



**POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD WORKSHOP with limited Board Action
MINUTES
January 12, 2023**

The Board Workshop of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District with limited Board Action, was held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 6:30 PM in the Conference Room of the Administration Building with President, Ms. Katina Bearden, presiding. Upon roll call, the following members attended: 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, Mrs. Maureen Oakley; Director of Human Resources, Mr. Matthew Boyer; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis.

School Board Director Recognition

January is PSBA School Board Director Recognition month. Gifts of appreciation were presented to each Board for their service.

Limited Board Action Items

Administrators presented action items (2023 Board/Committee meeting schedule, Settlement Agreement, Personnel and Field Trip) for Board discussion, followed by Hearings from the Patrons and Board action for each item.

Hearings from Patrons (Non-Consent items)

Mercedez Jackson, resident, thanked the District for responding to her questions regarding the addresses for sporting locations. She expressed her gratitude to the Board, administrators for their hard work.

Non-Consent: 2023 Board / Committee Meeting Schedule

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the 2023 Board and Committee meeting schedule as presented.

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Lawrence that the Board approve the 2023 meeting schedule and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-050**.

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

Non-Consent: Settlement Agreement

Motion to approve the Special Education settlement agreement as presented at the November 17, 2022 Executive Session for the purpose of litigation and personnel. The Board Secretary is further authorized to sign the settlement agreement on behalf of the Board.

It was Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the Special Education settlement agreement and a copy be file in the Secretary's office as **Addendum #2022-2023-051**.

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

Non-Consent: Personnel

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve/ratify the following personnel items:

RESIGNATIONS:

Theresa Morasco, Intervention Specialist, Middle School, resignation effective when position is filled or January 16, 2023.

Joanne Rhoads, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator, Admin. Building, resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2023; hire date January 20, 2009.

Ratify Molly Moser, Paraprofessional, Franklin Elementary, resignation effective December 29, 2022; hire date September 23, 2021.

CHANGE IN POSITION/SALARY

Ratify Alanna Jessee, from Paraprofessional to Intervention Assistant, Franklin Elementary, effective January 3, 2023, \$14.53/hr.

Tamara Gundersen, from Teacher on Special Assignment to Acting Supervisor of Special Education, Middle Level, effective January 17, 2023, \$105,165/yr (replacing R. Romero).

ELECTIONS

Ratify Olivia Berrigan, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment Middle School, effective December 19, 2022, \$59,502/yr, Step 8-Mast.

Ratify Brandon Pratt, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, High School, effective January 9, 2023, \$251/day.

Ratify James Calvario, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Barth Elementary, effective December 19, 2022, \$251/day (replacing LTS K. Schiend). This is in addition to his role as Substitute Cleaner.

Ratify Amaya Wright, Part-time Parent Liaison, Middle School, effective January 6, 2023, \$18.00/hr. This is in addition to her role as Paraprofessional.

Ratify Jade Yingling, Long-Term Substitute Teacher, Franklin Elementary, effective January 10, 2023, \$251/day; (replacing LTS L. Wilcox)

Kristen Yingling, Secondary Teacher, initial assignment Middle School, effective February 21, 2023, \$51,296/yr, Step 4, Bach+15 (contract of E. Dormer).

TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

Tuition Reimbursement in accordance with the Professional Agreement * **Addendum #2022-2023-052**

It was moved by Mr. Heidel and seconded by Mr. Kline that the Board approve the personnel items.

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

Non-Consent: Field Trip

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the field trips as presented:


<u># students</u>	<u>Conference:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Trip Date</u>	<u>Student \$</u>	<u>District \$</u>	<u>Chaperone(s)</u>
1	PMEA District 11 Chorus Festival	Holland, PA	01/12/2023 - 01/14/2023	\$0.00	\$1,300.00	Adella Brady

It was moved by Mrs. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Hylton that the Board approve the above field trip.

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

ADJOURNMENT (end of Board Action)

It was moved by Mr. Armato and seconded by Mr. Heidel that the Board adjourn the board action portion of the meeting and move to the workshop portion of the meeting. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.



Maureen Jampo
Board Secretary

BOARD WORKSHOP

Board Meetings: Virtual, In-Person or Blended Model

Board Members shared their ideas on virtual, in-person and the blended (hybrid) model of meetings. Highlights on the discussion focused on the importance of meeting in-person and also provide opportunity for virtual participation including community engagement. Features of the blended (hybrid) model do not provide the same clarity “Zoom” meetings but are compatible to providing a blended meeting format.

2023 meeting schedule: A straw vote was taken as follows:

- Board Meetings: Blended (In-person + virtual); Six in favor; Three opposed.
- Committee meetings: Virtual; Six in favor; Three opposed.

Presentation – Ms. Bearden

Implicit Bias Presentation - Ms. Bearden gave a PowerPoint Presentation on understanding bias, standard causes of bias, including steps and support examples to mitigate bias and provide for an equal first mindset.

Committee Structure Review

Ms. Bearden spoke about the overall goals of the committees and the importance to focus on safety, comprehensive planning, cultural competency, MTSS, special education and parental engagement.