



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2022**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, April 21, 2022 6:30 PM via virtual communication with President, Ms. Katina Bearden, presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended via virtual communication: Mr. John Armato, Mr. Kurt Heidel, Mr. Thomas Hylton, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mrs. Phoebe Kancianic, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence and Ms. Deborah Spence. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Ms. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Mr. Matthew Boyer; Solicitor, Student Board Representatives, Jimi Chavalaporn and Mark Ellison, III.

MINUTES

Ms. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on March 17, 2022 for Board approval.

LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Johnson presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the periods of March 2022 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-069**.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Johnson presented the Treasurer's Reports for March 2022 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-070**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES – JIMI CHAVALAPORN, MARK ELLISON III

Elementary buildings are celebrating student awards and art and music nights. Middle School WEB leaders are hosting a May play day for the 7th grade WEB recruits and continue to interact with the 5th graders. Student Council working on a mission project to spread kindness. Two High School DECA Students are moving on to the International Career Development Conference. May events include a Career and Technical Career Fair, A Mr. Pottstown competition, Rita's Ice fundraiser and the Senior Prom.

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MR. KLINE

Policy/Personnel Committee met on April 7. Committee report is attached to the board minutes.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. LAWRENCE

Curriculum Committee met on April 7. Committee report is attached to the board minutes.

FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – MR. HYLTON

Facilities/Finance Committee met on April 14. Committee report is attached to the board minutes. Mr. Hylton noted the tree work at Grigg Memorial field is tabled for discussion at the next committee meeting to address concerns about an underground sewer line.

PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MRS. JOHNSON

Public Relations/Community Engagement met on April 14. Committee report is attached to the Board minutes.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE/PSBA REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

Representative report is attached to the board minutes.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. LAWRENCE

Highlights from the March 23 meeting included a presentation on a virtual life skills program; the approval of a new Safety and Security Coordinator Jeffrey Cardwell and advocacy discussion.

BOROUGH LIAISON – Ms. SPENCE

April Meeting highlights included upcoming community engagement events and celebrations in the Borough. Love Your Block application deadline is April 30. Complete meeting minutes can be accessed on the borough's website.

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):

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

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the minutes from the Regular Board meeting, the List of Bills from the various fund for the period of March 2022 and the Treasurer's Report for March 2022. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

BOARD ACTION: CONSENT

It was moved by Mr. Armato 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

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Modified (Resignations):

Professional: Scott Braunsberg, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective August 5, 2022 (*previously approved on February 17, 2022, effective date June 10, 2022*).

Classified: Judy Bermudez, Cleaner, Barth Elementary; resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 6, 2022 (*previously approved on February 17, 2022, effective June 12, 2022*).

Professional

Victoria McShea, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective when position is filled or May 6, 2022; hire date January 17, 2019.

Craig Ollivier, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective June 6, 2022; hire date August 31, 2015.

Corby Drone, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective August 22, 2022; hire date August 10, 2006.

Isaiah Guzman, Special Education Teacher/Home School Visitor, termination, effective April 1, 2022.
Classified

Lori Sabuacak, Paraprofessional, High School, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective August 22, 2022; hire date August 22, 2007.

Ratify Diana Fabian, Pre-K Counts Classroom Assistant, North End, resignation effective April 18, 2022; hire date August 23, 2015.

LEAVES

Professional

Ratify Traci Miller, Pre-K Counts Teacher, PEAK, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date April 8, 2022; end date tbd.

Heather Kurtz, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date May 12, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Allison Wambold, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective April 4, 2022; end date tbd.

Krystle Rothenberger, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 15, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Diane Fox, Secondary Teacher, High School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective March 23, 2022; end date tbd.

Alison Moyer, Elementary Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 15, 2022; end date tbd.

Bridget Volinskie, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 15, 2022; end date tbd.

Classified

Ratify Melissa Caballero, Paraprofessional, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence, effective March 14, 2022; anticipated end date June 6, 2022.

ELECTIONS

Professional

Ratify Rosalie Schneider, Elementary Teacher, initial assignment to be Barth/Rupert, effective April 7, 2022, \$46,000/yr, Step 1 Bach+15 (contract of S. Roethlisberger).

Ronald Davenport, Secondary Teacher, CTE, High School, effective May 4, 2022, \$46,000/yr, Step 1, B+15 (contract of V. McShea).

Classified

Ratify Donna McCarron, Temporary Part-time Student Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective March 22, 2022 until the end of the 2021/2022 school year, \$12.00/hr (replacing S. Miller).

Ratify Kristina Hjalte, Front Desk Receptionist, High School, effective March 24, 2022, \$14.25/hr. (replacing M. Hopkins).

Ratify Gillian Copestick, Interventions Assistant, Lincoln Elementary, effective March 31, 2022, \$14.000/hr. (replacing M. Gniewoz).

Ratify Kenneth Dittman, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, effective March 31, 2022, \$13.70/hr.

Ratify James Schlener, Temporary Head Custodian, Franklin Elementary, effective April 19, 2022, \$18.25/hr (coverage for T. Brown).

Ratify Anthony Genovese, Custodian I, Middle School, effective April 11, 2022, \$15.50/hr.

Ratify Nicholas Urquhart, Custodian 1, Middle school, effective April 11, 2022, \$15.50/hr.

Ratify Stefanie Bryan, School Nurse, Middle School, effective April 19, 2022, \$18.75/hr (replacing E. Scott).

Ratify Justin Gibbs, Part-time Paraprofessional, High School, effective April 19, 2022, \$15.50/hr.

Kim Pickard, Front Desk Secretary, Middle School, effective April 25, 2022, \$14.25/hr. (replacing K. Catarious).

Shawn Pally, Custodian III, Secondary Coordinator of Custodial Services, High School, effective April 25, 2022, \$24.00/hr.

Compensation for Missed Planning Time (\$24/hr per period) * **Addendum #2021-2022-071**

Co-Curricular Assignments: 2021/2022 Spring Sports Update ***Addendum #2021-2022-072**

Co-Curricular assignments: 2021/2022 Winter Sports:

- Moriah Hopkins, Cheerleading, MS, Level 1, \$864.00

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Professional

<u>Name</u>	<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Katie Minger (2 courses)	HS	\$1,283.57
Amanda Matthews	Barth	\$1,500.00
Amanda Fusco	HS	\$1,548.00
Michael Hewitt	HS	\$2,061.00

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

<u>Bldg</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title / Location</u>	<u>Dates Attend</u>	<u>District Cost</u>
Admin	Maureen Jampo	IBC Health Care Forum	06/01/2022- 06/03/2022	\$0 (pd by IBC)
	Matthew Boyer	Atlantic City, NJ		

POLICY

Mr. Heidel asked that Policy 249 be moved to Non-Consent. He did not support the attachment of Policy 219.

2022/2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2022/2023 School Calendar as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-074**.

CURRICULUM ADOPTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve r as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-075:**

- HS Science Resource: Human Anatomy & Physiology by Savaas
- K and 1st grade Resource: Foundations

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-076:**

- The Devereux Foundation (Special Education ESY)\
- MCIU: 2022-2023 Internet, Tech Support, Backup Services, Analytics, Discovery Ed.
- MCIU 2022-2023 Intergovernmental Shared Student Services

HIGH SCHOOL HVAC REPAIRS CHANGE ORDER

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-077.**

NON-CONSENT

POLICY *moved from Consent to Non-Consent

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following policies and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-078.**

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve Policy 249 as presented.

Board Discussion: Mr. Heidel did not support attaching Policy 219 to Policy 249. Ms. Spence suggested making changes to language focused on school conduct code. Mr. Kline noted this will be addressed at the next committee meeting. Mr. Rodriguez stated that Policy 249 must be reviewed every 3 years. Policies are always subject to change.

Hearings from Patrons (limited to Policy 239) – None.

Upon roll call vote, the vote to approve Policy 249 was recorded as follows: Johnson: aye, Lawrence: aye, Bearden: aye, Heidel: nay, Hylton: aye, Armato: aye, Kline: aye, Spence: nay, Kancianic: aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: Two. Motion Carried.

2022/2023 PRELIMINARY BUDGET (Non-Consent)

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the 2022/2023 Preliminary Budget as presented at the April 14 Facilities/Finance Committee and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-079.**

Board Discussion: Mr. Armato commended the Administration team to bring in a budget at a zero tax increase and maintain the District programs. Ms. Spence shared her concerns how the District would address future inflation versus huge tax increases in the future. Ms. Jampo explained the factors that go into budget projections that include Act 1, monitors levels with a 5 year projection,

Hearings from Patrons (limited to 2022/2023 Preliminary Budget) – None

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

INFORMATION

- Executive Session for the Purpose of Negotiations: April 28, 2022
- Monthly Meeting Notice: May 2022
- Pottstown Pride : Winter
- McDonalds Writing Awards

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Leibold noted months are busy months at every level and most rewarding time of the year. Mr. Decker looks forward to sharing highlights from the student trip to England at a future time.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Kline thanked the Administration for presenting a zero tax increase budget. He thanked Mr. Armato for his dedication to student programs.

Mrs. Kancianic reminisced about the history of the Montgomery Community College building on High Street (previously known as Kiwi Shoe Polish Factory).

Mrs. Lawrence gave a shout out to art students presenting exhibits at the college.

Ms. Spence thanked the DECA student president for her thank you note.


Mr. Heidel is a strong supporter of the McDonald's Writing contest. His daughter was a 2x award recipient. He is already looking ahead at the first day of the next school year (August 22, 2022).

Mr. Rodriguez thanked the staff for meeting the challenges of this year and he thanked the Board for their leadership. A brief video was shared on recruiting efforts for the 2022/2023 school year.

Ms. Bearden thanked the Board for their questions and a demonstration to everyone how the Board works together. She encouraged everyone to participate in Monday's advocacy event.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mr. Armato to adjourn. All in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned at 7:41pm.


Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary