

Jim Thorpe Area School District
Regular Board Meeting (Held at Penn Kidder K-8 Building)
Wednesday, November 10, 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, Mrs. Pearl Sheckler, and Mr. Glenn Confer. Administrators present: Mr. John Rushefski, *Superintendent*, Mr. Ken Marx, *Business Manager*, Attorney Carl Beard, *Solicitor (by Google Meet)*, Dr. Jerome Brown, *IT Director*, Mr. Thomas Lesisko, *High School Principal*, Mrs. Holly Mordaunt, *Penn Kidder Principal*, Dr. Jeff White, *LB Morris Principal*, Ms. Sara Mass, *Penn Kidder Asst. Principal*, Ms. Katherine Doll *Curriculum Coordinator*, Mr. Ted LaRizzio, *Director of Buildings & Grounds*, Ms. Lori Lienhard, *Director of Security* and Mrs. Kimberley Hill, *Recording Secretary*. Visitors present: BRC TV13 and the Times News.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

Visitors: Kathy Andreas, Kris Newbern, Adelynn Everett, Meredith Rea, Lynn Fischer, Jessica Knoll, Dan Smelas, Drew Snowberger (TV13), Debby Park, Elena Monaco, Eric George (Security).

2.01 PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Debra Park, Ms. Amber Everett and Ms. Jessica Knoll all spoke in favor of renewing Mr. Rushefski, Superintendent's contract.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.01 APPROVAL/ MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve School Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting October 13, 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYES**

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

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

Roll call vote:

General Fund & Other:

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

Roll call vote:

Cafeteria Fund:

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

**5.02 APPROVAL/
OCTOBER 2021
FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve October 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/
TAX COLLECTOR
REPORTS AUGUST &
SEPTEMBER 2021**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Tax Collector Reports for August & September 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

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

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Athletic Financial Report & Arbiter Payments, October 2021 submitted by Mr. Dustin McAndrew, Athletic Director as presented:

Athletic Report as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

Roll call vote:

Arbiter Payments as presented:

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

6. CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence at this time.

7. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business at this time.

8. CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – MRS. DOWNS-SHECKLER

**8.01 APPROVAL/
HEALTH & SAFETY
PLAN UPDATE**

Motion by Mr. McGinley, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Health & Safety Plan Update as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYE**

**8.02 APPROVAL/
STUDENT TO
RECEIVE HOMEBOUND
INSTRUCTION**

Motion by Mr. McGinley, **Seconded** by Mr. Henning to Approve Student to Receive Homebound Instruction as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYE**

9. FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE –

**9.01 APPROVAL/
REPOSITORY SALES**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve Repository Sales (3 properties all vacant land) as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYE**

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

**10.01 APPROVAL/
TO NOTIFY
SUPERINTENDENT OF
CONTRACT**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve To notify the District's Superintendent the Board intends to retain him for a further term of three (3) to five (5) years, or alternatively that another or other candidates will be considered for the office as presented:

Ms. Henning suggested to vote **Yes** to retain, or **No** to open the position.

Motion by Mr. Strubinger, **Seconded** by Mr. McGinley to **TABLE** Motion #10.01 as presented:

Roll call vote:

G. Confer	<u>Aye</u>	D. McGinley	<u>Aye</u>
G. Strubinger	<u>Aye</u>	P. Montemuro	<u>Nay</u>
S. Pompa	<u>Nay</u>	T. Garritano	<u>Nay</u>
P. Sheckler	<u>Aye</u>	R. Flacco	<u>Aye</u>
C. Henning	<u>Nay</u>		

AYE **5** **NAY** **4** : **Motion TABLED**

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

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Completed Applications & Substitute Teacher List as of November 5, 2021 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**10.03 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
ASSISTANT
PRINCIPAL
LB MORRIS
ELEMENTARY**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** Mr. Montemuro to Approve Employment Assistant Principal LB Morris Elementary Ms. Lynn Fischer \$73,000.00 (prorated) as presented:

Motion by Mr. Strubinger, **Seconded** by Mr. McGinley to **TABLE** Motion #10.03 as presented:

Roll call vote:

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

AYE 5 NAY 4 : Motion TABLED

**10.04 APPROVAL/
POSTING FOR
LTS READING
SPECIALIST**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve posting for Long Term Substitute Teacher Reading Specialist as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

10.05 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TEACHER ACHIEVING TENURE

Mr. Rushefski acknowledged Mrs. Susan Ruotolo on her achievement for receiving Tenure.

**10.06 APPROVAL/
READING &
ACCEPTING POLICY
823 & 247**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve (Due to urgency) **Item #10.06 & #10.07**(Policy #823-Naxloxone) and **#10.08** (Policy 247-Hazing) for a 1st Reading and Adoption as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

11. ATHLETIC AND FIELDS & CONCESSIONS – MR. GARRITANO

**11.01 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
GIRLS BASKETBALL
7TH & 8TH GRADE**

Motion by Mr. McGinley, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve/ Accept Resignation Katie Albert, 7th & 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**11.02 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
KAREN KOEHLER
GIRLS 7TH & 8TH
GRADE BASKETBALL
COACH**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve/ Employment 7th & 8th Grade Girls Basketball Coach Mrs. Karen Koehler at a Salary of \$3,365.00 as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

**11.03 APPROVAL/
ACCEPT LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
VOLLEYBALL
COACH**

Motion by Mr. McGinley, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve/ Accept Letter of Resignation Mr. William Ramey High School Volleyball Coach (effective immediately) and approval to post the position as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**11.04 APPROVAL/
ACCEPT LETTER OF
RESIGNATION
CHEER COACH**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve/ Accept Letter of Resignation Ms. Kaylee Otto, Assistant Cheer Coach (effective immediately) as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

**11.05 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
ASSISTANT CHEER
COACH**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve/ Employment Ms. Tiana Eldridge as Assistant Cheer Coach at a salary of \$1,189.43 (prorated) as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

**11.06 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
HEAD SOFTBALL
COACH**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve/
Employment Mr. Keith Brinker Head Softball Coach at a salary of
\$4,810.00 as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

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

**12.01 APPROVAL/
PAYMENT OF
MOMENEE, INC.**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Ms. Henning to Approve/
Payment of Momenee, Inc. Invoice#6037 in the amount of \$1,500.00
for Professional Services August 6, 2020 to September 6, 2020 as
presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

**12.02 APPROVAL/
PAYMENT TO
JT BOROUGH
FOR STREET
REPAIRS**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. McGinley to Approve/
Payment to JT Borough for Center Street Road Repairs completed by
Great Western Services, Inc. for damages sustained during high school
track project in the amount of \$2,310.00 as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Nay	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 1 : Motion PASSES

**12.03 APPROVAL/
PAYMENT TO
CARBON
ENGINEERING, INC
RECONSTRUCTION
EROSION CONTROL
PLAN**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve/
Payment to Carbon Engineering, Inc. Reconstruction Erosion Control
Plan in the amount of \$1,050.50 as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

**12.04 APPROVAL/
TO POST UNUSED
ITEMS FOR SALE
ON MUNICIBID**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve/
to post unused items for sale on Municbid – by Director of Buildings &
Grounds Mr. LaRizzio as presented:

- 1) Trainers Truck (Did not pass inspection)
- 2) Several old lawn mowers that no longer run or have been used as parts through the years.
- 3) Multiple supplies/cleaning items that are no longer used in the district. Example, light bulbs that do not fit in our fixtures, cleaning items/supplies that do not fit our dispensers etc.

Overall, items that will free up some space.

Voice Vote: ALL AYES

13. CARBON CAREER & TECHNICAL INSTITUTE – MR. STRUBINGER

Mr. Strubinger reported that next week (11/17/2021) meeting they will be naming a new director.

14. TRANSPORTATION & SECURITY COMMITTEE – MR. MCGINLEY

No Report

15. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – MR. GARRITANO

Mr. Garritano reported the State is working on Fair School Funding and Appeal on mask mandates for schools.

16. NEW BUSINESS

******ADDITION TO AGENDA**

APPROVAL/ EMPLOYMENT CUSTODIAN

Motion by Mr. Pompa, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve/
Employment Mr. Robert Gavornik Custodian \$11.00 per hour
as per Custodian Contract as presented:

Roll call vote.

G. Confer	Aye	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 9 NAY 0 : Motion PASSES

******ADDITION TO AGENDA**

APPROVAL/ EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL LB MORRIS ELEMENTARY

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** Mr. Montemuro to Approve
Employment Assistant Principal LB Morris Elementary Ms. Lynn
Fischer &73,000.00 (prorated) as presented:

Ms. Everett addressed the board with her concerns for not approving the hiring of an Assistant Principal.

Motion by Mr. Strubinger, **Seconded** by Mr. Confer to **TABLE**
Motion as presented:

Roll call vote:

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

AYE 5 NAY 4 : Motion TABLED

*******Personnel Meeting Wednesday November 17, 2021 6:00 p.m.**

*******Mr. Rushefski, Mr. Montemuro & Mr. Garritano discussed briefly with the board the Volleyball off Season “Feeder” Program to be allowed to use the facilities without being charged fees.**

17. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

17.01 HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL – MR. THOMAS LESISKO

November 2021 Administrative Report

17.02 PENN KIDDER CAMPUS PRINCIPAL – MRS. HOLLY MORDAUNT

November 2021 - Administrative Report

17.03 LB MORRIS K-8 PRINCIPAL – DR. JEFF WHITE

November 2021 Administrative Report

18. INFORMATIONAL

18.01 CURRENT ENROLLMENT – MR. RUSHFESKI, SUPERINTENDENT

Current Enrollment Update as of November 5, 2021

OLC vs. In-Person (No change since the October 13, 2021 meeting)


18.02 LEHIGH CARON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fall Fact Sheet 2021

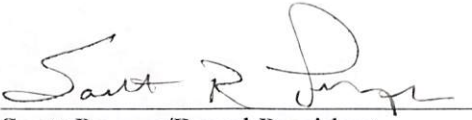
ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Henning/Board Secretary

ATTEST:


Scott Pompa/Board President