



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2021**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM via virtual communication with Vice-President, Ms. Katina Bearden, presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Ms. Katina Bearden, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Raymond Rose, and Mrs. Susan Lawrence. Absent were Mrs. Amy Francis, Mrs. Bonita Barnhill and Mr. Steve Kline. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Ms. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Dr. Deena Cellini; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis; Student Board Representative, Jimi Chavalaporn; Joining the meeting was Federation Vice President, Mr. Robert Decker.

PRESENTATIONS (virtual)

Custodian/Sanitation Technology: Mr. Rodriguez recognized Mr. William Grim, Head Custodian at Barth Elementary, for his leadership overseeing the summer cleaning of two elementary buildings. Mr. Grim was presented the Superintendent Award for his leadership and dedication to the students and staff.

Bond Refinancing: Mr. Schlesinger presented a refinance option for the GOB Series 2016. The maximum principle amount is \$11,500,000 with a total savings of approximately \$377,000. The goal is to reduce the District's interest expense and maintain level payments for budgeting purposes.

MINUTES

Ms. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on June 17, 2021, the Special meeting held on July 8, 2021 and the Board Workshop held on July 29, 2021 for Board approval.

LIST OF BILLS

Mr. Kline presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the periods of June 2021 and July 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-002**.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Kline presented the Treasurer's Reports for June 2021 and July 2021 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-003**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MR. RODRIGUEZ

The Committee met virtually on August 5. The Personnel Committee supports the addition of temporary proctor positions and the autistic support position at the high school including the Emergency Resolution as presented on tonight's agenda for board approval.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MR. RODRIGUEZ

The Committee met virtually on August 5. Updates on the Comprehensive Plan and the parameters for the Flexible Instructional Days (FID) were provided as information items. The Pre-K Counts Flexible Instructional Plan is a separate plan the FID Plan (as presented in June) and is placed on tonight's agenda for board approval.

Mr. Hylton asked the Administration to follow up on his request for legal options how to provide instruction to students with IEPs outside the regular school day.

FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – MR. HYLTON

The Committee met virtually on August 12. The Committee heard a presentation from Mr. Schlesinger about a refinance option of the General Obligation Bond Series 2016 including updates on several facilities projects (Franklin Fields irrigation system, Edgewood remediation project and a District tree survey). Mr. Hylton shared a PowerPoint presentation on planting trees in District parking lots. The Committee supported moving forward with the development of a plan by Simone Architects in collaboration with the Administration to present a proposal at the next committee meeting for recommendations to the full Board. The Committee reviewed the consent items as presented on tonight's agenda for board action. Mr. Hylton presented a recap on the funding history of the Pottstown Library and Parks & Recreation between the borough and school district. He asked the committee to consider the possibility of the District funding the library. More discussion will follow at next month's meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MR. ROSE

The Committee met virtually on August 12. Mr. Rodriguez shared updates on Covid-19 precautions and requirements for the start of the school year and an update on the Health & Safety plan for the 2021/2022 school year as presented on tonight's agenda for board approval. The Committee was in favor to place the resolution supporting the fair funding lawsuit on the September Board agenda for Board action.

BOROUGH LIAISON – MR. ROSE

Borough Council July's COW meeting heard updates on the economic growth of Pottstown and a blitz to give away smoke detectors. The Parks & Recreation July meeting focused on discussion surrounding the development of future parks including water facilities. At the Borough's August C.O.W. meeting, Borough Council heard a presentation on a proposal for a daytime center for the homeless.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - MR. CHAVALAPORN

Students have had opportunities to attend orientations and back to school nights. New students entering the middle school and high school were given tours of the buildings and had opportunities to meet with administrators. Clubs and sports practices have started and planning their school year calendars.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSAB REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

No meetings in the summer.

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, and Treasurer’s Report

It was moved by Mr. Rose and second by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on June 17, 2021, the Special meeting held on July 8, 2021 and the Board Workshop held on July 29, 2021, the List of Bills from the periods of June and Jul 2021 and the Treasurer’s Report for June and July 2021. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

BOARD ACTION: CONSENT

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

Mr. Hylton requested a copy of the MTSS job description. He expressed interest in understanding addressing the teacher shortage by hiring long term substitutes at the daily rate versus a full time teacher at the starting salary. Mr. Rodriguez stated the topic could be addressed at an executive session.

PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Professional

Ratify Amanda Conlan, School Guidance Counselor, Middle School, resignation effective July 13, 2021; hire date September 2, 2014.

Diane Hahn, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective November 5, 2021; hire date August 30, 1999.

Ratify Lynn Childs, Secondary Special Education Teacher, High School, resignation effective August 18, 2021; hire date August 20, 2019.

Classified

Ratify Alicia Alvarez, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective July 22, 2021; hire date June 28, 2021.

Ratify Kathy Weyandt, Pre-K Counts Assistant, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective August 2, 2021; hire date March 5, 2019.

Ratify Brendt Davenport, Head Custodian, Lincoln Elementary, resignation effective August 11, 2021; hire date June 28, 2021.

Ratify Michelle Soto, Kindergarten Assistant, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective August 3, 2021; hire date October 21, 2019.

Mitzie Brown, Student Proctor, Middle School, resignation effective August 21, 2021; hire date January 16, 2018.

Ratify Narjiss Boudadi, Classroom Assistant, Middle School, resignation effective August 5, 2021; hire date December 9, 2019.

Ratify Tara Cifelli, Cafeteria Worker, High School, resignation effective August 17, 2021; hire date August 27, 2014.

Ratify Gina Saichareune, Cafeteria Worker, resignation effective August 17, 2021; hire date September 24, 2019.

Ratify Jaime Williamson, Pre-K Counts Assistant, resignation effective August 11, 2021; hire date September 9, 2018.

Tracy Groff-Camacho, Pre-K Counts Assistant, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective August 20, 2021; hire date September 25, 2017.

Kristina DiCampello, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective August 20, 2021; hire date September 24, 2012.

LEAVES

Professional

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

Jennifer Palladio, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date January 4, 2022; end date tbd.

Renee Soeder, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date February 2, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Arden Moore, Special Education Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 23, 2021; end date tbd.

Jessica Ferry, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date February 12, 2022; end date tbd.

Jolie Martinez, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date August 23, 2021; end date tbd.

Exempt

Ratify Christine Chew, Occupational Therapist, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 16, 2021; end date tbd.

Ratify Diane Meck, Data Manager, Admin Bldg., request for intermittent leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 18, 2021; end date tbd.

Classified

Ratify Philip Thees, Custodian, High School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective July 22, 2021; end date tbd.

Lois O'Dell, Paraprofessional, High School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 26, 2021; end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

Administrative

Ratify Justin Baker, from Athletic Trainer to Director of Co-Curricular Activities, High School, effective July 26, 2021, \$90,217.80/yr (replacing M. Morgan).

Professional

Jessica Mull, from Paraprofessional to Long Term Teacher, High School, anticipated effective date August 23, 2021 (pending emergency certification), \$194/day (coverage for A. Moore).

Anne Voynar, from Intervention Assistant to Long Term Substitute Teacher, effective August 23, 2021, \$194/day.

Classified

Ratify Jenna Endy, from Part-time Pre-K Counts Classroom Assistant to Intervention Assistant, Lincoln Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$14.00/hr (replacing P. Boyer).

Ratify Corey Derer, from Classroom Assistant to Library Assistant, Barth Elementary, effective date tbd, no change in hourly compensation.

Ratify Brittnai Panton, from Part-time Lunch Proctor to Paraprofessional, Barth/Rupert Elementary, effective March 15, 2021, \$13.65/hr.

Nancy Diener, from Paraprofessional to School Nurse, anticipated effective date August 23, 2021, \$24/hr.

ELECTIONS

Professional

Ratify Amy Lewis, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment Pottstown Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$67,000/yr, Step 12-Mas (contract of C. Huerta).

Ratify Britney Oxenford, Elementary Teacher, initial assignment Rupert Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$46,500/yr, Step 3- Bach (contract of A. Hunsberger).

Ratify Logan Flint, Virtual Teacher, Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$45,500/yr, (grant funded)

Ratify Melissa Felty, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Special Education, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for A. Conlan).

Ratify Lauren McDonald, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Franklin Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for K. Weldon MTSS Coach).

Ratify Jennie Falco, Long Term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for R. Decker, MTSS Coach).

Ratify Joseph Homan, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for I. Bucci, MTSS Coach).

Ratify Jasmine Cora, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Barth Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for K. Wolfel, MTSS Coach).

Ratify Katharine Edbrooke, Elementary Special Education Teacher, initial assignment Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$50,000/yr + Stipend in accordance with Professional Agreement, Step 2, Mast.

Ratify Skylar DiGuseppe, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 16, 2021, \$194/day (coverage for C. Livingston, MTSS Coach).

Ratify Danielle Walt, MTSS Coach, Barth Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$84,120/yr (grant funded).

Johnean Wheatley, Long Term Substitute Teacher, High School, anticipated effective date August 23, 2021 (pending emergency certification), \$194/day.

Hannah Gottlieb, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Franklin Elementary, effective August 23, 2021, \$194/day.

Gerard Johnson, Special Education Teacher, initial assignment Pottstown High School, effective August 23, 2021, \$45,500 + Stipend in accordance with Professional Agreement, Step 1 - Bach. (contract of L. Childs).

Exempt

Ratify Mieke Mazur, Interim Supervisor of Special Education Middle Level, effective August 9, 2021, \$75/day stipend (Coverage for R. Joyce). This is in addition to her role as School Psychologist.

Kori Wilson, Athletic Trainer, High School, effective August 30, 2021, \$50,000/yr (replacing J. Baker).

Classified

Ratify Rachel Morrow, Part-time Student Services Secretary, Administration Bldg., effective August 2, 2021, \$14.25/hr (replacing D. Durrante/Hayward)

Julia Soto, Part-time Student Proctor, Rupert Elementary, effective August 23, 2021, \$12/hr.

Elizandra Cruz, Part-time Student Proctor, effective August 23, 2021, \$12.00/hr. (*assignment tbd*)

Ratify Danielle Moser, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$13.70/hr (replacing D. Bonenberger).

Ratify Maryann Bryan, Part-time Student Proctor, Rupert Elementary, effective August 23, 2021, \$12.00/hr.

Ratify Brittnai Pantan, IT Substitute Support Staff, effective March 15, 2021, \$13.06/hr.

Ratify David R. Kurtz, Virtual Learning Coach, High School, effective August 16, 2021, \$30.00/hr (grant funded).

Klara Levengood, Part-time Student Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective August 30, 2021, \$12.00/hr.

Ratify Alicia Miller, Paraprofessional, High school, effective August 16, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

Ratify Saira Kanwal, Pre-K Counts Assistant, Franklin Elementary, effective August 16, 2021, \$13.80/hr (replacing K. Weyandt).

Ratify Charlot Johnson, Paraprofessional, High School, effective August 17, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

Judy Bermudez, Student Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective August 24, 2021, \$12.00/hr. This is in addition to her role as Part-time Elementary Cleaner.

Jimai Springfield, Virtual Learning Coach, effective August 23, 2021, \$30/hr. This is in addition to his role a Part-time Learning Coach, BSLS (temporary increase in hours).

Sarah Clark, Virtual Learning Coach, effective August 23, 2021, \$30/hr. This is in addition to her role as Part-time Learning Coach, BSLS (temporary increase in hours).

Holly King, Intervention Assistant, Franklin Elementary, effective August 23, 2021, \$14.00/hr. (replacing R. Callavaro).

Mireille Guerrier, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, effective August 23, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

Cynthia Silva, Cafeteria Worker, High School, effective August 25, 2021, \$12.00/hr (replacing T. Cifelli).

Kartrina Boughter, Paraprofessional, Middle School, effective August 25, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

Tijhaine White, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, effective August 23, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

Latisha Jackson, Paraprofessional, Middle School, effective August 23, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

Loknecca McNeill, Paraprofessional, High School, effective August 23, 2021, \$13.70/hr.

MTSS Coaches (teachers on assignment, grant funded)

Kaylee Weldon, from 190 to 210 day, effective August 9, 2021, daily rate for additional 20 days.

Amanda Fusco, from 190 to 210 days, effective August 9, 2021, daily rate for additional 20 days.

Robert Decker, from 190 to 210 days, effective August 9, 2021, daily rate for additional 20 days.

Crisis Prevention Training

Professional Staff - \$30/hr

Classified Staff - hourly rate

CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS: 2021/2022 FALL SPORTS * ADDENDUM 2021-2022-004.

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Professional:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>6/30/21 Deadline</u>
Amanda Fusco	HS	\$1,452.00
Stephanie Garber	Franklin	\$1,452.00
Rebecca Jones	MS	\$1,464.00
Amanda Matthews	Barth	\$1,500.00
Victoria McShea	HS	\$1,452.00

Support Staff/Exempt:

Stephanie Dunn	North End	\$2,772.00
Jennifer Vena-Perry	North End	\$1,452.00

Administration

Kim Perry-Malloy	Barth	\$2,530.19
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PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

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

<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title / Location</u>	<u>Dates Attend</u>	<u>Cost</u>
HS	David Livengood	PACTA Conf., State College, PA	7/26/21 – 7/28/21	\$805 (grant funded)

ATTENDANCE OFFICERS 2021-2022

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge the following Attendance Officers for the 2021-2022 school year and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-005**.

PRE-K COUNTS SUPPLEMENTAL FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the Pre-K Counts Supplemental Flexible Instruction Plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-006**.

2021-2022 EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board adopt the 2021-2022 Emergency Resolution as presented for submission to PDE Secretary of Education and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-007**.

AMENDED 2021/2-2022 HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN (August 19, 2021)

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the amended 2021/2022 Health & Safety Plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-008**.

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-009**:

- MCIU: Head Start Lease Addendum • Valley Forge Educ Servs - ESY
- CMD Servs, Transportation 2021/2022 • Valley Forge Educ Servs - 2021/2022
- Interim Healthcare Staffing Addendum • Woods Services
- Therapy Source • Camphill School (ESY)
- General Healthcare Resources Addend. • Precision HR (Food Service Wrkr)
- River Rock Academy LLC AEDY • River Rock Academy (Second/Elem)

ACKNOWLEDGE CMD SERVICES INC TRANSPORTATION DRIVIERS

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge the list of CMD bus drivers and vehicles for the 2021/2022 school year for the sole purpose of complying with applicable PDE guidelines and subject to adjustment by CMD Services Inc. based upon its applicable employment considerations. A copy to be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-010**.

2021/2022 PSD WORKERS COMPENSATION MEDICAL PROVIDERS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the PSD Workers Compensation Medical Providers as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-011**.

SCHOOL PHYSICIAN / DENTIST RATES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2021/2022 School Physician/Dentist rates as presented.

Community Health & Dental Care Inc.: \$38/hr (6 Physicals per hr); \$60 building consultant (fee per bldg.)

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

Dr. Carl Pardini: \$4.80 per exam; Dr. Louis Raven: \$4.80 per exam

Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye for the above consent items. Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Absent: Three. 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 CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the personnel change in position/salary as presented: Classified: (6) Part-time Cafeteria Workers at 6.25 hrs/day to 7.5 hrs./day

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the Personnel change in position/salary as presented.

Upon roll vote all members presented voted aye: Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Absent: Three. Motion Carried.

NON-CONSENT: PARAMETERS RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Parameter Resolution for refinancing of the General Obligation Bond Series 2016 as presented

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mr. Rose that the Board approve the Parameters Resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-012**.

Upon roll vote all members presented voted aye: Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Absent: Three. Motion Carried.

INFORMATION

- Joint Borough Council/School Board meeting: September 30, 2021
- Monthly Meeting Notice: September 12, 2021
- Pottstown Pride: Spring/Summer

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mr. Decker congratulated Mr. Grim. He welcomed all the new hires to the District and Pottstown community. The teachers are looking forward to in-person learning and a fantastic start to the new school year.

ROUND TABLE

Mrs. Johnson announced the opening of the fair funding art contest. She thanked Mr. Rose and Mrs. Yoder for their work.

Mr. Chavalaporn thanked everyone who prepared the schools for the opening. The students are looking forward to a physical presence in the classrooms.

Mrs. Lawrence looks forward to a normal school year.

Mr. Armato recognizes the District faces uncertainties and challenges this school year and is confident the teamwork and effort of the staff will provide the best education opportunities and safe environment for the students.

Mr. Hylton asked for clarification on the District's COVID funding and fund sources included in the 2021/2022 final budget. Mrs. Jampo confirmed the \$1.4 million COVID funding was not included in the final budget and the budget included use of the fund balance of \$1.4 million.

Mr. Rose congratulated the Middle School staff for a great back to school night.


Mr. Rodriguez thanked the Simon Group for their generous "give away" event (school supplies) at Barth Elementary. He stated the Amended Health & Safety Plan provides the District with flexibility as updates from the Montgomery Office of Public Health changes occur. The District will continue to promote vaccinations.

Ms. Bearden thanked Mr. Rodriguez for keeping the community informed on COVID-19. She expressed her appreciation to all staff for their work to provide a safe and effective start of the school year. She encouraged everyone to support the fair funding events. Ms. Bearden reminded Board Members there will be an executive session following the conclusion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Rose that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL



Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary