

April 6, 2020

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a regular board meeting on Monday, April 6, 2020 following the 6:00pm public work session via Zoom Conferencing.

President Gilmartin called the meeting to order at 10:07pm. The Pledge of Allegiance took place prior to the Work Session.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

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

Absent: All Present.

Communications to the Board

Mrs. Virginia Orr announced executive sessions were held on March 16, 2020, March 23, 2020 and this evening to discuss Real Estate, Litigation, Personnel and Negotiation.

Solicitor's Report

No Report.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Melissa McTiernan thanked all staff, principals, teachers paraprofessionals over the past week and a half as we implement the Enrichment and Review plan; she's very happy and thanks Rosemary Boland for her support as they move through this new adventure and with everyone's support they've made the best of the situation as they could and also hopes everybody stays safe and healthy at this time.

PSBA Report

Director Hume reported on the following:

- Grants Office webinar on Coronavirus response grants
- PSBA Coronavirus Resources "Here to Support"
- Free Zoom and BoardDocs licenses available
- Policy Updates regarding COVID-19

Public Comment

Christine Gutekunst, Preschool teacher at Whittier, spoke against the elimination of preschool programs in the Scranton School District.

Rosemary Boland, SFT President, spoke against having a work session on the same night as the board meeting, spoke against outsourcing teachers, the terrible math program that

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doesn't align with state testing and closing buildings. Ms. Boland said the SFT will be there to fight the fight.

Jean Price, Preschool teacher at John Adams, spoke against the elimination of preschool programs.

Former Mayor Jim Connors spoke about how difficult the decisions are to make, spoke against the elimination of preschool programs and the success of preschool programs.

Matt Loftus, SFT and parent, asked the board to put a motion on the floor this evening to not have a work session and board meeting on the same night and also that presentations are made public.

Mr. Loftus also spoke about the quality of education the children receive in the preschool programs and against the elimination of preschool. Mr. Loftus also asked the board to do everything they can to amend this recovery plan.

Brittney Lee, taxpayer and parent, spoke in favor of the preschool program.

Jennifer Telesco, spoke in favor of preschool programs and implored the board to look into other ways to fund this program.

Amanda VanBuskirk, hall monitor, pleasure to work with everyone and thanked Mrs. McTiernan for keeping everyone safe.

Courtney Novak, preschool teacher, taxpayer and parent, spoke against the elimination of the preschool programs.

Jennifer Zaleski, teacher at Tripp Elementary, spoke in favor of the preschool programs.

Angie Krieger, teacher at Willard Elementary, spoke in favor of the preschool programs.

Frances Regan, kindergarten teacher in Scranton School District, spoke against the elimination of the preschool programs.

Holly Meade, special education teacher at Northeast Intermediate, spoke in favor of the preschool programs.

Laura Lantka, teacher at Robert Morris Elementary, spoke against the elimination of the preschool programs.

Elena Kiernan, spoke in favor of the preschool programs.

Matt Barrett, resident and taxpayer asked Dr. Finan if she is an employee of the PA Department of Education. Dr. Finan responded yes. Mr. Barrett asked Dr. Finan who her team consists of and what Dr. Finan meant about creating capacity and room for classrooms.

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President Gilmartin informed Mr. Barrett that this is an opportunity for public comment, not for question and answer.

Mr. Barrett commented about PDE and that it seems clear that Governor Wolf and the Secretary of Education are committed to expanding preschool. Mr. Barrett also commented on Dr. Finan's analysis that doesn't take into account the quality and or capacity and she should be making the recommendation is to find the most effective way to deliver quality education.

Charlie Newcomb, resident and taxpayer, spoke in favor of the preschool programs the successes of his children's education in the Scranton School District.

Candice Ryan (Brack), parent of preschool student, spoke in favor of the preschool program.

President Gilmartin and Director Yanni spoke about and applauded board members for disclosing their relationships with the organizations that were presented during the prior work session and the board members are genuine in what they want to do for the children of the Scranton School District and want to do the right thing. Director Malloy does not want to leave our constituents with the wrong impression and appreciates the integrity of fellow board members for disclosing their connections and it is his understanding that when the decision was made to adopt the recovery plan back in July, containing the provision of eliminating the Pre-K program, that none of people were on the board at that time so the people that disclosed potential conflicts or connections had nothing to do with the adoption of the plan that eliminates Pre-K.

President Gilmartin asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add the resolution B-12, the Property Appraisal Amendment, remove Item 17.01 to Approve Covid-19 Food Distribution Plan, and remove resolution E-3, to Award the Architect of Record.

Director Hume made a motion, seconded by Director Schuster and passed unanimously on roll call.

President Gilmartin now asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 3, 2020.

Director Yanni made a motion to accept the February 3, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Director Welby and passed unanimously on roll call.

Moving on to the Consent Agenda, President Gilmartin asked if there were any request to remove any items from the Consent Agenda. There being no requests, a motion to accept the Consent Agenda was made by Director Welby, seconded by Director Malloy and the Consent Agenda passed unanimously on roll call.

The Consent Agenda included the following items:

B-1

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

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April 6, 2020	\$749,401.95
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<..\Resolutions\B-1 Bill List 4.6.2020.pdf>

ALSO

B-2

The Exception Bill List as per the bill payment approval policy for the period ended April 6, 2020 approved per the attached.

Be it resolved that exception payments in the amount of \$1,037,497.58 have been paid in accordance with the approval payment policy.

March 6, 2020	\$222,732.70
March 20, 2020	\$659,589.89
April 3, 2020	\$155,174.91

Be it resolved that payrolls amounting to \$7,612,217.31 are paid in accordance with the approval for payment policy.

March 6, 2020	\$2,475,894.32
March 30, 2020	\$2,762,235.84
April 3, 2020	\$2,374,087.15

<..\Resolutions\B-2 Bill List 4.6.2020.pdf>

ALSO

B-3

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

Tax	\$416,804.53
Penalty	\$ 42,862.87
Interest	\$ 23,919.61
TOTAL	\$483,587.01
Commission	\$(24,179.78)
NET TO DISTRICT	\$459,407.23

ALSO

B-4

Be it resolved that the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January 2020 be accepted as follows:

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Opening Balance	\$6,145,644.13
Monthly Revenue	\$5,521,571.53
Transfers and Refunds	\$43,915,650.36
 TOTAL AVAILABLE	 \$55,582,866.02
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$39,074,199.24
 BALANCE IN GENERAL ACCOUNT	 \$16,508,666.78

ALSO

B-5

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:

Diaz Drilling Serv LLC R. Clearview St. Map No. 13411-010-060	\$1,456.25
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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

H-1

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 NM; 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****

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-6

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WHEREAS: Governor Tom Wolf proposed a \$1 billion expansion of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) to remediate toxic contaminants in schools and childcare centers in communities across the Commonwealth in his February 4th, 2020-2021 Budget Address; and

WHEREAS: The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) is a commonwealth grant program that reimburses grantees for the acquisition and construction of regional economic, cultural, civil, recreational, and historic improvement projects; and

WHEREAS: Testing has shown children within Pennsylvania have suffered physical and developmental deficits due to lead, asbestos, and other contaminants in our schools affecting their health; and

WHEREAS: Children within Pennsylvania have suffered educational delays due to lead, asbestos and other contaminants in our schools causing cancellations and closing of school buildings, forcing certain lesson plans to be pushed back or eliminated altogether; and

WHEREAS: The refusal to take immediate action on contaminants in schools will only further harm our children's health in the Commonwealth, causing them life-long, detrimental health problems due to the pervasive exposure of toxins; and

WHEREAS: The continued closing of schools, use of temporary buildings, and cancellations of school days due to toxic contaminants will set our children back in their education, hindering their development; and

WHEREAS, The drawdown of an additional \$1 billion in funds would allow school districts across the Commonwealth to undertake serious and meaningful steps towards lead, asbestos, and other contaminant remediation in our school buildings to protect our children's health and education; and

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED: that the Scranton School District supports the Governor's proposal to expand RACP to address the pervasive problem of contaminants in our schools and protect the health, wellbeing, and education of our children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Scranton School District will engage with our State Representatives in support of the Governor's proposal to ensure the safety, health and educational advancement of our children and students.

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

ON THE QUESTION:

President Gilmartin asked if any of the administrators have an opinion on this resolution as she has limited knowledge of RACP and that the funds are complex, is a lengthy process and very competitive; if this is the vehicle they are endorsing is it something that is not ideal.

Superintendent Mrs. McTiernan responded that they're looking for the board to endorse this so we have the opportunity to apply for these grants and whether we get them is

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another thing but we certainly want the ability to apply and hoping they can take advantage of this if it passes in Governor's budget and it is her understanding from the information she received that it is a lengthy process and can be complicated.

Director Welby expressed concern of the wording and asked if the wording implies that there's any liability or admission of wrong doing or that somebody was harmed because there has been lots of lead tests done and none of them have come back positive that she knows of, but the wording is so strong that she's not sure.

Mrs. McTiernan asked Mrs. Orr if the resolution came from PSBA. Mrs. Orr responded yes.

Director Hume commented also commented on the wording and that all of these things are generalized facts but she thinks whether they pass it or not, chances of that billion dollars being there is highly unlikely but doesn't think there is any harm passing it.

Director Malloy asked if Solicitor Audi could address Director Welby's question.

Attorney Audi responded that he does not believe there's a liability issue but understands her concern of the wording; he thinks it's a generalization and does not think by passing it that we are suggesting that children in our district have specifically suffered those kinds of education delays due to lead or asbestos.

President Gilmartin said this is a resolution that was sent to us and we did not draft this on our own.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-7

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

WHEREAS, In consideration of the General Assembly's March 27, 2020 Amendment to P.L. 343, No. 176 or "The Fiscal Code",

AND WHEREAS, said Amendment recommends the coordination of the filing and payments deadlines for taxes collected pursuant to Chapter 5 of the Local Tax Enabling Act to coincide with the filing deadline for a tax return and payment pursuant to section 330 of the Tax Reform Code of 1971;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Scranton School District Board of Directors extends the due date for the Business Privilege Mercantile Tax return and payment from April 15th, 2020 until July 15th, 2020 to coincide with the General Assembly's March 27th, 2020 Amendment to P.L 343, No. 176.

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Director Welby seconded.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Yanni asked Mr. Laffey to explain why this was reworted due to the March 27th amendment.

Mr. Laffey explained that from the time this was tabled initially he thinks the approach was to align with the City of Scranton and upon further review he spoke to Berkheimer Associates and they made him aware of Act 10 of 2020 which is what is being referenced now. Mr. Laffey said his conversation with Attorney Barbetta indicated that this change isn't mandated but strongly encourages it and that they wanted to tie it back to the legislation that was passed.

Director Gilmartin asked Mr. Laffey, Dr. Finan and Mrs. McTiernan, because this is not mandated, is there any thought to going with that original amendment they discussed not moving the deadline, but stating that we would not consider taxes delinquent until July 15th.

Dr. Finan's opinion is she thinks that is what they should do, thinks it would benefit them and of course they build their budget with tax money and if there are folks who are willing to pay now rather than later, as long as we wouldn't charge a penalty, she thinks that would be a wise move as long as we don't violate any Act which they are not.

Director Schuster said that the conversation they had last week was a pretty decent conversation as to how they wanted to move forward and knows Mr. Malloy had some ideas.

Mr. Laffey said there was another item when speaking with Mr. Sheridan from the city asking why the city enacted it, Mr. Sheridan, as a tax preparer noted it's kind of like a sequence of events; you would file your federal return first, state return second and local return last, and not to say people are not filing those return now, although they're not due until July 15th but that was one of the reasons they considered it but as Dr. Finan said, any amendment is justified.

Director Fox asked Mr. Laffey to explain the conversation he had with the tax collector.

Mr. Laffey said yes, he asked the tax collector the same question and because the legislation was literally three days old not many people were aware of some of the facets that have come out and he believes what Mr. Fox said if the city doesn't amend the date then the deadline doesn't get pushed back.

Director Fox said the city can't if the school district doesn't.

Mr. Laffey said something like that and speaking with the city said they were able to do it because it was a declaration of a national emergency he believes.

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Director Schuster thinks for all of us to consider is that the district takes the biggest portion of this money in comparison to the city, we also have a cash flow problem that the city doesn't have and maybe add in the friendly amendment as Ms. Gilmartin stated.

Director Malloy from a friendly amendment standpoint we might be able to get away with changing one word; instead of the word "due" they could substitute "delinquency" for "due".

Director Malloy made a friendly amendment, seconded by Director Schuster.

Director Fox asked for clarification and to confirm what is being changed.

Director Malloy said the due date would stay the same but they move the delinquency date commensurate with what the city is doing; the delinquency date to July 15th and everything else about the resolution stays the same.

Solicitor Audi agreed.

Director Hume also agreed and supported the friendly amendment.

The motion for friendly amendment passed unanimously on roll call.

The motion as amended was seconded by Director Welby and passed unanimously on roll call.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-8

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7-707 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, the School District of the City of Scranton has conducted a closed bid sale, of the real property owned by the School District of the City of Scranton;

AND WHEREAS, such property is located at the intersection of Academy, South Hyde Park and Division Streets (Lackawanna County Pin Number 14517060048), Scranton PA 18504, formerly the location of Lincoln Jackson School – Annex #14;

AND WHEREAS, the School District of the City of Scranton received one proposal from ATR Properties in the amount of \$51,000;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the School Board of the School District of the City of Scranton approved the agreement of sale of said property to ATR Properties LLC in the amount of \$51,000. This agreement is subject to the review and approval of the Districts Solicitor.

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

ON THE QUESTION:

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Director Hume commented that this sale has taken a long time and ultimately is being sold for less than what the original bid from ATR was and in the future if we have property to dispose of if business interests can be more sensible in what we spent in heating and maintenance costs while holding this building, is more or equals the amount of what we're taking in for its sale.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-9

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7-707 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, the School District of the City of Scranton plans to enter into an Agreement of Sale on the property located at the intersection of Academy, South Hyde Park and Division Streets (Lackawanna County Pin Number 14517060048), Scranton PA 18504, formerly the location of Lincoln Jackson School – Annex #14;

AND WHEREAS, in order to complete the sale transaction the District will complete a survey at the above property;

AND WHEREAS, William T. Senapedis has submitted a proposal for survey services in the amount of \$3,750.00;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the School Board of the School District of the City of Scranton accepts the proposal from William T. Senapedis in the amount of \$3,750.00.

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

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Schuster asked if this is typical to do this.

Solicitor Audi said the problem is the deed to this property is over a hundred years old and we really just need get an appropriate survey so it is recorded properly in the deed.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-10

WHEREAS tax appeals have been received from the Board of Assessment appeals for the following properties:

<u>Owner</u>	<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Map #</u>	<u>New Real Estate Assessment</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
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Citizens Savings And Bank	101 Wyoming Ave	15607010019	\$125,000	1/1/2019
SDO Fund II D32, LLC	417 Lackawanna Ave	1563501001301	\$3,850,000	1/1/2020
500 Lackawanna Development Corp.	510-512 Lackawanna Ave	1564301001	\$30,000	1/1/2019
500 Lackawanna Development Corp.	524-532 Lackawanna Ave	15643010008	\$30,000	1/1/2018

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Scranton School Board of Directors approves the new property assessments as negotiated between all the parties involved.

The resolution was seconded by Director Welby and passed with seven (7) affirmative and two (2) negative votes. Directors Schuster and Gilmartin voted in the negative.

ON THE QUESTION:

President Gilmartin asked Mr. Laffey for a quick run-down of the loss to the district for each of these and the justifications.

Mr. Laffey didn't think Attorney Barbetta was still on the meeting call but Solicitor Audi said he has the justifications but not the losses.

Mr. Laffey said he believes the SDO loss would be about \$40,000 annually and the 500 Lackawanna Corp would be \$10,000 annually per unit he believes.

Director Schuster and Director Yanni believe that's about right.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-11

WHEREAS, the School District of the City of Scranton has budgeted to sell the 2019 Delinquent Real Estate Tax Claims;

AND WHEREAS, the request for proposals were sought publicly for the sale of such claims;

AND WHEREAS, a proposal was received from Municipal Revenue Services;

AND WHEREAS, the District has determined as sale of 85% of the Qualified Tax Claims in the amount of \$5,615,162.98 to be the most beneficial option for the District;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Scranton School Board of Directors approves the sale of the 2019 Delinquent Tax Claims to Municipal Revenue Services per the attached resolution. Approval is subject to the review and approval of the District Solicitor.

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Yanni.

B-12

WHEREAS, the Scranton School Board had previously authorized Valbridge Property Advisors to prepare an appraisal of 345 Wyoming Ave at a cost of \$4,500.00;

AND WHEREAS the updated proposal has increased by \$1,000 due to the nature of the claim from a standard market value challenge to a uniformity challenge;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Scranton School District Board of Directors approves the amended proposal at a cost of \$5,500.00.

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

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Yanni asked Mr. Laffey to explain because she doesn't understand what a standard market value challenge to a uniformity challenge is.

Mr. Laffey asked Mr. Audi if he could help with this but his understanding is they're not just looking at that property they'd be looking at how it would assess and if it's been assessed uniform to other properties in the area.

Mr. Audi said Pat did a great job and that is exactly what it is and instead of just looking at the market value they compare it to other uniform markets so they have a broader base to look at and they often do that when there are not sufficient similar type buildings nearby.

Director Gilmartin asked if they are essentially looking at more than one property.

Mr. Audi said yes, they're looking at more than one property.

Director Schuster asked if what we were doing was a 15% cap. Mr. Audi said yes.

Director Schuster said, with the increase to this does it still meet that cap. Mr. Audi did not have the number in front of him.

Mr. Laffey added that he believes when Mr. Barbetta sent this to him the hearing is coming up very soon so we wanted to make sure we had this appraisal done correctly.

Director Malloy asked if Mr. Laffey or Mr. Audi have any reservations about this. They both responded no.

Director Welby said it is her understanding that this is the best practice and we want to set an example moving forward. Mr. Audi agreed adding that it's something that Mr. Barbetta,

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who is handling most of the tax issues for the district, believes that in doing this it'll set a standard that the rest of the community that handles these things will understand that we know what we're doing and doing it properly and we will not be taken advantage of.

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director Fox.

C-1

WHEREAS, the IHM Friends of the Poor will be conducting its annual Easter food distribution on Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at Scranton High School; and

WHEREAS, the Scranton Police Department will be assisting Friends of the Poor and will need access to the grounds from 6:00AM – 6:00PM; and

WHEREAS, this food drive is expected to draw more than 2000 families and the Scranton Police Department will handle all traffic patterns and the public would be prohibited from accessing the school; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board approves the use of the Scranton High School grounds and will waive the fee schedule in light of the current crisis of the pandemic.

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

ON THE QUESTION:

President Gilmartin asked that the costs that are associated with this is calculated and that we are keeping track of that should any sort of funding exists to support some kind of partnership in light of the pandemic; it would be good to have that information just in case we would be able to recoup any costs associated with this.

Mrs. McTiernan said there shouldn't be any cost because tomorrow is a work day so maintenance would be there.

Director Schuster agreed with Ms. Gilmartin to keep track of the costs because he believes PEMA did have funds that could be put aside for situations like this if we met a certain cap so every dollar may count in some situations.

Mr. Laffey to Mrs. McTiernan, the feeding program is set for the same day at Scranton High and asked if he should relocate the feeding program. Mrs. McTiernan said he should move that to another location because they are expecting 3,000 families to show up to Scranton High.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Fox.

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C-2

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that individuals, businesses and community organizations may wish to contribute supplies and equipment to enhance or extend the programs in the schools; and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority to accept or refuse to accept any gift and donation made to the school district or to any district school; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board hereby approves monetary donations from Miss Maria Tomcykoski and Flickertail (Dr. Lisa Tomcykoski) for the remediation plan at Northeast Intermediate School.

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Hume.

E-1

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

AND WHEREAS, since the prior meeting the District has been invoiced \$137,661.14 for the environmental testing, remediation and other costs per the attached list;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the School Board of the School District of the City of Scranton approves the payment of the attached environmental testing, remediation and other costs from the District's Capital Project Fund.

Director Welby seconded.

ON THE QUESTION:

President Gilmartin asked to clarify this is for work in several buildings but is not the end of the costs associated with this remediation work. Mr. Laffey said that is correct.

Director Malloy questioned the Guzek & Associates payment. Director Hume said the invoice date is February. Mr. Laffey said correct.

Director Hume said presumably this was all work that was completed before the district parted ways with Guzek & Associates.

Mr. Laffey said yes, and one invoice is for the bid specifications development for the summer projects that we would like to complete.

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Mr. Dougherty added that when Guzek was still the consultant we had engaged them to prepare our bid specifications for the summer work and that was prior to us severing services with them.

Director Malloy questioned the \$9,116.25 we're going to pay them for bidding work that they're not going to do and now we ultimately severed our relationship with them.

Mr. Dougherty responded that they had prepared the specifications that are going to go out for bid,

Director Hume asked if we are still using those specifications. Mr. Dougherty said they are in the hands of Cocciardi right now to be reviewed and he has no reason to believe they're not accurate.

Director Hume said that given the fact that Guzek missed so many things and asked if Cocciardi will redo the work. Mr. Dougherty said they're not going to redo it, but they will review it.

Director Schuster suggested maybe Mr. Malloy and Ms. Hume would like to hold off until it is reviewed to release the payment.

Director Gilmartin asked, from a legal standpoint, not to pit one firm against the other, would we have a leg to stand on if these documents were reviewed and the work was not as it should have been. Mr. Audi said there is always a possibility; it would be hard to tell, but if they were completely out of line and completely incorrect and completely wrong then obviously they wouldn't want to pay for work that's so out of whack but he does recall hearing at some point that the specifications are pretty straightforward, and he doesn't think that they will find a situation but he can't speak to that directly.

Director Hume said in the interest of probably of not complicating our already complicated lives by picking another fight with another group of people perhaps she'll just decline.

Mr. Dougherty said he doesn't see a reason if they do postpone it until the next meeting until it is reviewed but his goal is to get the bid packages out this week to get the projects completed over the summer.

President Gilmartin said they could move to separate that payment and pull that off and table that if they chose.

Director Schuster made a motion to pull off item 16300 of February 26, 2020 from the payment list. Director Cruz seconded.

The motion to remove the \$9,116.25 payment to Cocciardi passed unanimously on roll call.

The motion to approve the remaining payments was seconded by Director Yanni and passed unanimously on roll call.

ALSO

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The following was submitted by Director Hume.

E-2

WHEREAS, Palumbo Group, has conducted a study evaluating the condition of the porticos at Northeast Intermediate School offering structural recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Palumbo Group has recommended specific repairs for the porticos; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Scranton School Board hereby approves The Palumbo Group to provide the documentation for design and bidding for Northeast Intermediate School for Portico Repairs. The Palumbo Group shall coordinate with Greenman-Pederson, structural engineers, to generate the documentation required for public bid and/or solicit proposals. The proposal calls for a cost not to exceed \$6,625.00.

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Hume.

E-4

WHEREAS, the Scranton School District has advertised for Requests for Proposals for Engineering Services;

AND WHEREAS, the Scranton School District has received competitive proposals from five Engineering firms, which are summarized in the attached;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the School Board of the School District of the City of Scranton appoints Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) as the Engineer of Record for the Scranton School District.

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

It is the recommendation of 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.

PROFESSIONAL RESIGNATIONS

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	<u>REPLACED</u>	<u>NEW</u>	<u>SALARY</u>
Patrick J. Gaughan	Learning Support	NEIS	5/1/2020			
Corey Harrington	Autistic Support	Kennedy	6/30/2020			

PROFESSIONAL RETIREMENTS

Jennifer Brotherton	English/Theater	Scranton High	last day of 2019/2020 school year
Brenda Davis	Family Consumer Sci	WSIS	last day of 2019/2020 school year
Lynn Murray Olek	Pre-K	Tripp	last day of 2019/2020 school year
Philip Duffy	History	Scranton High	11/22/2020
Karen O'Neil	Family Consumer Sci	Scranton High	12/31/2020
Renee Aston	Math	WSHS	last day of 2019/2020 school year
Kevin Kays	Environmental Sci.	Scranton High	last day of 2019/2020 school year

REQUEST FOR FMLA LEAVE

Jennifer Culp	Teacher	Scranton High	2/12/2020-4/29/2020
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COACHING APPOINTMENTS

Holly Scacchitti	JH Asst Track Coach	WSHS	2020 Spring Season	Paul Devine
Matthew Cognetti	JV Baseball Coach		2020 Spring Season	Robert Judge

COACHING RESIGNATIONS

Kerri Ruddy-Archer	Asst Var Track/Field	SHS	2/28/2020
Marc DeAntona	Asst Football Coach	WSHS	3/2/2020

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHING ASSIGNMENT

Mariah Wegielewski	Emotional Support	NEIS	3/3/2020-last day 19/20 sy	A. Waibel	\$38,377 prorated
Canan Guler	Grade 5	Sumner	4/9/2020-last day 19/20 sy	A. Lynch	\$38,377 prorated

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

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Gilmartin acknowledged and thanked all retirees for their service and asked for an explanation of the Coaching positions and why we would need to put them in place right now.

Mr. John Castrovinci explained per Act 13 of 2020 which was signed into law recently, and he confirmed this with Mr. Audi, anybody who was working as of March 13th should be paid no more or no less than what they would have received should the pandemic not have occurred so these people started March 2nd which was the official date of the spring sports season so they had been coaching for approximately 2 weeks.

Director Hume questioned the FMLA leave and asked if that person would be penalized for taking FMLA over this period of the pandemic.

Mr. Castrovinci said she is still entitled to her FMLA and would not be counted against her, she could add the 2 weeks on to the end and he will communicate that to her. Mr. Castrovinci added that the teachers are still working.

April 6, 2020

NEW BUSINESS:

Director Schuster now asked the board to accept his resignation; he submitted his resignation in writing pursuant to 004-BOG-1 and asked the board to amend the agenda and consider his resignation contingent upon taking the oath of office for Scranton City Council on April 7, 2020.

Director Malloy submitted the following:

WHEREAS, Director Tom Schuster has submitted his resignation to the School Board on April 6, 2020; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Scranton School Board hereby accepts the resignation of Director Schuster effective immediately.

Director Hume seconded and the motion passed with eight (8) affirmative and one (1) negative. Director Cruz voted in the negative.

ON THE QUESTION:

Mr. Schuster feels he is leaving the board in the best hands and will get them to financial solvency and improve the academics of this district.

Director Fox confirmed with Dr. Finan that since the district is in recovery that this is appropriate. Dr. Finan confirmed it is.

At this time, Director Cruz made a motion to appoint Director Catherine Fox as Vice President of the School Board. Director Hume seconded.

Solicitor Audi recommended the floor is open for other nominations.

Director Yanni asked Ms. Fox how she feels about this nomination. Ms. Fox said she is happy to accept. No further nominations were made.

The motion to appoint Director Fox passed unanimously on roll call.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Director Yanni, seconded by Director Fox and the meeting adjourned at 12:35AM, April 7, 2020.

By: _____