

October 27, 2021

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
October 27, 2021**

Presiding Joe Lopretto, President

Date, Time, Place Wednesday, October 27, 2021, 7:30 PM, Board Room, Administration Building, McKeesport Area School District, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Opening Exercises Mr. Lopretto called the meeting to order at 7:39 PM followed by the Pledge to the Flag. We met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel and potential litigation items and issues.

Present James Brown
David Donato
Diane Elias
Thomas Filotei
Ivan Hampton
Steve Kondrosky
Joe Lopretto
Mindy Lundberg – by phone
James Poston

Others Present Dr. Mark Holtzman, Superintendent
Dr. Tia Wanzo, Assistant Superintendent
Joan Wehner, Business Manager/Board Secretary
Charles Kiss, Treasurer
Krisha Dimascio, Solicitor

Board President's Remarks - I just want to say we had Trunk or Treat the other day, I was a little nervous because I thought it was going to rain. The weatherman are the only ones that get paid good money to be wrong all the time. I'm glad it didn't rain. We had a tremendous turnout, it was fabulous! I want to thank all the Board Members that were there. I want to thank the community that came out to hand out candy. I mostly want to thank all those trick or treaters. It was really something to see. I had a great time. The weather held off. The last thing, this will be the final meeting for three of our Board members. Mr. Poston, Coach (Mr. Hampton) and Mr. Filotei, I want to thank you for the time you have committed, your personal time to this district, it doesn't go unwarranted. You guys did it for all the right reasons and I, as

October 27, 2021

the Board President, want to thank all three of you for all you have done. I hope you still follow us and come to some of the meetings and laugh at us. I just can't say enough. I think you guys are great and I want to personally congratulate you.

Superintendent's Report - I just want to echo Mr. Lopretto and thank the three members of our Board who will be leaving us this evening for their on going support and continuing for what's in the best interest of the children. I'm glad I have built relationships with the three of you fellas, you grow a little closer than professionals over the years. Thank you for your ongoing commitment. Outside of that, I do not have a report this evening.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Poston moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2021. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Hearing of Citizens –

Mr. Keith Murphy, 907 Evans Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132

Mr. Murphy addressed the Board on the testing data and student achievement, a handout was provided to the audience and Board.

Ms. Brenda Sawyer, P.O. Box 3122, McKeesport, PA 15132

Ms. Sawyer addressed the Board by reading a statement from the NAACP, McKeesport chapter.

Minutes – Mr. Poston moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of September 15, 2021 and Regular Meeting of September 27, 2021. Seconded by Mrs. Elias

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Bills – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the list of bills. Seconded by Mr. Hampton.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Agreement – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the agreement with Firewater Response 365 for moisture stabilization equipment rental in the amount of \$48,874.43. Seconded by Mr. Poston

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

October 27, 2021

Authorize – Mrs. Elias moved to authorize the Business Manager to advertise/seek proposals for the District’s Camera System Renovation. Seconded by Mr. Poston.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Equipment – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the purchase of a Dump Truck in the amount of \$81,340 from Kenny Ross Ford per Co Stars Contract. Seconded by Mr. Poston

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Equipment – Mr. Poston moved to approve the purchase of a John Deere Gator in the amount of \$21,885.12 from West Central Equipment per Co Stars Contract. Seconded by Mrs. Elias.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Agreement – Mrs. Lundberg moved to approve the Tuition Reimbursement Agreement for Employee #5167. Seconded by Mrs. Elias

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Technology – Mr. Poston moved to approve the McKeesport Area Technology Center Book List. Seconded by Mr. Hampton.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Resolutions – Mrs. Elias moved to approve resolutions #1277, #1278, #1279, #1280, #1281 and #1282 – student discipline. Seconded by Mr. Poston

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Resolution – Mr. Poston moved to approve resolution #1283 – Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Program. Seconded by Ms. Lundberg

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky,

October 27, 2021

Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

School Trip – Ms. Lundberg moved to approve the Cross Country team to attend the Eastbay Footlocker Regional Cross Country Championship on November 26 and 27, 2021 at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx, New York. Seconded by Mrs. Elias

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

MOU – Mr. Hampton moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Dick's Sporting Goods Foundation and McKeesport Area School District pending approval from the Solicitor. The term shall be from October 27, 2021 through June 30, 2026. Seconded by Mr. Poston

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Voting no. Mr. Donato

Mr. Donato: Mr. President, Terry, I am not going to be able to support this document this evening and I want you to know the reasons why. First of all, we are in a political situation where three of our Board members that support this, will not be with us when this is to start. What's troubling to me is the dates in which this takes effect from 2021 to 2026. These dates extend over the term of the new Board, as many as four members beyond their dates of service so they will not be able to monitor the activities as it involves an extension of the contract or whatever. I am troubled by that, I would hope that we could have waited a couple of months. I am frustrated at the possibility of this occurring that way. I don't know why it couldn't have waited until December. I didn't see the need for urgency so we can involve those individuals who are being newly elected. Secondly, the Board of Directors received the 15-page document for the Memorandum of Understanding less than 24 Hours ago. This is a 15-page document and it had been my practice since 1984 to review the documents energetically while getting to the bottom of things and asking necessary questions whether it be the Legal department or Administration or fellow Board members. I am not able to digest that 15-page document that quickly. I'm sure your intentions are great and you have performed admirably in the one-year relationship that we have had. To this point I have no drawbacks to the situation but the presentation of this and why it has to come this month as opposed to waiting until December is beyond me. I'm not satisfied with that and that is the reason why I will be rejecting this motion this evening. That would also go for #13 as well.

October 27, 2021

Agreement – Mr. Poston moved to approve the Lease Agreement between Dick’s Sporting Goods Foundation and McKeesport Area School District commencing on October 27, 2021 and terminating on June 30, 2026 pending approval from the Solicitor. Seconded by Mrs. Elias

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky,
Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

Voting no. Mr. Donato

Green Sheets – Mrs. Elias moved to approve the personnel recommendations. Seconded by Mr. Poston.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Donato, Mrs. Elias, Mr. Filotei, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Kondrosky,
Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Lundberg

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
PERSONNEL ITEMS**

October 27, 2021

ACT 93:

TO BE HIRED:

1. Kevin Johnson
(new position-DSGF) Healthy and Active Lifestyles Coordinator at Twin Rivers Elementary School effective date to be determined. Salary per Act 93 Agreement (pro-rated).

PROFESSIONAL:

RESIGNATION:

1. Weston Phillips STEMology Teacher, Founders' Hall Middle School, effective 10-07-21.
2. Megan Ochs Science Teacher, High School, effective 10-22-21.

TO BE HIRED:

1. Christian Sirnic
(W. Phillips) STEMology Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective date to be determined.
Step 1M Salary \$42,378.00 (pro-rated)
2. Eric Fairman Mathematics Teacher, placement to be determined, effective
immediately. Step 1B Salary\$41,778.00 (pro-rated)
3. Carly Tanney Permanent Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective
10-14-21. Rate of pay will be \$130.00/day + individual benefits.
4. Barbara Love-Donelson
(N. Honkala) Permanent Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective
10-12-21. Rate of pay will be \$105.00/day + individual benefits and
increase to \$130.00 on the 61st day.
5. Chance Robinson Permanent Day-to-Day Substitute Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary
School, effective 10-04-21. Rate of pay will be \$105.00/day + individual
benefits and increase to \$130.00 on the 61st day.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

10-27-21

Page 2

PROFESSIONAL STAFF:

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

1. Holly Hawley Elementary Teacher, McClure Elementary School, leave of absence effective approximately 02-27-22 to an undetermined date. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of all sick and personal days. FMLA
2. Samantha Welsh Elementary Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, leave of absence effective 11-25-21 until 03-29-22. Unpaid leave will commence at the expiration of all sick and personal days. FMLA

TO BE HIRED: LONG TERM SUBSTITUTES: Rate of pay will be \$105.00/day + benefits and increase to \$130.00 on the 61st day.

1. Kyonna Acie (C. Swauger) Pre-K Teacher, Founders' Hall Middle School, effective 09-22-21.
2. Josette Sanders (S. Keenan) Elementary Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, effective 10-25-21.
3. Melissa Gerken (O. Guffey) Special Education Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, effective approximately 11-29-21.
4. Heather Wagner (S. Welsh) Elementary Teacher, Twin Rivers Elementary School, effective effective 11-25-21.

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

ADDITIONS:

1. Amy Banks School Nurse
- 2.* David Witoslowski Social Studies
- 3.* Melissa Gerken Elementary PK-4, Special Education PK-8

SUPPORT STAFF:

RESIGNATION:

1. LaTisha Page Instructional Assistant, effective immediately.
2. Bridgette Batch Instructional Assistant, effective 10-04-21.
3. John Harper Attendance Officer, effective 10-29-21.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

10-27-21

Page 3

SUPPORT STAFF:

TO BE HIRED:

- 1.* Gregory Rozgonyi Roving Permanent Day-to-Day Custodian, effective immediately
Rate of pay will be \$11.00/hour.
2. Tayvon McMillan Crisis Intervention Specialist, Ease End Academy, effective immediately.
Yearly salary will be \$25,871.00 (pro-rated).
3. Stacie Jones Category 6 Secretary, Food Service/Payroll, effective 10-11-21.
Yearly salary will be \$28,100.00 (pro-rated)
- 4.* Shardasia Williams Lunch Aide, Food Service Department, Twin Rivers Elementary School,
effective immediately. Hourly rate of pay will be \$9.45.
- 5.* John Baker Lunch Aide, Food Service Department, Twin Rivers Elementary School,
effective immediately. Hourly rate of pay will be \$9.45.

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

DELETION:

1. Paul Paterra Custodian

* Pending receipt of Act 24, 34, 114 and 151 clearances, Act 168 Disclosure Release, T.B. Tine and Drug Test results.

**Step placement pending employer verification

**McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
PERSONNEL ITEMS**

**October 27, 2021
ADDENDUM**

PROFESSIONAL:

RESIGNATION:

1. Emily Hardy Special Education Teacher, McClure Elementary School, effective 11-08-21.

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2021-2022 school year:

1.	Tim Brown	Assistant Boys Basketball Coach	\$4,608.81
2.*	David Keteles	JV Boys Basketball Coach	\$3,005.74
3.	Dana Brown, Sr.	9 th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	\$2,607.87
4.	Vernon Andrews	8 th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	\$2,086.29
5.	Domonje Walker	7 th Grade Boys Basketball Coach	\$2,086.29
6.	Eric Gumbert	Assistant Girls Basketball Coach	\$4,608.81
7.*	Dexter Hairston	JV Girls Basketball Coach	\$3,005.74
8.	Tim Sweeney	9 th Grade Girls Basketball Coach (shared)	\$1,303.93
9.*	Johnasia Cash	9 th Grade Girls Basketball Coach (shared)	\$1,303.93
10.	Adam Alfer	Wrestling Coach	\$6,913.21
11.	Josh Klimko	Assistant Wrestling Coach	\$4,508.61
12.*	Chris Olinsky	9 th Grade Wrestling Coach	\$2,694.80
13.	Milan Kiska	Swimming Coach	\$5,510.53

VOLUNTEERS: Extra Curricular Athletics for the 2021-2022 school year:

1.*	Jared Zych	Boys Basketball Coach
2.	John Harper	Boys Basketball Coach
3.	Johnathan Cornell	Boys Basketball Coach
4.*	Cornell Mack	Boys Basketball Coach
5.	E. Michael Elias	Assistant Bowling Coach

SUPPORT STAFF:

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

ADDITIONS:

- 1.* Kiera Robinson Secretary

* Pending receipt of Act 24, 34, 114 and 151 clearances, Act 168 Disclosure Release, T.B. Time and Drug Test results.

**Step placement pending employer verification

October 27, 2021

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Athletic – James Brown/David Donato/Ivan Hampton – Mr. Hampton reported. We met a committee as a whole. We primarily talked about coaching positions. I think Mr. Kiss can explain it better than I can. Mr. Kiss: Good evening, we just wrapped up the end of the Fall season. Best of luck to our Tigers moving forward with the big game this weekend. Saturday, November 6th is sports physicals. Friday, November 19th is first day of Winter sports practice. As Coach Hampton mentioned our personnel items on the Green Sheets this evening reflects all of the coaching changes/additions for the Winter sports season. We do need a Jr. High Wrestling Coach and an Assistant Swim Coach. If anyone knows of someone with those two areas of expertise, we would be happy to talk to them.

Buildings & Grounds – Tom Filotei/Steve Kondrosky/Mindy Lundberg – Mr. Filotei reported. Last week I toured the building and I am happy to say that most of the situations/problems that I had the last time I toured the building, 90% of them have been resolved and most of what hasn't been resolved is due to insurance claims, waiting on insurance settlements from damages. The big thing was the vehicles, we have one that needs the bed welding back on because its rotted off. There are still a couple more vehicles that need to be bought for the district. They will be needed for snow removal. Cameras were an issue but you see we are going to try and resolve that.

Community Relations/Cultural Diversity – Mindy Lundberg/Ivan Hampton/David Donato – Dr. Wanzo reported. We met October 19th, Myself, Ms. Lundberg and Dr. Katzenberg. We discussed the district's overall plan for diversity, equity and inclusion. The DEI team will be reading, "So You Want to Talk About Race" as a book study led by Dr. Katzenberg. We will pilot and online DEI learning with Michael Jones who is the diversity, equity and inclusion officer at IU3. Our next steps will be including and engaging community stakeholders which will be through listening sessions led by Mr. Eric Ewell from Penn State Greater Allegheny and we will be discussing many of the things talked about early in the meeting such as discipline data, performance data and attendance data. We also discussed a partnership with Frank Kamara from the Consortium for Public Education. On October 12st our students from the High School had the opportunity to attend the HBCU College Fair at PNC Park. We will also have a virtual HBCU presentation. HBCU is Historically Black Colleges and Universities. We will have virtual presentation once a month and we will have virtual group mentoring for our students in grades 6-12.

Education/Legislation/Policy – Diane Elias/Mindy Lundberg/ Mr. Filotei - No Report

Finance/Grants/Outside Funding – Diane Elias/James Poston/Steve Kondrosky – Mr. Poston reported. We met last week as a committee as a whole, we went over our tax collections for this month. It has been another record month, which is great. We also went over the purchasing of the vehicles through the budget.

October 27, 2021

Personnel – Mindy Lundberg/Steve Kondrosky/Jim Poston – Ms. Lundberg reported. The committee met as a whole last week to discuss the personnel items on this evening's green sheet.

Safe Schools – James Poston/David Donato/Thomas Filotei – Mr. Poston reported. Last week was Safe Schools week and we met as a committee as a whole also, the administration met with the first responders throughout the school district for their annual meeting, I couldn't attend it but Dr. Holtzman was there and we had a good response from the community. They did all their safety drills for all the school last week.

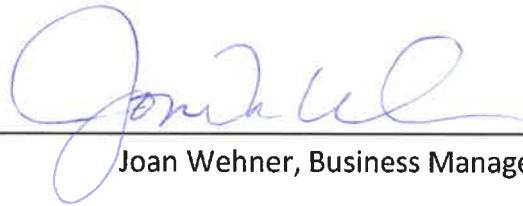
Solicitor's Report – I gave my report in executive session.

Correspondence – None.

New Business – None.

Adjournment – 8:46 PM – Mr. Poston moved for adjournment.

ATTEST:



Joan Wehner, Business Manager/Board Secretary

McKEESPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Open Agenda Meeting
October 20, 2021

Presiding Joe Lopretto, President

Date, Time, Place Wednesday, October 20, 2021, 7:30 PM, Board Room,
Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard, McKeesport, PA
15132. We met in Executive Session prior to the Open Agenda
Meeting to discuss any personnel and potential litigation items and
issues.

Roll Call James Brown
David Donato
Diane Elias
Thomas Filotei
Ivan Hampton
Steve Kondrosky
Joe Lopretto
Mindy Lundberg
James Poston

Others Present Dr. Mark Holtzman, Superintendent
Dr. Tia Wanzo, Assistant to the Superintendent
Joan Wehner, Business Manager/Board Manager
Charles Kiss, Treasurer
Gary Matta, Solicitor

Hearing of Citizens None

Items Discussed The agenda items discussed are attached.

ATTEST:



Joan Wehner, Business Manager/Board Secretary