

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

May 23, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 23, 2016, in Room D205, Mt. Lebanon High School.

Mr. Lebowitz called the meeting to order. Lincoln Elementary School students Charlie Broadhurst, Elizabeth Chrystal, Tegan Hoover, Haley Larson, Janet Montgomery, Jack Murphy, Selene Piquette, Taylor Singh, and Doran Steinfeld led the Pledge of Allegiance, and gave a presentation about the Engineering Design Club and the 3D printer received through a MLFE grant.

ROLL CALL Present: Mr. Hugh Beal, Mrs. Mary Birks, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci, Mr. William Cooper, Mr. William Moorhead, Ms. Sarah Olbrich, Mr. Daniel Remely, Mr. Michael Riemer (by phone), Mr. Lawrence Lebowitz  
Absent: None

ATTENDING: Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent  
Mr. Matthew Hoffman, Solicitor's Office  
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Dr. Ronald Davis, Ms. Kathryn Devine, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Ms. Janice Klein, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Mr. Christopher Stengel, Mrs. Mary Kay Davis, Mr. Robert Freil, Ms. Nicole Giehl, Mr. Ronald Kitsko, Mr. Brian McFeeley, Dr. Michelle Murray, Mrs. Sarah Shaw, Mr. Jason Ramsey, Mrs. Kelly Szesterniak, Mr. Christopher Wolfson

MINUTES

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Remely that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on April 11, 2016; the Discussion Meeting held on April 11, 2016; and the Regular Meeting held on April 18, 2016.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORTS

Jefferson Middle School Student Council member Emma Chothani presented the last report for the year on the activities at Jefferson Middle School. The final project of the year was the Mini-THON held on May 13<sup>th</sup> to raise money for the sole purpose of curing cancer for kids. Students registered from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. and spent the next three and a half hours involved in THON activities like dancing, dodgeball, facepainting and selfies. Thanks to generous sponsors and the team, gift certificates to beautiful baskets were raffled off. Student Council was able to exceed their goal and raised \$5,421 towards this worthwhile cause.

Miles Howell, Mellon Middle Student Council representative, reported on the recent activities at Mellon Middle School. Mellon's philosophical approach has been one of service to school, to community, to country, and the student activities program includes all students who desire to create a better community through communication, cooperation, and care. Mellon raised thousands of dollars for charities in Pittsburgh, across the country and even across the world. This "Lebo Spirit" lives on through student council's all inclusive policy and through its service

projects and charitable giving. Mellon's annual Pink Out raised slightly over \$1,000, students raised \$136 for Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, 1,000 meals were provided for local families in need through Pittsburgh's Community Food Bank, student collected and delivered 25 boxes of supplies for veterans and their families during the holiday season, and Mellon participated in National Heavenly Hat Day which raised over \$180.

Mt. Lebanon High School Student Body Co Vice President, Maddy Rice, presented the last report of the year on the high school's activities for the year. Events include induction of the 2016-2017 Student Body officers, Molly Merrick and Wyatt Smith as Co-Presidents, Zach Dewit and Mattie Schmidt as Co Vice Presidents, Glenn Ayieko and Kathryn King as Co Secretaries and Mary Augenstein and Nick Callender as Co Treasurers.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation week occurred at the beginning of May. Faculty, administrators and staff members enjoyed the well-deserved treats provided throughout the week. We greatly appreciate what our teachers, administrators, and staff members do for us each and every day.

The high school production of "Peter Pan" was a huge success. The cast, the crew, and the orchestra pulled off an amazing performance each and every night! Our extremely hard working teachers Mrs. Kapron, Mrs. Kuhar, Mr. Vogel, staff member Mr. Stoklosa, and the director Mr. Bahr provided an learning environment that taught the cast and crew so many lessons about the beauty of live theatre.

Thirty-three students, four teachers, and two staff members spent four hours at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank's headquarters in Duquesne, PA repacking thousands of pounds of donated food made during a recent food drive. None of the students had performed this type of volunteer work before and they were pleased to have helped with the mission of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

The fourth annual "End of School Locker Cleanout" collection will take place on May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, and if needed on June 10<sup>th</sup>. My classmates Audrey Goodrick, Maria Palumbo, and Christina and Alex Terasavage are organizing the collection of students' unwanted pens, pencils, notebooks, binders, and backpacks. All reusable items will be donated to Brookline Elementary.

"Prom Around the World" will be held on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Omni William Penn Hotel. On June 8<sup>th</sup>, the Class of 2016 Picnic in the Park will be held prior to the Commencement rehearsal. And finally, on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, Mt. Lebanon High School's 102<sup>nd</sup> Commencement will take place.

### BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Lebowitz reported that after months of hard work by the administration and the Board, action will be taken this evening on the District's budget for 2016-2017 academic year. The budget reduces expenditures by \$592,000, utilizes \$750,000 from the Fund Balance, and increases millage by .38 mills. If approved, this millage increase would be solely used for the mandated PSERS increase and would represent the smallest millage increase in the past five years. The board president thanked Dr. Steinhauer, Ms. Klein and the whole administrative team for putting us in this position which enables us to reach the "happy medium" of maintaining the excellence of our schools while simultaneously running the financial affairs of the District in a fiscally responsible manner.

Certificates of Achievement were presented to Suzy Bushman and Madelyn Rice to recognize them for their winning the State Championship in their respective events at the Pennsylvania High School Speech League State Tournament held at Susquehanna University in April. Ms. Bushman won for Humorous Interpretation of Literature and Ms. Rice, for her part, won for

Persuasive Speaking. The team is coached by George Savarese, and we congratulate both him and these students on this wonderful accomplishment.

The board president reported on the activities throughout the District which showcase the many talents of our students. The month of April we had the following: High School Orchestra Concert; Washington Elementary Snuggle Up and Read; Jefferson Elementary Art Night; Jefferson Middle School Jazz Concert; and Mellon Middle School and High School Jazz Band Concerts. In May we have either already have or soon will have: Hoover Elementary International Night; Howe Fifth Grade Colonial Day; Lincoln Elementary Spring Sing; the High School Percussion Concert; and the High School Spring Sports Recognition Ceremony. Thanks to the students, their parents and all of the teachers/coaches who make these events happen and showcase the incredible talents of students throughout the District.

Mr. Lebowitz personally congratulated and thanked the teachers who are retiring this month and will be honored at this evening's meeting. The Board recognizes the incredible important role the teachers play in the education of our children.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer highlighted the work and careers of some of the finest teachers and staff on the occasion of their retirement from the Mt. Lebanon School District. Through their diligent work these people have left a legacy that has enriched the lives of our students and contributed to the success of our school district.

This year there are 11 professional staff and nine support staff members retiring. Together they represent 481 years of expertise and experience in the Mt. Lebanon School District. Their devotion and dedication to Mt. Lebanon students and community deserves our thanks, appreciation, and best wishes as they retire and move on to the next phase of their life. The superintendent presented certificates and pins to the following retirees attending the meeting: Sandra Hannon, Bernice Heisey, Nancy Junker, Mark Kramer, Sally Nuckles, Fred Payak, Roseanne Stimple, and Ron Wilcher.

### BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee – Mr. Moorhead reported that the Policy Committee met on May 16 to review adoption of Policy CGD, Federal Fiscal Compliance, and revisions to Policy INJD, Network/Internet Use. The Board will take action on both of these policies this evening.

High School Renovation – Mr. Remely reported that the contractor is working on filling in the space left by Building C. Mr. Remely thanked Dr. Steinhauer, Dr. Davis, Ms. Klein, and Mr. Marciniak for bringing the project in at ½% of 1% over budget.

Pathfinder School – Mr. Cooper reported that the Pathfinder Board met on May 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss the assessment of Pathfinder School. It was determined that the school is valued at \$4 million and the best purpose of the building is as school. The Board is looking to increase rental rates and will be looking at rates and contracts of surrounding districts. Mr. Cooper indicated that the school is looking for donations of Wii console games for use in the adaptive physical education classes.

Parkway West Career and Technical Center – Mr. Remely reported that Parkway West Career and Technical School was awarded the Career and Technical Excellence Award from the Department of Education. The school competed in the Skills USA competition and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state. They will move onto the national competition in Knoxville, TN.

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Birks reported that HB 1574, the anti-hazing bill, goes to the governor for his signature. The bill will protect students from harmful hazing rituals and is applicable to institutions of higher education and to public and private secondary schools.

Governor Wolf vetoed HB 805 which allows school districts to furlough professional employees for economic reasons and to use performance evaluations to determine the order that employees are furloughed. PSBA expressed disappointment with the veto saying that House Bill 805 is common sense local reform that would have allowed districts to make personnel decisions based on the needs of students.

PSBA presented testimony to the Senate and House Education Committees at a joint hearing to discuss Pennsylvania's implementation of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Representing PSBA was Executive Director Nathan Mains, who presented the recommendations of the association's ESSA Study Group, a diverse group of over 80 school directors, administrators, and other education experts from across the state who met in March to discuss the new federal law and make recommendations for the development of the new state plan. The recommendations focus on the new law from four perspectives: assessment; schools identified as being in the "bottom 5%"; educator effectiveness (teacher evaluation); and charter school issues and solutions.

MLFE/Revenue Generation – Mrs. Cappucci reported that the MLFE board approved teacher grants for the 2016-2017 school year, and encourage community members to consider donating to the Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education.

Municipal Liaison – Mr. Riemer reported that a discussion was held on April 29<sup>th</sup> regarding a new rifle range even though the project is a few years out. A representative from the Municipality and the District visited the new range in Bridgeville.

Economic Development Council - Mr. Beal reported that the Economic Development Council met on April 29<sup>th</sup>. Topic on the agenda included new uptown business district strategic plan, uptown sidewalks, Parse Way walkway, parking, the 30 unit apartment of Pennsylvania Blvd, and software for safewalking. Eric Milliron, Commercials District Manager, spoke to high school students today about economic development in the community.

#### COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

Reconsider approving the 2016-2017 budget and hold off until June  
Opposes adoption of *Thank you for smoking* textbook

#### NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Riemer that the Board approves a Final Budget for the 2016-2017 School Year in the amount of \$95,216,027 setting the millage rate at 23.93 mills, a .38 increase over the 2015-2016 millage rate, utilizing \$750,000 of the Fund Balance to balance revenues with expenditures and continuing in force all other taxes levied for school purposes as per the formal budget resolution. (Formal Resolution to be appended to the minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

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

- a. Treasurer's Report dated April 30, 2016,
- b. List of Bills dated April 29, 2016, and May 17, 2016, and
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated April 30, 2016.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Riemer and seconded Olbrich that the Board appoints Joseph T. Senko as the Real Estate Tax Collector for the 2016-2017 school year at a salary of \$10,000.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Riemer that the Board appoints Joseph T. Senko as the Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for the 2016-2017 school year at no remuneration.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Riemer that the Board appoints Janice R. Klein as the School District Treasurer for the 2016-2017 school year at no remuneration.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Cooper that the Board exonerates the Real Estate Tax Collector from collecting taxes on the list of properties dated May 1, 2016 (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Olbrich that the Board accepts the audit of the Municipal Real Estate Tax Office for the year ending December 31, 2015. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the bids for supplies and equipment for the 2016-2017 school year to the lowest responsible bidders meeting specifications as per the Vendor Name Summary dated May 11, 2016. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the May 16, 2016, list of personnel changes as revised May 23, 2016. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Riemer that the Board adopts policy CGD, Federal Fiscal Compliance, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves revisions to policy IJND, Network/Internet Use, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the following recommendations for Act 80 use for the modification of the student day:

DATE	SCHOOL	GRADE	TIME	ACTIVITY
August 31, 2015	All Elementary	Kindergarten	AM & PM	Kindergarten Interviews
September 1, 2015	All Elementary	Kindergarten	AM & PM	Kindergarten Interviews
September 11, 2015	All Elementary	1-5	PM	Teacher In-service
November 12, 2015	All Elementary	K	PM	Parent Conferences
November 13, 2015	All Elementary	K-5	AM & PM	Parent Conferences
April 7, 2016	All Elementary	K	AM	Parent Conferences
April 8, 2016	All Elementary	K-5	AM & PM	Parent Conferences
May 25, 2016	All Elementary	1-5	PM	Teacher In-service
June 13, 2016	All Schools	K-12	AM & PM	Teacher In-service

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Remely that for the purpose of providing appropriate educational programs and services for all District children, the Board approves the proposed standardized testing schedule for the 2016-2017 school year:

<b>DATES</b>	<b>GRADES(s)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT</b>
September 5- September 30, 2016	1-5	Measures of Academic Progress Reading and Math
	6-11	Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT)- English, Math, Science
October 19, 2016	10-11	PSAT
December 5 – 16, 2016	8 -11	Keystone – Algebra 1
	11	Keystone – Biology
	10 -11	Keystone - English Literature
January 2 – January 27, 2017	K -5	Measures of Academic Progress- Reading and Math
	6 -11	Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT) – English, Math, Science
April 3 – 7, 2017	3 - 8	Achievement Test – English Language Arts (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
April 24 – 28, 2017	3 - 8	Achievement Test – Math (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
May 1 – 5, 2017	4 and 8	Achievement Test – Science (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
May 8 - 12, 2017	3-8	Achievement Test - Make Up (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
May 1-May 26, 2017	K-5	Measures of Academic Progress Reading and Math
	6-11	Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT) - English, Math, Science
May 15-May 26, 2017	8-11	Keystone - Algebra 1
	10-11	Keystone - Biology
	9-11	Keystone - English Literature
May 2017	1	Speech and Language Screening

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Birks that the Board awards Project No. 16-003, Washington Elementary Concrete Steps Replacement, to Filma, Inc. in the amount of \$22,600 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Riemer that the Board awards Project No. 16-2, Hoover Elementary Painting 2016, to NASOCO, LLC in the amount of \$28,840 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Cappucci that the Board awards Project No. 16-1, Jefferson Middle School Roof Replacement, to G&W Roofing in the amount of \$46,200 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the following student trips:

- a. High School Ski Club to Bolton Valley, VT, January 19-23, 2017
- b. High School Orchestra to New York City, March 3-5, 2017

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Cappucci that in accordance with Section 803 Pennsylvania School Laws, the Board approves the list of textbooks for the 2016-2017 school year as follows:

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

**Subject: SCIENCE**

Course: AP Environmental Geoscience

Title	Grade	Publisher	Copyright Date	Author
Environmental Science for AP Second Edition	11	Bedford, Freeman & Worth	2015	Friedland and Relyea

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

**Subject: SCIENCE**

Course: Honors Anatomy and Physiology

Title	Grade	Publisher	Copyright Date	Author
Hole's Essentials of Human Anatomy and Physiology	11-12	McGraw Hill	2015	Shier, Butler & Lewis

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

**Subject: ENGLISH**

Course: Senior English Language of Power

Title	Grade	Publisher	Copyright Date	Author
Thank you for Smoking	12	Random House	2006 Edition	Christopher Buckley

## COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Three residents spoke before the Board about the following:

- Including links to websites in District emails; no way to differentiate from foreign emails
- Birthday treat policy for students
- Cost of living and teacher increases
- Astounding PSBA reports from Mary Birks
- Questioned if PlanCon monies were received
- Questioned Business Manager's role as former Board Secretary; like the Penn Hills School District, it was a conflict of interest and all former budget should be audited

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Lebowitz announced that an Executive Session was held before this evening's meeting for the purpose of litigation matters.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Birks and seconded by Moorhead to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary  
Board of School Directors