



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
October 20, 2022**

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, October 20, 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, Mr. Steve Kline, Mrs. Phoebe Kancianic, 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, Mr. Stephen Kalis.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**PSBA Honor Roll of School Directors Award**

PSBA representatives, Becky Dussinger and John Paul Capresecco, presented Ms. Bearden and Mr. Hylton with Certificates of Appreciation ) in recognition of ongoing school board service and long-term contribution to public education in the Commonwealth of PA. Ms. Bearden was recognized for for 8yrs of service. Mr. Hylton was recognized for 12 years of service.

**Foundation for Pottstown Education: The Amazing Raise**

Mr. Rusiewicz, Executive Director, shared with the Board, the history of the Amazing Raise and the goal to support the mission of over 50 non-profit organizations in the Tri-County Network. The challenge is based on individual donations and is tax deductible. District participation demonstrates the belief in the mission of the Foundation to provide support for students education. He thanked the Board for their full participation in this event.

**MINUTES**

Ms. Jampo presented the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held on September 15, 2022 for Board approval.

**LIST OF BILLS**

Mrs. Johnson presented the list of bills paid from the various funds for the periods of September 2022, to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-020**.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mrs. Johnson presented the Treasurer's Reports for September 2022 to be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-021**.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**POLICY/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MR. KLINE**

Policy/Personnel Committee met on October 6. Committee report is attached to the board minutes.

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. LAWRENCE**

Curriculum Committee met on October 6. Committee report is attached to the board minutes.

FACILITIES/FINANCE COMMITTEE – MR. HYLTON

Facilities/Finance Committee met on October 13. Committee report is attached to the board minutes

PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – MRS. JOHNSON

Public Relations/Community Engagement met on October 13. Committee report is attached to the Board minutes.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEGISLATIVE /PSBA REPRESENTATIVE – MRS. JOHNSON

Meetings focused on the elections. The expectation is that all old bills will expire and need to be re-introduced.

MCIU REPRESENTATIVE – no report

BOROUGH LIAISON – MS. SPENCE

No meeting report. A side note of a potential draft real estate tax increase of approximately 3% to 4% equal to estimate of \$50 per household.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – MR. ELLISON

Students welcomed the new HS principal. He gave an update on high school events ( musical, honor society inductions, CARES program).

**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):**

Mercedes Jackson, resident, asked if the District could provide an opportunity for the students who missed the field trip due to COVID, to go on another field trip. FAC is interested in having a phone number so they can continue to reach parents in a consistent manner.

Kizmet Jackson, resident, voiced her concern about the number of resignations in the District. She expressed her appreciation to the Middle School administrators for a great job, addressing the issues in the best interest of the students.

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

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mrs. Johnson that the Board approve the minutes from the September 15, 2022 Regular Board meeting, the List of Bills from the various fund for the period of September 2022 and the Treasurer’s Report for September 2022. All were in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.

**BOARD ACTION: CONSENT**

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

**PERSONNEL**

POSITIONS

Classified

Parents Liaison - Part-time Support, Middle School \* **Addendum #2022-2023-022.**

## RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS

### Administrative

Gavin Lawler, Interim Principal/Assistant Principal, High School, resignation effective when position is filled or November 15, 2022; hire date September 23, 2019.

### Professional

Olivia Berrigan, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective when position is filled or December 5, 2022; hire date August 20, 2019.

Emile Dormer, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, resignation effective when position is filled or December 4, 2022; hire date March 5, 2019.

### Classified

Ratify Evalinn Pierce, Part-time Elementary Cleaner, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective August 25, 2022.

Ratify Anya Singleton-Gray, Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective September 20, 2022; hire date January 18, 2022.

Ratify William Banks, Part-time Proctor, Middle School, termination due to job abandonment effective June 7, 2022; hire date December 20, 2021.

Ratify Haylee Frederick, Classroom Assistant, North End, resignation effective October 7, 2022; hire date September 26, 2022.

Ratify John DeBoer, Custodian, High School, resignation effective October 7, 2022; hire date October 11, 2021.

Ratify Christopher Williams, Part-time Cleaner, resignation effective October 4, 2022; hire date October 3, 2022.

Ratify Amanda Jenkins, Intervention assistant, Rupert Elementary, resignation effective October 14, 2022; hire date December 20, 2021.

Siara Kanwal, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective October 21, 2022; hire date August 16, 2021.

Karen Mazzie, Paraprofessional, Middle School, resignation effective October 21, 2022; hire date January 30, 2017.

## LEAVES

### Professional

Matthew Samohod, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective November 4, 2022; end date tbd.

Christy Courtney, Secondary Teacher, Middle School, request for leave of absence, effective January 13, 2023; end date tbd.

Ratify Athena Proscal, Elementary Teacher, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 26, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Brittany Zacharias, Elementary Teacher, Barth Elementary, request for leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective September 26, 2022; end date tbd.

Exempt

Ratify Stephanie Dunn, Pre-K Counts Behavior Manager, North End, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, effective November 19, 2022; end date tbd.

Classified

Ratify Robert Johnston, IT Technician, Admin. Building, request for intermittent leave of absence covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, anticipated effective date September 21, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Keith Knier, Part-time Student Proctor, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence effective October 6, 2022; end date tbd.

Ratify Pamela Knittle, Kindergarten Assistant/Proctor, Franklin Elementary, request for leave of absence effective October 12, 2022; end date tbd.

CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

Professional

Ratify Lauren Schiller, from Intervention Assistant to Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Barth Elementary, effective October 10, 2022, \$251/day. Upon completion of assignment, she will return to role as Intervention Assistant.

Jaime Parris, Teacher on Special Assignment, Dean of Students, High School, effective October 21, 2022, \$60/day stipend in addition to current compensation. Upon end of assignment, will return to Elementary Teacher.

Classified

Ratify Dana Barnes, from Paraprofessional to Intervention Assistant, Barth Elementary, effective September 26, 2022, \$14.25/hr. (replacing L. Schiller).

Ratify Jacqueline Lord, from Cafeteria Worker to Cafeteria Manager, High School, effective September 21, 2022, \$18.75/hr. (replacing M. Kane).

Yanica Morales, from Part-time Proctor to Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, effective date tbd, \$13.95/hr.

ELECTIONS

Administrative

William Jeffreys, Director of Special Education, Administration Building, effective date to be determined, \$128,828/yr (replacing S. Morett).

Ryan Johnston, Assistant Principal, High School, anticipated effective date December 7, 2022, \$113,069/yr (replace G. Lawler).

### Professional

Ratify Adella Brady, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment High School, effective October 3, 2022, \$47,718.00/yr, Step 1-Bach (contract of S. Delphino).

Ratify Lee Wilcox, Long-term Substitute, Building Substitute, Franklin Elementary, effective October 5, 2022, \$251.00/day.

Ratify Lee Jaime-Mercado, Long-term Substitute, Building Substitute, Rupert Elementary, effective October 5, 2022, \$251.00/day.

Ratify Karisa Ludy, Long-term Substitute, Building Substitute, Lincoln Elementary, effective October 10, 2022, \$251.00/day.

Nora Sicher, Special Education Teacher, initial assignment High School, effective December 20, 2022, \$84,300/yr. \_ Stipends, Step 15-Mast+30,(contract of E. Boyer).

Richard Goodge, Health and PE Teacher, High School, anticipated effective date December 5, 2022, \$57,464/yr, Step 7-Mast (contract of S. Rambo).

Ratify Liane Livote, School Counselor, initial assignment Lincoln Elementary, effective October 17, 2022, \$53,956/yr, Step 2,M+30.

Ratify Shane Dougherty, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment Middle School, effective October 17, 2022, \$58,456/yr, Step 6, M+15 (contract of I. Bucci).

### Classified

Ratify Reon Astheimer, Virtual Learning Coach (Long-term Substitute Support), High School, effective September 20, 2022, \$30.60/hr. (coverage for D. Lawrence).

Ratify Haylee Frederick, Pre-K Counts Classroom Assistant, North End, effective September 26, 2022, \$13.95/hr. (replacing L. Baker).

Ratify Joyce Sutton, Part-time Lunch Proctor, Barth Elementary, effective September 26, 2022, \$12.50/hr.

Ratify Christopher Williams, Part-time Cleaner, Rupert Elementary, effective October 3, 2022, \$12.20/hr.

Ratify Meghan Whitehurst, Pre-K Counts Classroom Assistant, North End, effective October 4, 2022, \$13.95/hr. (replacing D. Fabian).

Ratify Shanaya Glenn, Virtual Learning Coach, BSLS, Admin. Building, effective October 12, 2022, \$31.00/hr., grant funded (replacing S. Clark).

Jennifer Gagnon, Part-time Cafeteria Worker, Middle School, effective date October 19, 2022, \$12.50/hr.

John Stilwell, Paraprofessional, Rupert Elementary, effective October 21, 2022, \$13.95/hr.

Florantz Pardieu, Paraprofessional/Part-time Proctor, Lincoln Elementary, effective date tbd, \$13.95/hr (replacing Y. Morales).

21st Century After School Program (grant funded)  
Sharon Deloughery-Nihart, Tutor, \$35/hr.

Missed Planning Time

Compensation for Missed Planning Time \***Addendum #2022-2023-023**

**HORIZONTAL MOVEMENT**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the horizontal movements as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2022-2023-024**.

**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 #2022-2023-025**.

**PROFESSIONAL LEAVES**

<u>Bldg.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Conference Title / Location</u>	<u>Dates Attend</u>	<u>District Cost</u>
Admin	Kelly Reilly Robin Romero Mieke Mazur	MCIU Spec.Ed. Leadership Conf. Sky Top, PA	10/27/2022 - 10/28/2022	\$305.00 each - paid by dept. Budget
HS	Kevin Pascal	2022 PA Cooperative Educ.Conf. State College, PA	10/13/2022 - 10/14/2022	\$695.00 - paid by dept. budget
Admin	Karen Crable	Data Summit Hershey, PA	03/27/2022 - 03/29/2023	\$896 - paid by dept. budget
Admin	Stephen Rodriguez	PASA Board of Governors Harrisburg, PA	11/10/2022 - 11/11/2022	\$165.97 - paid by dept. budget/50% by PASA
Admin	Christine Sellers	A/CAPA Hershey, PA	10/26/2022 - 10/28/2022	\$690.00 paid by dept.

**FIELD TRIPS**

<u># students</u>	<u>Conference:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Trip Date</u>	<u>Student \$</u>	<u>District \$</u>	<u>Chaperone(s)</u>
36	STEAM Trip	London & Paris	9/26/2023 - 10/04/2023	\$3,673.00		R. Decker, A. Bachman, J. Mohr, B. Yoder
255	North Bay Environment Education Center	North East, MD	10/17/2022 - 10/21/2022	\$0.00		G. Angleo, D. Mabry, M.Samohod, T. Pasquale, A. Wagner, R. Mintzer, K. Johns, G. Thomas, D.Engleman, O. Berrigan, S. DeAngeli, M. Clark, T. White

**CONTRACTS**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the contracts as presented and copies be filed in the Secretary’s office as **Addendum #2022-2023-026**:

- SOS Addendum (staffing)
- Chester County IU: Title 1 Services
- Valley Forge Ed.Serv.Addendum (Spec.Ed)
- New Story LLC (Spec.Ed)

- MCIU Title 1 Services
- Green Ridge Landscaping (Mowing & Grounds Maintenance)
- YMCA PM Care Services
- MOU's: 21<sup>st</sup> Century After-School Programs
- Devereux Foundation (Spec. Ed.)
- ELA Sport (PSH Athletic Facilities Design/Consulting)

**HIGH SCHOOL CHILLER CHANGE ORDER**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the High School Chiller Change Order as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-027**.

**RESOLUTION: ACT 57 WAIVER OF ADDITIONAL CHARGES TO REAL ESTATE TAX**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Act 57 Resolution authorizing the waiving of additional charges and late payments of real estate taxes as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-028**.

**EXEMPT AND SUPPORT STAFF INCREASES**

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the exempt and support staff increases as presented at the Facilities/Finance Committee meeting of October 13, 2022; 4% retroactive to July 1, 2022, additional equity increases PKC certified teachers, food service, IT technicians starting rate. Hourly pay differential AS, ES, LSS identified roles effective October 31, 2022.

**\*TREE GRANT APPLICATION RESOLUTION (moved to non-consent)**

The Superintendent recommends the Board adopt the Urban Tree Canopy Enhancement Resolution in accordance with the grant application as discussed at the October 13, 2022 Facilities/Finance Committee.

Board Members discussed funding sources if the grant were to be awarded. The grant funds 80% of the project; the District funds the remaining 20%. District resources for this project can be federal, state or local funding.

Ms. Spence requested the Tree Grant Application Resolution be moved to Non-Consent.

**Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye for the above consent items (Note: excluding Tree Grant Application Resolution): Heidel: aye, Bearden: aye, Spence: nay, Armato: aye, Johnson: aye, Kline: aye, Lawrence: aye, Kancianic: Aye, Hylton: aye. Ayes: Eight. Nays: One. Motion carried.**

**NON-CONSENT**

The Superintendent presented the Non-Consent item for Board consideration.

**Hearings from Patrons \*limited to Non-Consent items only: None**

**NON-CONSENT: PSBA OFFICERS ELECTIONS**

Motion for Board participation in the voting procedures of PSBA Election of Officers endorsing the candidates of choice as follows:

- President: Michael Gossert
- Sec.E2 Advisor: Karen Beck Pooley
- Vice-President: Allison Mathis
- Trustees: Kathy K. Swope, Roberta M. Marcus

It was moved by Mr. Kline and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence 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 #2022-2023-029**.

Upon roll call vote, all members voted aye. Lawrence: aye, Bearden: aye, Kancianic: aye, Armato: aye, Heidel: aye, Hylton: aye, Kline: aye, Johnson: aye, Spence: aye. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### **NON-CONSENT: TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

Motion to approve the technology upgrade for in-person and virtual meetings as presented at the October 13 Facilities/Finance Committee meeting:

- Technology Upgrade: Option 1 - Wireless - estimated cost: \$47,031.00

Board Members shared their concerns regarding the cost of the upgrade, sustainability, versatility and potential future costs as technology changes.

It was moved by Mr. Hylton and seconded by Mrs. Kancianic to table the Technology Upgrade as presented.

Upon roll call vote all members voted aye to table the Technology Upgrade. Armato: aye, Heidel: aye, Hylton: aye, Spence: aye, Lawrence: aye, Johnson: aye, Kancianic: aye, Bearden: aye. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Motion carried to table the Technology Upgrade.

#### **NON-CONSENT: TREE GRANT APPLICATION RESOLUTION**

The Superintendent recommends the Board adopt the Urban Tree Canopy Enhancement Resolution in accordance with the grant application as discussed at the October 13, 2022 Facilities/Finance Committee.

Ms. Bearden clarified the resolution is for the purpose of submitting the grant application. Further action would be taken by the Board regarding District funding of the 20% if the grant were to be awarded. The administration confirmed that federal, state or local funds are applicable with this grant. Any federal or state fund would fall under the bid procurement process including Board approval.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board adopt the Tree Grant Application Resolution for the purpose of submitting the grant and a copy be file in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-030**.

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

#### **INFORMATION**

- **October 3,2022 Board Workshop & Executive Session follow-up:**

Ms. Bearden sated the Executive Board Workshop focused on legal processes regarding sensitive and confidential business. Notification of the workshop was given two months prior at the Board meetings. Mr. Kalis will present a summary of the workshop in November. A portion of the workshop included dialogue regarding an African American Committee. More discussion will follow at the committee level.



## **FEDERATION REMARKS**

Ms. Hospador stated the buildings and classrooms are continuing to face serious challenges. Larger class sizes, staff shortages, behavior issues are among these challenges. The Federation encourages the Board to visit the schools and talk to teachers. The Federation looks forward to collaborating with the Board to find solutions to some of these challenges.

## **ROUND TABLE**

Mrs. Lawrence wanted to clarify her position on technology upgrades and tree grant application. She believes there is a cheaper way to accomplish in-person meetings that provides good audio. She accepts supporting the tree grant application but will be hesitant on spending District funds if awarded the grant. Mrs. Lawrence noted that the related arts issue will be discussed at the Curriculum Committee meeting.

Mrs. Kancianic congratulate Mark Ellison on his lead role in the upcoming musical.

Ms. Spence is impressed with the mentorship programs. The Montgomery County Association of Mentors met last week. It was an epic event.

Mr. Ellis thanked Mr. Rusiewicz and the Foundation for all their hard work. He is thankful for all the opportunities afforded to him.

Mrs. Johnson encouraged everyone to exercise their civil right to vote.

Mr. Armato stated he is proud to be a member of this board that demonstrates professionalism when addressing issues that not everyone agrees on. He thanked Ms. Meade for recognizing the success of the House Model at the Middle School. Mr. Armato spoke about the goals that have been addressed by the Board: 1)adding additional programs, 2)improving facilities and providing competitive 3) employee compensation. He looks forward to addressing the 4<sup>th</sup> goal, to reduce taxes, in the upcoming 2023-2024 budget.

Mr. Rodriguez was pleased to spend time with the students at the North Bay field trip. He thanked the parents and chaperones for their support. Mr. Rodriguez, on behalf of the Pottstown School District, expressed condolences to the Pottsgrove Falcons in their time of grief.

Ms. Bearden thanked the PSBA representatives and Mrs. Rusiewicz for their presentations. She asked parents to be cognitive of the holiday candies. Ms. Bearden reminded the Board of the executive session at the close of the meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was move by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Kancianic that the meeting adjourns. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERSONNEL**

  
Maureen Jampo  
Board Secretary



**Pottstown School District  
Personnel/Policy Committee  
REPORT  
October 6, 2022 (virtual)**

Committee Members: Steve Kline, Chair; John Armato, Susan Lawrence, Deborah Spence, Katina Bearden

**POLICY**

- Policy 840 - Service Dogs
- Policy 841 - Therapy Dogs

Members discussed changes/addendums to address specific circumstances and how to handle health issues in a classroom setting. The ADA (American Disabilities Act) references “service animals” not specific to “dogs” as referenced in the current policies. The committee asked for a draft policy to address the changes, to be reviewed by the solicitor and presented to the committee for future discussion.

**PERSONNEL**

- Parent Liaison Job Description / Job Posting – the Parent Liaison position is part of the Middle School House Plan; Job descriptions for new positions require Board approval. The job description was shared with the committee for review. Members support the position applicable to each grade level at the Middle School. The position will be placed on the October Board Agenda for approval.
- Kindergarten - Grade 1 Autistic Support Teacher (Edgewood) – recommendation to add this teacher will provide savings (tuition and transportation costs) to the District. Under Chapter 14 the District has reached the maximum allowed student ratio in an elementary autistic support class and has had to place students in out-of-district support programs. Adding this teacher will allow the District to bring back those students.

***Discussion: (from Sept meeting)***

- ***Job Fair: New and improved strategies, blending of old model and new technology***  
Flyer with a QR code (directly linked the District employment application) and include Information direct contact information to Human Resource contact person. The flyer would be pushed out through all District social media platforms.

**Informational Items**

- Unemployment Claims PSD Review: summary of three fiscal year comparisons (total claims, exposure and net payment).
- PSD Staff Calendars Review/Update: consistency and management of the various staff calendars to present at a future committee meeting.

**Next Meeting Date: November 3, 2022**



Pottstown School District  
**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE**  
**REPORT**  
**October 6, 2022 ( virtual )**

Committee Members: Susan Lawrence - Chairperson; Steve Kline, Phoebe Kancianic, Thomas Hylton, Deborah Spence, Katina Bearden

**Informational Items (Curriculum)**

- 1. Special Education: a continuum of services and programs –**  
Mrs. Morrett gave a PowerPoint presentation on Special Education services and programs. She reviewed the positions and programs that the School Board and District supported to put services in place that are legally mandated. These services and programs ensure our students' needs are met and enables students to be successful.
- 2. MTSS: Highlights of Coaching Support - R. Decker/ J. Tupper / K. Wolfel**  
Each MTSS Coach shared things they have been working on this school year and last school year. MTSS Coaches support attendance, behavior, curriculum/academics and continuous monitoring and timely support of all students. Highlights include implementing new technology resources/programs, better data collection processes, creating target counseling groups, generate building schedules to allow all students to get an intervention/enrichment, and focus on attendance and curriculum to keep students on track for graduation.

**Next Meeting: November 3, 2022**



POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Facilities/Finance Committee  
REPORT

October 13, 2022 (virtual)

Members: Thomas Hylton- Chair; John Armato, Steve Kline, Kurt Heidel, Laura Johnson, Katina Bearden

**FACILITIES** – John Connor

Facility Updates

- **HS Chiller Change Order**: change order for electrical service to motors in the basement
- **Robotic Scrubber Presentation**: demonstration on the robotic scrubbers
- **HS Domestic Hot Water**: emergency repair to large tank due to pin hole leak; replaced with two smaller tanks; O & S will revise the project design around the new tanks.
- **Sports Field Study**- Cost approximately \$7,500: MS & HS athletic fields study for short and long term needs; study will provide a template to follow as funding is available.
- **Tree Grant**: federal grant money is available at 80% of the project with a 20% match; details of the grant: Simone Collins to submit the grant application with District supervision; the District would be the recipient of the grant; Project Cost: \$554,000; District Cost: \$111,000; the grant would include a three year contract specifying contractor responsibility for 6 planting seasons; a District pledge to maintain the trees for 25 years. Deadline for submitting the grant is October 27; grant to be awarded in January 2023.

Committee members were in support of the Change Order, Sports Field Study and Tree Grant. All items to be placed on the October Board Agenda.

**FINANCE** - Maureen Jampo

- **Act 57 of 2022 Waiver Resolution** – state required resolution to waive property tax penalty and late payment charges to new property owners within the first year of ownership in limited instances (as outlined in the resolution). Resolution to be placed on the October Board Agenda
- **Board Approval Items**: Contracts: Special Ed Tuition - Valley Forge Education, New Story Schools, Devereux Foundation. SOS Staffing Addendum, MCIU Title 1 Services, YMCA PM Care Services, 21st Century MOUs (21st Century grant). PSBA Election of Officers
- **In-Person & Virtual Meeting Technology Upgrade**: demonstration on three options:
  - Option 1: Cost estimate \$47,000(best wireless video and audio controls, flexible);
  - Option 2: Cost estimate \$37,000 (standard quality, not as flexible);
  - Option 3: Status quo (no virtual participation, single microphone for audio)

General consensus of the committee was to place the recommendation for Option 1 as a Non-Consent item on the October Board Agenda.

- **Exempt and Support Staff Increases** 4% retroactive to July 1, 2022- \$317,000 (est. plus differential)
  - Additional Equity increases PKC certified teachers, Food Service, IT technicians starting rate.
  - Hourly Pay differential AS, ES, LSS identified Roles effective October 31, 2022.

Committee was in favor of placing the recommended staff increases on the October Board Agenda.

**Information**

- November: Act 1 Budget Index Resolution - limit tax increase
- Next meeting: November 10, 2022



## POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **Public Relations/Community Engagement Committee REPORT**

October 13, 2022 *(virtual)*

Committee Members: Laura Johnson, (Chair); Katina Bearden, Kurt Heidel, Phoebe Kancianic, Deborah Spence

#### **Guest Presenter**

**Pottstown Community Action:** Tamara Charles spoke about the volunteer community group, promoting community engagement for all age groups. The group meets monthly. She shared information on various community programs and activities (ex. teacher appreciation day luncheon, block clean-ups, mini love-your-block grants, tool share)

#### **Presentation and Discussion**

**Attendance Overview:** Dr. White-Springfield shared a PowerPoint presentation outlining the connections linked to attendance. Highlights of the presentation focused on intervention processes and procedures that assist with improving attendance. Truancy Court works with the school to provide community service options for students to enable them to get back to school.

**Town Hall Meeting Overview:** Mr. Rodriguez reported the parent turnout for the September meetings was successful. Parents were interested in knowing what would happen in emergencies. The focus was on reunification methods (relocate, reorganize and reunify).

**PSBA Officer Elections:** Mrs. Johnson shared the positions and names of the candidates seeking election. This year there is only one candidate per position. The names and positions will be placed as a Non-Consent item on the October Board agenda.

Next Meeting Date: November 10, 2022