

**POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
April 14, 2021  
7:00 p.m.**

1. Opening and Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Statement

- A reminder to the public that the public comment period is not a question and answer period, but rather the opportunity for the public to submit comments to the Board. Public comments will follow our public comment procedures which require members of the public to identify themselves by indicating name and address and we will read comments consistent with all aspects of our public comment policy. With our meetings now being conducted virtually until further notice, you can submit comments via the Q & A feature.
- The School Board will strive to answer questions pertaining to the current agenda at the beginning of the school board meeting, in a conscious effort to maintain transparent practices. After the School Board agenda is posted online, questions may be emailed to [plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us](mailto:plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us) by 2:00 PM the day of the meeting. Questions pertaining to the agenda posted online will be answered in the order received for a period not to exceed 30 minutes. If the questions are not able to be answered during the 30-minute period, the School Board will endeavor to answer the questions at the beginning of the next school board meeting. Questions pertaining to confidential personnel matters will not be addressed. Questions that require some research or further inquiry and might not be answered at the current school board meeting. **The question and answer period does not replace the public's current right to public comment.**

2. Public Comment - Are there any public comments at this time?

3. It is recommended that the Board approve the March 10, 2021 Board meeting minutes.  
**Motion to approve as recommended.**

4. Financial Reports – Mrs. Corinne Mason, Interim Business Manager

**Approval of Financial Reports as of April 14, 2021**

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds)
2. General Fund Condensed Board Summary Revenue Report

3. General Fund Condensed Board Summary Expenditure Report
4. Cafeteria Condensed Board Summary Report
5. Payment Summary - General Fund, Food Service
6. Budget Transfers

**Mrs. Mason would like a motion to approve as recommended.**

5. Unfinished Business - Mrs. Corinne Mason - Budget Presentation 2021-2022
6. Donations - It is recommended that the Board accept the \$25,000 sponsorship check from St. Luke's Hospitals as per the five (5) Year agreement dated March 27, 2019. This donation will be used for Athletic Capital Improvements. **Motion to accept as recommended.**
7. Solicitor's Report - Kevin Reid, Attorney at Law
8. Acting Superintendent's Report - Dr. Jared Gerace

**It is recommended by the Acting Superintendent that the Board approve the following items as listed:**

**ACTION**

- It is recommended that the Superintendent's preapproval of the credits indicated for the following professional employees be ratified in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Derek DiRenzo	-	6 credits
Alicia Fehr	-	3 credits
Christopher Kovaleski	-	9 credits
Gregory Schuettler	-	6 credits

- It is recommended that the Superintendent's preapproval of the credits indicated for the following Administrative employee be ratified.

Caitlin Mohl	-	6 credits
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- It is recommended that the following professional employees be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of preapproved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and the PASDEA:

Rebecca Ferdoucha	-	\$ 300.00
Kaycee Hess	-	\$ 900.00
Cristopher Kovaleski	-	\$2,700.00
Peter McDonald	-	\$ 300.00
Lloren Reichert	-	\$5,850.00

Elizabeth Sophy - \$1,614.00

- It is recommended that the following salary adjustment be approved and made effective in the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year:

Benjamin O'Brien - Master's+15 Degree

- It is recommended that the resignation for retirement purposes be accepted from the following professional employee in accordance with her submitted letter effective at the conclusion of the last day of school 2020-2021.

JoAnne Mercuri - JSC - First Grade Teacher

**Informational Items:**

- Explore the possibility of using Martz Hall in cooperation with Rite Aid and Community Charities for a vaccine clinic.
- Principal Reports
- Federal Programs
- Crimson Tide Foundation

8. Committee Reports

**ACTION** Athletics and Extracurricular Activities – Mr. Craig Shields

It is recommended by the Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee that the Board approve the following items as listed:

- It is recommended that the Board approve a one year agreement with Master Library, which is a facility/event scheduling software program. All district facility requests will go through this program. Cost of program - \$3,450.00.
- It is recommended that the Board approve the “Pay to Participate” Extracurricular Activity Fee. Students in grades 9-12, the activity fee would be a **one-time fee of \$50**, which covers all extracurricular activities a student participates in during the school year. For student in grades 7-8, the activity fee would be a **one-time fee of \$25**.

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

Facilities and Grounds– Mr. Jerome Urban

Transportation – Mrs. Ashley DeWitt

**ACTION** Finance – Dr. Ann Blankenhorn

**It is recommended by the Finance Committee that the Board approve the following items as listed:**

1. The Committee on Finance recommends adoption of the proposed final 2021-2022 school district budget of \$ 42,783,777.00. The Committee reports that this budget reflects

needed instructional equipment, supplies, maintenance and operational expenditures necessary for school district operations. At this time, the Committee does not have a final recommendation on a tax increase for 2021-2022.

2. It is recommended that the Board authorize the School Board Secretary to have the required proposed final budget notice published once in the Republican Herald on Friday, April 16, 2021.
3. It is recommended that the Board set the date of May 19, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. for the Final Adoption of the 2021-2022 budget for the Pottsville Area School District.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve a Repository Sale for Parcel No.: 68-36-0066.000 located at 391 Hotel Street, Pottsville. Purchase price - \$1,486.00.
5. It is recommended that the Board approve the Transition Partnership Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Child Development, Inc. Child Development, Inc. supports successful transitions for enrolled children and families into kindergarten programs.
6. It is recommended that the Board approve the agreement between Behavioral Health Alliance of Rural Pennsylvania and Community Care Behavioral Health Organization, a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation and Pottsville Area School District, effective July 1, 2021. BHARP, through its contract with Community Care, shall provide medically necessary State Plan Services to the HealthChoices Program members who are students within the School District at no cost to the student, the family, or to the School District.
7. It is recommended that the Board approve the revised Title I Letter of Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Schuylkill Intermediate Unit. The Term of Agreement: August 24, 2020 through June 4, 2021.
8. It is recommended that the Board approve a summer cleaning program for the schools and offices throughout the School District. The summer cleaning program will be funded through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) ESSER II of 2021.
9. It is recommended that the Board approve the following amendment be made to the 2020-2021 Budget: **CRRSA -ESSER II - Cares Act Grant**

**Revenue**

\$ 54,546 10-8743-000-989 Elem & Sec School Emer Relief - ESSER II

**Expenses**

\$ 16,896 10-1190-120-989-00-000-000-000-0000 Fed Funded Reg Prog Sal - ESSER II  
 \$ 646 10-1190-220-989-00-000-000-000-0000 Fed Funded Reg Prog Soc Sec - ESSER II  
 \$ 2,915 10-1190-230-989-00-000-000-000-0000 Fed Funded Reg Prog Sal Retire - ESSER II  
 \$29,439 10-1442-569-989-30-000-000-000-0000 Alt Ed Program Tuition ESSER II Sec  
 \$ 3,840 10-1190-120-989-10-000-000-000-0000 Fed Funded Reg Prog ESSER II Elem  
 \$ 147 10-1190-220-989-10-000-000-000-0000 Fed Funded Reg Prog Soc Sec ESSER II Elem  
\$ 663 10-1190-230-989-10-000-000-000-0000 Fed Funded Reg Prog Retire ESSER II Elem  
 \$54,546

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

**ACTION** Personnel – Mrs. Ashley Dewitt

**It is recommended by the Personnel Committee that the Board approve the following Personnel items as listed:**

1. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Kimberly Henry, transportation aide for the Pottsville Area School District, effective March 12, 2021.
2. It is recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Joanne Matina, substitute cafeteria aide, effective March 10, 2021.
3. It is recommended that the Board approve Lilly Seiders as a substitute paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$11.25, effective April 15, 2021 contingent upon receipt of satisfactory clearances.
4. It is recommended that the Board approve the Child Rearing Leave for Employee # 300 from March 10, 2021 through April 1, 2021.
5. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Leave Without Pay as per School Board Policy(s): 334, 434 and 534:
  - Employee #828 – lunch aide – March 8 and 9, 2021
  - Employee #1349 – cafeteria aide – March 3, 16, 2021
  - Employee #1346 – lunch aide – March 23, 2021
  - Employee # 1231 – lunch aide – March 9, 2021
  - Employee # 1412 – paraprofessional – April 16, 2021
  - Employee # 183 = custodian – April 7, 2021

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

6. It is recommended that the Board appoint Sarah Yoder as Superintendent of Pottsville Area School District for a term TBD and ending June 30, 2024, and to approve contract of employment at a beginning salary of \$130,000.00. **(ROLL CALL VOTE)**

Promotion, Public Relations & Social Media – Ms. Linda Wytovich

- Congratulations to the following STC Business and Management students for being State Competition Winners: Leah Zackus – 3<sup>rd</sup> overall – Community Giving Project and will now compete for Nationals. Jenesis Rodriguez – Triple medal State Winner in Quick Serve Management.
- Congratulations to our swimmers and divers who participated at States held in Mechanicsburg.
- Congratulations to Zaidian VanOrden for being selected as the Pottsville Republican’s “Athlete of the Week”. Zaidian placed fourth in the 100-yard freestyle and ninth in the 50 freestyle at PIAA Class AA Swimming Championships in Mechanicsburg.
- Congratulations to junior Taylor Welsh for being selected as our recipient of the West Point Society of Lehigh Valley Dwight D. Eisenhower Outstanding Leadership Award. Due to

COVID, the awards ceremony at West Point has been cancelled; however the award will be mailed for the end of the year awards program.

- We would also like to acknowledge our Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week accepted students: Gwen Biddle, Madison Wright, and Kaitlyn Painter. They will attend the program this summer at a university campus.
- Congratulations to Seniors Rebecca Lascala and Justin Lescavage for being selected as our April Rotary Students of the Month.
- Congratulations to Brandyn Purcell for being selected as he PAHS Artist of the Month for April is Brandyn Purcell.
- Bobby Walchak was selected as the PAHS 2021 Football Scholar Athlete. Bobby will be attending Pennsylvania State University, University Park, in the fall as a preferred walk on.

Technology – Mr. Jerome Urban

**ACTION** Curriculum – Dr. Michael Cardamone

- It is recommended that the Board approve the Dual Enrollment Agreement between the Pottsville Area School District and Lehigh Carbon Community College. Term of Agreement: July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022. **Motion to approve as recommended.**

Policy and Procedure – Dr. Christina DiCello

Food Services – Dr. Michael Cardamone

Labor Relations – Mr. Jerome Urban

9. Information Board Member Reports

1. Legislation – Mr. Patrick Moran

2. IU 29 Representative – Dr. Michael Cardamone

- It is recommended that the Board elect the following Board members to serve on the Intermediate Unit Board for a three (3) year term-July1, 2021 to June 30, 2024:

Michael Mistishen – Mahanoy Area

Michael Kiehl – North Schuylkill

Michael Holobetz – Saint Clair Area

Dawn Wenrich – Tri-Valley

John Carestia – Blue Mountain – Will fill an unexpired term through June 30, 2022.

**\*\* Please complete the ballots and return to the Board Secretary**

**Motion to elect as recommended.**

3. St. Clair Committee – Dr. Michael Cardamone

4. PSBA Representative – Dr. Ann Blankenhorn

10. **New Business**

1. It is recommended that the Board approve the following Use of Facilities:

**HS**

**1- HS Band Room**

Drum Line Rehearsal

4/8, 4/22, 4/29, 5/13, 5/20/2021

5:00PM-7:30PM

**2-High School Band Room & Auditorium**

PAHS Small Ensembles Concert

3/24/2021 6:00PM-7:30PM

3/25/2021 7:30PM-8:30PM

**3-High School Band Room & Auditorium**

PAHS Spring Band Concert

5/6/2021 5:00PM-9:00PM

**4-High School Band Room & Auditorium**

PAHS Spring Choir Concert

5/13/2021 5:00PM-9:00PM

**5-High School Band Room & Auditorium**

PAHS Stage Band Concert

5/27/2021 5:00PM-9:00PM

**6-HS Auditorium**

Title 1 Brain Show

5/4/2021 3:30PM-8:00PM

5/5/2021 4:30PM-8:00PM

**7-HS Cafeteria**

Track Boosters Cookie Fundraiser Pick Up

5/11/2021 2:45PM-6:00PM

**8-HS Auditorium**

Band Awards 5/2/2021 1:00PM-8:00PM

**9-HS Football Stadium**

Joseph F McClosky School of Nursing Graduation

June 10, 2021 3:00PM-10:00PM

**MS**

**1- Martz Hall Track Area**

PAHS Cheer Practice

3:45PM-6:15PM on the following dates:

5/3, 5/4, 5/5, 5/6, 5/10, 5/11, 5/12, 5/13

5/17, 5/18, 5/19, 5/20, 5/24, 5/25, 5/26, 5/27

6/1, 6/2, 2021

**2-Martz Hall Track Area**

PAHS Cheerleaders Cheer Camp

7:00AM-4:30PM on following dates:

6/9, 6/10, 6/11/2021

**3-Middle School Cafeteria**

After School Program

3:00PM-4:30PM Mondays and Wednesdays

4/19/2021-5/26/2021

**4-Middle School Auditorium**

PASDEA Meeting

4/28/2021 4:45PM-7:30PM

5/12/2021 3:45PM-6:30PM

**JSC**

**1- JSC Gym**

PAHS Cheer Practice

4:45PM-7:30PM on the following dates:

4/14, 4/15, 4/16, 4/19/2021

4/20/2021 4:30PM-8:30PM

**2-JSC Gym**

Majorette Tryouts

4:30PM-6:00PM on the following dates:

4/6, 4/7, 4/12, 4/13, 4/21, 4/22, 4/26, 4/28, 2021

**MS/HS**

**1-Martz Hall Gym/ HS Boys' Gym**

Varsity Hoops Showcase

6/10, 6/11/ 2021 4:30PM-10:00PM

6/12/2021 8:00AM-8:00PM

**Motion to approve as recommended.**

2. Due to the timeline for budget adoption, the School Board would not be able to adopt a proposed budget during the meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2021. Therefore, the School Board meeting planned for Wednesday, May 12, 2021 will be rescheduled for **Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 7:00 pm.**

11. Announcement of Executive Session
  - An Executive Session was held on March 18, 2021 for personnel matters.
  - An Executive Session was held on March 25, 2021 for personnel matters.
  - An Executive Session was held on April 7, 2021 for personnel matters.
  - An Executive Session was held on April 12, 2021 for personnel matters.
12. Adjournment - **Motion to adjourn as recommended.**