbook and supplemental materials adoption for the 2021/2022 school year:

Textbook: Human Geography for the AP Course Cost: \$160.99/per textbook

Publisher: Bedford, Freeman & Worth

# **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-076:

1. New Story Schools

- 3. School Operation Services Addendum
- 2. The Meadows
- 4. Interim Healthcare

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

#### **NON-CONSENT**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the following non-consent item for Board discussion. Mr. Kalis reviewed the requirements to notify PDE of the Board's intention to renew or not renew the Superintendents' contract at least 90 days in advance of the expiration of the contract. The motion is indicating the Board's intention to renew the contract on mutual satisfactory terms.

## EMPLOYMENT OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Motion to retain Mr. Stephen Rodriguez as District Superintendent for an additional term, subject to the satisfactory resolution of all terms of employment to be negotiated by the parties. The Board authorizes its solicitor to meet with and negotiate all such terms of employment with the District Superintendent for consideration and further action by the Board at a future meeting date.

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mr. Rose that the Board approve the motion to retain Mr. Stephen Rodriguez as District Superintendent as presented.

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

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

Monthly Meeting Notice: April 2021

#### FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Leibold was happy to see more traffic in the high school with students and staff engaging in safety protocols including virtual students being more engaged. She looks forward to more of a return to normal.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mrs. Johnson expressed her appreciation to all educators. She encouraged everyone to advocate for charter school reform, saving the District approximately \$1million /year.

Mrs. Barnhill agreed with Mrs. Johnson's comments.

Mr. Kline echoed Mrs. Johnson's comments.

Mr. Patel looks forward to in-person education opportunities.

Mr. Chavalaporn looks forward to getting back to buildings and teachers and be safe.

Mrs. Bearden gave a big thank you to the Board and staff for everything they do.

Mr. Rose is excited about returning to in-person learning. He is looking forward to the high school musical.

Mr. Armato thanked Dr. Cellini for her hard work keeping the staff updated on vaccinations. He thinks the video presentations are a testament to the District's resilience to work past the medical challenges and to bear a resemblance what was a normal life. He was impressed with the teachers work in the classroom and student responses to the newspaper interviews on "Education in the World of COVID".

Mr. Rodriguez shared an update on the COVID rate in Pottstown, currently at 3.86% positivity, the county at 5.07%. He emphasized to stay vigilant to avoid a surge in positivity. The Governor's announcement for spring break is increasing indoor capacity to 50% for special events. The District is prepared for hybrid education beginning on Monday, following the safety protocols and offering free Antigen testing.

Mrs. Francis stressed the vaccine is not 100% coverage and reminds everyone to be cautious. She looks forward to seeing the musicals and is always impressed with the community's determination to conquer. She reminded the Board of the executive session following the meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Johnson. All in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Maureen Jampo

**Board Secretary** 

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES April 22, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, April 22, 2021at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Absent was Mr. Steve Kline. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Vice-President, Mr. Robert Decker.

## **PRESENTATIONS** (virtual)

- <u>Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (Pa-EBT)</u> informational video explaining the federal program, eligibility and distribution of the debit cards.
- May 7 to May 16: MS Musical: Beauty & the Beast cast members gave a preview of the musical
- April 30 to May 2: HS Musical: Godspell cast members gave a preview of the musical

## **MINUTES**

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on March 18, 2021.

## **LIST OF BILLS**

Mrs. Jampo presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of March 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-077**.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Jampo presented the Treasurer's Reports for March 2021to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-078.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MRS. BARNHILL

The Committee met virtually on April 8. The Committee was in agreement to retire four (4) prior formatted policies. Policy content is covered in active PSBA formatted policies. The 2021-2022 School Calendar was reviewed and recommended for Board approval as presented on tonight's agenda.

#### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE - MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on April 8. Rupert Elementary has started an "after-school "pilot program for students identified needing learning support. Two High School Science textbooks and related resources were reviewed and recommended to be placed on tonight's Board agenda for approval.

## FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE - MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on April 15. The Edgewood Asbestos Remediation low bid of \$77,000 is presented for Board approval on tonight's agenda. The Committee was in agreement to table discussion on the Bleacher Feasibility Study pending more information. Finance board approval items were the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget with no tax increase, contracts and agreements as presented on tonight's agenda.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on April 15. The Committee discussed new proposed legislation regarding HB 1167, "Level up for School Funding". Pennsylvanians for Fair Funding is sponsoring a state wide art contest on May 7th encouraging students from grades 3 - 12 to share their stories on what it means to them to live in a district that is underfunded.

#### BOROUGH LIAISON – MR. ROSE

Several events that are coming back were noted on the Borough's C.O.W. meeting of April 7 (Pow Wow at River Front Park, Fishing Derby, Memorial Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> parades). The Go Fourth event will be on High Street. Pottstown gift cards are now available for purchasing to support local businesses.

## STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES – Mr. PATEL, Mr. CHAVALAPORN

Student Board representatives shared updates on student events at the high school. Senior acceptance celebration, awards presentation, movie night and DECA fundraisers. Godspell ticket sales are limited to in-person seating due to COVID restrictions; streaming and Facebook information can be found on the District website. Many thanks to the teachers and staff who were responsible for the senior graduate yard signs.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSAB REPRESENTATIVE - MRS. JOHNSON

The committee reviewed several legislative updates including a brief discussion regarding PSERs declining investment returns.

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPRESENTATIVE - MRS. BARNHILL

The IU presented their preliminary budget for the 2021/2022 school year. The main topic of discussion was centered on the COVID vaccinations that were provided through the IU.

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

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and second by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on March 18, 2021, the List of Bills from the period of March 2021 and the Treasurer's Report for March 2021. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

It was moved Mrs. Barnhill 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**

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

#### **Professional**

Jennifer Kurian, Certified School Nurse, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective June 4, 2021; hire date November 6, 2018.

Modify Laura Tansits, Long Term Substitute Guidance Counselor, resignation effective March 26, 2021 (previously approved effective June 11,2021).

Ratify Kayla Sabata, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective March 28, 2021 (hire date August 21, 2008).

## Exempt

Ratify Rena Manela, Virtual Learning Facilitator, HS, resignation effective April 12, 2021; hire date October 3, 2017.

Shelby Iezzi, Wellness Coordinator, Administration Building, resignation effective April 30, 2012; hire date October 2, 2017.

## Classified

Ratify Cory Hambrick, Custodian, High School, resignation effective March 1, 2021 (hire date November 20, 2019).

Ratify Julia Soto, Part-time Elementary Cleaner, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective April 15, 2021 (hire date October 19, 2011).

Ratify Marcus Coleman, Custodian. High School, resignation effective April 14, 2021 (hire date December 9, 2019).

## **LEAVES**

## Administrative

Rachel Joyce, Middle Level Supervisor of Special Education, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date July 21, 2021; end date to be determined.

# **Professional**

Samantha Duncan, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date August 14, 2021; end date tbd.

Ratify Maria Zematis, Long Term Substitute Floater, request for leave of absence effective April 19, 2021; end date tbd.

#### Classified

Ratify Sarah Clark, Part-time Classroom Assistant, Administration Building, request for leave of absence effective March 29, 2021; end date tbd.

#### CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

#### **Professional**

Ratify Amanda Walsh, from Long Term Substitute Teacher to Long Term Substitute Floater, effective April 8, 2021, \$194/day.

Ratify Maria Zematis, from Long Term Substitute Teacher to Long Term Substitute Floater, effective April 6, 2021, \$194/day.

Ratify Marissa Wells, Special Education Teacher, Franklin Elementary, from Bach Step 1 to Bach +15, Step 2, retroactive pay from initial hire date October 21, 2019.

## Classified

Deborah Gratzinger, from Enrollment Secretary to Executive Secretary to the Superintendent, effective June 1, 2021, \$26.48/hr (replacing D. Nash).

## **ELECTIONS**

## Professional

Ratify Kimberly Robinson, Certified School Nurse, initial assignment to be High School, effective April 6, 2021, \$55,000/yr, Step 7-Mast., (contract of P. Pascal).

## Classified

Ratify Debbie Hill, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, effective April 6, 2021, \$13.65/hr.

Ratify Deborah Cimino, Proctor, High School, effective April 6, 2021, \$11.74/hr (replacing D. Marcheskie).

Ratify Luis Hernandez, Technician 1, Administration Building, anticipated effective date April 13, 2021, \$19.20/hr.

Modify Moriah Hopkins, Receptionist, High School, effective April 6, 2021, \$14.04 (previously approved effective date March 29, 2021).

# Compensation for Missed Planning Time, \$24/period

Sarah Dierolf, 1 missed planning period, \$24.00, February 2021 Sarah Dierolf, 1 missed planning period, \$24.00, March 2021

## Musical Stipends Production Team: Godspell

<u>Production</u>	<u>Name</u>	Stipend
Choreographer - High school	Jenna Endy	\$ 1,000.00
Lighting Director	Nick Yashinsky	\$ 1,300.00
Producer/Stage Manager	Robert Decker	\$ 4,000.00
Publicist/House Manager	Eileen Basham	\$ 1,000.00
Set Construction Manager	Jennifer Mohr	\$ 800.00
Theatrical Director	Christopher Sperat	\$ 3,500.00
Vocal Director	Benjamin DiPette	\$ 250.00 *prorated
Sound Director	Albert Garcia	\$ 1,000.00
Properties manager	Candi-Haas-Simmons	\$ 500.00
Set Designer	Candi-Haas-Simmons	\$ 2,500.00
Orchestra Director	Amy K Anderson	\$ 1,250.00
Vocal Director	Amy K Anderson	\$ 2,250.00 *prorated
Accompanist	Amy K Anderson	\$ 1,000.00

Summer Program: Beech Street Learning Studio (BSLSX)

Jimai Springfield, Instructor, \$30/hr Sarah Clarke, Instructor, \$30/hr

## **TUITION REIMBURSEMENT**

# Professional:

<u>Name</u>	School School	<u>An</u>	<u>nount</u>
Laureen Gresko	Rupert	\$	30.00
Christine Hall (course 1)	Middle School	\$	2,340.00
Charity Heimbach	Barth	\$	3,000.00
Michael Hewitt	High School	\$	2,010.00
Kelsey Hultz	Rupert	\$	1,050.00
Rebecca Jones	Middle School	\$	1,464.00
David Mabry (4 courses)	Middle School	\$	1,406.25
Amanda McDevitt	Barth	\$	558.00
Chris Petro	Middle School	\$	1,500.00
Kaylee Weldon	Franklin	\$	549.00

# Support Staff/Exempt:

Jennifer Vena-Perry Peak \$ 1,548.00 Chelise Wilkerson High School \$ 1,650.00

# CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS \* ADDENDUM #2020-2021-079

2020/2021 Co-Curricular Assignments: Spring Sports corrections/additions 2020/2021 Co-Curricular Assignments: Non-Athletics corrections additions

## MENTOR ASSIGNMENTS \* ADDENDUM #2020-2021-080

2020/2021 Mentor Assignments,

2019/2021 Mentor Assignments

2018/2019 Mentor Assignments

## **TUITION REIMBURSEMENTS**

# **Professional:**

Name	School	Amount
Laureen Gresko	Rupert	\$ 30.00
Christine Hall (course 1)	Middle School	\$ 2,340.00
Charity Heimbach	Barth	\$ 3,000.00
Michael Hewitt	High School	\$ 2,010.00
Kelsey Hultz	Rupert	\$ 1,050.00
Rebecca Jones	Middle School	\$ 1,464.00
David Mabry (4 courses)	Middle School	\$ 1,406.25
Amanda McDevitt	Barth	\$ 558.00
Chris Petro	Middle School	\$ 1,500.00
Kaylee Weldon	Franklin	\$ 549.00

# **Support Staff/Exempt:**

Jennifer Vena-Perry	Peak	\$ 1,548.00
Chelise Wilkerson	High School	\$ 1,650.00

## PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

Bldg.	Name	Conf. Title / Location	Dates Attend	Cost

Rupert Matthew Moyer NAESP Annual Conf., 7/01/21 – \$1,050 – pd by dept. budget

Chicago, Il 7/09/21

#### 2021/2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021/2022 School Calendar as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-081.

## **TEXTBOOK ADOPTION: HS SCIENCE**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the High School Science textbook adoption as presented:

- Cengage Learning College Physics, AP, 11<sup>th</sup> Edition \$6,212.25
- Cengage Learning Chemistry, AP, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition \$6,835.95

## **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-082**:

	1.	The Glenn Price Group	4.	MCIU: Medical Practitioner Authorization ACCESS Program
2	2.	MCIU: ZOOM	5.	MCIU: Internet/RWAN
3	3.	MCIU: Discovery Streaming	6.	95% Group Inc. (professional development-CARES funded)

## MCIU INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR SHARED STUDENT SERVICES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the MCIU Intergovernmental Agreement as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-083.

## BID AWARD: EDGEWOOD ASBESTOS ABATEMENT & RELATED WORK

The Superintendent recommends that a purchase order/contract be awarded to the company indicated, the award in being made to the lowest bidder meeting the required specifications.

Neuber Environmental Services, Inc. - \$77,000
 110 Grosser Rd
 Gilbertsville PA 19525

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

## **NON-CONSENT**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the following non-consent items for Board consideration. Each item was reviewed for discussion and public comment. Mr. Rodriguez stated the Act 93 Agreement, Exempt and Support Guidelines are guidelines, not contracts, and the goal for establishing the guidelines focus on salary equity for all staff.

**Hearings from Patrons of the Schools (limited to non-consent items).** None.

## **ADOPTION OF THE 2021/2022 PRELIMINARY BUDGET**

Mrs. Jampo presented the 2021/2022 proposed preliminary budget totaling \$66,066,587 with a budget shortfall of \$1,578,531. It is the recommendation of the administration to balance the budget using fund balance reserves with no tax increase in the real estate millage.

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board adopt the 2021/2022 Preliminary Budget as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020/2021-084.

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

## ACT 93 AGREEMENT – July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Act 93 Agreement as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the Act 93 Agreement as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-085**.

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

## EXEMPT GUIDELINES – July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Exempt Guidelines as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the Exempt Guidelines as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-086**.

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

## SUPPORT GUIDELINES – July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Support Guidelines as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the Support Guidelines as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-087**.

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

## APPROVE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Motion to approve the employment contract with Mr. Stephen Rodriguez as Superintendent of the District based upon the terms discussed with the Board.

Mr. Kalis reviewed the terms of the employment contract effective July 1, 2021 through June 20, 2026 including compensation and benefits for each year.

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mr. Rose that the Board approve the employment contract with Mr. Rodriguez as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-088.

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

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

## School Board Candidate Forum - Primary Election Candidates

Mr. Rose spoke about the event scheduled for Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Evan Brandt will be the moderator for the event. The goal of the forum is to give the community an opportunity to meet the potential candidates and get to know them. Board members were in agreement to hold the event as a virtual (Zoom) meeting in lieu of in an auditorium in-person setting.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

Monthly Meeting Notice: April 2021

#### FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. Decker announced that commencement will take place in-person this year. He congratulated Mr. Rodriguez on his employment agreement and thanked the administration for recognizing salary equity in the guidelines.

## **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Rose is looking forward to the musicals.

Mrs. Johnson expressed her gratitude to the administrators for the efforts to present another budget with no tax increase and provide salary equity among district staff. She thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his commitment to Pottstown and for his leadership.

Mr. Chavalaporn congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and looks forward to his continued support and working together.

Mr. Patel congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and thanked him for staying with Pottstown. Mr. Rodriguez has been an inspiration to him.

Mr. Armato is pleased the District retains the leadership of Mr. Rodriguez. He expressed caution that the COVID relief funds are specific to COVID and do not address budget issues. The District still remains underfunded. He is thankful for another year with no tax increase and looks forward to a positive impact that salary equity will bring as the District moves forward.

Ms. Bearden congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and senior, Darius Smallwood.

Mrs. Lawrence thanked the administration for a great budget job. She is disappointed the District has not been able to hire more counselors.

Mrs. Barnhill expressed her appreciation to the administrators and staff for all they do.

Mr. Rodriguez was pleased with the successes of the Rupert pilot after-school program. This year's District summer program will be the biggest program with in-person instruction at all the buildings. He briefly reviewed the chrome book options for the summer versus the return of the chrome books. He encouraged students to take advantage of the District's Assurance (Antigen) testing as teen COVID cases are on the rise. Mr. Rodriguez thanked the Board for their confidence in him.

Mrs. Francis thanked Mrs. Jampo and Dr. Cellini for their patience working with the Board. She congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and noted that it has been a pleasure getting to know and work with him.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.

Maureen Jampo

Board Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 20, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, May 20, 2021at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence, and Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Mrs. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Second Vice-President, Mrs. Kelly Leibold.

## **PRESENTATIONS** (virtual)

- <u>National Association of Music Merchants</u> (NAMM) Mr. Kelly, Zeswitz Music congratulated the staff, students and parents for their dedication and support of music education.
- <u>Foundation for Pottstown Education</u> Mr. Rusiewicz introduced the thirteen (13) students of the Class of 2021who completed the Early College program. Since the start of the program in 2014 a total of 81 students have completed the program to date. Tuition paid for this program is more than \$453,000.
- Pottstown Area Industrial Development Ms. Lee-Clark reviewed highlights from the P.A.I.D. Annual Report for 2020. During the COVID-19 pandemic, PAID assisted local businesses with
   COVID Relief & Recovery funds with Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation and helped Pottstown Borough business to secure funds from Montco Strong Grant fund. PAID received a total \$2.5 million in grants to support three projects (Sustainable Energy Plant, The Mercury Building and Y# Life Science Incubator Hub).
- <u>Draft Plan for 2021/2022 School Year</u> Mr. Rodriguez gave a basic outline for next school year. The first student day is August 23 with In Person learning, a regular daily schedule, serving breakfast and lunch, transportation fully reinstated and a robust virtual learning program option. The remainder of this school year, Mr. Rodriguez recommended amending the Phased School Health and Safety Plan to include no masks required outdoors for fully vaccinated students & staff including while involved in physical activities.

#### MINUTES

Mrs. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on April 22, 2021.

## LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of April 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-089**.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for April 2021to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-090**.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Mrs. Barnhill

The Committee met virtually on May 6. The Committee was in agreement to place four (4) new policies on the Board agenda for approval and retire the corresponding prior format policies. Two Personnel items were discussed (contract for substitute custodial services and summer staffing incentive pay) and presented on tonight's agenda for Board approval.

## CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. LAWRENCE

The Committee met virtually on May 6. The MS Science textbook adoption and two supplemental and resource adoptions were reviewed and recommended to place on tonight's agenda for Board approval. The Performance Fact team working with the committee and board members to build the framework for the Comprehensive Planning Portrait of a Graduate.

#### FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on May 13. The Committee was given an update on issues with the chiller system at the high school. Repair/replacement costs will be presented at next month's meeting. The administration is recommending continuing service with the current landscaping contractor on a year to year basis. Items recommended for Board approval include the appointment of the Board Treasurer/Board Secretary, contracts and the adoption of the 2021/2022 Final Budget and Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion resolution.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – Mr. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on May 13. The Family Advisory Committee gave an update on the reorganization of the FAC, their focus to strengthen the FAC network and support all family member and parents in the Pottstown community. The committee is reviewing a resolution supporting fair funding litigation for future Board action.

BOROUGH LIAISON – MR. ROSE No report.

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES – Mr. PATEL, Mr. CHAVALAPORN

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSAB REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON No report.

 $\label{lem:montgomery} \mbox{Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Representative} - \mbox{Mrs. Barnhill No report.}$ 

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

It was moved by Mr. Armato and second by Mrs. Barnhill that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on April 22, 2021, the List of Bills from the period of April 2021 and the Treasurer's Report for April 2021. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

## **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

It was moved Mrs. Johnson 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**

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

#### Professional

Ratify Kayla Sabata, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective May 10, 2021; hire date August 21, 2008.

Corey Huerta, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective June 4, 2021; hire date January 28, 2020.

## Classified

Ratify Patricia Pollock, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Middle School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective April 21, 2021; hire date August 27, 2014.

Theresa Truman, Paraprofessional, Middle School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 4, 2021; hire date September 1, 1992.

Ratify Debbie Hill, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective April 30, 2021; hire date April 6, 2021.

Robert Poston, Sr., Custodian, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement effective August 13, 2021; hire date December 21, 1989.

Robert Fine, Custodian, Lincoln Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021; hire date December 18, 1992.

Modify Diane Nash, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, resignation for the purpose of retirement effective July 1, 2021.

Ratify Terry Phillips, Elementary Cleaner, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective May 6, 2021; hire date February 21, 2018.

Ratify Paula Corson, Substitute Support Staff, termination due to no work for over 1 year, effective May 7, 2021; hire date October 21, 2019.

Ratify Ellen Kanaley, Substitute Support Staff, termination due to no work for over 1 year, effective May 7, 2021; hire date October 28, 2016.

Ratify Elysia Kisch, Substitute Support Staff, termination due to no work for over 1 year, effective May 7, 2021; hire date November 25, 2019.

Michael Anthony, Paraprofessional, Lincoln Elementary, resignation effective May 21, 2021; hire date August 27, 2012.

Mayellen Wynne, Building Nurse, Lincoln Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement effective August 16, 2021; hire date December 13, 2013.

Andrea Spiece, Substitute Support Staff, resignation effective May 28, 2021; hire date January 14, 2021.

Roseann Cavallaro, Intervention Assistant, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective June 4, 2021; hire date October 9, 2019.

#### LEAVES

#### Professional

Lori Freese, Kindergarten Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 19, 2021, end date tbd.

Rebecca Wyatt, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for sabbatical leave of absence for professional development, effective August 16, 2021 to January 18, 2022.

### Classified

Carolyn Dise, Custodian, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective May 25, 2021; end date tbd.

Ratify Melanie Gniewoz, Intervention Assistant, Lincoln Elementary, request for intermittent leave of absence effective April 26, 2020; end date June 4, 2021.

#### CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

# Classified

Daniela Durante-Hayward, from Part-time Student Services Secretary to Administrative Assistant for Central Registration, Administration Building, effective June 1, 2021, \$18.23/hr. (replacing D. Gratzinger).

#### **ELECTIONS**

#### Professional

Ayannah Stanton, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective August 16, 2021, \$45,500/yr, Step 1-Bach. (contract of C. Nau)

Stephanie Rambo, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective August 15, 2021, \$50,500/yr., Step 3-Mast. (contract of K. Rahill).

Tricia Wiegert, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective August 16, 2021, \$50,000/yr, Step 8-Bach.

Jesse Haji-Sheikh, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Franklin/Rupert Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for M. Fabian).

#### Exempt

Nina Federman, School Psychologist, initial assignment to be Pottstown High School, effective August 9, 2021, \$60,000/yr., (Edgewood/PLLA Program).

# Classified

Logan Fabian, Temporary IT Intern, Administration Building, effective April 272021, \$12.00/hr; end date September 3, 2021.

Ratify Dana Barnes, Part-time Elementary Cleaner, Barth Elementary, effective May 10, 2021, \$11.92/hr.. This is in addition to her role as Paraprofessional.

Nancy Diener, Paraprofessional. Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$13.65/hr.

# 21st Century P.R.I.D.E (grant funded)

Ratify Jacinda Bartolucci, Tutor, \$30/hr

# STEM Academy Stipend (funded by P.R.I.D.E After-School Program)

Kelseu Hultz \$500.00 Johanna Swoyer \$500.00

# Comprehensive Plan Attendees - \$30/hr Professional/Exempt staff; hrly rate/Support staff

Athena Procsal	Holly Lee	Kim Petro	Sara Miller
Cal Benfield	Jesse Tupper	Margaret Taraboletti	Stephanie Dunn
Chelise Wilkerson	John Martin	Melissa Lopez	Ted Freese
Denise Leschak	Judy Friend	Michele Andre	Tracy Pasquale
Elizabeth Yoder	Kelly Leibold	Robert Decker	Allen Ferster
Mandy Wampole	Corina Miller	Heather Kurtz	Kelli Wolfel

#### **CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS**

2020-2021 Co-Curricular Assignments \* Spring Sports corrections – ADDENDUM #2020-2021-091.

#### MENTOR ASSIGNMENT

Bldg	Mentor	New Teacher	Stipend
PMS	Kim Petro	Dormer, Emilie	\$408.75
PHS	Arden Moore	Lineman, Jessica	\$272.50
PMS	Catherine Knapke	Harr, Adrienne	\$272.50
Franklin	Bridget Volinskie	Lepkowski, Christina	\$272.50

#### **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-092:

- Policy 304: Employment of District Staff (replacing 3020, 3050, 4000)
- Policy 313: Evaluation of Employees (replacing 3200, 3220, 313.2)
- Policy 326: Complaint Process (replacing 2400)
- Policy 347: Worker's Compensation Transitional Return-to-Work (replacing 3710)

#### HOURS OF OPERATION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021-2022 Hours of Operation as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-093**.

#### TEXTBOOK ADOPTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the textbook adoptions as presented:

• MS Science Resource Adoption: Science Dimension: Cost - \$106,459 (6 yr adoption)
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

• Grades 2-6 Core Math Fact Fluency Supplemental:

Reflex Math: Cost: \$11,862/yr (Elem), \$2,965.50/yr (MS)

Publisher: Explore Learning

• Math Intervention Software Pilot: DreamBox Learning (no cost)

#### **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-094:

MCIU: Azure Cloud Backup Servs.	Cottage Seven Education LLC – 21/22	Pathway School - ESY
MCIU: Technical Leadership/Support	Cottage Seven Education LLC - 21/22	Pathway School - ESY
Precision HR Services	Cottage Seven Education LLC - 21/22	Pathway School - ESY
Cottage Seven Education LLC – 21/22	Cottage Seven Education LLC - 21/22	Overbrook School - ESY
Cottage Seven Education LLC – 21/22	Cottage Seven Educ ESY	New Story LLC - ESY
Cottage Seven Education LLC – 21/22	Cottage Seven Educ ESY	New Story LLC – ESY
Cottage Seven Education LLC – 21/22	Cottage Seven Educ ESY	Cottage Seven Educ ESY

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

#### **NON-CONSENT**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the following non-consent items for Board consideration. Each item was reviewed for discussion and public comment

Hearings from Patrons of the Schools (limited to non-consent items). None.

#### **NON-CONSENT: PERSONNEL**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021 Summer Instruction Incentive pay schedule as presented.

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the 2021 Summer Instruction Incentive Pay Schedule as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-095.** 

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Armato: Nay, Barnhill: aye, Bearden: nay, Francis: aye, Hylton: aye, Johnson: aye, Kline: aye, Lawrence: aye, Rose: aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: Two. Motion carried.

# NON-CONSENT: PSD ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN AMENDMENT

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the PSD Athletics/Co-Curricular Health and Safety Plan Amendment as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Rose that the Board approve the PSD Athletics/ Co-Curricular Health & Safety Plan Amendment as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-096.

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

#### NON-CONSENT: 2020/2021 PHASED SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the 2020-2021 Phased School Reopening Health and Safety plan as presented.

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the 2020/2021 Phased School Reopening Plan Amendment as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-097.

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

#### NON-CONSENT: ELECTION OF BOARD TREASURER

In accordance with Section 404 of the School Code, the Board shall elect a Treasurer to serve for one year beginning the first day of July following such an election. The Board was in agreement to elect Mr. Steve Kline to serve as the Treasurer for the term beginning July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

It was moved by Mrs. Barnhill and seconded by Mrs. Bearden that the Board appoint Mr. Steve Kline to serve as the Board Treasurer for the term beginning July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2022.

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

#### NON-CONSENT: ELECTION OF BOARD SECRETARY

In accordance with Section 404 of the School Code, the Board shall elect a Secretary to serve for four year term beginning the first day of July following such an election. The Board was in agreement to elect Ms. Maureen Jampo o serve as the Secretary for the term beginning July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

It was moved by Mr. Kline and seconded by Mr. Rose that the Board appoint Mrs. Jampo to serve as the Board Secretary for the term beginning July1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

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

## **NON-CONSENT: 2021/2022 FINAL BUDGET**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021/2022 Final Budget as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Kline that the Board adopt the 2021/2022 Final Budget as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #0202-2021-098**.

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

#### NON-CONSENT: HOMESTEAD/FARMSTEAD EXCLUSION RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Resolution as presented.

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Ms. Bearden that the Board approve the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-099.** 

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

#### **INFORMATION**

Monthly Meeting Notice: June 2021 Pottstown Pride: Winter 202/2021

# FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Leibold thanked the Board for the thoughtful and deliberate decisions they had to make during the pandemic and a thank you to Jimmy Chavalaporn for all he does for the community. The teachers are looking summertime for rejuvenation, family time and professional development.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mr. Armato thanked Ms. Bearden and Mr. Rodriguez for their representation adding to the Governor's and governmental officials speaking on charter/cyber reform and extended congratulations to Mr. Rose and Mrs. Johnson for their dedication to advocacy. He spoke about the graduates and their experiences and growth leading to graduation day.

Mr. Kline stated that graduation is always bitter sweet. He thanked SR MJ on budget

Ms. Bearden thanked the staff, students and parents for a great job this year. Her wish for teachers is to have some time to rejuvenate. She looks forward to a strong 2021/22 school year.

Mr. Patel was grateful for his many experiences and opportunities to grow. He was thankful for the opportunity to serve on the School Board and thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his mentorship. He invited Jimmy Chavalaporn to apply for Ambassador for the Fourth Congressional Student Task Force.

Mr. Chavalaporn was thankful for the opportunity to attend the press conference and meet the School Board Members in person, as well as the Governor. He looks forward to serve as the Student Board Representative and advocating for the community.

Mrs. Johnson looks forward to a summer of relaxation and rejuvenation. Graduation is an emotional time and she expressed her gratitude to be able to witness the students' growth throughout the years. She encouraged everyone to advocate for charter reform.

Mr. Rose echoed everyone's comments. He thanked everyone who made the musicals happen.

Mrs. Barnhill thanked everyone for the hard work during this difficult year and looks forward to a better school year ahead.

Mrs. Lawrence congratulated the graduates. She looks forward to working on a solution for more mental health support for our students.

Mr. Rodriguez echoed all the sentiments shared by the Board Members. He was grateful for the honor to have the Governor's visit and

Mrs. Francis was glad for the District representation at the conference. She thanked everyone for their amazing jobs this year, a demonstration of the strengthens of all. She announced there will be an Executive Session for the Purpose of Personnel following the conclusion of tonight's meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mr. Rose and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the meeting adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

# EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL

Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary



# POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 17, 2021

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, June 17, 2021at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with President, Mrs. Amy Francis presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, and Mrs. Susan Lawrence. Absent was Mr. Raymond Rose. Also present were Business Administrator, Ms. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representatives, Kishan Patel and Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Vice President, Mr. Robert Decker.

### **PRESENTATIONS** (virtual)

- <u>Career & Technical Education Update</u> Mr. Livengood reviewed the NOCTIC test scores of the students who opted to participate in the exam this year. The NOCTIC exam is for seniors who completed a three course program to be considered proficient/advanced in the subject area. Mrs. Pritt, College & Career Counselor, presented a Power Point presentation highlighting the events she coordinated from December 2019 to date including additions to the website and counseling page.
- <u>Black History Month Awards</u> Mr. Armato, on behalf of Mr. Corson and Congresswoman Madeleine Dean, presented quotes from the Certificates of Special Congressional Recognition awarded to Katina Bearden, Calista Boyer and LaTanya White. Each certificate recognized their individual service to the community. Mr. Corson shared his congratulations, thanks and appreciation to each recipient for their courage, dedication, and commitment to Pottstown.

### **MINUTES**

Ms. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on May 20, 2021.

#### LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the period of May 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-100**.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for May 2021to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-101**.

Mrs. Barnhill left the meeting at 7:23 pm (internet disconnect)

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Mrs. Francis

The Committee met virtually on June 3. Several prior formatted policies that are covered in the active PSBA formatted policies were reviewed to be retired. Four new policies were reviewed to be placed on tonight's agenda for board approval. A brief overview of new positions were presented to the committee in addition to summer instruction program support staff incentive pay as presented on tonight's agenda for board action.

#### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – Mrs. Lawrence

The Committee met virtually on June 3. Several technology applications and supplemental resources for the 2021/2022 school year were reviewed and are supported by the Board including the (FID) Flexible Instructional Days program and application requirements as presented on tonight's agenda.

#### FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on June 10. The personnel new positions, roofing bid award, state audit corrective action plan and the right-to-know resolution were discussed and recommended to be placed on tonight's agenda for board action.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MRS. FRANCIS

The Committee met virtually on June 10. A brief clip from the Emergency Broadband Benefit program was shared with the Board. The EBB program is posted on all District social media platforms for public access. Mr. Rodriguez shared updates on Senate Bill 1 related to cyber charter school reform. Ms. Bearden and Mrs. Johnson were in agreement to serve as voting delegates for the PSBA Delegate Assembly.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSAB REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

Legislative updates on SB1 and a push for fair funding in the final days of the state budget were topics of discussion at both committees. PSBA will be moving to monthly meetings rather than weekly.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

Ms. Jampo, in the absence of 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 ACTION: Minutes, List of Bills, Treasurer's Report**

It was moved by Mr. Armato and second by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on May 20, 2021, the List of Bills from the period of May 2021 and the Treasurer's Report for May 2021. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

#### **BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

#### **PERSONNEL**

#### RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

# Administrative

Deena Cellini, Director of Human Resources, resignation effective when position is filled or July 23, 2021; hire date August 10, 2016.

#### Professional

Ratify Marisa Brunner, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective June 4, 2021; hire date February 18, 2020.

Ratify Christina Mazur, Special Education Teacher, High School, resignation effective June 4, 2021; hire date November 9, 2020.

#### Classified

Ratify Lindsay Wright, Part-time Cafe Worker, High School, resignation effective May 18, 2021.

Ratify Tayla Hauley-Clark, Paraprofessional, High School, resignation effective May 25, 2021; hire date February 16, 2021.

Ratify Mustapha El Khachani, Custodian, Middle School, resignation effective May 27, 2021; hire date March 15, 2021.

Ratify Jeff Endy, Substitute Support Staff, resignation effective August 9, 2020; hire date June 20, 2011.

Ratify Aleathia Duley, Substitute Support Staff, resignation effective March 8, 2021.

Ralph Dreis, Custodian, Middle School, termination due to job abandonment, effective June 17, 2021; hire date July 8, 2019.

#### LEAVES

## Professional

Nicole Valenti, Elementary Teacher, Rupert Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date to be October 18, 2021; end date tbd.

Ashley Thornton, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective October 1, 2021; end date tbd.

Ratify Brittany Zacharias, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 12, 2021; end date tbd.

# **Exempt**

Ratify Jacqueline Stein, School Psychologist, Administration Special Education, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 22, 2021; end date tbd.

#### Classified

Tonya Brown, Custodian, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective June 1, 2021; end date tbd.

Ratify Sherry Thorum, Part-time Student Proctor, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence effective May 18, 2021; end date tbd.

Kathleen Kanaskie, Paraprofessional, High School, request for intermittent leave of absence, anticipated effective date to be August 16, 2021; end date tbd.

## CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

#### Professional

Melissa Felty, from Substitute Support to Long Term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage of A. Conlan).

Ari Felber, from Long term Substitute Teacher to Part-time Health & Physical Education Teacher, Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$22,750/yr., Step 1- Bach.

Sadira Hueber, from Elementary Nurse to Certified School Nurse, Barth Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$46,000/yr, Step 1-Bach+15 (contract of J. Kurlan).

Rebecca Sayler, from Long Term Substitute Teacher to Elementary Teacher, initial assignment to be Pottstown Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$50,000/yr, Step 2 - Mast (contract of M. Brunner).

Ryan Yanchocik, from Long Terms Substitute Floater to Long Term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day until the end of the 2021-2022 school year (coverage for C. Chase).

# Classified

Nicholas Wade, from Virtual Academy Facilitator to Paraprofessional, effective August 16, 2021, \$15/hr.

#### **ELECTIONS**

# <u>Administration</u>

Lori D'Andrea, Supervisor of Special Education High School, Admin Bldg., effective July 14, 2021, \$98,495/yr (prorated rate applies) (replacing A. Fraterman).

### Exempt

Jace Stofflet, Transition Coordinator, High School, effective August 9, 2021, \$55,000/yr.

Ratify Nina Federman, Substitute Support Psychologist, High School, effective June 14, 2021 until August 5, 2021 (summer program), hourly rate.

## Classified

Alicia Alvarez, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, anticipated effective date (tbd), \$13.65/hr (replacing D. Hill).

Brendt Davenport, Custodian, Lincoln Elementary, anticipated effective date July 1, 2021, \$18.25/hr (replacing R. Fine).

Ratify Lindsay Wright, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, effective March 8, 2021, \$13.65/hr.

Ratify Aleathia Duley, Paraprofessional, Middle School, effective March 8, 2021, \$13.65/hr. This is addition to her role as Part-time Elementary Cleaner ending on June 2, 2021.

Ratify Melissa Felty, Substitute Support Staff, effective June, 14, 2021, \$30/hr (summer program)

Summer Cleaning, \$11.51/ hr Janice Bobst James Calvario Jacob Eagle Emmie Wolfel

# Summer Food Service, individual hrly rate

Summer Manager: Tina Kane

Summer Cafeteria

Joyce Grebe Louise Cannell

Worker:

Giovinna Weller

Lynda Lutz Kathy Porter

Tina Kelly

Correction: Comprehensive Plan Attendees - \$30/hr

Athena Procsal Holly Lee Kim Petro Sara Miller

Cal Benfield Jesse Tupper Margaret
Taraboletti Stephanie Dunn

Chelise Wilkerson John Martin Melissa Lopez Ted Freese
Denise Leschak Judy Friend Michele Andre Tracy Pasquale
Elisabeth Yoder Kelly Leibold Robert Decker Allen Ferster
Mandy Wampole Corina Miller Heather Kurtz Kelli Wolfel

# **CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS**

Correction: 2020/2021 Co-Curricular Assignments - Non-Athletics \* Addendum #2020-2021-102

#### **POLICIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Boar approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-103:

- Policy 111: Lesson Plans (replacing 3900)
- Policy 224: Care of School Property (replacing 6370)
- Policy 308: Employment Contract/Board Resolution/Boar Action (replacing 8050)
- Policy 338: Sabbatical Leave (replacing 3650)
- Policy 602: Budget Planning (replacing 8210)
- MOU: Between PSD and Federation of Pottstown Teachers (replacing 3680)

#### FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Flexible Instruction Days (FID) application and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-104.

#### PSBA DELEGATE APPOINTMENT TO DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

The Public Relations Committee recommended School Board Director Laura Johnson and Katina Bearden as the appointed voting delegates in the 2021/2022 PSBA hybrid delegate assembly on October 23, 2021.

#### **CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-105**:

MCIU: Azure Cloud Backup Servs. Melmark Inc 2021/2022 MCIU: Data Analytics Melmark Inc. 2021/2022

MOU: Family Services Valley Forge Education Services - ESY

Lincoln Center: P MHP Malvern Academy

Lincoln Center: FT MHP MOU: Pottstown Police Department 2021

VidCruiter Inc National School Applications Network (Pa REAP)

#### **BID AWARDS**

The Superintendent recommends that a purchase orders/contracts be awarded to the company(s) indicated, the award being made to the lowest bidder meeting the required specifications.

Cafeteria Foil/Plastic Bid Award: Durable Packaging \$ 19,647.78 2021 Building Envelope Roofing Bid Award: JJD Urethane Co. \$421,335.00

#### OCCUPATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBES/MEETING MINUTES

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge the 2020/2021 OAC member list and meeting dates as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2012-106.**.

#### RIGHT-TO-KNOW RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Right-to-Know resolution as presented supporting revisions to current RTK law as set in SB 312 and SB 552 and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-107**.

#### STATE AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board the State Audit Corrective Action Plan for the period of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2019 as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-108.

#### **BUDGET TRANSFER RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Budget Transfer Resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-109.

#### COMMIT FUND FOR FUTURE EXPENDITURES RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Commit und for Future Expenditures Resolution as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-110.

#### **DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Designation of Depositories and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum** #2020-2021-111.

#### INVESTMENT OF FUNDS RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Investment of Funds Resolution and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-112**.

# STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE (CONSENT)

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021/2022 Student Accident Insurance 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 2020/2021 school

year): 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: Seven. Nays: None. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

#### **NON-CONSENT**

Ms. Jampo, in the absence of Mr. Rodriguez, presented the following non-consent items for Board consideration. Each item was reviewed for discussion and public comment

Hearings from Patrons of the Schools (limited to non-consent items). None.

#### NON-CONSENT: PESONNEL NON-CONSENT: PERSONNEL POSITIONS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the positions as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as Addendum #2020-2021-113 (MTSS Job Descriptions)

Professional: Temporary MTSS Coaches (teachers on assignment) \*2 yr -ESSER Funding
Exempt: Temporary MTSS Coordinator \*2 yr - ESSER Funding
Virtual Learning Program (\*ESSER Funding) MS Grades 5 & 6 – (2) new teachers
HS – Virtual Learning Coach

It was moved by Mr. Kline and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the personnel positions as presented.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Bearden: aye, Francis: aye, Johnson: aye, Lawrence: aye, Kline: aye, Hylton: nay, Armato: aye. Ayes: Six. Nays: One. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

# NON-CONSENT: PERSONNEL SUMMER PROGRAM SUPPORT STAFF INCENTIVE PAY

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the support staff summer program incentive pay as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2020-2021-114**.

Board Comment: Mr. Armato stated that he opposes the incentive pay that is based on a partial to full stipend based on the number of days the employee shows up. He favors improving the daily/ hourly rates as a means of valuing the jobs they do.

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the summer program support staff incentive pay as presented.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Francis: aye, Johnson: aye, Hylton: aye, Armato: nay, Bearden: aye, Lawrence: aye, Kline: nay. Ayes: Five. Nays: Two. Absent: Two. Motion carried.

#### FINAL AMENDED 2020/2021 PHASED REOPENING SCHOOL HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the final amended 20/21 Phase Reopening School Health & Safety plan following the CDC/DOH/OPH recommendations for fully vaccinated staff up to August 19, 2021 plan end date. **Addendum #2020-2021-115.** 

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the Final Amended 20/21 Phased Reopening School Health & Safety Plan as presented.

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

#### **INFORMATION**

2020/2021 Transportation Bus Drivers/Vehicles – Board acknowledged Board Workshop: July 29, 2021

#### **FEDERATION REMARKS**

Mr. Decker thanked the Board and Administration for the opportunity for the teachers participate in the Comprehensive Planning. He was extremely proud of the students' contributions that demonstrated their intellect and maturity.

#### **ROUND TABLE**

Mrs. Johnson encouraged everyone to continue insisting on fair funding. She invited everyone to the Power Interfaith fair funding rally at the Middle School on Monday, June 21.

Mr. Armato stated it was great to see student participation in last week's comprehensive planning event. The alumni that were recipients of the Black History awards are great role models for our students.

Mr. Kline extended his well wishes to Dr. Cellini. He was grateful for the opportunity to work with her.

Mrs. Lawrence was impressed with the student participation in the Comprehensive Planning event. She recognizes that this summer and the incentive pay is different this year as a result of the pandemic.

Ms. Bearden shared her appreciation as a recipient of the Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, on behalf of School Board and the team effort of the Board. She encouraged everyone to show up for the Power rally.

Mr. Chavalaporn enjoyed attending the comprehensive planning event. He looks forward to seeing everyone at the Power rally.

Ms. Jampo thanked Mrs. Johnsons and Ms. Bearden for organizing the Power rally. She encouraged everyone to attend the rally

Dr. Cellini thanked everyone for their support and well wishes. She was grateful for the opportunity to work for Pottstown.

Mrs. Francis thanked Dr. Cellini for her great leadership. She shared details of the July 4<sup>th</sup> and Go Fourth celebration.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Armato that the meeting adjourns. All were in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Maureen Jampo Board Secretary