

Jim Thorpe Area School District
Regular Board Meeting
Board Members and Press Only – Due to COVID-19
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 7:00 p.m.

1. OPENING OF MEETING – BOARD PRESIDENT

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 by phone and Google Meets: Mr. Raniero Marciante, Mr. Gerald Strubinger, Mr. Glenn Confer, Mr. Scott Pompa, Mrs. Cindy Henning, Mr. TJ Garritano, Mr. Paul Montemuro, Mrs. Pearl Sheckler and Mr. Dennis McGinley. Administrators present: Mr. John Rushefski, *Superintendent*, Mr. Ken Marx, *Business Manager*, Attorney Carl Beard, *Solicitor* Mr. Jerome Brown, *IT Director*, Mr. Thomas Lesisko, *High School Principal*, Mrs. Holly Mordaunt, *Penn Kidder Principal*, Mr. Randy Engle, *Penn Kidder Assistant Principal*, Mr. Shawn Albert, *LB Morris Principal*, Mr. Jeff White, *LB Morris Asst. Principal* Mr. Ted LaRizzio, *Director of Buildings and Grounds*, Ms. Katherine Doll *Curriculum Coordinator*, Mrs. Lori Lienhard *Director of Security*, Mrs. Kimberley Hill, *Recording Secretary*. Visitors present: BRC TV13 and the Times News.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF VISITORS

2.01 READING OF COMMENTS & QUESTIONS BY EMAIL

Due to COVID-19, the public was invited to email questions or comments to Kim Hill, Recording Secretary to be read to the Board via Google Meets.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was an Executive Session before the meeting for Litigation and Personnel items. No decisions were made.

4. OLD BUSINESS

There is no Old Business to be discussed.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.01 APPROVAL/ MINUTES REGULAR MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 & SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve School Board Meeting Minutes Regular Meetings, September 9, 2020 & September 28, 2020 as presented:

Voice Vote: **ALL AYE**

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

6.01 APPROVAL/ SEPTEMBER 2020 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve September 2020 Financial Reports as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

***** Ms. Henning has left the meeting.**

6.02 APPROVAL/ BILLS PAYABLE GENERAL FUND & OTHER

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Bills Payable General Fund & Other- October 14, 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. Marciante	Nay
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 7 NAY 1 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

6.03 APPROVAL/ BILLS PAYABLE CAFETERIA FUND

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Bills Payable for Cafeteria October 14, 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. Marciante	Aye
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 8 NAY 0 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

**6.04 APPROVAL/
ATHLETIC
FINANCIAL REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2020**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve Athletic Financial Report September 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. Marcianti	Aye
	C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 8 NAY 0 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7. FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE

**7.01 APPROVAL/
REPOSITORY SALES**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to Approve Repository Sales as presented:

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

AYE 7 NAY 1 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

**7.02 APPROVAL/
TAX EXEMPTION
REIMBURSEMENT
REQUEST
DISABLED VETERAN**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. McGinley to Approve Tax Exemption Reimbursement Request Disabled Veteran as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**7.03 APPROVAL/
CARBON-MONROE-
PIKE DRUG &
ALCOHOL AGREEMENT
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Strubinger to Approve Carbon, Monroe, Pike Drug & Alcohol Agreement 2020-2021 School Year cost of \$14,000.00 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. Marcianti	Aye
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 8 NAY 0 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

**7.04 APPROVAL/
SCHUYLKILL IU 29
TITLE 1 – 2020-2021
LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

Motion by Mr. McGinley, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Schuylkill IU 29 Title 1 Letter of Agreement, School Year 2020-2021 cost of \$2,268.47 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. Marcianti	Aye
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 8 NAY 0 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

**7.05 APPROVAL/
EVOLVE INSURANCE
ADVISORS TO
CONDUCT A MARKET
ANALYSIS OF JTASD
INSURANCE PROGRAMS
AT NO COST**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve Evolve Insurance Advisors to Conduct a Market Analysis of Jim Thorpe Area School District Insurance Programs at no cost 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. Marciante	Nay
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 7 NAY 1 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

8. POLICY & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**8.01 APPROVAL/
THIRD READING
AND APPROVAL
POLICY #805.2 SCHOOL
SECURITY PERSONNEL**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Marciante to Approve Third Reading and Approval of Policy #805.2 School Security Personnel as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**8.02 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE LETTER
OF INTENT TO
RETIRE
MRS. KATHY FARRELL
JANUARY 8, 2021**

Motion by Ms. Sheckler, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to Approve Acceptance Letter of Intent to Retire Ms. Kathy Farrell (effective January 8, 2021) as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**8.03 APPROVAL/
POSTING ART
TEACHER 80%
SALARY**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Marciante to Approve Posting Art Teacher Position at Salary 80% as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**8.04 APPROVAL/
POSTING READING
SPECIALIST
CERTIFIED (K-12)**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Strubinger to Approve Posting Reading Specialist Certified (K-12) Position as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**8.05 APPROVAL/
COMPLETED
APPLICATIONS
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020
THROUGH
OCTOBER 1, 2020**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Marciante to Approve Completed Applications for September 1, 2020 through October 1, 2020 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**8.06 APPROVAL/
SUBSTITUTE
TEACHER LIST
FOR OCTOBER 2020**

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Substitute Teacher List for October 2020 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

9. ATHLETICS, FIELDS & CONCESSIONS COMMITTEE

**CUSTODIAL
REPORT**

Mr. Confer would like to report that he met with Mr. Larizzio at Penn Kidder to look the sidewalks that need repair and the parking lot needs some repairs, and additional lighting.

Mr. Confer would also like to hire (2) new janitors tonight.

**9.01 APPROVAL/
JTASD ATHLETIC
SAFETY PLAN
UPDATE**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve JTASD Athletic Safety Plan Update October 14, 2020 as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**9.02 APPROVAL/
EMPLOYMENT
ALESSANDRA
ROSSINO AS
ASSISTANT GIRLS
7TH & 8TH GRADE
BASKETBALL COACH**

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Employment Alessandra Rossino as Assistant 7th & 8th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach \$3,300.00 Salary 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. Marciante	Aye
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 8 NAY 0 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

**9.03 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
RESIGNATION
ASSISTANCE TENNIS
COACH**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Strubinger to Approve Acceptance Resignation Mr. Brent Reabold, Assistant Girls/Boys Tennis Coach (effective end of fall season 20-21) & posting of position Assistant Tennis Coach as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE

**9.04 APPROVAL/
ACCEPTANCE
RESIGNATION
MR. NORBERT
LIENHARD HEAD
GIRLS/BOYS TENNIS**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Strubinger to Approve Acceptance Resignation Mr. Norbert Lienhard, Head Girls/Boys Tennis Coach (effective end of fall season 20-21) & posting position as presented:

Roll call vote.

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

AYE 6 NAY 2 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

**9.05 APPROVAL/
PAYMENT
KEYSTONE SPORTS
CONSTRUCTION TURF
FIELD**

Motion by Mr. Montemuro, **Seconded** by Mr. Strubinger to Approve Payment to Keystone Sports Construction for Turf Field Invoice #1428 in the amount of \$619,985.84 as presented:

Roll call vote.

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

AYE 5 NAY 3 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

10. CAFETERIA, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

**10.01 APPROVAL/
CONTRACTING AN
APPRAISAL AGENCY
FOR APPRAISAL
JTASD ADMIN BUIDLING**

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Mr. Pompa to Approve Contracting an Appraisal Agency for the purpose of assessing the JTASD Administration Building as presented:

Motion by Mr. Marciante, **Seconded** by Ms. Sheckler to **TABLE** Previous motion of Approval Contracting an Appraisal Agency as presented:

Voice Vote: ALL AYE Motion: TABLED

**10.02 APPROVAL/
CONTRACT WITH
WB ELECTRIC HIGH
SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
SUPPLEMENTAL LIGHTING**

Motion by Mr. Garritano, **Seconded** by Mr. Montemuro to Approve Contract with WB Electric for High School Auditorium Supplemental Lighting at a cost of \$9,580.00 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. Marciante	Aye
C. Henning	Absent		

AYE 8 NAY 0 Absent 1 : Motion PASSES

PORT O JOHNS Update – Mr. Larizzio reported that he contacted the Port O Johns Company about possible purchasing a unit for the Baseball/Football fields. They are \$925.00 to purchase with a \$50 servicing fee; the rentals are currently serviced once a week, from March through November.

POLICY AND PERSONNEL MEETING – Wednesday, October 21, 2020 or Monday October 26, 2020 will be the Committee Meeting to discuss hiring Custodians.

11. CARBON-LEHIGH IU 21 No Report

12. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

12.01 PENN KIDDER CAMPUS - PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mrs. Holly Mordaunt, *Penn Kidder Campus Principal* – September 2020 Administrative Report, was a very successful 1st month of school and would like to thank all her teachers and staff for all of the hard work during a very difficult time all are doing an amazing, keeping communication open with parents and educating the students.

12.02 L.B. MORRIS BUILDING – PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Shawn Albert, *LB Morris Building Principal* – September 2020 Administrative Report, a very successful start of the school year, a thank you to all staff who helped make them successful. Enclosed is the list of students of the month. Mr. White is doing an extremely good job, getting to know the school.

12.03 HIGH SCHOOL – PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Thomas Lesisko, *Sr. High Principal* - September 2020 Administrative Report, pleased to still be in school, progress reports went out, thankful for everyone's hard to make this quarter successful. Sports teams are all successful. Mr. Montemuro complemented Mr. Lesisko on everything running smoothly.

DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS Mr. Ted Larizzio had no additional updates.

13. INFORMATIONAL

13.01 CURRENT ENROLLMENT No changes since last report September 28, 2020.

13.02 FALL SPORTS SCHEDULE Senior Night and Homecoming – October 23, 2020.

13.03 UPDATE FALL ATHLETIC SCHEDULE – Updated Athletic Schedule October 9, 2020 through October 24, 2020.

13.04 CCTI – Enclosed October 15, 2020 Meeting Agenda.

14. NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL POSTING HIRING (2) CUSTODIANS

Motion by Mr. Confer, **Seconded** by Mr. McGinley to Approve the posting and hiring of (2) Full-time Custodians:

Motion by Mr. Pompa, **Seconded** by Mr. Garritano to **TABLE** Previous motion to post and hiring (2) Custodians until discussed at Policy and Personnel Committee Meeting October 19, 2020.

Roll call vote.

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

AYE 4 NAY 4 Absent 1 : Motion FAILS

Roll Call for original motion by Mr. Confer and Mr. McGinley to Approve the posting and hiring of (2) Custodians:

Roll call vote.

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

AYE 3 NAY 5 Absent 1 : Motion DOES NOT PASS

JTNB DONATION

Mr. Garritano wanted to acknowledge and thank the Jim Thorpe Neighborhood Bank for their donation of \$10,000.00 for a Play Clock/Timer at the Football and Soccer Fields.

Boys Soccer has clinched the #1 seat and will be going to District Playoff. JTASD could host playoff games.

October 13, 2020 will be JTASD first home football game on the new field.

**ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS**

Mr. Montemuro would like to have it noted in the minutes, the discussion between Mr. Confer and Ms. Henning at the beginning of the meeting in regards to the Processor Billings, that turned into accusations and bullying towards Ms. Henning which is why she left the meeting.

Mrs. Laura McArdle commented that the minutes should also reflect the board member cussed before she left the meeting. Mr. Strubinger stated he didn't hear it. Mrs. Christine Baldwin and Mr. Marciante both responded the "F" word was said.

Mr. Strubinger stated this issue will be looked into and the board will need to discuss this further.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Henning/Board Secretary

ATTEST:


Gerald Strubinger/Board President