



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL VOTING MEETING MINUTES  
June 30 2022**

**Executive Session for the purpose of Litigation.**

The Special Voting Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, June 30, 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. Phoebe Kancianic, Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Susan Lawrence and Ms. Deborah Spence. Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Ms. Maureen Jampo; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis.

**APPROVAL OF NON-CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Rodriguez presented the non-consent personnel items for Board discussion and approval. Mr. Kalis reviewed the non-consent tax exoneration and settlement agreement for Board discussion and approval.

**HEARINGS FROM PATRONS OF THE SCHOOLS:** None.

**Personnel: Administrative Transfer**

Danielle McCoy, from HS Principal to Pre-K Counts/PEAK Coordinator, North End, effective August 1, 2022, \$105,678/yr.

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the Personnel Administrative Transfer as presented.

Board Members discussed the position requirements, salary and personnel certifications. It is the recommendation of the administration to approve the transfer.

Mr. Heidel supports a hiring process (job posting and interview process).

Ms. Spence opposes the transfer.

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

**Personnel: MS Principal**

Hector Wangia, Principal, Middle School, effective date to be determined, \$125,923/yr. (replacing B. Hostetler).

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Kancianic that the Board approve the Personnel MS Principal as presented.

Upon roll call, the vote was recorded as follows: Spence: nay, Armato: aye, Bearden: aye, Lawrence: aye, Johnson: aye, Kancianic: aye, Heidel: aye, Hylton: aye, Kline: aye. Ayes: Eight. Nays: One. Motion carried.

## **Personnel**

1. Steve Palladino, 7/8 Assistant Principal, resignation effective August 19, 2022; hire date 1/18/22.
2. Alison Musumeci, Pre-K Counts Classroom Assistant, resignation effective June 24, 2022; hire date 10/29/18.
3. Daniel Higgins, from Long-Term Substitute Teacher to Secondary Teacher/Band Director, High School, effective August 15, 2022, \$46,000/yr, Step 2-Bach (contract of D. Bonilla-Garcia).
4. Ronald Frederick, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Rupert Elementary, effective August 15, 2022, \$194/day (coverage for N. Valenti).
5. Crystal Butler, Social Worker, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$51,000/yr., Masters / Licensed.
6. Riley Simon, Paraprofessional ESY, Rupert Elementary, effective July 5, 2022, \$13.70/hr.
7. Jeff Endy, Summer Cleaning, \$12/hr

It was moved by Mrs. Lawrence and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the Personnel items as presented.

Upon roll call, the vote was recorded as follows: Bearden: aye, Kline: aye, Johnson: aye, Armato: aye, Lawrence: aye, Spence: aye, Kancianic: aye, Heidel: aye, Hylton: aye. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

## **Tax Exoneration: 215 S. Washington Street**

Motion to authorize the solicitor to direct Portnoff Law Associates to take all steps necessary to exonerate/mark as satisfied all delinquent taxes involving the property located at 215 S. Washington St., Borough of Pottstown, up to the date the Property was acquired by the current owner, namely, May 28, 2020, together with all related litigation and liens, in furtherance of the Resolution previously adopted by the Board as part of the February 15, 2018 Board meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Kline and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the tax exoneration as presented.

Ms. Spence questioned the school district's actions vs. the Borough's actions. Mr. Kalis explained Borough Council resolved the matter by approving the deed of restricted conveyance. He noted that the property was a contaminated industrial property, subject to extensive environmental clean-up and monitoring at the county and state level.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Spence: nay, Armato: aye, Heidel: aye, Lawrence: aye, Johnson: aye, Kline: aye, Kancianic: aye, Hylton: aye, Bearden: aye. Ayes: Eight. Nays: One. Motion carried.

## **Settlement Agreement**

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

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the settlement agreement as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2021-2022-102**.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows: Armato: aye, Hylton: aye, Heidel: aye, Kline: aye, Spence: nay, Lawrence: aye, Johnson: aye, Kancianic: aye, Bearden: aye. Ayes: Eight. Nays: One. Motion carried.

### **Federation Remarks**

Jane Hospador, First Vice-President, spoke on behalf of the Federation of Pottstown Teachers. She welcomed the new Middle School Principal and looks forward to start of the summer school program.

### **Round Table**

Mr. Armato was thankful for the opportunity to have sat in on a number of interviews of candidates for administrative positions. He was impressed with the quality of the candidates and looks to working with the new administrators.

Mrs. Lawrence sat in on some interviews and was also impressed with the quality of the candidates.

Mr. Heidel wished everyone a happy, safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Mrs. Johnson congratulated the new hires and appreciates the administrations work to prepare for the new year.


Mr. Rodriguez thanked everyone for being flexible as we get through the post pandemic. He introduced the Mr. Wangia, the new MS Principal.

Mr. Wangia is honored and thankful for the opportunity to serve as the MS Principal and to continue the good work that is already being done with students and teachers.

Ms. Bearden thanked the Board Members for sitting in on the interviews and appreciative of everyone's efforts to get educators in place for the start of the school year. She wished everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday.

### **Adjournment**

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Ms. Kancianic that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

  
Maureen Jampo  
Board Secretary