



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 18, 2022**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, August 18, 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, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Phoebe Kancianic, Mrs. Susan Lawrence and Ms. Deborah Spence. Absent was Mrs. Laura Johnson, Mrs. Susan Lawrence Also present were Superintendent, Mr. Stephen Rodriguez; Business Administrator, Ms. Maureen Jampo; Director of Human Resources, Mr. Matthew Boyer; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis.

MINUTES

Ms. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on June 16, 2022 , the Special Voting Meeting held on June 30, 2022 and the Board Workshop held on July 28, 2022 for Board approval.

Mrs. Johnson entered the meeting at 6:35 pm

LIST OF BILLS

Mrs. Johnson presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the periods of April 2022, June 2022 and July 2022 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-002.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Johnson presented the Treasurer's Reports for June and July 2022 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-003. .**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MR. KLINE

Policy/Personnel Committee met on August 4. Committee report is attached to the board minutes.

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. LAWRENCE

Curriculum Committee met on August 4. Committee report is attached to the board minutes.

FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – MR. HYLTON

Facilities/Finance Committee met on August 11. Committee report is attached to the board minutes

PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MRS. JOHNSON

Public Relations/Community Engagement met on August 11. Committee report is attached to the Board minutes.

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 Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the minutes from the June 16, 2022 Regular Board meeting, the minutes from the June 30 Special Voting Meeting, the minutes from the July 28, 2022 Board Workshop, the List of Bills from the various fund for the period of April, June and July 2022 and the Treasurer’s Report for June and July 2022. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

BOARD ACTION: CONSENT

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

PERSONNEL

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

Professional

Jennie Falco, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective August 29, 2022; hire date August 25, 2021

Megan Rogers, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective August 30, 2022; hire date August 23, 2016

Rebecca Jones, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective September 16, 2023; hire date August 20, 2019.

Ratify Erin Scheule, Long-term Substitute Teacher, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective August 15, 2022; hire date August 15, 2022.

Ratify Christine Chase, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective June 10, 2022; hire date September 18, 2017.

Stacey Delpino, Secondary Teacher, High School, resignation effective when position is filled or October 3, 2022; hire date December 6, 2021.

Carol Livingston, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective when position is filled or October 3, 2022; hire date August 22, 2017.

Jennifer Furniss, Special Education Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective when position is filled or September 30, 2022; hire date November 18, 2019.

Iris Bucci, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective when position is filled or October 3, 2022; hire date December 11, 2017.

Long-term Substitute Teachers *2021/2022 termination due to End of Assignment, effective June 6, 2022: Ratify Valentino Alfonse, Jamie Banks, Ann Marie Fadden, Jesse Hazi-Sheikh, Alita Murray, Ashlee Rodriguez, Mark Snyder

Exempt

Ratify Kimberly Brown, Pre-K Counts Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, resignation effective August 7, 2022; hire date September 20, 2017.

Classified

Kerry Kline, Intervention Assistant, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 9, 2023; hire date March 16, 1987.

Ratify Lynn Baker, Pre-K Counts Assistant, North End, resignation effective August 1, 2022; hire date October 18, 2021.

Katrina Boughter, Paraprofessional, Middle School, resignation effective June 29, 2022; hire date August 25, 2021.

Ratify Alicia Miller, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective August 2, 2022; hire date August 16, 2021.

Ratify Brittnai Panton, Paraprofessional, Middle School, resignation effective August 2, 2022; hire date March 9, 2020.

LEAVES

Professional

Victoria Damiano, Elementary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date November 9, 2022; end date tbd.

Christina Lepkowski, Elementary Teacher Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date October 9, 2022; end date tbd.

Exempt

Kelly Heidler, Pre-K Counts Teacher, North End, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 9, 2022; end date tbd.

Classified

Beth Bean, Full-time Cafeteria Worker, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 29, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Debbie Katch, Paraprofessional, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 15, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Maria Christina Kane, Elementary Kitchen Manager, High School, request for leave of absence covered by Family Medical Leave Act, effective August 17, 2022; end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

Administrative

Ratify Gavin Lawler, from Assistant Principal to temporary Interim Principal, High School, effective August 4, 2022, \$74.72/day stipend in addition to current compensation.

Jesse Tupper, Secondary Teacher to House Principal, Middle School, effective date tbd, \$104,190/yr.

Professional

Ratify Lynsey Bird, from Long-term Substitute Teacher to Special Education Teacher, initial assignment Franklin Elementary, effective August 15, 2022, \$47,000/yr + Stipends, Bach+15 (LTS - Garber)

Ratify Meredith Johnston, from Long-term Substitute Teacher to Special Education Teacher, initial assignment Franklin Elementary, effective August 15, 2022, \$47,000/yr + Stipends, Bach +15 (LTS - Volinski).

Ratify Heather Murray, from Intervention Assistant to Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day. Upon end of assignment she will return to her role as Intervention Assistant.

Ratify Allison Collins, from Virtual Elementary Teacher to Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, effective August 15, 2022, 448,217/yr, Step 2-Bach (LTS-Weldon).

Ratify Dawn Engleman, from Long-term Substitute Teacher to Special Education Teacher, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$48,240/yr + Stipends, Step 1-Bach=15 (contract of J. Furniss).

Sarah Clark, from Virtual Coach/Part-time Speech Pathologist to Full-time Speech Pathologist, Admin. Bldg., effective date tbd, \$50,278/yr.

Ratify Danielle Lawrence from Virtual Coach to Long-term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective August 16, 2022, \$251/day; Upon end of assignment she will return to her role as Virtual Coach.

Exempt

Ratify Melanie Gniewoz, from Intervention Assistant to Pre-K Counts Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, effective August 15, 2022, \$45,000/yr (replacing K. Brown).

Classified

Ratify Deborah Cimino, from Proctor to Full-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, effective August 17, 2022, \$12,000/hr.

Ratify Rachel Morrow, Student Services Secretary, Admin. Bldg., from 6 hrs/day to 7.5 hrs./day, effective August 1, 2022, no change in hourly compensation.

Pam Knittle, Kindergarten Assistant/Proctor, Franklin Elementary, extended temporary hours to 7.5 hrs/day, effective August 22, 2022, no change in hourly compensation.

ELECTIONS

Administrative

Ratify Christian D'Annibale, Principal, High School, effective August 17, 2022, \$132,496/yr (replacing D. McCoy)

Professional

Ratify Kelsey Knowles, Secondary Teacher,, initial assignment High School, effective August 15, 2022, \$55,423/yr. Step 6-Mast (contract of M. Rogers).

Ratify Joseph Daye, Long-term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day

Ratify Rachel O'Day, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$57,464/yr, Step 7-Mast (contract of R. Jones).

Ratify Doris Baer, Long-term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day.

Ratify Adam Girafalco, Long-term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day.

Ratify Christopher Savo, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment High School, effective August 15, 2022, \$52,388/yr, Step 2-Mast (Contract of C. Drone).

Ratify Melanie Olivieri, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$47,718/yr, Step 1-Bach (contract of T. DiMauro).

Ratify Adam Peters, Long-term Substitute Teacher (Health &PE), MS/Lincoln, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day (Coverage for Moyer).

Ratify Harry Donnelly, Long-term Substitute Teacher, Middle School, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day (coverage for R. Vega).

Amber Elsner, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment High School, effective August 22, 2022, \$48,217/yr, Step 2-Bach (contract of Drone).

Ratify Jasmine Cora, Long-term Substitute Teacher, Barth Elementary, effective August 15, 2022, \$251/day.

Classified

Nicolas Muriel, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, High School, effective date tbd, \$12.50/hr.

Victoria Sarandos, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Elementary/Secondary, effective August 22, 2022, \$12.50/hr.

Jessica Trabucco, Part-time Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective August 25, 2022, \$12.50/hr.

Heather Quiles, Paraprofessional, Middle School, effective date tbd, \$13.95/hr.

District Summer Programs: Ratify all Pottstown School District staff, on a as-needed basis, rates applicable to position.

CO-CURRICULAR ASSIGNMENTS: 2022/2023 Fall Sports * Addendum #2022-2023-004

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

<u>Name</u>	<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>6/30/22 Deadline</u>
Amanda Fusco	HS	\$1,452.00
David Mabry (2 courses)	MS	\$4,802.00
Sarah Rizzuto (2 courses)	Barth	\$3,000.00
Krystle Rothenberger (2 courses)	MS	\$3,000.00
Michael Hewitt	HS	\$939.00
Stephanie Dunn	North End	\$2,850.00

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

<u>Bldg</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title / Location</u>	<u>Dates Attend</u>	<u>District Cost</u>
Admin	Stephen Rodriguez	PASA Board of Governors, Harrisburg, PA	09/08/2022 - 09/09/2022	\$63.50 (1/2 hotel cost:\$127)
Admin	Heather Dailey Mary Ellen Urquhart	Eastern Grants Forum 2022, Philadelphia, PA	08/18/2022 - 08/19/2022	\$2,400 (ESSER funded)
Admin	Karen Crable	PAFPC Summer Leadership Forum, Harrisburg, PA	08/11/2022 - 08/12/2022	\$795.00 (ESSER Funded)

POLICIES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Policy 100: Comprehensive Plan as presented and copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022/2023-005**

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2022

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Comprehensive Plan 2022 as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-006**.

MIDDLE SCHOOL A-TSI PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the MS A-TSI Plan as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-007**.

2022/2023 EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2022/2023 Emergency Resolution as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-008**.

2022/2023 HEALTH & SAFETY PLAN

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-009**.

ATTENDANCE OFFICERS 2022/2023

The Superintendent recommends the individuals filling the positions as presented be approved as the 2022/2023 Attendance Officers and a copy be filed in Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-010**.

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-011**.

- Lincoln Center
- MOU: Family Services
- 95% Group
- Camphill School
- Devereux Foundation (SPE)
- Precision Human Resource Solutions
- MCIU Prof.Develop.-Asynchronous
- Glen Price Group (PEAK)
- New Story School (SPE)
- Melmark Inc. (SPE)
- Woods Services (SPE)

ACKNOWLEDGE CMD SERVICES TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS

The Superintendent recommends the Board acknowledge the list of CMD bus drivers for the 2022/2023 school year for the sole purpose of complying with the applicable PDE guidelines and subject to adjustment by CMD Services, Inc. based upon its applicable considerations. A copy to be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-012**.

AMENDMENT TO LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER RATE

The Policy/Personnel Committee and Superintendent recommends the Board approve the approve / ratify the Long-term Substitute Teacher Rate from \$194/day to \$251/day as presented at the August 4, 2022 Policy/Personnel Committee. *Side Letter/MOU to Professional Agreement 2022/2025, copy to be filed in the Secretary's Office as **Addendum #2022-2023-013**.

SCHOOL PHYSICIANS/DENTIST RATES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2022/2023 School Physicians/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

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 #2022-023-014**.

Upon roll call vote, the vote was recorded as follows for the above consent items:

Spence: nay, Lawrence: aye, Armato: aye, Hylton: aye, Heidel: aye, Bearden: aye, Johnson: aye, Kancianic: abstain, Kline: aye. Ayes: Seven. Nays: One. Abstention: One. Motion carried.

***Note: Residency Adjudication Decision was pulled from the Board Agenda.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Middle School House Plan Update – Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the MS House Plan for the start of the new school year. Highlights of the presentation included achievements to date (hired substitutes, house principals, home & school visitor and a social worker). Goals include intramurals, a recess area, parent liaisons, communication plan, and additional school year activities.

INFORMATION

- September Workshop Date (options 9/22, 9/29) - Ms. Bearden
- Monthly Meeting Notice - Ms. Jampo
- Pottstown Pride: Spring/Summer - Mr. Armato

FEDERATION REMARKS

Ms. Hospador, on behalf of the Federation, welcomed the new teachers. The Federation is recommending hiring an additional related arts teacher. Ms. Hospador gave an outline of the plan and the benefits. Board Members were invited to contact Mrs. Yoder for more information.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Heidel looks forward to the start of the new school year.

Mrs. Lawrence was interested in adding the Federation recommendation to the Curriculum Committee agenda.

Mr. Armato was impressed with the parent involvement at the back to school building events. He looks forward to working together with the new administrators.

Mrs. Kancianic was impressed with the great parent back to school night.

Mrs. Johnson welcomed the new staff.

Mr. Kline thanked Mr. Boyer and administrative staff for their hard work filling positions for the start of the school year.

Mark Ellis, Student Board Representative, looks forward to getting back to school and a better year than last year.

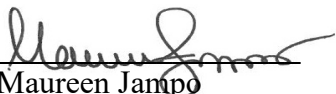
Mr. Rodriguez thanked the Board for their great decisions for Pottstown. He introduced the new HS principal. Mr. D'Annibale thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the students and community. He looks forward to getting started.

Ms. Bearden is happy students are coming back and thanked the community for supporting the students at the start of the new school year.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE PERSONNEL.


Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary



**Pottstown School District
Personnel/Policy Committee Report
August 4, 2022 (virtual)**

Attendees: Steve Kline, Chair; John Armato, Susan Lawrence, Deborah Spence, Katina Bearden, Phoebe Kancianic, Laura Johnson, Thomas Hylton, Matthew Boyer, Stephen Rodriguez

POLICY

- Policy 100: Strategic Plan – changing the language in the policy from “strategic plan” to “comprehensive plan”, to be placed on the August 18 Board agenda for approval.

Policy to review for future consideration at a later date:

- Policy 840 Service Dogs
- Policy 841 Therapy Dogs

PERSONNEL

- Part-time Speech Pathologist to Full Time Speech Pathologist – change due to an increase in case loads; approximately additional salary of \$5,000.
- Adding 1.5 Hours to Secretary in Students Services – changing to full-time; additional interaction with new staff (residency coordinator & home school visitor).
- PHS Interim Principal – temporary move HS Assistant Principal to Interim Principal; salary at daily rate equal to principal salary rate.
- PHS Support -Temporary Dean of Students – administrative support during temporary transition at high school

Informational Items

- PDE Educator Workforce Strategy 2022-2025 – document focuses on strategies to address critical staffing needs; document was shared with Board.
- Review of Current Long Term Substitute Rate (Currently \$194.00 a day) – proposed change to be more competitive with other districts; average estimate is approximately \$220 to \$265; recommended rate is \$251/day (base starting salary Step 1 -Bach). Committee was in favor of placing the recommended per diem rate on the August 18 Board agenda for approval, retroactive to all long-term substitutes currently hired for the 2022/2023 school year.

New Item: request to review the Conduct Code

Board control of Conduct Code vs continue practice with Superintendent:

Each committee member voiced their understanding of the current practice versus moving to board control. The result of the committee discussion ended with a 4 to 1 in favor of staying with the current practice.

Public Comment

Mercedes Jackson announced that the Family Advisory Committee will be attending all back-to-school nights including getting the 5th graders acclimated to the middle school. She encouraged parents and guardians to show up and do their part.

Next Meeting Date: September 1, 2022



Pottstown School District

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

August 4, 2022

Attendees: Susan Lawrence - Chairperson; Steve Kline, Phoebe Kancianic, Thomas Hylton, Deborah Spence, Katina Bearden. Ryan Oxenford, Stephen Rodriguez

Action Items

- **Comprehensive Plan 2022** (PA required document)
The plan has been on public display for the required 28 days; the document is ready to be placed on the August 18 Board agenda for approval and submit through (FRCPP) Future Ready Comprehensive Planning Portal.
- **Middle School: A-TSI Plan** – the existing was written in 2019 with a 3 year timeline. Most of the existing plan has been converted into the required format to submit through the FRCPP. PDE requires Board approval as part of the submission process. The A-TSI Plan for the Middle School will be placed on the August 18 Board agenda for approval
- **95% Group Agreement (grant funded)** – an extension of the 2021/2022 Professional Development for intervention staff grades K – 2, focusing on phonic skills; the group material purchase and professional training for 2022/2023 provides direct instruction resources to teachers in Grades 2 and 3. Cost for the materials is \$44,539 (ESSER funded). The agreement will be placed on the August 18 Board agenda for approval.
- **Instructional Planning for Emergency Purposes** – Mr. Rodriguez shared a document that the new PA Secretary of Education is recommending all districts re-approve the plan for emergency purposes as needed for the new school year.
- **Health and Safety Plan** ~Mr. Rodriguez stated has some minor wording changes to last year's; no major differences in the plan and District continues to coordinate with health agencies and Guidelines from the State

Informational Items

- **Induction: New Teacher Orientation Overview** – Induction is a 2 yr requirement; Orientation is a 3 day program to get new teachers acclimated/familiar to PSD processes/procedures, etc.
- **Professional Development: August 2022** – schedule August 15 to 18th ; various topics are covered
- **Curriculum Writing: Summer 2022** – focus at secondary level; identified 29 course documents
- **Back to School Nights** – shared the schedule for all building levels.

Public Comment

Mercedes Jackson, resident, suggested recruiting new employees via offering employee bonuses for new hire referrals that stay with the District for a predetermined timeline.

Next Meeting: September 1, 2022



POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Facilities/Finance Committee
REPORT

August 11, 2022 (virtual)

Attendees: Thomas Hylton- Chair; John Armato, Steve Kline, Kurt Heidel, Laura Johnson, Katina Bearden, Deborah Spence, Susan Lawrence, Phoebe Kancianic, John Connor, Maureen Jampo, Stephen Rodriguez

FACILITIES – John Connor

Facility Updates

- Summer Projects Updates: Middle School has finished on time, on schedule and on budget.
- Fuel Oil Tank Removal at Middle School: tanks removed; no issues
- Chiller Replacement at High School Update: August delivery date was postponed to October to avoid any climate control issues at the start of school. Current chillers are working.

Residency Program: Mr. Hylton reviewed the residency incentive program approved by the Board and implemented in 2016. To date the current balance available to teachers interested in purchasing a home in Pottstown is approximately \$16,000. Committee members discussed the significance of continuing funding the program. It was determined to keep the option open and re-evaluate the program when the funds are depleted.

Meadows: Mr. Hylton gave a recap of planting meadows at the school buildings. Total cost of the project is \$42,500; spent to date \$27,000; more to be done (includes mowing spraying for invasive). Signage is being drawn up for presentation at the September committee meeting for review.

FINANCE - Maureen Jampo

- Board Approval Items:
 - Contracts: Lincoln Ctr FT School Counselor, MCIU: Professional Development, Family Services of Montg. Cty (PEAK), Glen Price Group (PEAK), Special Education Tuition Agreements: Devereux, Camphill School, Melmark, New story School, Woods Services, 95% Group (Curriculum),
 - Annual: Acknowledge CMD Services Drivers (PDE requirement), School Physician and Dentist Rates and Worker Compensation Providers Panel for PSD
 - Additional: Barth Greenhouse MOU (MOU-Pending legal review); Amendment to Long-term Substitute Teacher rate for 2022/2023 school year

Information

- State Subsidy Revenue - Ms. Jampo gave a presentation on anticipated surplus (\$3,071,912) minus a safety & security allocation (\$300,852) for an adjusted surplus of approximately \$2,811,060. Education Programs, Facilities, Personnel, Property Tax Relief were identified areas as part of advocacy efforts. Budget concerns and uncertainties for the 2022/2023 school include charter school tuition, special education, facilities and inflation. Caution to make a recommendation at this time on how to best utilize the anticipated surplus is based on the unknowns at the start of the school year. Committee members shared their thoughts and would like to look at options for consideration (ex: property tax relief, student priorities, personnel).



POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
Public Relations/Community Engagement Committee
REPORT
August 11, 2022

Attendees: Laura Johnson, (Chair); Katina Bearden, , Phoebe Kancianic, Deborah Spence, John Armato, Stephen Rodriguez.

Presentation

PSMA- Phoebe Kancianic shared a presentation on the Pottstown Schools Music Association group. Volunteers are essential to the District's music department. Volunteers assist in numerous activities, fundraisers, chaperones, etc. The majority of volunteers work with the high school students; more are needed at the middle school and elementary levels.

Updates

Summer Communications Update – Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the 21/22 parent survey, the co-curricular activities and the reunification method communications that were shared with parents this summer.

Board Meeting Updates – Mr. Rodriguez gave an update on the technical options for hybrid options versus Virtual Board meetings. Several hybrid examples were shared with the committee. The large group camera meeting was tested and found not to meet expectations. The Director of Technology continues to work on options to present at next month's meeting. Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the options for Public Comment found on the District's website.

Middle School Update – Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the recommendations for the 2022/2023 school year and the progress to date. Highlights include (3) House Principals, (4) long-term substitute teachers (1 for each grade level), a Home & School Visitor, and a Social Worker (shared). Construction has been completed at minimal cost including a few office spaces and technology area. To do list includes intramurals, recess areas, parent liaisons, communication plan, school year activities and cohesive planning.

Discussion

African American Committee Idea- Deborah Spence shared a presentation on past and present racial inequalities. She spoke on the need for an African American Committee is to address equity and student minority needs. Committee members asked what are the goals and parameters of the committee. Members were interested in hearing more on the presentation and set up a viable structure for effectiveness and sustainability. A workshop outside of the committee level was the recommendation for more discussion. Tentative date for next workshop is being considered between now and October to include focus areas.

Advocacy

Budget win and court case update – Mrs. Johnson was pleased with the state budget's additional subsidy funding. Court case concluded with no decision to date.