

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MT. LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

January 22, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:33 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2019, in Room D205, Mt. Lebanon High School.

Mr. Riemer called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Hugh Beal, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci, Mr. William Cooper, Dr. Aviva Diamond, Mr. Al Frioni (by phone), Ms. Sarah Olbrich, Mr. Michael Riemer
Absent: Mr. Lawrence Lebowitz, Dr. Stephen Strotmeyer

ATTENDING:

Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent
Christopher Voltz, Solicitor's Office
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Dr. Ronald Davis, Ms. Katie Devine, Mr. Robert Geletko, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Mr. Christopher Stengel

MINUTES

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting held on December 3, 2018, and the Joint Discussion/Regular Meeting held on December 10, 2018.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Riemer reported that Andrew W. Mellon Middle School has been selected as one of three middle schools in Pennsylvania named PA Don Eichhorn Schools "Schools to Watch" as part of a recognition program developed by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. The program identifies exemplary middle schools in Pennsylvania in partnership with the Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education.

Mellon will be recognized at the Pennsylvania Association for Middle Level Education State Conference in State College on February 24, 2019. They will also be recognized nationally with all the other recognized Schools to Watch schools across the country in Washington DC at the National Forum's National Schools to Watch Conference on June 27-29, 2019.

On behalf of the School Board and School District, Mr. Riemer congratulated Mr. Wolfson and his team for this outstanding academic accomplishment. Certificates of Recognition were presented to the following Mellon Middle School staff: Chris Wolfson, Mellon Principal, Ben Canan, Mellon Assistant Principal, Julie Tomer, Erica Harrington, Kate Jordaan, Emily Raitano, Matt Mikesell, Lynda Battista, Dianne Evangelista, Maranda DeRienzo, Eve Kollar, Sue McDonald, Ben Canan, and Claudia Dahmen.

Mr. Riemer thanked the PTA Council for the reception held prior to the meeting for School Director Recognition Month.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer presented Certificates of Recognition to the School Board and a small token of appreciation to the School Board for their dedication and hard work they perform for the students and community of Mt. Lebanon.

BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee – Mrs. Olbrich reported that a Policy Committee meeting was held on January 14 to review policies GBGB/JICI, Possession of Weapons, and Policy JICJ, Student Discipline for Possession of Weapons

Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. Beal reported that an Audit & Finance Committee meeting will be held on March 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in Room D205 with a presentation by Robert Geletko on the elements that determine a school district budget.

Parkway West Career and Technical Center – Mr. Riemer reported that the Veterinary Technology program at Parkway West will begin providing free baths to all service dogs. They are reaching out to many organizations that may have knowledge of service animal owners, such as police departments, fire departments, the School for the Blind, and the Veterans Association. For more information contact Parkway West at 412-923-1772, ext. 175.

Mr. Riemer acknowledged the following Parkway West CTC Director's List of Mt. Lebanon Honors Students for the first quarter of 2018-2019: Haley Barry, Grayson Baylor, Jackson Baylor, Renee Efimoff, Patrick Fitzgerald, Mary Flaherty, Hanna Herrington, Christina Mustian, Jenna Schwartz, Adam Simkovich, Egan Tetlow, Joseph Trombetta, and Tyler Wilcox.

Pathfinder School – Mr. Cooper reported that the Pathfinder School Committee met on January 16. The final bids were received for the roof repair at Pathfinder. The estimated cost is \$700,000 with Mt. Lebanon contributing 29% of the cost.

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Cappucci reported that she contacted Representative Dan Miller. The state legislature is not in session at the moment. Mrs. Cappucci asked if the federal shutdown would cause problems for Pennsylvania. He replied that not yet, but could affect state social services.

SHASDA – Mr. Cooper did not attend the SHASDA meeting but wanted to make a comment on the Allegheny County School Health Insurance Consortium. Mr. Cooper is a trustee on the Board of Trustees. The Consortium is self-insured. He reported that there will be a \$210,000 increase in healthcare for next year.

MLFE – Dr. Diamond reported the Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education board met on January 16. Six teacher grants for a totaling over \$8,000 were approved. The grant titles are Adapted PE Equipment and Pedometers at Washington, a Mindful Classroom at Markham, a Space to Flourish at the High School, Fine Tuning Motor Skills at Jefferson Elementary, Knit the Grand Staircase at the High School, and Electric Violins at Mellon. The annual Taste of Lebo will be held on April 27, and stadium blankets still available to purchase.

Municipal Liaison – Mr. Frioni met with Municipal Manager Keith McGill. All is well.

Community/District Task Force on Safety, Security & Mental Well-Being – Mrs. Cappucci reported that the new Community/District Task Force on Safety, Security & Mental Well-Being

met on January 16. The committee consists of administrators, police, firemen, students, parents, community members, and teachers. The topics discussed at the first meeting were the new Safe2Say safety app from the State, infrastructure needs, mental health and well-being, ALiCE training overview, and keeping students safe.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves, ratifies, and accepts the following financial reports: (Copy in official minutes)

- a. Treasurer’s Report dated December 31, 2019,
- b. List of Bills dated January 7, 2019, and January 15, 2019,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated December 31, 2018, and
- d. List of Unusable Equipment dated January 1, 2019.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved on Beal and seconded by Olbrich that the Board authorizes the administration to solicit bids for supplies and equipment for the 2019-2020 school year. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Cooper that the Board appoints Robert Geletko as an alternate for Mt. Lebanon to the Southwest Tax Collection Committee.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Olbrich that the Board of School Directors of the Mt. Lebanon School District, makes the following unconditional certifications:

1. The school district’s various tax levies and other revenue sources will be sufficient to balance the school district final budget for the next fiscal year (2019-2020) based on maintaining current tax rates or increasing tax rates by an amount less than or equal to the Act 1 index applicable to the school district as calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. This conclusion is based on the school district preliminary budget or other information available to the School Board.
2. The applicable index for the next fiscal year is 2.3%, and the School Board will not for the next fiscal year increase the rate of its real estate tax, or any other tax for the support of public education, by an amount that exceeds the applicable index.
3. The School Board has to date and in the future will comply with the rules set forth in School Code § 687 for adoption of the school district proposed and final budgets for the next fiscal year.
4. The School Board understands that the school district will not be eligible to use Act 1 referendum exceptions for the next fiscal year.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the January 10, 2019, list of personnel changes, as revised January 17, 2019 and January 22, 2019. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Olbrich the Board approves an agreement with School Operation Services, Inc. to provide daily and long-term substitutes covering paraprofessionals, food services, classroom aides, and facilities positions in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
Abstain: Frioni
MOTION APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Diamond that the Board approves the Mt. Lebanon District Level Comprehensive Plan. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Olbrich that the Board awards Bid #2019 Duplicating Paper to W.B. Mason Co. in the amount of \$81,858 for High Speed Duplicating Paper and \$6,210 for Cover Stock Paper as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Diamond that the Board approves an agreement with Forecast 5 Analytics Agreement for an online financial software in the amount of \$19,832. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved Cooper and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves an agreement with Direct Energy Natural Gas for the transportation of natural gas in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich,
Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves a change order for the Howe Retaining Wall project in the amount of \$26,875. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich,
Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Diamond that the Board approves the High School Marching Band trip to Williamsburg, VA, April 12-14, 2019.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Olbrich,
Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

Mellon math scores on the Future Ready Index

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Riemer reported that an Executive Session was held before this evening's meeting for the purpose of student discipline and litigation matters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary
Board of School Director

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