

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
POTTSGROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
February 23, 2016

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:

Rick Rabinowitz	Matt Alexander	Patti Grimm	Diane Cherico
Ashley Custer	Jim Lopic	Al Leach	Bill Parker
John Rossi			

Also present were: Ms. Shellie Feola, Dr. William Shirk, Mr. Dave Nester, Mr. Michael Wagman, Dr. Maura Roberts, Mr. Jeff Cardwell, and Solicitor Mr. Marc Davis.

### ***Call to Order***

Mr. Rabinowitz called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

### ***Executive Session Announcements***

Mr. Rabinowitz announced there will be an Executive Session for labor negotiations with the non-professional staff immediately following the Board meeting.

### ***Public Comment***

No public comment.

### ***Report of the Superintendent***

#### ***Discussion Item:***

Ms. Feola shared that District Learning walks have started. The Principals worked with staff on questions. Mr. Vorhis took that information and created a report that the Principal could take back to staff on the strengths and areas for growth. It was a very refreshing day. The teachers couldn't say enough positive things about what they learned. Just being able to see what is going on and use strengths of different teachers was so helpful.

The 2016-2017 District Calendar was discussed and will be posted for public review and comment on the district website, <http://www.pgdsd.org>, before the Board votes to approve it next month.

HS Renovation Update: Jim Hanna from D'Huy Engineering updated the Board on the progress being made in the renovation project. He also discussed roofing issues revealed after the recent heavy snow and rain. The project remains on pace for an on-time completion in late August. See the latest slides at <http://www.pgdsd.org/Page/1385>.

The Special Education Gifted Plan: Superintendent Feola and the Board discussed in detail the gifted support program at the high school including short and long-term needs and a recommendation to engage temporary administrative support to focus specifically on this issue.

**Personnel:**

Mr. Grimm moved and Mr. Leach seconded a motion to approve the following Professional Staff items:

a. Retirement:

- |    |                 |                                       |
|----|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Name:           | Carol Thompson                        |
|    | Position:       | Secondary ESL Teacher                 |
|    | Effective Date: | Last day of the 2015-2016 school year |

b. Leave of Absence:

- |    |                 |   |
|----|-----------------|---|
| 1. | Name:           | Karyn Whyte   |
|    | Position:       | Teacher - Lower Pottsgrove  |
|    | Reason:         | FMLA/Unpaid Child Rearing Leave   |
|    | Effective Date: | FMLA - First day of the 2016-2017 school year - not to exceed twelve weeks.<br>Unpaid Child Rearing Leave - Upon the expiration of FMLA for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year. |

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mrs. Cherico moved and Mr. Leach seconded a motion to approve the following Support Staff items:

a. Assignment/Classification Change::

- |    |                 |                                       |
|----|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Name:           | Brett Hansley                         |
|    | From:           | Grounds Utility Technician            |
|    | To:             | Custodian - First Shift Ringing Rocks |
|    | Reason:         | Replacing Art Bean                    |
|    | Compensation:   | \$21.63 per hour                      |
|    | Effective Date: | February 29, 2016                     |

b. Appointments:

- |    |                 |                                      |
|----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Name:           | Judy Wagner                          |
|    | Position:       | Custodian - Second Shift High School |
|    | Reason:         | Replacing Donald Hyson               |
|    | Compensation:   | \$15.35 per hour                     |
|    | Effective Date: | February 29, 2016                    |

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Leach moved and Mrs. Grimm seconded a motion to approve the following Supplemental/Special Payments items:

a. Resignation:

1.	Name:	Scott Palladino
	Position:	Head Coach - Boys Basketball - HS
	Effective Date:	February 19, 2016

b. Appointments:

Nicole Zawada Care Spring Club Advisor LP (split) \$297.85

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

***Business:***

Mr. Rabinowitz moved and Mrs. Cherico seconded a motion to approve Independent Contractor Agreement with Dr. Sylvia Sanfilippo-Cohn for Special Education Gifted Services at a cost not to exceed \$22,000.00. The Board voted 7-2. The motion passed.

Mrs. Grimm moved and Mrs. Cherico seconded a motion to approve the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit membership Budget for the 2016-2017 school year as presented. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mrs. Grimm moved and Mr. Leach seconded a motion to authorize administration to enter in an agreement with the CCIU Child Development Center for one student at a rate of \$179 per day for the remainder of the year. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mrs. Grimm moved and Mr. Leach seconded a motion to approve the payment of the Pottsgrove High School Renovation Project invoices as presented.

<b>E.R. Stuebner Construction, Inc. – General Contractor</b>	
Total amount of contract	17,822,000.00
Change Orders	<u>634,337.27</u>
Total amount of contract	18,456,337.27
Total paid to date	15,517,256.46
<b>Current Amount Due</b>	<b>334,014.72</b>
Balance to finish	2,605,066.09

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

### ***Education:***

Mrs. Grimm moved and Mr. Rossi seconded a motion to approve the following conference attendance:

- a. Yolanda Williams, Elementary Principal, to attend National Institute for School Leadership's Course #3. The cost of the course is \$158.00. Substitute coverage is not required.

The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Rossi moved and Mr. Lopic seconded a motion to approve the following conference attendance:

- b. Gloria Fritz, FACS Teacher, to attend Basic and Advance Level Embroidery Machine Training. The cost of the training is \$398.00. Substitute coverage is required.

The Board voted 7-2. The motion passed.

Mrs. Grimm moved and Mr. Lopic seconded a motion to approve the following conference attendance:

- c. Becca Luft, Data Systems Specialist, to attend PDE Data Summit *Access to Excellence – Unlocking the Power of Your Data*. The cost of the summit is \$626.00. Substitute coverage is not required.

The Board voted 8-1. The motion passed.

### ***Committee Report:***

Policy Committee Report – The Policy Committee met prior to the Board meeting. Mr. Alexander reviewed the work of the committee. A few revised policies will be posted for public review at <http://www.boarddocs.com/pa/ptsg/Board.nsf/Public#>. Revisions to the graduation policy and bullying policy were also discussed but more research must be done before final drafts are available for public review. The Committee will be addressing revisions to the student board representative and volunteer policies at its next meeting.

Mr. Rabinowitz moved and Mr. Leach seconded a motion to authorize administration to develop an additional course offering (ELA 9 Gifted) for the school year 2016-2017. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

### ***New Business***

Mrs. Grimm reported on last week's program on building resiliency in children and teens presented by Dr. Ken Ginsburg. She also thanked the Pottstown Health and Wellness Foundation for its sponsorship of the event.

Mr. Alexander reported that the Western Center is exploring the implementation of a sports medicine program and will be visiting the Middle Bucks Technical Institute to learn more about the sports medicine program in place there.

Mrs. Custer expressed concern about the standards-based grading program implemented this school year and requested that the Board discuss this at a future meeting.

Mr. Leech expressed concern about the pride period implemented this year at the High School. Ms. Feola explained that the pride period was part of the High School's continuous improvement plan and that a plan cycle review was scheduled for March. The concerns will be communicated and more information collected at that time.

### ***Answers to Previous Inquiries***

None

### ***Public Comment***

None

### ***Adjournment***

Mr. Rabinowitz adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Cherico  
School Board Secretary