

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a regular board meeting on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7:00pm prevailing time in the auditorium of West Scranton Intermediate School, Fellows St., Scranton, PA 18504.

President Sheridan called the meeting to order at 7:36pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary.

Present: Directors Casey, Douaihy, Lesh, McAndrew, Oleski, Schuster and President Sheridan.

Absent: Directors Duffy and Timlin.

Solicitor's Report:

Attorney Minora announced executive sessions were held on Monday, February 27, 2017 and this evening March 6, 2017 to discuss Personnel disciplines and resignations, Real Estate and Lincoln Jackson, potential litigation, negotiations and health care.

Student Representatives now informed the board of recent activities and accomplishments and upcoming events happening at West Scranton Intermediate School.

Report from PSBA Representative

No Report

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Alexis Kirijan spoke of the STEAM program funded by the Scranton Area Foundation who partnered with the Scranton School District to provide STEAM education to 7th grade students in all intermediate schools. Dr. Kirijan thanked Scranton Area Foundation for enhancing STEAM education to our intermediate students.

Dr. Kirijan thanked all of the parents, teachers, administrators and all who participated in the celebrations throughout the district in Read Across America.

Dr. Kirijan announced the district received approval from the United Way to fund the 2nd Annual Summer Library Program at each elementary school library to be open once a week, for 4 weeks, for two hours per week and thanked the United Way for providing this opportunity to our students.

Dr. Kirijan thanked Mr. Paul Dougherty and his staff for making the Harlem Globetrotter's visit to West Intermediate this morning a successful event.

Dr. Kirijan congratulated Scranton High Girls basketball, West High Boys basketball and Scranton High Wrestling.

Dr. Kirijan congratulated substitute teacher Trisha Clark who received Substitute of the Year award from Kelly Services.

Dr. Kirijan acknowledged two West Scranton High School girls who have not been identified yet who assisted a Commonwealth Ambulance driver carry a stretcher up steps at a neighboring house as this shows true invader pride; long live the blue of West Side.

At this time Dr. Kirijan addressed some of the rumors around the scheduling of the 2017/2018 school year.

President Sheridan now asked Sara Picard of Millennium Administrators to address the health insurance rumors and answer any questions.

Public Comment:

Patrick Festa, 3rd grade teacher at McNichols Plaza and parent of Scranton School District students voiced concerns and opposition to the proposed elementary and intermediate scheduling changes by the superintendent adding our students have already been receiving quality education before the Scranton One mission and in his opinion no scheduling changes are needed and does not understand the rationale.

Rosemary Boland, President SFT, thanked Sara Picard for addressing this audience regarding health insurance issues, spoke of scheduling, healthcare, retirement incentive, classroom sizes, AP and Honors classes and the Special Education Plan which has put the district over budget by \$3 million dollars.

Ms. Boland further spoke of emails she has sent to board members asking if they authorized the payment of 33 teachers requested by Dr. Kirijan for an Elementary Education Committee in which for one hours work would cost the district \$900,073.50. Ms. Boland expressed she understands the district is broke and under a hiring freeze so she doesn't understand where the money is coming from but someone has to give her answer regarding forming this committee because it isn't fair to her and it isn't fair to the superintendent.

The following expressed concerns regarding healthcare, proposed elementary and intermediate scheduling changes, graduation credits, AP courses, transportation contract, decreasing high school requirements, reduction of Math credits, schedule changes, senior project concerns:

Jacquelyn Schulte
Judy Kilmer
Suzanne Furey
Nadia Haroun Mahedavi
Ryan Hnat
Scott Dustman

Adam McCormick
Matthew Loftus
Kevin Kays
Amy Beebe
Michele Cunningham
Marcia Johnson

AJ McKenna spoke on behalf of the behavioral technicians at Monticello noting that there is no difference in job descriptions of a behavioral technician and a behavioral specialist but significant difference in salaries.

Dr. Kirijan addressed the senior project concerns noting that it is a state decision and not a local decision.

At 8:58pm Director Douaihy departed the meeting.

A motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 6, 2017 was made by Director Casey, seconded by Director Oleski and passed unanimously on roll call vote.

Budget and Finance Committee

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

B-1

It is the recommendation to 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:

March 6, 2017	\$917,868.69
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The resolution was seconded by Director Oleski and passed unanimously on roll call vote.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

B-2

It is the recommendation of 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 6, 2017 be approved as per the attached.

Be it resolved that exception payments in the amount of \$5,736,278.40 have been paid in accordance with the approval for payment policy.

February 10, 2017	\$ 778,130.67
February 24, 2017	\$2,456,914.86
March 3, 2017	\$2,501,232.87

Be it resolved that payrolls amounting to \$5,547,002.92 have been paid in accordance with the approval for payment policy.

February 10, 2017	\$2,754,803.16
February 24, 2017	\$2,792,199.76

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

B-3

The Budget and Finance Committee presents the following resolution for your consideration:

Be it resolved that the Delinquent Tax Report for the month of January, 2017 be accepted. A copy of the monthly detail is available for review in the Business Office.

Tax	\$58,188.96
Penalty	\$ 7,440.69
Interest	<u>\$10,104.92</u>
TOTAL	\$75,734.57
Commission	<u>(3,786.74)</u>
NET TO DISTRICT	\$71,947.83

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

B-4

The Budget & Finance Committee presents the following resolution for your consideration:

Be it resolved that the Treasurer's Report for the period ending January, 2017 be accepted as follows:

Opening Balance	\$ 7,230,326.48
Monthly Revenue	\$24,524,871.25
Transfers and Refunds	\$ <u> - </u>
Total Available	\$31,755,197.73
Total Disbursements	<u>\$10,950,009.40</u>
Balance in General Account	\$20,805,188.33

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

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Schuster.

B-5

It is the recommendation of 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:

Mario Parlipiano	198 Wilbur St.	Map No. 12417 020 007	\$2,607.13
Mario Parlipiano	206 Wilbur St.	Map No. 12417 020 005	\$2,415.60

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.

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

Education Committee

The following was submitted by Director McAndrew.

D-1

The Education Committee requests board approval of staff attendance to conferences and meetings for professional development relevant to their specific duties and responsibilities as per the attached.

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

Lisa R. McConlogue	Mid Atlantic Show Choir Spectacular	Midlothian, VA	\$184.00	2/17-19/2017
Ronelle Barrett	Mid Atlantic Show Choir Spectacular	Midlothian, VA	\$184.00	2/17-19/2017
Lisa R. McConlogue	Chicago/Solon Show Choir Competition	Solon, OH	\$740.44	2/28/17-3/5/2017
Ronelle Barrett	Chicago/Solon Show Choir Competition	Solon, OH	\$740.44	2/28-3/05/2017
Lisa R. McConlogue	Sheridan Spotlight Competition	Sheridan, OH	\$194.00	3/17-19/2017
Ronelle Barrett	Sheridan Spotlight Competition	Sheridan, OH	\$194.00	3/17-19/2017
Paul Lukasiewicz	PMEA Annual In-Service	Erie, PA	\$1,380.00	4/19-22/2017
Dawn E Jones	PAPBIS Implementors Forum	Hershey, PA	\$325.00	5/16-17/2017
Brenda Holzman	Social and Emotional Learning Conf.	Harrisburg, PA	\$496.16	3/13/2017
Maggie Newcomb	Social and Emotional Learning Conf.	Harrisburg, PA	\$213.36	3/13/2017
Jennifer Keating	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Colleen McCloskey	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Susan Schimelfenig	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Amy Walsh	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Susan Furley	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Shannon Thatcher	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Tanya Fox	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Amber Schmidt	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Caitlin Evans	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Patricia Doherty	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17
Amy Martin	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$150.00	1/11/17,2/15/17,3/23/17

Susan Struckus	Collins Writing	NEIU	\$110.00	3/1/2017
Sean Curry	National Council for Social Studies	Washington DC	\$1,109.31	12/2-4/2016
Jason Ohearn	National Council for Social Studies	Washington DC	\$385.00	12/2-4/2016
Elizabeth Hemphill	SAP OnlineForms	NEIU	\$45.00	3/15/2017
Margaret Loughney	SAP OnlineForms	NEIU	\$45.00	3/15/2017
Kevin Pail	Keystone STEM Education Alliance	Greenbelt, MD	\$2,760.00	7/17-7/21 and 7/24-7/28
Whitney Jones	LETRS Training	NEIU	\$50.00	1/30/2017
Christopher Gallagher	AT EXPO	Harrisburg, PA	\$65.88	11/9/2016
Jodi Tighe	Self Regulation in Children	Scranton, PA	\$199.00	11/28/2016
Ellen Dente	PAPBS Coaches Conference	Harrisburg, PA	\$139.20	1/26/2017
Kathy Ulkoski	Self Regulation in Children	Scranton, PA	\$199.00	11/28/2016
Ellen Dente	Quality Indication of Emotional Support	Harrisburg, PA	\$15.00	1/27/2017
Cathy Opshinsky	Quality Indication of Emotional Support	Harrisburg, PA	\$135.00	1/27/2017
Maureen Walsh	SAP OnlineForms	NEIU	\$45.00	3/15/2017
Tricia Natale	SAP Training	NEIU	\$280.00	3/8,9,10/17
Carol Rothenberger	SAP Training	NEIU	\$280.00	3/8,9,10/17
Elizabeth O'Malley	SAP OnlineForms	NEIU	\$45.00	3/15/2017

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

ALSO

The following resolution was submitted by Director McAndrew.

D-2

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

WHEREAS, Chapter 339 of the State standards mandates that school districts develop a comprehensive and integrated pre K-12 guidance written plan, approved by the local school board and submitted to the state, and

WHEREAS, the district convened a guidance committee that has developed a Scranton School District Comprehensive K-12 Guidance & Counseling 339 Plan, and

WHEREAS, implementation of the comprehensive K-12 school counseling / guidance 339 plan will provide the Scranton School District counselors with a step-by-step process, a framework, resources and best practice models for developing their district plan, and

WHEREAS, the 339 guidance plan will provide the development and implementation of a comprehensive, sequential program of guidance services for Scranton School District students enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scranton School Board of Education hereby approve the Scranton School District Comprehensive K-12 Guidance & Counseling 339 Plan. The Scranton School District Comprehensive K-12 Guidance & Counseling 339 Plan will be posted on the Scranton School District Website for community review.

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

Food Service Committee

The following was submitted by Director McAndrew.

E-1

The FOOD SERVICE COMMITTEE presents the following resolution for your consideration:

BE IT RESOLVED that the FOOD SERVICE RENEWAL for the 2017-2018 school year be awarded to ARAMARK Educational Services with a guaranteed return of \$1,000,000.00 to the District. This return includes the continuation of the Breakfast in the Classroom program and the continuation of the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) at all district schools.

Additionally Aramark Educational Services is proposing to operate a break even summer feeding program.

The state of Pennsylvania Core Contract and any addendums shall be reviewed by the Solicitor and appropriate District officials.

This resolution is contingent upon final approval by PDE Division of Food and Nutrition.

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

Policy Committee

I-1

The following was submitted by Director Casey.

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

WHEREAS, the policy and administrative regulation guides provided by PSBA are intended to serve as a basis for drafting policy and administrative regulations that meet the needs of school districts in Pennsylvania, and

WHEREAS, the following policies have been reviewed, discussed and modified to meet the needs of the Scranton School District,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Scranton School Board hereby approve the following list of recommended policy revisions and updates of 2016.

PSBA RECOMMENDED POLICY REVISIONS AND UPDATES

YEAR-2016

POLICY NUMBER	POLICY
007	<u>Vol VI 2016 - Policy Manual Access</u>
247	<u>Vol IV 2016 - Hazing</u>
251	<u>Vol VII 2016 - Homeless Students</u>
336	<u>Vol VI 2016 - Personal Necessity Leave</u>
609	<u>Vol III 2016 - Investment of District Funds</u>
609	<u>Vol IV 2016 - Investment of District Funds</u>
626	<u>Vol II 2016 - Federal Fiscal Compliance</u>
626.1	<u>Vol II 2016 - Travel Reimbursement - Federal Programs</u> (name change also)
808	<u>Vol II 2016 - Food Services</u>
823	<u>Vol I 2016 - Naloxone</u> (name change also)
827	<u>Vol VI 2016 - Conflict of Interest</u> (name change also)

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

Personnel Committee

The following was submitted by Director Oleski.

J-1

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

A.			RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE ASSIGNMENTS - CERTIFIED	
NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	DATES	
1	Jill Juka	Math	Scranton High School	2/6/2017-5/19/2017
B.			RESIGNATIONS - CERTIFIED	
NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	EFFECTIVE DATE	
1	Justin MacGregor	Community Relations Liaison	Administration Building	2/10/2017
2	Gwendolyn Damiano	Principal	Elementary	6/15/2017
C.			RESIGNATIONS - NON CERTIFIED AND COACHING	
NAME	POSITION	LOCATION		
1	Kate Shiffer	Coach	SSIS 7th & 8th Grade Girl's Softball	
D.			RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPOINTMENTS - COACHING POSITIONS:	
NAME	POSITION	LOCATION		
1	Kate Shiffer	Coach	SHS JV Girl's Softball	
2	Carmine Saita	Coach	NEIS 7th & 8th Grade Boy's Baseball	
3	James Shields	Coach	SSIS 7th & 8th Grade Boy's Baseball	
E.			LEAVES OF ABSENCE - PROFESSIONAL	
EFFECTIVE DATES				
NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	With or Without Pay	
1	James Piazza	Special Education	West Scranton High School	March 1, 2017 until further notice
Leave of Absence without pay				
2	Maryann B. Walsh	Kindergarten	Armstrong Elementary School	February 14, 2017 - March 27, 2017
FMLA without pay				

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

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Casey thanked Justin MacGregor for his timed served at the Scranton School District and his hard work in the community services.

ALSO

The following was submitted by Director Oleski.

J-2

These employees have completed at least three years of professional service (with satisfactory ratings). For achieving the status of professional employee, under the school code, it is the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that professional contracts be issued to the following individuals:

<u>Professional Contracts</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
1. Alicia Ashford Baratta 2030 Church Road Mountaintop, PA 18707	November 3, 2012
2. Robert Baresse 1340 Dorothy Street Scranton, PA 18504	February 4, 2013
3. Kristina L. Berdini Nallo 115 Norfolk Way Scranton, PA 18504	August 19, 2013
4. Christine Bouton 1420 Fig Street Scranton, PA 18505	September 11, 2013
5. Kelly Buck Tigie 918 Richmond Street Scranton, PA 18509	August 29, 2013
6. Katie Cappelloni 426 Mulberry Street, Apt. 303 Scranton, PA 18503	August 19, 2013
7. Joseph Castaldo 105 Fawn Drive Roaring Brook Twp., PA 18444	August 19, 2013
8. Lynn Davies 410 Gardenia Drive Moosic, PA 18507	August 19, 2013
9. Paul J. Devine 1202 Court Street Scranton, PA 18508	August 19, 2013
10. Michael H. Faris 322 Charles Street Old Forge, PA 18518	August 19, 2013

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| 11. Jeffrey Field
1308 Reynolds Avenue
Taylor, PA 18517 | August 19, 2013 |
| 12. Christopher Gentilezza
22 Oakwood Drive
Scranton, PA 18504 | August 19, 2013 |
| 13. Michelle Gerrity Borthwick
719 N. Sumner Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504 | August 19, 2013 |
| 14. Joseph G. Granahan
111 Coppernick Street
Throop, PA 18512 | August 19, 2013 |
| 15. Whitney A. White Jones
167 Center Street
Dupont, PA 18641 | August 19, 2013 |
| 16. Marc J. Lorette
211 W. Grove Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411 | August 19, 2013 |
| 17. Nicole Mackie Ralickie
371 N. Rebecca Avenue
Scranton, PA 18504 | August 19, 2013 |
| 18. Amy Martin
1005 Pittston Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505 | August 29, 2013 |
| 19. Molly McAuliffe-Popish
2506 Briggs Street
Scranton, PA 18504 | August 19, 2013 |
| 20. Kristen A. McGowan
2 Lincoln Street
Old Forge, PA 18518 | August 19, 2013 |
| 21. Jennifer C. McIntyre
2025 Cedar Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505 | August 19, 2013 |
| 22. Jennifer Miller Culp
617 Main Street
Avoca, PA 18641 | October 22, 2012 |

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| 23. Colleen Morgan McCloskey
1710 Marion Street
Dunmore, PA 18512 | August 19, 2013 |
| 24. Emily Peil
2616 Cedar Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505 | August 19, 2013 |
| 25. Brittini Stull
139 Third Street
Old Forge, PA 18518 | August 19, 2013 |
| 26. Tara Trauger-Walsh
1158 Post Hill Road
Factoryville, PA 18419 | August 19, 2013 |
| 27. Maura Tripodi
1212 Richmond Street
Dunmore, PA 18512 | September 6, 2011 |
| 28. Kristen M. Vender
618 Dunn Avenue
Old Forge, PA 18518 | August 19, 2013 |
| 29. Margaret Walsh
2710 Cedar Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505 | August 19, 2013 |
| 30. Kara Ware
1109 Woodlawn Street
Scranton, PA 18509 | August 19, 2013 |
| 31. Sara Zigon Wasylyk
677 Roosevelt Hwy.
Waymart, PA 18472 | September 25, 2012 |

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

Special Education Committee

The Special Education Committee hereby recommends the following resolution 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 civil suits have been filed in the matter of AC; 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 settlement as indicated above, be approved upon the terms and conditions as described, and the Superintendent or Directors of Special Education are hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to consummate the matters.

*The settlement will be paid by the civil rights insurance carrier.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Director Casey asked to suspend the board rules.

Director Casey made a motion to propose a resolution at the request of SFT President Rosemary Boland to approve a committee be formed for an elementary education planning committee.

Director Schuster seconded the motion.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Casey indicated at the moment he would be voting against the proposal, he does not believe it needs to be looked into further, it was something presented to the board in multiple forums.

Director McAndrew asked if the vote is to form committees.

Director Casey confirmed that yes; it is a vote to form a committee for the elementary plan, the one that Ms. Boland spoke about in her comments in which she laid out the financial estimates tonight.

Director Oleski indicated that she is concerned about the financial part of it and not knowing how many hours it will take and because of that she will be voting no.

Director McAndrew said that the teachers are saying they're the ones in the trenches and they think have the answers so they should have the opportunity to partner with us and discuss more of these issues and he is in favor of committees for discussion.

Director Lesh expressed that he didn't understand what we're voting on and why is it being brought up right now when he thought they were in agreement that we wouldn't pull things like this and believes there should have been a vote to suspend the rules in the first place.

President Sheridan looked to Solicitor Minora for advisement who then agreed that there should have been a vote to suspend the rules.

Director Casey made a motion, seconded by Director Oleski to suspend the rules of the board. The motion to suspend passed with four (4) affirmative and (2) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors Lesh and McAndrew.

Director Casey now made a motion, seconded by Director Oleski to approve the committee for the study of the elementary education plan, for the board to approve for Ms. Boland to submit 33 names of teachers to provide to Dr. Kirijan.

Dr. Kirijan explained that it would be a study carried out over the school year.

Director Casey feels this is an issue that needs to be “put to bed”.

The motion to approve the committee failed with 4 (four) negative and 1 (one) affirmative vote. Directors Casey, Oleski, Schuster and Sheridan cast the negative vote and Director McAndrew cast the affirmative vote, with Director Lesh not voting because he did not think the entire procedure was done correctly.

President’s Report:

Mr. Sheridan thanked Sara Picard for attending this evening and hopes some of the questions were answered tonight and settled any rumors adding that he does not want anyone laid off and does not want anyone losing any of their benefits.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Director Oleski, seconded by Director Casey and the meeting adjourned at 10:23pm.

By: _____
Secretary