

Jim Thorpe Area School District
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 7:00 p.m.

1. OPENING OF MEETING – BOARD PRESIDENT, MR. POMPA

1.01 & 1.02

Board Meeting Opened with Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance.

1.03

Roll Call

ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Jim Thorpe School Board of Education was opened at the Jim Thorpe Administration Building, with a moment of silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. School Board Directors were present and present by phone: Mr. Rich Flacco, Mr. Gerald Strubinger, Mr. Scott Pompa, Mr. Paul Montemuro, Mr. Dennis McGinley, Mrs. Cindy Henning, Mr. TJ Garritano and Mrs. Pearl Sheckler. Mr. Glenn Confer was absent. Administrators present: Mr. John Rushefski, *Superintendent*, Mr. Ken Marx, *Business Manager*, Attorney Carl Beard, *Solicitor* Dr. Jerome Brown, *IT Director*, Mr. Thomas Lesisko, *High School Principal*, Mrs. Holly Mordaunt, *Penn Kidder Principal*, Mr. Jeff White, *LB Morris Principal*, Ms. Sara Mass, *Penn Kidder Asst. Principal*, Ms. Katherine Doll *Curriculum Coordinator*, Mrs. Sandra Michalik, *Special Education Director*, and Mrs. Kimberley Hill, *Recording Secretary*. Visitors present: BRC TV13 and the Times News.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

Visitors: Kelli Reese, Julie Renode, Amber Everett, Adelynn Everett, Elena Monaco, Kris Newbern, Jessica Knoll, Eric George, Sherry L Knauft and Jim Adams.

2.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

2.02 BOND REFINANCING

Melissa Hughes from PFM presented information about the 2016-2017 Bond Restructuring & Refinancing. Handouts were distributed. Attorney Jens Damgaard summarized procedures as our Bond Counsel representative.

*****Board moved Agenda Item #9.04 Board Bond Refinancing to 2.02 to vote after Presentation:

9.04 APPROVAL/ ACCEPTANCE BOND REFINANCING

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve/
Acceptance Bond Refinancing as presented by Bond Counsel:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.01 APPROVAL/ MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve
School Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meetings September 15, 2021
as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session Meeting prior to tonight's board meeting for Personnel & Pending possible Litigation, no decisions or votes were taken.

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.01 APPROVAL/ BILLS PAYABLE GENERAL FUND, CAFETERIA FUND & OTHER

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Bills Payable General Fund, Cafeteria & Other- October 2021 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

5.02 APPROVAL/ SEPTEMBER 2021 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve September 2021 Financial Reports as presented:

1. Budget vs Actual – General Fund
2. Receipts Ledger
3. Treasurer's Report

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**5.03 APPROVAL/
ATHLETIC REPORT
& ARBITER
PAYMENTS**

Motion by Ms. Henning, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Athletic Report & Arbiter Payments – October 2021- submitted by Mr. Dustin McAndrew, Athletic Director as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

6. CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence at this time.

7. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business at this time.

8. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. DOWNS-SHECKLER

No Report

9. FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE –

9.01 APPROVAL/ REPOSITORY SALES

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Repository Sales (11 properties all vacant land) as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

9.02 APPROVAL/ REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION DISABLED VETERANS

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Real Estate Tax Exemption for (2) Disabled Veterans as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

9.03 APPROVAL/ DONATION TO DIMMICK LIBRARY

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Donation to Dimmick Library in the amount of \$5,000.00 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Nay
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 7 NAY 1 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

**9.04 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE BOND
REFINANCING**

Roll Call Vote is with Agenda Item #2.02

**9.05 APPROVAL/
BID ADVERTISEMENT
FOR FUEL OIL,
GASOLINE & DIESEL
FUEL**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Bid Advertisement for Fuel Oil, Gasoline and Diesel Fuel, also Approval to Authorize Business Manager to lock in the lowest responsible price as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYES**

**9.06 APPROVAL/
CARBON COUNTY
TAX CLAIM BUREAU
AS DELINQUENT
REAL ESTATE
TAX COLLECTOR**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Carbon County Tax Claim Bureau as Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector (effective January 1, 2022) as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYES**

10. POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MRS. LESISKO-HENNING

**10.01 APPROVAL/
COMPLETED
APPLICATIONS &
SUBSTITUTE LIST**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Completed Applications & Substitute Teacher List as of October 7, 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYES**

**10.02 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
FULL TIME
SECRETARY**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** Mr. Garritano to Approve Employment Kamara Everitt – 190 days, 1330 hrs. Full Time Secretary at a rate \$12.00 per hour as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

**10.03 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
SPECIAL EDUCATION
TEACHER**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Employment – Caitlin McArdle – Special Education Teacher - Bachelor's Step 2 - \$49,577.00 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

**10.04 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
LETTER OF INTENT
TO RETIRE**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve/
Accept Letter of Intent to Retire-Mr. Ted LaRizzio, Director of
Buildings & Grounds (effective December 22, 2021) and Approval to
Post the Position as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

******Mr. McGinley would like it noted he voted NO**

**10.05 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
LETTER OF
RESIGNATION**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve/
Accept Letter of Resignation-Mr. Dennis Geiger, Penn Kidder
Custodian (effective October 31, 2021) and to Post the Position as
presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

******Ms. Henning reminded everyone Policy & Personnel Committee Meeting is next Wednesday,
October 20, 2021 at 6:00 pm.**

11. ATHLETIC AND FIELDS & CONCESSIONS – MR. GARRITANO

**11.01 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
ASSISTANT
WRESTLING COACH**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve
Employment Mr. Brian Schwartz, Assistant Wrestling Coach - full
salary \$4,810.00 as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1: Motion PASSES

**11.02 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYEMENT
ASSIST. WRESTLING
COACH**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve Employment Mr. Ben Warren, Assistant Wrestling Coach - Split Salary \$2,405.00 as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

**11.03 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYEMENT
VOLUNTEER
WRESTLING COACHES**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve Volunteer Wrestling Coaches Mr. Blake Yurchak & Mr. John McGowan as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

12. CAFETERIA, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE – MR. STRUBINGER

12.01 APPROVAL/ ACCEPTANCE BLACKBOARD BID

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve/
Acceptance Mr. Brian Cahill's Bid for Blackboards (approx.. 22 ea)
in the amount of \$125.00 (highest bid) as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1: Motion PASSES

UPDATE ON BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Mr. Strubinger wanted to update the Board that the district is still looking to repair the swale. The district is still waiting for the estimate and plans for repairs.

Mr. Pompa asked for an update on the Football Field new gate. Mr. Larizzio stated it is expected any day.

Mr. Strubinger inquired about the deep cleaning of the new turf field and the equipment used to clean the fields and if it could be purchased and shared with other local districts with turf fields.

13. CARBON CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – MR. STRUBINGER

13.01 CCTI

Joint Operating Committee – October 21, 2021 Meeting – should be voting on teacher's contracts and Act 93 contracts. Graduation will be a tent system again this year.

14. TRANSPORTATION & SECURITY COMMITTEE – MR. MCGINLEY

Mr. Marx stated that there will be an Administrative and Brandywine meeting on October 18, 2021 at 1:00 pm to discuss ongoing issues with buses.

15. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – MR. GARRITANO

Working Cyber and Charter School Funding.

16. NEW BUSINESS

******ADDITION TO AGENDA**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve removing Dr. Brown as COVID Pandemic Coordinator and to give the building nurses the responsibility to determine symptoms then to report to the Superintendent as presented:

Motion by Mr. McGinley, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to **TABLE** removing Dr. Brown as COVID Pandemic Coordinator and to give the building nurses the responsibility to determine symptoms then to report to the Superintendent as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Aye
G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
P. Sheckler	Aye	R. Flacco	Aye
C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 8 NAY 0 ABSENT 1 : Motion TABLED

******ADDITION TO AGENDA**

Motioned by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro, to Approve
The school district will quarantine sick individuals showing symptoms of COVID
19, we will not quarantine healthy individuals. This includes students, teachers
and staff. Nurse will determine the symptoms.

Roll call vote.	G. Confer	Absent	D. McGinley	Nay
	G. Strubinger	Aye	P. Montemuro	Aye
	S. Pompa	Aye	T. Garritano	Aye
	P. Sheckler	Nay	R. Flacco	Aye
	C. Henning	Aye		

AYE 6 NAY 2 ABSENT 1 : Motion PASSES

**16.01 APPROVAL/
FIELD EXPERIENCE
ESU SPRING 2022 &
FALL 2022**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve
Field Experience (40 hours each) for (2) East Stroudsburg University
Students – Student Teaching Semester – Spring 2022 & Fall 2022
as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

17. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

17.01 HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL – MR. THOMAS LESISKO

October 2021 Administrative Report

17.02 PENN KIDDER CAMPUS PRINCIPAL – MRS. HOLLY MORDAUNT

October 2021 - Administrative Report

17.03 LB MORRIS K-8 PRINCIPAL – MR. JEFF WHITE (by phone)

October 2021 Administrative Report

PANDEMIC COORDINATOR – DR. JEROME BROWN

Dr. Brown verbally Resigned effective immediately as Pandemic Coordinator for the Jim Thorpe Area School District.

18. INFORMATIONAL

18.01 CURRENT ENROLLMENT – MR. RUSHFESKI, SUPERINTENDENT

Current Enrollment Update as of October 7, 2021

18.02 NUTRITION GROUP REPORT

Hand Out - September 2021

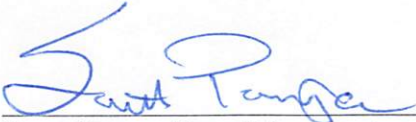
ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Henning/Board Secretary

ATTEST:


Scott Pompa/Board President