

March 2, 2020

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a regular board meeting on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 7:00pm prevailing time at the Career Technology Center of Lackawanna County, Rockwell Ave., Scranton, PA.

President Gilmartin called the meeting to order at 7:45pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Cruz, Fox, Hume, Malloy, McAndrew, Schuster, Welby, Yanni and President Gilmartin.

Absent: All Present.

At this time President Gilmartin asked for a moment of silence for the passing of 6th grader, Jamonte Bradford from Northeast Intermediate School.

Communications to the Board

Virginia Orr, Secretary, announced Executive Sessions were held on February 5, 2020, February 24, 2020 and this evening to discuss Personnel, Staffing, Negotiations, Real Estate and Litigation.

Solicitors Report

Solicitor Audi announced that with regards to asbestos and lead discussions this evening, we're here to discuss the abatements that have gone on and the proposals for moving forward.

Mr. Audi informed everyone that since there is a federal lawsuit that's been filed he strongly advises the board not to discuss those matters but to focus on the matters of abatement and the fixes with regards to asbestos and lead and how we move forward. Mr. Audi cautioned the board and asked the audience to note that; and that would be the reason why questions cannot be answered.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Melissa McTiernan, Superintendent announced that the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science held its Region 2 Competition at Wilkes University where South Intermediate and Scranton High School participated. Thirteen of our students earned 1st Place awards, three students earned 2nd Place awards and four students earned Perfect Awards. 93% of our students at South Intermediate will move on to the state competition for having the highest number of advanced students than any other school.

Mrs. McTiernan congratulated Scranton High School Knight Rhythms who competed in Virginia last week in the Mid-Atlantic Show Choir Spectacular. The Glitter in Gold Choir placed 3rd overall in their division and the First Edition Mixed Show Choir placed 2nd

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overall in their division and Madelyn Casey earned Best Performance overall for the whole competition. This weekend they competed again in the Keystone Chapter Unico National High School Choral competition at Lackawanna College and they finished 1st Place for the Large Choir Division and also won the Peoples Choice Awards.

Mrs. McTiernan congratulated the West Scranton Lady Invaders Basketball team as District Champs and also congratulated Victoria Watkins, a diver from West Scranton High School, District Champ and Nick Drost, a swimmer from Scranton High School, District Champ. Mrs. McTiernan wished good luck to all of them as they compete in states.

Mrs. McTiernan announced the Scranton School District received a PCCD 2020 School Safety & Security Grant; special thanks to Molly Abdalla and Maggie Cosgrove, current Scranton School District staff and also special recognition to Sergeant Thomas Carroll from the Scranton Police Department; the district received \$368,507 and will be used to update current safety and security equipment throughout the district.

Mrs. McTiernan reminded everyone to please complete the Census 2020 which is required by law, adding that a complete and accurate count is critical to our community because the results of the 2020 Census will affect community and school funding and Congressional representation and more.

PSBA Report

Director Hume reported on the following:

- Crisis Communication Assistance.
- PR/Community Relations Badges available through Online Learning on the PSBA website.
- March 11, 2020 Webinar to prepare for the March 23, 2020 Advocacy Day in Harrisburg.
- PSBA Sectional Meeting slated for March 24, 2020 at the Abington Heights Administration Building where you can connect with district leaders and share information.
- A Focused Foundation: School Design + Construction Planning to take place on March 31, 2020 to be held at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square hosted by the American Institute of Architects.
- Cyber Charter School Funding Reform Resolution
- Proposed Federal Budget
- Fair Funding Lawsuit Update
- Supplemental Budget Appropriations at the PA State House and Senate

President Gilmartin now invited Sandra Miller from PA Schools Work to address the board.

Ms. Miller introduced herself to new board members, gave an update on Fair Funding and encouraged the board and the community to continue their advocacy as they have been instrumental in moving the dialog ahead and talking to representatives. Ms. Miller invited board members to reach out to her and she is here to support our efforts.

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Cocciardi and Associates Presentation

[..\..\Documents\SSD NESIS Board Presentation March 2.pdf](#)

Mr. Rocco DiPietro and Dr. Joseph Cocciardi gave a brief summary of the current situation Northeast Intermediate and the relocation of students to other schools and the safety of the students as well as recommendations to fix and or abate the asbestos issues.

Director Schuster inquired about the bells in the floor of the auditorium and would they be ducting each of the current bells.

Mr. DiPietro replied that they were told they would duct directly and channel and from that channel would feed so it would be like a trough and that is what Scranton Electric indicated; it wouldn't be a pipe directly, it would start out a larger branch.

Director Cruz asked if there are cons of sealing off the 1906 system.

Mr. DiPietro responded that other than the approvals, they would need approvals from the EPA and the Department of Education since we're changing the system we will lose the ability to bring fresh air into the classrooms and in winter it probably would not be a big deal, the problems would be in summer or days when you can't open the windows and lose the ability to control fresh air. Dr. Cocciardi added that there's no guarantee they can acquire EPA approval to do this because it's a non-traditional remedy.

Dr. Cocciardi further added that they may want to consider the concern of having the children in a building that does not have an active ventilation system which is very untypical for buildings so you may want to consider what its like to have 600-800 people in an enclosed building for 6-10 hours at a time.

Director McAndrew asked how long it would take for the approvals.

Dr. Cocciardi would suggest the building code answer might happen somewhat rapidly in terms of days to weeks; he does not know about the EPA approvals because this is something that hasn't been asked before, that it may be weeks but suspects it would be in the 30 day time frame.

President Gilmartin asked if there is the option of splitting the two section up; not have access to the 1906 section but utilize the 1931 section.

Dr. Cocciardi said that is correct, we're speaking on an environmental standpoint, however before they reoccupy the building they would need the fire code approval so you have the required number of exits as well as electrical approvals.

Mr. DiPietro commented on the ventilations systems and that they are separate, so shutting down the 1906 system would not affect the new system as they operate independently with the exception of the new system that shares common intake with the auditorium adding that in their estimate it essentially includes bringing that fresh air and splitting it equally between the auditorium and the new side of the building but if the decision is to abandon the auditorium then they would redirect that adding there are

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essentially three separate ventilation systems so what you do with one system will not affect what they are doing with the other two systems.

Director Hume, as she understands it, they could abate the HVAC system to the 1931 building and there would be no issue there, would they need further codes or approvals to bring students back, they would only need further approvals to take students back into the 1906 side and assuming the auditorium will stay shut for the time being.

Mr. DiPietro said correct.

Director Hume confirmed they would isolate the air going into the 1931 system from any contact with the 1906 system and that is their first quote of \$40,000. Director Hume also asked if at a different occasion they can then go into the auditorium and fix that.

Mr. DiPietro said correct.

Director Hume clarified that we would then have the 1931 building with a functioning HVAC system and have the auditorium, possibly either not in use or with a functioning HVAC system depending on what decision is made, and the 1906 building, subject to approvals, we would be able to put students back into the 1906 building.

Mr. DiPietro responded that yes, with the caveat that after the approvals, that would include the shutting of the system down on the old side; operational HVAC on the new side, operational HVAC in the auditorium and no HVAC, simply radiator heat in the 1906 building.

Director Hume clarified that this could be done in sequence.

Mr. DiPietro said absolutely.

Director Malloy asked, as he understands that the logistics are not up to him, but is there any environmental safety issue with the children retrieving their belongings at this point.

Dr. Coccardi said they found low levels, basically a fiber or two in some of the samples and all of those levels are below what EPA considers as clearance for any clean-up project that involves dust so the simple answer is no, there's not a recognized environmental hazard in releasing those materials.

Director Malloy asked, all things being equal, what's presumed for this question is that we all agree on everything and money is no object, he recognizes this is the hypothetical of all hypotheticals, how soon can the children get back into Northeast.

Mr. DiPietro asked, in the entire building? Director Malloy said, no.

Mr. DiPietro responded he would think in a couple of weeks.

Director Malloy asked if either Dr. Coccardi or Mr. DiPietro is aware of any air quality test results that demonstrate airborne asbestos at Northeast.

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Mr. DiPietro responded they had clear air samples; all of the samples they have to date are low EPA clean criteria.

Director Hume asked to clarify; they did not take those air samples prior to the decision to close the building?

Mr. DiPietro said no, not Cocciardi.

Director Schuster, if they were to move forward and shut down the system in the 1906 side, remediation of the 1931 piece minus the auditorium, would they have access to all of the classrooms in the building, if they were to just remediate the 1931 system.

Mr. DiPietro not quite understanding the question, Director Schuster asked if they were to move ahead with the 1931 work and shut down the 1906 system, do they still have access to the both buildings.

Mr. DiPietro said they would have access clearly to both sections that assumes then if you were to occupy the old side without an operational, mechanical ventilation you have to have the approvals so if you were to abate in the sequence of things, if you were going to abate the new side, spend a couple of weeks, spend \$40,000-\$50,000, to get the new side operational, then we would have started the approvals hopefully in a month, you have the approval and then you can occupy both sides of the building; half would have a mechanical ventilation system, the other half would not.

Director Schuster said that would give us until the summer to move ahead with some of the bigger projects.

Mr. DiPietro clarified that all of the commentary they received from the engineering groups that are seeking this approval or would be seeking this code, do so on the grounds that this is a temporary measure; he doesn't think anyone is comfortable that this is a long term solution to shut down the mechanical ventilation system, he thinks any approvals granted are going to be done on the auspicious that this is an emergency to get through to the end of the school year. Mr. DePietro added that he thinks if you were to present that to PDE that this is a long term tenure plan to not run these systems, you might find a little more resistance.

Director Schuster is thinking if they getting in there the first week of April, we only have April and May and a week into June so 2 months and a week, that 1906 system, we're saying is going to take 3 months so if we're moving kids into this building, this system is going to be shut off, correct?

Mr. DiPietro said correct.

Director Schuster asked if we get the 1931 side remediated, we can't have access to the 1906 side.

Mr. DiPietro said correct.

Director Schuster asked if they need remediation of the auditorium to do that.

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Mr. DiPietro responded no, the remediation of the auditorium would be contingent on you occupying the auditorium and if you chose not to occupy the auditorium then you can hold on any abatement at that point.

At this time President Gilmartin said she feels the decision they have to make tonight is are we comfortable making a decision to move forward with some part of these abatement projects that have been laid out, which then would be returning the students to at least part of the building within a few weeks where she thinks that leaves them with the option of do they want to wait until the students are back to access their own belongings or her preference would be to move forward with getting the students their belongings as quickly as they possibly can.

Director Hume said now that they know they can authorize a plan and safely work out a plan with minimal disruption to the work.

President Gilmartin asked if there is a consensus to have the administration to move forward with a plan to get the belongings out of the lockers and back to the students.

All board members agreed.

Superintendent Mrs. McTiernan wanted to make it clear that they are not bringing children in to the building to get their belongings; we're packing up their belongings and bringing it to the children, correct?

Dr. Cocciardi said there is current asbestos abatement occurring in those areas so no; you do not want to bring children in until everything has been cleared. However, you do have to clear the materials so you can bring those out or to another location or in bags, whatever the best way to do it is.

Director Schuster asked what the timeline would be to allow the kids in even if it's just one day to come in,

Mrs. McTiernan said no; we're going to take their belongings to them.

The floor was now open for public comment.

Public Comment

Vivian Williams, resident and parent at Willard, thanked board members, feels the board needs to put themselves in parents' shoes and commended the board for cutting ties with Guzek,

Ms. Williams also thanked Mr. Paul Dougherty for asking the hard questions and if it weren't for his diligence she doesn't know if parents would know anything. Ms. Williams commented that from the last board meeting her suggestion has fell on deaf ears and asked that a meeting be held at the schools that have been closed with specific people that represent their task force which at Willard consists of herself and Eric Albanese and two other members at large.

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Ryan Hnat, resident, taxpayer, business owner and Art teacher at Neil Armstrong, announced that three students at Neil Armstrong Elementary will be showing art work at the Pennsylvania Department of Education for Youth Art Month for the entire month of March. The exhibition opens this Saturday and can also be viewed online at PAEAblog.org and each of their works has Scranton City based themes. The students include 1st grader Mason Tuft, 4th grader Rhylee Bell and 3rd grader Justin Ortiz. Mr. Hnat also announced that they installed today the Great Wall of Art at the school where any student can post pictures of artwork and hopefully by the end of the month they will have a huge display and Mr. Hnat invited all board members and administration to view the artwork through the end of March, then the wall be taken down and they will then do a wall for Autism Awareness month.

George Polemitis, father and taxpayer, said a lot of questions were answered tonight but what is upsetting to him now is the years of neglect. Mr. Polemitis knows it is not this board's fault but this board has to make it right for future students. Mr. Polemitis thanked the board for being patient with the families.

Christine Gutekunst, 3 year Preschool teacher at Whittier Elementary, advocated for the Preschool programs that are fully funded and proven to be successful and should not be eliminated. Mrs. Gutekunst said the district is awarded \$6 million in Title I funding, \$2 million of which is being used for preschool and the rest being used for math and reading interventions. Mrs. Gutekunst said the money pays for 28 salaries and benefits and also supplies for preschool.

Mrs. Gutekunst said eliminating preschool would add 28 salaries to the budget which would be fiscally irresponsible. Mrs. Gutekunst further said that we are mandated to use Title I funds to improve scores and preschool does just that. Mrs. Gutekunst shared DIBELS data percentages and gave a comparison of how successful the numbers are for children who attended the preschool programs and these students are at or above benchmark. Mrs. Gutekunst feels those numbers would plummet if preschool programs are eliminated.

Courtney Novak, parent, PTA President and 4 yr preschool teacher at Willard, spoke of recovery plan that was presented and voted on by the board that suggested moving PreK to a central location to become center based and said the district will look for other sources of funding and partners. Ms. Novak asked what happened to that plan.

Ms. Novak said the preschool budget of \$2.2 million is only 1.4% of the entire district budget and while she understands the district is considering spending the money on reading and math interventions, the rest of the Title I budget is already used on that. Ms. Novak asked what are these interventions, is there a plan or are they just going to wing it like many decisions have been made. Ms. Novak said eliminating preschool is pushing our district backwards.

Jean Price, a preschool teacher for 20 + years shared her passion for preschool and read a poem about preschool learning. Ms. Price invited everyone to visit one of the preschool programs.

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Adam McCormick, Scranton School District teacher, asked the board to understand that school community feels they have been misled and misunderstood for years before this board was elected and this administration appointed and it takes time to heal those wounds. Mr. McCormick said the common claim for school boards is what is best for our students despite the fact that often times there is direct evidence that they did not because so many programs that have been cut. Mr. McCormick implores the new wave of school board members and administrators to be more transparent than past bodies and genuinely make decisions that are best for our students.

Chris Lazor, Neil Armstrong Elementary, read a statement from a kindergarten teacher who could not attend this evening.

Holly Meade, Special Education teacher at Northeast Intermediate, expressed her sadness feels defeated that she does not want to go to work anymore citing the separation of the Northeast community placed in temporary schools and also reminded the board that the teachers have been working for three years without a raise. Mrs. Meade urged the board to use their power.

Matthew Barrett, parent of Northeast Intermediate student, thanked the board for their service and suggested that a special meeting be held for the Northeast community, allow public comment during work sessions, start meetings on time, not have your lawyer issue comment undermining the meeting and stop asking parents to submit questions they have no intention of answering.

Mr. Barrett referred to the recovery plan that makes clear the Recovery Officer will have the final approval and it is the Recovery Officer who calls all the shots and the board does not have any power.

Mr. Barrett questioned Dr. Finan's plan and the reason it is important is because Dr. Finan, in the midst of a crisis where a school has been closed and 900 students have been displaced, Dr. Finan was quoted in the Times newspaper "From our point of view we have to look at what buildings should be shuttered based on the issues of both lead and asbestos". Mr. Barrett added that no one would argue to close a building with all of those issues.

Mr. Barrett spoke of a review of Northeast, relying on experts from PFM; they did a review on the building and described it as being better than they expected, clean and well kept. Mr. Barrett said Dr. Finan's plan doesn't address the issue of lead and asbestos and reminded the board that during the work session on January 27th, Mr. Guzek was there and it was suggested that all schools have air quality tests and it was mentioned that it be put out for bid with Mr. Guzek. Mr. Barrett said two days later four schools were closed; this board took no action, the air tests were not done and thinks Dr. Finan said they could not take the chance of any student to remain in a room that has a priority 2.

Mr. Barrett's time was up and he left the podium.

Michelle Dempsey, parent of Prescott and Northeast students, asked if there is a plan in place to notify parents when abatement remediation is happening during the school year adding that during President's Day weekend at Prescott there was work being done and

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none of the parents were notified. Mrs. Dempsey thought Prescott was okay and clear and it was disturbing to see a Datum truck at the school over that weekend. Mrs. Dempsey feels that is part of the issue with communication and parents don't know what is going on.

Mrs. Dempsey also inquired about the Emergency Preparedness Plan for the potential of the coronavirus; is there a plan to protect our children and from them bringing the virus home.

Dr. Finan responded they were working on that today and hope to have everything in place by Friday and looking at what they would have to do for cleaning to continue and instruction while children are at home if schools need to close. Dr. Finan added they are looking at ways to communicate to the children and they are very close to getting that done. Dr. Finan further added that there are some postings on the website and they're going to have nurses and Health and PE teachers meet with students to talk about hand washing and such and the school buses will also be wiped down.

Dr. Finan also said they met with the city today and there's a couple more pieces with the plan to put together but they will have it solidly in place by Friday with students and teachers all having access to what they need.

Julie Cohen, parent of three children in Scranton School District at Northeast and Prescott, thanked the board and appreciates the commitment of the board and administration.

Mrs. Cohen suggested additional task forces on other issues like educational program innovation, diversity and inclusion and community collaboration.

Mrs. Cohen thanked the current administration for the work they've done addressing the lead issues but she has reviewed many documents on the website regarding asbestos noting that the documents are from summer and fall of 2019 and she is confused about what was missed this fall and what about the duct installation and HVAC that was not known from the summer and fall of 2019; is there any concern that there has been airborne asbestos in Northeast in the last six months. Mr. Rocco DiPietro addressed.

Mrs. Cohen asked how the prioritization work is taking place across the district and why her questions have not been answered that she submitted at the meeting last week on index cards.

Will Cohen, parent of Northeast Intermediate student, thanked the board for their service and for the presentation tonight regarding conditions at Northeast. Mr. Cohen spoke of the concern of the safety of South Intermediate and buildings being treated differently. Mr. Cohen asked if there is an asbestos crisis or a public relations crisis and it would help to have more trust in how Cocciardi is being engaged by the district.

Rosemary Boland, SFT President, spoke of the School Wide Early Childhood and Title I Services and questioned the committee of administrators, teachers, parents, and para-Professionals and asked for the names of the people on that committee because she is unaware of that committee.

Ms. Boland also questioned a Special Education Committee resolution on the agenda this

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evening and asked where the names came from because she didn't give the names and the committee is supposed to come through the SFT.

Ms. Boland spoke of the success of the Pre-K program in the district and how shameful it would be if those programs were cut.

Eric Albanese, did not speak. Mr. Albanese had to leave for a family emergency.

Tim Schwartz. President of Hill Neighborhood Association and PTA President at John Adams Elementary, here to support his Northeast Intermediate neighbors and asked for an update of the gymnasium abatement at Adams. Mr. Schwartz also spoke of the concern of the loss of the Pre-K program at Adams.

Mr. Paul Dougherty said the gymnasium abatement is on the summer project list.

A motion to accept the meeting minutes of January 27, 2020 was made by Director Schuster, seconded by Director Malloy and passed unanimously on roll call.

At this time, Director Yanni let everyone know that she is a new board member and she is listening to all of you and there are a lot of questions and she knows she needs to do better and she is sitting here asking the same questions.

President Gilmartin now asked for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda.

Director Yanni requested that B-2 is removed from the Consent Agenda. B-2 was removed from the Consent Agenda. Director Yanni announced that she is asking B-2 to be removed because there is a payment on the bill for the West Scranton Little League and her husband is the treasurer.

Director Schuster made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Cruz and the Consent Agenda passed unanimously on roll call.

The Consent Agenda included the following items: (B-1, B-3, B-4, B-5, D-1, D-2, D-3 and H-1)

B-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Budget and Finance Committee that the following resolution be considered:

The list of bill payments in accordance with the bill payment approval policy be approved as per the attached:

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\$547,797.15

[..\Resolutions\B-1 Bill List 3.2.2020.pdf](#)

ALSO

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B-3

The Superintendent of Schools and the Budget and Finance Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

Be it resolved that the Delinquent Tax Report for the month of January, 2020 be accepted. A copy of the monthly detail is available for review in the Business Office.

Tax	\$204,967.15
Penalty	\$ 23,595.92
Interest	<u>\$ 18,124.16</u>
TOTAL	\$246,687.33
Commission	<u>\$(12,334.46)</u>
NET TO DISTRICT	\$234,352.87

ALSO

B-4

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Budget and Finance Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, In accordance with the Real Estate Tax Law any property not sold at Judicial Sale shall be listed in a Repository of Unsold Properties. The following properties have been sold and will be returned to a tax paying status with the Tax Claim Bureau:

Jansy Garcia Gonzalez	1934 Jackson St.	Map No. 14513-040-043	\$2,018.00
(Smarteco Home LLC)	Lot 4		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the School District of the City of Scranton does hereby approve the above referenced properties for a repository sale pursuant to the real estate tax sale law and section 627 of said act. This resolution is subject to the approval of other taxing bodies.

ALSO

B-5

The Superintendent of Schools and the Budget and Finance Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

Be it resolved that the Treasurer's Report for the period ending December, 2019 be accepted as follows:

Opening Balance	\$13,564,232.72
Monthly Revenue	\$14,448,763.37
Transfers and Refunds	\$27,850,710.75
 TOTAL AVAILABLE	 \$55,863,706.84
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$49,718,062.71
 BALANCE IN GENERAL ACCOUNT	 \$ 6,145,644.13

ALSO

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D-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Education Committee that the approval of staff attendance to conferences and meetings for professional development be approved as per the attached spreadsheet.

WHEREAS, Board approval is contingent upon the required approval of all supervisors, principals, or administration.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby approves the attached staff attendance to conferences and meetings.

Professional Development Board Meeting: March 2, 2020

NAME	CONFERENCE/MEETING	LOCATION	COST	DATES	PAID BY GRANT/ ORGANIZATION	SPONSORING ENTITY	SUBSTITUTE REQUIRED
1 Kevin Pail	2020 Extra Learning Opportunities	Harrisburg, PA	\$0.00	3/10 - 3/12/2020	Y	21st Century	Y
2 Stephanie Golosky	Observation	Scranton, PA	\$0.00	1/27/2020		SSD	Y
3 Narine Gramigna	Reading Apprenticeship	Archbald, PA	\$672.58	2/24 - 26/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
4 Joseph Watral	Observation	Scranton, PA	\$0.00	1/31/2020		SSD	Y
5 Rachel Harshbarger	Fact, Fluency, & Everyday Math	Archbald, PA	\$13.34	1/24/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
6 Michele Wolff	Neuropsychology of Math	Archbald, PA	\$100.00	12/19/2019	Y	NEIU	Y
7 Elizabeth Defrancesco	Reading Apprenticeship	Archbald, PA	\$674.67	2/24-26/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
8 Michele Sokoloski	Reading Apprenticeship	Archbald, PA	6.72.26	2/24-26/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
9 Nicole Shaffer	ADHD School-Based Interventions	Archbald, PA	\$0.00	1/21/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
10 Katherine Herrmann	ADHD School-Based Interventions	Archbald, PA	\$0.00	1/21/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
11 Holly Meade	ADHD School-Based Interventions	Archbald, PA	\$0.00	1/21/2020	Y	NEIU	Y
12 Sara Baldirucci	MTSS	Harrisburg, PA	\$234.56	1/22-24/2020	Y	MTSS	Y
13 Diane Amari	PMEA District Band	Montrose, PA	\$168.12	2/12-14/2020		PMEA	Y
14 Diane Amari	PMEA Region Band	Honesdale, PA	\$150.06	3/26-28/2020		PMEA	Y
15 Amanda Hingle	Observation	Scranton, PA	\$0.00	1/23/2020		SSD	Y
16 Megan Barrett	Data Summit	Hershey, PA	\$317.85	3/17/2020		PDE	
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ALSO

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D-2

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, a request for approval has been submitted to the Board of School Directors for West Scranton High School's Spanish II Class to be permitted to travel to New York, NY on Thursday, May 7, 2020 and returning on the same day; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the trip will be self-funded by participating students at no cost to the District; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board hereby approves the West Scranton High School Spanish II Class field trip to New York, NY.

ALSO

D-3

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, a request for approval has been submitted to the Board of School Directors for West Scranton High School's Scholastic Bowl Team to be permitted to travel to Atlanta, GA on Friday, June 12, 2020 and returning Sunday, June 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the trip will be funded by the Secondary Education budget at a total of \$3,625.00; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board hereby approves the West Scranton High School Scholastic Bowl field trip to Atlanta, GA.

ALSO

H-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Special Education Committee presents the following for your consideration:

WHEREAS, the School District of the City of Scranton is subject of administration proceedings and civil suits, wherein the appropriateness of the student's special education program has been challenged or suits have been filed in matters of DMcG-ODR# 23183-19-20 and LS-ODR# 23194-19-20; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached a settlement agreement in this matter upon the terms and conditions previously provided for your consideration; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the settlements as indicated above be approved upon the terms and conditions as described and the Superintendent or Director of Special Education are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to consummate the matters.

****END CONSENT AGENDA****

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The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-2

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Budget and Finance Committee that the following resolution be considered:

The Exception Bill List as per the bill payment approval policy for the period Ended March 2, 2020 be approved as per the attached.

Be it resolved that exception payments in the amount of \$2,960,797.53 have been paid in accordance with the approval payment policy.

February 7, 2020	\$499,027.79
February 21, 2020	\$1,373,686.11
February 28, 2020	\$1,088,083.63

Be it resolved that payrolls amounting to \$4,917,643.12 paid in accordance with the approval for payment policy.

February 7, 2020	\$2,444,184.89
February 21, 2020	\$2,473,458.23

The resolution was seconded by Director McAndrew and passed with six (6) affirmative, two (2) negative and one (1) abstention. Directors Schuster and Gilmartin voted in the negative. Director Yanni abstained due to potential conflict of relation of a payment.

[..\Resolutions\B-2 Bill List 3.2.2020.pdf](#)

ON THE QUESTON:

Director Schuster asked about a payment made to the previous solicitor. Mr. Pat Laffey said it is related to a special education settlement.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-6

The Superintendent of Schools and the Budget and Finance Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

Whereas, the Scranton School District has publically sought Request for Proposal for Audit Services for the 2019, 2020, 2021 Financial Statements and the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 Annual Financial Report PDE 2057;

And Whereas, the Scranton School District has received three proposals from qualified public accounting firms licensed to practice in the state of Pennsylvania;

And Whereas, BBD LLP has proposed the lowest 3 year overall proposal of \$195,000 consisting of a fee of \$65,000 per year for the services outlined above;

March 2, 2020

Therefore Be It Resolved, the Scranton School District Board of Directors awards the audit engagement for the 2019, 2020, 2021 Financial Statements and the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 Annual Financial Report PDE 2057 to BBD LLP per the attached proposal.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ON THE QUESTION:

President Gilmartin, with regards to the three firms they received, there seems to be quite a disparity and are we comparing apples to apples in terms of services and qualifications set forth in the RFP.

Mr. Pat Laffey said yes, they reviewed all proposals for compliance and completeness of the specifications in the RFP and although there is some disparity in the cost, the firm being presented to the board this evening does appear to have very large school district experience and they referenced districts having budgets exceeding Scranton's budget so he feels they are qualified for the work.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-7

WHEREAS, the average Pennsylvania school district spends millions of dollars in taxpayer money annually in mandatory payments to brick-and-mortar and cyber schools; and these payments are calculated in a manner which requires districts to send more money to charter schools than is needed to operate their programs and places a significant financial burden on districts' resources and taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the current charter school funding formula was established in 1997 under the state's Charter School Law and has not been changed in the 23 years since it was first created; and the formula for regular education programs is unfair because it is based on a school district's expenditures and not what it actually costs to educate a child in the charter school; and

WHEREAS, the calculation for charter special education tuition is unfair because it also based on the special education expenditures of the school district rather than the charter school; and although the General Assembly revised the special education funding formula in 2014 to more accurately target special education resources for students identified with high, medium and low needs, this formula was applied only to school districts and not to charter schools; and

WHEREAS, because the tuition rate calculations are based on the school district's expenses, they create wide discrepancies in the amount of tuition paid by different districts for the same charter school education and result in drastic overpayment to charter schools; and these discrepancies in tuition rates for regular education students can vary by almost \$13,000 per student and by \$39,000 for special education students; and

WHEREAS, the latest data from the PA Department of Education (PDE) shows that in 2017-18, total charter school tuition payments (cyber and brick-and-mortar) were more than \$1.8 billion, with \$519 million of that total paid by district for tuition to cyber schools; and

March 2, 2020

WHEREAS, further analysis of PDE data shows that in 2014-15, school districts paid charter schools more than \$100 million for special education services in excess of what charter schools reported spending on special education; and

WHEREAS, the costs of charter schools for school districts continue to grow significantly each year; and on a statewide basis are the most identified source of pressure on school district budgets; and

WHEREAS, the need for significant charter school funding reform is urgent; and school districts are struggling to keep up with growing charter costs and are forced to raise taxes and cut staffing, programs and services for their own students in order to pay millions of dollars to charter schools.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the SCRANTON School Board calls upon the General Assembly to meaningfully revise the existing flawed charter school funding systems for regular and special education to ensure that school districts and taxpayers are no longer overpaying these schools or reimbursing for costs the charter schools do not incur. We, along with the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, are advocating for substantial change.

Adopted this 2nd day of March, 2020.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

Director Malloy asked how this resolution will be communicated to the legislature.

Director Hume said it would be communicated through the PSBA.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Welby.

D-4

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Education Committee that the following resolution is approved:

WHEREAS, due to inclement weather, the Scranton School District was closed on December 17, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the state mandates students must receive 990 instructional hours for the secondary schools and 900 hours for the elementary schools per year; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Department of Education approved a 5-school day waiver during the closure for Northeast Intermediate from January 30, 2020 through February 6, 2020, allowing a 175 day calendar school year provided the 990 instruction hours are met; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Scranton School District will be open, and students and staff will report on Thursday, April 9, 2020 as a snow make-up day and the Scranton School Board hereby approves the adjusted calendar for Northeast Intermediate.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Welby.

March 2, 2020

D-5

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, the Scranton School District receives federal funding through the Title I and Title II, Part A (Title II) of the Every Student Succeeds Act, as amended (ESSA) to provide financial assistance to schools with high numbers or high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure that all children meet challenging state academic standards; and

WHEREAS, for compliance with Title I and Title II Part A, the district must approve an annual Equity Plan highlighting the number of experienced teachers, by building, and the number of novice teachers in each building; in correlation with the percentage of minority and low-income demographics within each building; and

WHEREAS, the Scranton School District at the end of the school year, reviews changes in equity within the district as faculty relocate or retire or as classes experience shifts in demographics and the administration team works to fill staff vacancies with qualified, experienced teachers; and

WHEREAS, the Equity Plan also addresses steps the district will take to ensure that all teachers are appropriately state certified and no building has an unfair percentage of new teachers, or inexperienced teachers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board of Directors approves the Equity Plan for 2019-2020 as attached.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Hume.

E-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Operations Committee that the following is approved:

WHEREAS, the district has pursued Work Order Systems to effectively and efficiently manage projects in routine and preventative maintenance throughout the district; and

WHEREAS, the Asset Essentials for Education platform by Dude Solutions is a unique cloud-based software program aimed at helping schools gain visibility and control into their operational performances; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board approves the software cost of \$12,555.84 for one year.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director McAndrew said this is great news and he is excited to see how well it works.

March 2, 2020

Director Welby asked how soon they will be able to implement the system and how will training take place.

Mr. Paul Dougherty said he would reach out to them tomorrow and they will receive training through virtual learning.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Hume.

E-3

It is the recommendation of the Operations Committee that an Environmental Task Force be established.

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of students, faculty, staff and visitors is of utmost importance to the Scranton School District and Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education recognizes the importance of participation of District staff and parents in promoting a safe, secure and healthy school environment; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to increase communication, advisory committees can be useful in keeping the Board and Administration informed with regards to specific school issues; and

WHEREAS, the Scranton School Board sought candidates with a background in environmental science, engineering, construction, public safety or related fields to serve on the Environmental Task Force to learn more about the current lead and asbestos conditions in our schools; and

WHEREAS, four individuals have been selected, one each representing the elementary, middle, and high school levels with a fourth serving as an alternate member; and

WHEREAS, this collaborative committee will also include the Board President, Superintendent and Chief Recovery Officers as members ex-officio, the Director of Operations, the Operations Committee Chair, two members each representing the Scranton Federation of Teachers and the SEIU32BJ and representatives from the District's appointed Environmental Services Firm; and

WHEREAS, committee members will be expected to be available on weekends and before or after school hours, participate in educational sessions about asbestos containing building materials including the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), as well as walkthroughs of schools and monitoring of permanent lead related remediation efforts and assessment of annual testing reports; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the following parent volunteers have been selected to serve on the newly formed Environmental Task Force of the Scranton School District:

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board hereby approves the above selected individuals to serve on the Environmental Task Force, according to Scranton School District's Policy 905, Community Advisory Committees, as attached.

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The names were not immediately available for the resolution and Director Schuster made a motion for a friendly amendment to add a 5th parent member to the task force.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Hume explained that there were eleven excellent candidates who applied and the names and any identifying factors were redacted from the application and given an identifying number. With the help of Cocciardi & Associates as well as the AFT (American Federation of Teachers), there were names recommended that appeared on both lists, ranked in order; five representatives will give more flexibility and more expertise adding that no one, including the board in no way influenced the selection. Director Hume thanked everyone who applied, it was amazing.

President Gilmartin asked Mrs. Orr, Board Secretary for the top five candidates chosen for the Environmental Task Force. In ranked order they are:

Kevin Werner
Richard Cobley
Stephen Knight
Eric Albanese
Paul Madore

Director McAndrew said he thinks this is great; it is going to help with communication and transparency.

President Gilmartin said that as Policy dictates, the board appoints a Chairperson and a Secretary and she recommends to do that as this process unfolds and we are still waiting for representatives from the SFT and the SEIU 32BJ for two representatives from their body.

The resolution was seconded by Director Yanni and passed with eight (8) affirmative and one (1) negative. Director Malloy voted in the negative.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Hume.

E-4

The Superintendent of Schools and the Operations Committee present the following resolution for your consideration:

Whereas, the Scranton School District has incurred costs related to the environmental testing and remediation of the Districts Buildings;

And Whereas, to date the District has been invoiced a total of \$82,091.54 for the testing and remediation services performed;

Therefore Be It Resolved the Scranton School District Board of Directors approves the payment of the attached environmental testing and remediation costs from the District's Capital Project Fund.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

March 2, 2020

ON THE QUESTION:

President Gilmartin corrected herself that she needed to ask for a motion to amend the agenda to include this resolution. Director Welby made a motion, seconded by Director Yanni and passed unanimously on roll call.

Director Schuster inquired about the Governor's reimbursement plan for asbestos. Dr. Finan explained it is a competitive reimbursement plan.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

F-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Personnel Committee that the attached list of Appointments, Assignments, Resignations, Leaves of Absences and Professional Contracts is approved.

Appointments are effective upon receipt of proper criminal records, immigration, and medical and child abuse reports.

Salaries are in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreements.

The resolution was seconded by Director Malloy and passed unanimously on roll call.

BOARD AGENDA FOR MARCH 2, 2020							
A. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT	NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	EFFECTIVE DATE	REPLACED	NEW	SALARY
1	Josh Watorek	Team Leader	Lincoln Jackson Academy	3/3/2020	X. C. Davis		\$55,830.00 Pre-Rated
B. PROFESSIONAL RESIGNATIONS							
1	Christopher Coleman	Health & Phys Ed	Adams/Dunroff	T.B.D.			
2	Clint Davis	Team Leader	Lincoln Jackson Academy	3/3/2020			
C. PROFESSIONAL RETIREMENTS							
1	Erin Loucks	Grade 1 Teacher	Isaac Tripp Elementary	Last day of 2019/2020 School Year			
2	Jeanne Pivato	Science 9 & 10	Scranton High School	3/2/2020			
D. PROFESSIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE							
1	Gresyn Veeckink	Teacher	Lackawanna City, Prison	BOH 9/23/2019 and 10/20 school yr			
E. NON-PROFESSIONAL RESIGNATION							
1	Shelley Bubb	Hall Monitor	Northeast Intermediate	2/14/2020			
2	Tanya Davis	Paraprofessional	Kennedy Elementary	2/26/2020			
F. NON-PROFESSIONAL RETIREMENT							
1	Dorothy Cunningham	Clerk 261	Administration Building	2/28/2020			
G. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHING ASSIGNMENT							
1	Kathryn Goodrich Williams	Cyber-Science	West Scranton High School	3/3/2020	X. G. Baldauff		\$38,377.00 Pre-Rated
2	James Spangler	Science Teacher	Scranton High School	2/19/2020	X. J. Firestone		\$38,377.00 Pre-Rated
3	Laure Troia	Teacher	Lackawanna City, Prison	2/3/2020	X. G. Veeckink		\$38,377.00 Pre-Rated
H. COACHING APPOINTMENTS							
1	Paul Devine	Asst Varsity Track/Field Coach	West Scranton High School	2020 Spring Season	X. Donnie Jackson	Buy	\$2,853.00
2	William Peak	Asst Varsity Softball Coach	Scranton High School	2020 Spring Season	X. P. Hughes		\$2,853.00
3	Anthony Bruno	JV Softball Coach	West Scranton High School	2020 Spring Season	X. M. Sedelnick		\$2,853.00
4	Todd Angell	JH Softball Coach	Northeast Intermediate	2020 Spring Season	X. K. McGrail		\$3,185.00
5	Joseph Wenzel	Asst Varsity Football Coach	Scranton High School	2020 Fall Season	X. J. Gorton		\$4,092.00
I. COACHING RESIGNATIONS							
1	Paul Devine	Junior High Track	West Scranton High School	2/19/2020			
2	Allison Carroll	Softball Coach	South Intermediate	2/19/2020			
3	Evan Pratt	Asst Football Coach	West Scranton High School	2/19/2020			
4	Paul Hayles	Asst Varsity Softball Coach	Scranton High School	2/3/2020			
J. REQUEST FOR UNCOMPENSATED LEAVE							
1	Megan Gilroy	Grade 4 Teacher	John Adams Elementary	2/28/2020 to 3/16/2020			

March 2, 2020

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Cruz.

G-1

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, The following policies (222, 323, 707, 805.2, 810.1, 904) *first read* have been **revised** by the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA), and

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY REVISIONS
222	Tobacco and Vaping Products (students)
323	Tobacco and Vaping Products (employees)
707	Use of School Facilities
805.2	School Security Personnel
810.1	School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers
904	Public Attendance at School Events

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Scranton School Board hereby approves as a first read **revision** of Policy Numbers 222, 323, 707, 805.2, 810.1, & 904 as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) and the Scranton School District administration.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Cruz.

G-2

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Policy Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, The following policies (233 & 626 attachment)) *second read* have been **revised** by the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA), and

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY IMPLEMENTATIONS
233	Suspension and Expulsion
626 attachment	Procurement Procedure Attachment

WHEREAS, The following policies (200, 201, & 204) *second read* have been **revised** by the Scranton School District Administration, and

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY IMPLEMENTATIONS
200	Enrollment of Students
201	Admission of Students
204	Attendance

March 2, 2020

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Scranton School Board hereby approves as a second read **revision** of Policy Numbers 233, 626 (attachment), 200, 201, & 204 as recommended by the Pennsylvania School Board Association (PSBA) and the Scranton School District administration respectively.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Malloy.

H-2

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Special Education Committee that the following resolution is approved:

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Operating Budget of the Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit (NEIU #19) for the 2019-2020 School Year is approved.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Schuster confirmed with Mr. Laffey that the contribution this year is the same amount as last year.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Malloy.

H-3

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Special Education Committee that the following resolution be approved:

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Education requires school districts to develop a Special Education plan that is aligned with the Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of the Special Education Plan is to describe the school district's commitment to ensure a quality education will be provided to each of its students with a disability eligible for special education; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Education requires districts create a Special Education Planning Committee to develop the Special Education Plan; and

WHEREAS, members of the Special Education Planning Committee will include the following:

- Dr. Sharon Baddick, Director of Special Education
- Ann Genett, Secondary Supervisor
- Michel Hughes, Elementary Supervisor
- James Ritts, Psychologist

March 2, 2020

- Dennis Engles, Monticello Program Director
- Eileen Higginson, Diagnostician
- Leslie Lempke, Diagnostician
- Megan Duffy, Principal
- Roseann Polishan, Resident / Parent
- Vincenza Glynn, Resident / Parent
- Marialyn Kusner, Resident / Parent
- Jody Sunday, Resident
- Sara Baldinucci, Elementary Teacher
- Ann Nicastro, Intermediate Teacher
- Karlene Cicco, Secondary Teacher

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Scranton School Board of Education approves of the creation and the above mentioned members of the Special Education Planning Committee.

The resolution was seconded by Director Schuster.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Yanni asked Mr. Paul Dougherty if he and Ms. Boland determined that they can go ahead with this.

Mr. Dougherty believes this is one of the committees Ms. Boland had a concern with.

Mrs. McTiernan added this is part of the Special Education plan that attaches to the Comprehensive Plan; conferred with Mr. Dougherty and Mrs. Grebeck that stakeholders we are using for the Comprehensive Plan were picked by them. Mrs. Grebeck addressed and Mrs. McTiernan said this is a piece of the Comprehensive Plan.

Director Schuster questioned who the hourly employees on the list are.

Ms. Rosemary Boland said that if this is approved tonight she will be filing a grievance tomorrow because it was not brought to her attention.

Solicitor Audi said to redact all of the Bargaining Unit employees.

Director Cruz asked how the names were provided. Mrs. McTiernan replied that Dr. Baddick is not present this evening so she did not feel comfortable responding.

It was determined that this resolution be tabled.

A motion to table the resolution was made by Director Schuster, seconded by Director Cruz and passed unanimously on roll call. The resolution was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS:

March 2, 2020

Director Yanni asked how we go about setting up a meeting to discuss questions that come up, how do we go about doing that.

President Gilmartin said we could do that through Committee meetings; she could request an Operations Committee meeting and it would be arranged and advertised.

Director Yanni would like to find out what happened to all of the questions that were submitted on index cards and how does she find out why they weren't answered individually.

Ms. Gilmartin has the index cards to return to Mrs. Orr and that Cocciardi used the cards to address on the website. Ms. Gilmartin thought Cocciardi tried to compile the questions and address them this evening.

Ms. Gilmartin spoke of the questions being submitted online and onto a spreadsheet by Mr. Rob Noone. Mr. Noone replied that they are updated daily and recorded. Ms. Gilmartin suggested getting those questions submitted to Cocciardi.

Director Yanni thought people were looking for their answers individually and not in a generalized statement.

Director Hume thinks they need to "triage" those questions because there is an active lawsuit as Mr. Audi advised the board not to answer questions but perhaps, so as not to appear rude, to respond with a polite answer and see what they can answer carefully and what they cannot.

Director Hume wanted to take the opportunity under New Business to address the HVAC system and what they need to ensure to get the students back in their school.

Director Hume thinks it would be difficult to make decisions this evening pending all of the approvals they would need and asked Dr. Finan for guidance.

Dr. Finan said anytime you renovate a building you have to get approval; they already got the waiver approval from PDE, she's not sure what those steps are and if they are only going to use a portion of the building they would have to make sure they have enough entrance and egress doors for emergencies which is by population she believes, and would have to be inspected by the local fire department adding there are some limitations that need to be looked at.

Director Hume asked if they have enough information to move forward tonight to approve the expenditure of the first segment of the 1931 building or do they call a special meeting later this week when they have more information.

Dr. Finan thinks that if they don't move on at least that 1931 section, if they want to get children back in the building they need to move sooner rather than later and she thinks the points she is making about the doorways, she doesn't know if they can solve that now or not because she doesn't know who does the inspections but that shouldn't hold them back from this decision.

Director Fox agrees that more information is needed but the work needs to be started and the sooner they approve it the better.

Director McAndrew agreed they need to get the ball rolling while waiting for the other approvals.

Director Hume said they would have discussion later on the auditorium and made the following motion:

March 2, 2020

It is the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Operations Committee that the Board approve to expend up to \$50,000 from Capital Funds for abatement of the 1931 HVAC system at NEIS.

Director Malloy seconded.

Director Yanni asked Mr. Laffey to explain where that money is going to come from.

Director Schuster asked how much has been spent on remediation at Northeast at this point in time.

Mr. Laffey responded specifically for Northeast, there is a quote they are working on completing as Cocciardi stated by March 9th, which was the hit list items, and was roughly \$40,979; that is all they received to date, but have not received anything related to consulting or testing at this time.

Director Yanni, to Dr. Cocciardi, to reiterate, we spend this \$50,000 and he is saying that they should be able to get the children back in the school within a few weeks or what are they looking at.

Dr. Coccardi responded that his estimate would be about 30 days based on all of the approvals.

The motion passed unanimously on roll call.

At this time Director Fox asked how they move forward with the other section.

President Gilmartin replied that the 1906 work is not something they could do and also get the students back in the building before the end of the school year and thinks it would be reasonable, explore that and take that up as summer work and their next step would be the auditorium; the action they've taken here keeps the auditorium closed and taking this one step at a time is wise and demonstrates that we do want to get the students back in their building.

Mrs. McTiernan wanted to clarify that, this first phase; Mr. Dougherty is already working on a plan for getting the children their belongings; the belongings will be bagged and we're figuring out a plan on how we will get them to the students.

President Gilmartin understands the logistics but asked if getting the students their belongings is something that can be done by the end of this week or next. Mrs. McTiernan said she may know more in the morning.

Director Yanni asked how it will be communicated to the parents. Mrs. McTiernan said she would have Mr. Hanni make a one-call. Mrs. Yanni also asked if all 900 students will be allowed back. Mrs. McTiernan did not know that answer yet.

Mrs. McTiernan now said that she knows this has been a tough time for parents but she thanked all the parents for their support and she just wants to get back to Northeast and promised she just wants to take care of their kids.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Director Schuster, seconded by Director Malloy and the meeting adjourned at 10:44pm.

By: _____

March 2, 2020