POTTSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
January 20, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Pottstown School District was held on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:30 PM in the second floor LGI room of the Pottstown Middle School with President Richard C. Huss presiding. Upon roll call, the following members were present: Mr. Robert H. Hartman, Jr., Mr. Thomas J. Hylton, Mrs. Michele Pargeon, Mrs. Polly Weand, and Mr. Dennis Wausnock. Absent were Ms. Harris, Mrs. Wilson and Mr. White. Also present were Superintendent, Dr. Reed Lindley; Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Jeffrey Sparagana; Board Secretary, Mrs. Linda S. Adams; Solicitor, Mr. Stephen Kalis, Mr. John Armato, Ms. Terri Lampe, Mrs. Gail Cooper, Mrs. Loretta Hoch, Mrs. Rita Cohen, Ms. Pamela Bateson, Mr. Scott Ware, a member of the press, and interested citizens.

AWARDS

Dr. Sparagana introduced Ms. Jane Marie Hospador, Teacher at Franklin Elementary School. Ms. Hospador asked each student to come to the microphone and read their story. Mr. Huss presented each student with a writing award.

K-5 - Victoria Rosenaum
1st Grade - Cameron Dever
2nd Grade - Kaylin Lascik
3rd Grade - Izabella Howard
4th Grade - London Aquino
5th Grade - Isaiah Gonzalez

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Kalis provided an update on the Fact Finding hearing that took place on January 18, 2011. He reported that the Fact Finder will review the information and present his findings no later than January 31, 2011. Each party then has 10 days to approve or reject the findings; if rejected, there is a reconsideration period of 10 days with an opportunity to approve or reject a second time. At that time the findings would be made public and the parties would then go back to the bargaining table.

MRS. WILSON ARRIVED AT 8:06 PM.

PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Adams presented a Power Point Presentation on the Preliminary Budget for 2011-2012. She explained the budget timeline under Act 1 and the assumptions used to develop the budget. Mrs. Adams reviewed the Expenditures by Function and by Object. The Financial Summary reflects a budget deficit of $707,272 after applying the allowable millage increase under Act 1 of 1.9% or .6992 mills. The millage increase under Act 1 would result in total mills of 36.8232. The budget is proposed at a level that exceeds the Act index, which then qualifies the district to apply for exceptions under the Act. Application of exceptions does not require the district to use the exceptions in balancing the

budget for final approval. The Preliminary Budget for 2011-2012 will be placed on the February 3, 2011 Committee of the Whole agenda for approval.

Dr. Lindley presented a written communication regarding budget implications. A copy of this communication will be posted to the website and an addendum (#2010-2011-047) will be filed in the Secretary's office. Dr. Lindley's communication

MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the minutes of the Regular meeting held on December 16, 2010, be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two.
Motion carried.

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 6, 2011 be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two.
Motion carried.

LIST OF BILLS

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the list of bills for the period ending January 12, 2011 from the for the Athletic Fund totaling $62,559.80; the Capital Reserve Fund totaling $29,010.00; the Cafeteria Fund totaling $142,188.58; the Elementary Fund totaling $841.04; and the General Fund totaling $903,588.00 be approved and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2010-2011-048.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two.
Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was moved Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Treasurer's Report for December 2010 be approved as presented and a copy be filed in the Secretary's Office as addendum #2010-2011-049.

Upon roll call, all members present voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two.
Motion carried.

HEARINGS FROM PATRONS OF THE SCHOOL

None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

It was moved by Mr.Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Pargeon that the following consent items be approved in accordance with Policy 1120, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

PERSONNEL

Leaves

Exempt

Ratify Monique Henderson, Psychologist, Annex Building, request for leave of absence covered by the Family and Medical Leave Act, effective date December 15, 2010, end date to be determined.

Elections

Professional

Ratify Rachel Elliott, Extended Per-Diem Substitute Teacher, Pottstown High School, $115/day, effective December 17, 2010, coverage for Jolie Martinez.

Classified

Ratify Tina Hoak, Secretary to Buildings & Ground /Transportation, Administration Building, $18.23/hour, effective January 3, 2011.

Ratify Christopher Poole, Classroom/Van Assistant, Annex Building, $13.65/hour, effective January 3, 2011.

Ratify Keith Gerhard, One-On-One Assistant, Barth Elementary, $13.65/hour, effective January 4, 2011, to be reimbursed by Pottsgrove School District.

Compensation for Missed Planning Time, 2010-2011 school year $23 per period, for the time period ending December 11, 2010.

Lisa Cassidy-Lawler	High School	17 missed planning times	$391.00
Vanessa Unger	Barth Elementary	6 missed planning times	$138.00

Homebound Instruction

Ratify Antoinette Rapp, Pottstown High School, from January 3, 2011 through June 17, 2011, $29/hour, assignment not to exceed 5 hours per week.

Tuition Reimbursement

Administrative

Name		Amount
Lisa Schade	Administration	$2,430.00
Anne Frederick	Franklin Elementary	$1,770.00
Stephen Rodriquez	Pottstown High School	$3,000.00

Professional

Name	School	12/31/10 deadline
Perry Augustine	PMS	1296.00
Rebecca Carey	PMS	1161.00
Robert Decker	PHS	2200.00
Justine Donnelly	PHS	339.00
Matthew Fabian	Rupert/Franklin Elem.	1332.00
Jamie Fazekas	Rupert Elementary	2592.00
Allen Ferster	Rupert Elementary	2592.00
Stefanie George	PMS	1332.00
Jamie Harle	Edgewood Elementary	980.00
Kari Kindig	Lincoln Elementary	980.00
Mary Jo Kuhwald	PHS	1371.00
Kristin Lafferty	Lincoln Elementary	1110.00
James Martinez	PHS	720.00
Jolie Martinez	PHS	2592.00
Megan Meier	Barth Elementary	1332.00
Ryan Oxenford	PMS	2625.00
Joshua Pierce	Barth Elementary	1332.00
Hayley Quigley	Barth Elementary	387.00
Ryan Regensburg	PMS	2592.00
Dina Rice	PMS	370.00
Laura Schneck	Barth Elementary	1960.00
Julie Voelker	PMS	1560.00
Shannon Wagner	Rupert Elementary	1161.00

Support Staff

Name	Building	Amount
J. Kelly Brown	Barth Elementary	846.00
Barry Diamond	Admin.	900.00
Stacy Foster	Edgewood	288.00
Chris Golden	PHS	2000.00
Pauline Herrett	PMS	1116.00
Norma Jean Weatherly	Annex	500.00
Mindy MacRone-Wojton	Annex	755.94

Approval of Tenure/Permanent Contract

First Name	Last Name	Building	Eligible Date
Hayley	Quigley	Barth	08/24/2008
Pierce	Joshua	Barth	08/22/2010
Jaime	Stringer	Barth	08/22/2010
Aileen	Campbell	Edgewood	08/22/2010
Darla	Stout	Edgewood	09/10/2010
Kimberly	Hilbert	Franklin	08/22/2010
Brenda	DiDonato	Rupert	01/17/2009
Jamie	Fazekas	Rupert	08/22/2009
Maxwell	Donnelly	Rupert	09/22/2009

Allen	Ferster	Rupert	08/22/2010
Amanda	Levengood	Rupert	08/22/2010
Lauren	Mann	Rupert	08/22/2010
Rebecca	Carey	PMS	08/25/2009
Kimberly	Adamski	PMS	12/13/2009
Jennifer	Milkovits	PMS	08/22/2010
Stanley	Walerski	PMS	08/22/2010
Andrea	Barlow	PMS	12/05/2010
Vincent	Burke	PHS	11/13/2009
Jennifer	Wiand	PHS	12/21/2009
James	Martinez	PHS	08/22/2010
Jolie	Martinez	PHS	08/22/2010
Kellie	McGavin-Wiedlich	PHS	08/22/2010
Brett	Myers	PHS	12/10/2010

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

Building		Conference Title	Conference Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Barth Edgewood Lincoln Admin.	Brad Mayberry Ann Marie McDonnell Treena Ferguson Lori Hoch Stacey VanDruff Kristen Lafferty Kelly Mooney Jeff Sparagana	Improving School Performance Conference (Presenting)	State College, PA	01/23/11 – 01/26/11	All expenses paid by Step by Step and PDE
Middle School	Diane Halpine	2011 Classroom Diagnostic Tools Standard Setting Reading/Literature	Harrisburg, PA	01/27/11 – 01/28/11	All expenses paid by PDE except for a substitute for 1 day.

FIELD TRIPS

# of students and/or group	Name of conference or activity	Destination	Date of trip	Cost to student	Cost to district-substitutes	Chaperone(s)
30 Middle School Students	3 day Workshop for the Environmental Science Club	Pocono Environmental Education Ctr. Dingman's Ferry, PA	5/11/11 To 5/13/11	$30.00 (The rest paid by a grant)	$900.00	Kevin Downes, Vanessa Barnaik, Kathy Eagle

CONTRACTS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following contracts and a copy be filed in the Secretary's office as addendum #2010-2011-050:

1. MOU: Montgomery County Mentors Assoc.(21st Century)
2. Education Inc. (ratify)

REAL ESTATE TAX EXONERATION

The Superintendent recommends the following Resolution be adopted by the Board:

WHEREAS, Linda S. Adams, Substitute Tax Collector for the Pottstown School District, has submitted a list of properties liened for school taxes amounting to $2,006,377.22_ plus penalties of $200,637.72_, totaling $2,207,014.94__ for the original 2010 Real Estate Tax Duplicate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Substitute Tax Collector be and is hereby exonerated of and from said tax liability for the collection thereof, but no exoneration for the respected taxables is intended or affected by this action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Substitute Tax Collector file the required reports and information with Portnoff and Associates so that the liens against these properties be properly reported.

Upon roll call, all Board Members present voted ayes. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two. Motion carried.

NON-CONSENT ITEMS

All the Non-Consent Items were reviewed as follows:

Dr. Sparagana reviewed the Personnel items, Professional Leaves and Field Trips for Board approval.

Hearings From Patrons Of The School (limited to Non-Consent Items)

None.

PERSONNEL

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following Personnel items:

New Position and/or Changed in Position

Exempt

Ratify One Full-Time Physical Therapist position to Part-Time Position, 7.5 hrs/per day, 2 days per week, effective January 12, 2011.

Resignation

Professional

Ratify Erinn Logan, Pottstown Middle School, resignation effective December 14, 2010, employed since October 1, 2007.

Change in Position and/or Salary

Professional

Ratify Christine Fiorillo, from Extended Per Diem Substitute Teacher, Lincoln Elementary, to Extended Per Diem Substitute Teacher, Barth Elementary, coverage for Jennifer Burkholder, $115/per day, effective January 12, 2011.

Ratify Rachel Elliott, from Extended Per Diem Substitute Teacher, coverage for Jolie Martinez to Building Substitute Teacher, Pottstown High School, $194/per day, effective January 18, 2011.

Elections

Professional

Ratify Gregory Weeks, Long Term Substitute Teacher, Pottstown High School, coverage for Deborah Demko, $194/per day, effective January 13, 2011.

Homebound Instruction, $29/hour

Ratify Jennifer Winterbottom, Pottstown Middle School, from January 14, 2011 through February 14, 2011, assignment not to exceed 5 hours per week.

Addition to the 2010-2011 Game Workers List, $10/hour

Keith Gerhard

Tuition Reimbursement

Professional

Name	Building	Amount
Jennifer Swenk	Franklin Elementary	$1860.00

Payment of Accumulated Sick Leave

Deborah Demko, In accordance with the Full-Time Professional Agreement, $5,340.00. This is for 133.50 additional accumulated sick days at $40 per day.

It was moved by Mrs. Pargeon and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Non-Consent Personnel items be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members presented voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two.
Motion carried.

PROFESSIONAL LEAVES

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the following Non-Consent professional leaves:

Building	First Name	Conference Title	Conference Location	Dates to Attend	Cost
Sr. High Barth	Robert Decker Elizabeth Yoder	Center for School Improvement Leadership Institute	Brooklyn, NY	1/27/11 - 1/28/11 1/27/11 – 1/30/11	All costs covered by Pottstown Federation of Teachers including Substitues.
Middle School	Lisa Whitehurst	PECT (PA Educator Certification Tests) Objective Review Conference	Hershey, PA	2/7/11 – 2/8/11	All expenses paid by PDE.

Admin.	Diane Meck Carol Miller	A/CAPA Spring Conference	Hershey, PA	3/9/11 - 3/11/11	Approx. $1200.00 paid by the district.
Middle School Sr. High Rupert	Robert Stevens Lois Sanders Danielle McCoy Matthew Moyer Laureen Gresko	2011 Promising Practices-Proven Strategies Conference	Harrisburg, PA	3/8/11 – 3/10/11 3/9/11 – 3/10/11	Approx. $2915.00 paid by the 21st Century grant
Admin.	Dr. Reed Lindley	AASA Conference Presentation with Alan Blankstein)	Denver, CO	2/16 /11 – 2/18/11	Funded by Hope Foundation

It was moved by Mr. Wausnock and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the professional leaves be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members presented voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two. Motion carried.

FIELD TRIPS

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the followingField Trips:

# of students and/or group	Name of conference or activity	Destination	Date of trip	Cost to student	Cost to district-substitutes	Chaperone(s)
16	DECA State Competition	Hershey, PA	2/23/11 – 2/25/11	$110.00	$3,300 (including substitutes)	Kevin Pascal & Judyth Zahora

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mrs. Weand that the Non-Consent Field Trips be approved as presented.

Upon roll call, all members presented voted aye. Ayes: seven. Nays: none. Absent: two. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Policy 122: Interscholastic Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities for Pottstown High School and Pottstown Middle School
2. Policy 122.1: Co-Curricular Awards and Recognition for Co-Curricular Participation

Dr. Lindley stated that Policy 122 and Policy 122.1 are being reviewed. He anticipates the policies will be recommended to the Board in February.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

INFORMATION

1. Conference Report

2. Monthly Meeting Notice: February 2011

Mrs. Adams presented requests from the Chairpersons of the Facilities Committee and Policy Committee to make changes to their scheduled meeting dates and times. It was recommended that the Facilities Committee meet on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:30 pm to piggy back with the Co-Curricular Activities Committee which would meet at 6:00 pm in the conference room of the Administration Building. It was recommend that the Policy Committee meet at 6:00 pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to piggy back with the Personnel Committee which would meet at 7:30 pm In the conference room of the Administration Building. All members present agreed. Mrs. Adams Stated the changes would be advertised.

3. Technology Report: Nov/Dec

4. PEAK Report: January

Dr. Sparagana reviewed the January PEAK report. He spoke about the development of a strategic plan to pursue new resources and seek funding to sustain the PEAK Program. Dr. Sparagana announced that during the 1st semester the district had 19 Interns from West Chester University volunteering their services in our elementary and middle schools. Dr. Lindley confirmed that Interns are in place for the 2nd Semester also. Dr. Sparagana reminded the Board Members of the Lincoln Parent Talk Series that will take place on January 24, 2011. He spoke about a Pre-Service project to place approximately 10 Pre-Service Teachers from Lincoln University throughout the elementary schools and high school. Dr. Spargana invited the Board Members to attend the Welcome Reception on January 31st for the Pre-Service Teachers. The project will take place two days a week and continue until March 31st, 2011.

5. Webmaster Report

FEDERATION REMARKS

Mrs. Vollmuth stated that the Franklin students were a wonderful representation of the successes that take place in the Pottstown Schools every day. She commented on the creativity and ideas that are generated throughout the buildings. She stated that is the hope of the Federation that the Administration and Board Members engage that creativity to help deal with the budget and staffing issues.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Hylton – no comment.

Mrs. Wilson attended the Rupert Family Activity Night held this evening. It was sponsored by the Health and Family Services.

Mrs. Pargeon was pleased to attend the Martin Luther King celebration at the Second Baptist Church. She reminded the Board Members of the Career & Tech Education night on January 26th. It was a pleasure to hear the writing awards.

Mr. Hartman thanked the students for their writings. He understands the significance of Personnel costs representing 65% of the budget. Mr. Hartman thanked Dr. Lindley for his comments and not saying what the Board may want to hear, but what the Board needs to hear.

Mrs. Weand thanked Dr. Lindley for his remarks. She stated that it is obvious that Dr. Lindley is taking the initiative to find ways to provide the best education for our students. Mrs. Weand thanked Mrs. Adams for all her hard work.

Dr. Sparagana – no comment.

Dr. Lindley stated that as a Board and a community it is important to recognize "that we will most likely never agree on grade level configuration, budget priorities." He stressed the importance of listening to the people who disagree and make sure that as a Board and community we come to the best decision possible.

Mr. Wausnock – no comment.

Mrs. Adams explained that the 65% level of Personnel and Benefits represented in the budget a lower percentage than other districts. She explained that the school district does spend a higher percentage on maintaining the buildings than other districts. Mrs. Adams noted that a lot of other districts spend approximately 70% to 75% of their budget on Personnel and Benefits.

Mr. Huss thanked the Administration for being frugal in spending money. He talked about the responsibility of the Task Force and what needs to be achieved in the next five months. Mr. Huss thanked Mrs. Adams and her staff, Dr. Lindley, Dr. Spargana and Mr. Kalis for all the time and effort they have put forth during the past several months.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Hartman and seconded by Mr. Wausnock and that the Board adjourns. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:11 P.M.

Linda S. Adams
Board Secretary