

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
August 25, 2015

The Board of School Directors for the Pottsgrove School District conducted its meeting at District Office on the above date with the following members present:

Justine Valentine	Dave Faulkner	Dee Gallion	Diane Cherico
Rick Rabinowitz	Matt Alexander	Patti Grimm	Ted Coffelt
John Rossi			

Also present were: Ms. Shellie Feola, Dr. William Shirk, Mr. Dave Nester, Mr. Michael Wagman, Mr. Daniel Vorhis, Mr. Jeff Cardwell, Dr. William Ziegler, Mrs. Yolanda Williams, Mrs. Lisa Jones, and Mrs. Terri Koehler.

Call to Order

Mr. Valentine called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Executive Session Announcements

Mr. Valentine announced there will be an Executive Session immediately following the meeting for Personnel.

Public Comment

A Pottsgrove High School student addressed the Board regarding concerns about the High School opening on time, the potential impact of a late opening on students taking Advanced Placement courses, and student safety. Board President Valentine thanked the student for attending, bringing these concerns to the Board, and indicated that these issues would be addressed during the meeting.

Report of the Superintendent

Personnel:

Mr. Coffelt moved and Mrs. Grimm seconded a motion to approve the following Personnel items:

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

- a. Resignation:
 1. Name: Erin Percinsky-Schermerhorn
Position: Special Education Teacher
Pottsgrove Middle School
Date: August 20, 2015

2. Name: Elizabeth Wykle
Position: Special Education Teacher
Pottsgrove Middle School
Date: August 11, 2015
3. Name: Ashlyn Luft
Position: Substitute Teacher
Date: August 17, 2015
4. Name: Nicole Slickers
Position: Substitute Teacher
Date: August 17, 2015
5. Name: Katrina Fachin Lucas
Position: Part Time German Teacher
Pottsgrove Middle/High School
Date: August 20, 2015

b. Appointments:

1. Name: Joshua Noel
Education: Walden University - MA
Kutztown University - BS
Experience: Reading School District
October 2007 - June 2015
Elementary Teacher Grades 2 and 6
Certification: Elementary K-6
Position: Grade 5 Teacher
Lower Pottsgrove
Status: Contractual
Reason: Replacing Judy Sidebottom
Compensation: \$60,442- Masters Step 9
Approved 8/11/15 with incorrect salary
Effective Date: September 1, 2015
2. Name: Traci Wasylkowski
Education: West Chester University - BS
Experience: Pottstown School District
Classroom Assistant
September 2014-present
Jones Middle School - Jones County
North Carolina
Mathematics Teacher
September 2013-2014

	Jacksonville Commons Middle School
	Onslow North Carolina
	Mathematics Teacher
	September 2012-2013
Certification:	Mathematics 7-12
Position:	Mathematics Teacher
	Pottsgrove High School
Status:	Contractual
Reason:	Replacing Amber Biddle
Compensation:	\$43,677- Bachelors Step 3
Effective Date:	September 1, 2015

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Coffelt moved and Mrs. Grimm seconded the motion to approve the following Support Staff items:

SUPPORT STAFF

- a. Resignation:
1. Name: Ilisha Dorsey
Position: Student Assistant Ringing Rocks
Effective Date: August 14, 2015
 2. Name: Darlene Casper
Position: Support Staff Substitute
Effective Date: August 11, 2015
 3. Name: Lisa Collins
Position: Student Assistant
Lower Pottsgrove
Effective Date: August 21, 2015
 4. Name: April Mayes
Position: In School Suspension Monitor
Lower Pottsgrove
Effective Date: August 21, 2015
 5. Name: Alexandra Samsel
Position: Instructional Assistant
Pottsgrove High School
Effective Date: August 24, 2015

b. Appointments:

1. Name: Phillip Rhoads
Position: Substitute Custodian
Compensation: \$10.85 per hour
Effective Date: September 1, 2015
2. Name: George Sutton
Position: Substitute Custodian
Compensation: \$10.85 per hour
Effective Date: September 1, 2015
3. Name: Brittany Miller
Position: Duty Aide - Ringing Rocks
Replacing Donna Colaiezzi
2.5 hours per day/all student days
Compensation: \$11.52 per hour
Effective Date: September 1, 2015

c. Leave of Absence

1. Name: Lisa Smoyer
Position: Student Assistant - Middle School
Reason: FMLA
Effective Date: September 1, 2015 - Not to exceed 12 weeks.
2. Name: Ed Griffith
Position: Custodians
Reason: FMLA
Effective Date: September 16, 2015 - Not to exceed 12 weeks
3. Name: Vicki Ambs
Position: Student Assistant
Middle School
Reason: FMLA
Effective Date: September 1, 2015 - Not to exceed 12 weeks.

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mrs. Grimm moved and Mrs. Cherico seconded a motion to approve the following Supplemental items:

SUPPLEMENTALS

a. Appointments:

Cheerleading Head MS F	Tara	Breiner*	\$2,618.88
Cheerleading Head HS F	Alicia	Harris*	\$4,404.48
Cheerleading HS F Asst	Ann	Scott*	\$2,380.80
Cross Country MS	Michael	Romeo	\$2,737.92
Cross Country Asst HS	Marilyn	Eaton	\$4,642.56
Cross Country Head HS All	Larry	Rechtin	\$6,309.12
Football Asst 7th M	Michael	Mayes*	\$2,856.96
Football Asst 8th M	Thomas	Bailey	\$2,976.00
Football Asst 9th M	Joesph	Vecchio*	\$3,333.12
Football Asst HS M	Jim	Algeo	\$5,475.84
Football Asst HS M	Eric	Engstrom	\$5,475.84
Football Asst HS M	Josh	Ford*	\$5,475.84
Football Asst HS M	Michael	Tomasso*	\$5,475.84
Football Asst HS M	William	Bradford*	\$5,475.84
Football Head 7th M	Richard	Ashburn*	\$2,976.00
Football Head 8th M	Kenneth	Ivory*	\$3,214.08
Football Head 9th M	Keith	Schurr*	\$3,690.24
Football Head HS M	Rick	Pennypacker	\$8,332.80
Golf Head HS All	Donald	Petrilla	\$4,285.44
Golf Asst HS All	Rich	Burke*	\$3,571.20
Hockey Asst HS F	Bev	Yenchick	\$4,999.68
Hockey Asst HS F	Chloe	Seidel	\$4,999.68
Hockey Head Grade 8	Jodi	Sroule	\$2,976.00
Hockey Head HS F	Christine	Campbell	\$6,071.04

Soccer Asst HS F	Kelly	Reilly	\$4,999.68
Soccer Asst HS F	Mike	Brendlinger*	\$4,999.68
Soccer Asst HS M	Kevin	Grimm*	\$4,999.68
Soccer Asst HS M	Jay	Erb*	\$4,999.68
Soccer Asst MS M (7th)	Jonathan	Veser	\$2,856.96
Soccer Asst MS F (7th)	Theresa	Kegel	\$2,856.96
Soccer Head HS F	Stephen	Mellor	\$6,071.04
Soccer Head HS M	Jay	Witkowski	\$6,071.04
Soccer Head MS F (8th)	Steve	Palladino	\$2,976.00
Soccer Head MS M (8th)	Ricky	Royce	\$2,976.00
Tennis Asst HS F	Gloria	Fritz	\$3,690.24
Tennis Head HS F	Gus	Tellis*	\$4,404.48

*Denotes non faculty member

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Discussion Item:

The Board had an extensive discussion of the portion of Act 151 requiring volunteers in the school district to undergo TB testing. The administration discussed its research and findings relative to compliance with the Act. The Board expressed concerns that compliance as currently practiced would have a devastating effect on volunteerism in the community and imposed an unfair burden on those parents and community members unable to afford the associated cost. The Board also discussed the minimal TB risk and various interpretations of this portion of Act 151. Mrs. Gallion moved and Mr. Rabinowitz seconded a motion to waive the requirement in Pottsgrove and refer the matter to the Policy Committee for further study and formulation of a new policy associated with compliance with this portion of the Act. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Facilities Committee

Mr. James Hanna of D'Huey Engineering discussed progress on the High School Renovations (slides available on the District website <http://www.pgsd.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=4028>). Extensive discussion commenced on prospects of building readiness and ample time for teacher setup with the September 8 opening date. Superintendent Feola indicated that a decision would be made and communicated to District families on or about Wednesday, September 2 regarding an on-time opening. If a delay were deemed necessary, it would only affect the high school. Other schools would still open on time. Mr. Rabinowitz moved and Mrs. Gallion seconded a

motion to forgive the 181st day in the calendar for the high school and up to two additional days at a cost of \$6,000 per day in lost state subsidy, should a delay be needed, as the District calendar significantly exceeds Pennsylvania's required annual hours of instruction for secondary schools even with a 178 day school year. The Board unanimously approved the motion. The District remains optimistic as significant progress has been made towards an on-time opening but necessary setup time for district staff remains a concern. Again, parents can expect a communication on or about next Wednesday with an update and additional details.

Mr. Jeffrey Cardwell, Director of Facilities, reported on the progress of mold remediation on the roof deck of the Ringing Rocks gym. The roof membrane has been inspected and is deemed sound and properly installed. No other mold was found. Mold is being removed professionally and the entire roof deck is being treated with an antimicrobial paint. Higher humidity at the roof deck level was noted and being addressed but no confirmation on the root cause. That continues to be investigated. The total cost of the mold removal and antimicrobial paint application is \$18,742.86, less than half of the original estimated cost.

Mr. David Nester, Business Manager, presented a Facilities Request from the American Cancer Society for use of the stadium next June 3- 5, 2016 for the Annual Relay for Life. Mrs. Grimm moved and Mrs. Gallion seconded a motion to approve the Facilities request for the Relay for Life June 3 - 5, 2016. The Board unanimously approved the request.

Curriculum and Academic Affairs Committee

Mr. Daniel Vorhis, Director of Education and Assessment, presented the preliminary findings from the 2015 administration of the PSSA, Keystone, and Advanced Placement exams. The presentation, available on the website (<http://www.pgsd.org/Page/277>), consisted of three parts: Historical look at the transition to the PA Core and new PSSA, the 2015 scores, and plans of action to address areas of concern and improve student performance. Discussion commenced regarding the curricula in use in the District and their alignment to PA Core.

New Business

Mrs. Grimm noted the start of the fall sports season and wished all Pottsgrove athletes success in the upcoming school year.

Mr. Rabinowitz introduced a concept from a nearby district that provides an opportunity for senior citizens to volunteer in the school district in exchange for some degree of property tax relief. Mr. Nester noted that Pottsgrove did have a similar program that ended around 2003 due to lack of participation. He also noted that there are employment and tax laws that must be considered. Both Mr. Nester and Mr. Rabinowitz agreed that it is still an idea worthy of further investigation.

Adjournment

Mr. Valentine moved and Mr. Coffelt seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Cherico
School Board Secretary