

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

February 18, 2013

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 18, 2013, in the Jefferson Middle School Library.

Mrs. Cappucci called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Mary Birks, Mr. William Cooper, Mr. Scott Goldman (arrived at 7:32), Mr. Edward Kubit, Mr. Larry Lebowitz, Mr. Dale Ostergaard, Mrs. Josephine Posti, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci  
Absent: Mr. Daniel Remely

ATTENDING: Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent  
Thomas Peterson, Solicitor  
Administrative Staff: Dr. Deborah Allen; Ms. Cissy Bowman; Dr. Ronald Davis; Ms. Janice Klein; Mr. Richard Marciniak; Mr. Carl Salemi, Mr. Stephen Scheurer; Mr. Christopher Stengel

MINUTES

It was moved by Ostergaard and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Meeting held on January 8, 2013; the Discussion Meeting held on January 14, 2013; and the Regular Meeting held on January 21, 2013.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Cappucci reported that Athletic Director John Grogan will be making a presentation about the District's athletic programs. At last week's meeting, the Board discussed the renovation of the rifle range and had valuable input from Mr. Grogan and the team's coach and students regarding the significance of the program. Initial cost estimates to renovate the range are approximately \$400,000, which could be funded either from the Capital Projects Fund, or through the second high school renovation bond. The District and the board will continue to work with the Athletic Department, the District engineer and the construction team to see if there is a more cost efficient way to renovate the rifle range. The Board will not take action on the rifle range renovation until they receive further information.

The board president reported that there are two budget action items on the agenda this evening. First is the Capital Projects Budget for 2013-2014 construction season and the second is the preliminary budget for 2013-2014. The Board is in the early stages of the budget process and the proposed budget will change over the next few months as more financial information becomes available. Dr. Steinhauer and his staff will analyze all of the cost saving ideas, and document the potential budget and educational impact of those measures for the Board to use in the budget deliberations. Mrs. Cappucci encourages the public to share their thoughts and opinions with the Board as they go through the process, which will culminate with adoption of a new budget in May.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer announced that Lincoln Elementary School was one of 113 Title I school in Pennsylvania recognized for academic achievement by the Department of Education, Division of Federal Programs. The award was based on multiple criteria which included meeting AYP, being among the top 25 performers in reading or math or meeting prescribed performance criteria for various subgroups. Lincoln was recognized for their overall reading and their overall math performance. The superintendent introduced Lincoln principal, Dr. Marybeth Irvin; Lincoln reading specialist, Debbie Lewis; and Lincoln instructional support teacher, Marilyn Reinhard, and congratulated them and the entire Lincoln staff, students and families for this honor.

Washington Elementary School was awarded a \$2,000 grant to purchase fitness equipment for an after school fitness club. Mr. Ron Wilcher, Washington physical education teacher, wrote the grant with the help from Mrs. Heidenreich, a Washington parent.

Zhaoliang Du, a double bass and piano player in the high school orchestra, was the winner in the Pittsburgh Concert Society's 2013 Young Artists Competition. He was awarded a \$500 scholarship to further his musical education and will be featured in a March 17, 2013 recital at Carnegie Mellon University. Mt. Lebanon High School student Ziqi Meng won second place and \$150 scholarship at the Pittsburgh Philharmonic "Young Arts Concerto Competition."

Dr. Steinhauer reported on an article in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette highlighting an afterschool program at Mellon Middle School which pairs students with local senior citizens to help tutor them in the use of computers. The program was started by Mellon business information technology teacher, Ms. Deanna Amenta. Students work with their "senior students" once a week to help them set up personal email accounts and social media pages on Facebook and Twitter. This is a wonderful intergenerational program and a great opportunity for our students to serve our community.

The superintendent introduced John Grogan, the District's athletic director, who presented a brief overview of the athletic program.

## BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee – Mrs. Birks reported that the Policy Committee met on February 5, 2013 to discuss adoption on Policy EHBA, School District Electronic Records/Signatures, and revisions to Policy LEA, Student Teaching. Both policies are on the agenda this evening for approval. The Committee also reviewed Policy JKF, Non-School Related Drug and Alcohol Violations with the high school principal and several students. No changes were made to the policy, but it will be updated to indicate that a review took place.

Board Development – Mr. Lebowitz reported that he is investigating a PSBA sponsored program on board self-assessment.

SHASDA –Mr. Cooper reported that he attended the SHASDA meeting on January 24 where Tom Templeton from PSBA was the speaker. Mr. Templeton spoke of the discouragement of faculty regarding testing and funding across the state. He encourages districts to talk about the encouraging things that have happened in their schools.

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Birks reported that she and Mr. Goldman attended the Allegheny Region 14 Meeting on February 7, which then moved into the Allegheny County Legislative Meeting. There were 100 school board directors, administrators and teachers in attendance to discuss the AIU's and PSBA's legislative priorities as well as direct questions to a panel of State Legislators, from both the House and Senate. The State Legislative Priorities for 2013-14 include pension reform; meaningful charter school reform; and Funding. The Governor's new budget was

discussed at length, with school board directors standing up from both the wealthiest and the poorest districts in Allegheny County, explaining issues and concerns, and urging our legislators to demand change in Harrisburg. It was stressed that the Governor's budget presentation is just the beginning of the budget process and that many meetings and hearings will now commence.

PSBA asked that local school boards be able to retain the authority to review and decide what safety protocols are necessary rather than having this issue mandated by the state legislature.

Actions in the legislature affecting education include House Resolution 53 which creates a House Select Committee to examine the issue of school safety and security and to make recommendations to the House of Representatives by September 30, 2013. House Bill 555 requires school entities that transport students to include a link to the Megan's Law website on any transportation-related communication to students, parents or the public. House Bill 2 implements a new special education funding formula, establishing how any increases in the current special education appropriation are distributed using weighting factors based on category of disability. Senate Bill 193 requires all school nurses be certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and Senate Bill 267 amends the School Code to include an educational reason among the valid excuses for being absent.

Revenue Generating – Mr. Lebowitz reported that Pursuant Ketchum has been tentatively selected Capital Campaign Counsel. A contract has been received and is being reviewed by the District solicitor. Action to approve Pursuant Ketchum is expected at the March regular meeting.

Environmental Sustainability Board – Mr. Goldman reminded the Board that the District needs to appoint a new member to the Environmental Sustainability Board to replace an outgoing member.

Municipal Liaison – Mrs. Posti reported that she met with Commissioner Fraasch to discuss the Joint Maintenance agreement, the Zamagias property on Washington Road and parking at Mellon. The most important issue they discussed was the heroin problem in the community and what can be done. A Task Force will be formed with members from the District and Municipality with the shared goal to eliminate the heroin problem in Mt. Lebanon. Dr. Steinhauer will appoint staff from the District to the task force.

#### NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer's Report dated January 31, 2013,
- b. List of Bills dated January 31, 2013, and February 12, 2013,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated January 31, 2013,
- d. List Budgetary Transfers dated February 5, 2013,
- e. List of Contracts in Excess of \$100 dated February 5, 2013, and
- f. Sale of Unusable Equipment List dated February 1, 2013.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the Capital Projects Fund Budget for the 2013-2014 construction season as per the list dated January 30, 2013, in the amount of \$788,746. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board approves the Preliminary Budget for the 2013-2014 school year dated February 18, 2013, in the amount of \$84,469,784 and directs the administration to apply for exceptions to the Index limit under Act 1 of 2006 as further refined under Act 25 of 2011 as may be permitted. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Ostergaard and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves the February 7, 2013, list of personnel changes, as revised February 14, 2013. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Kubit and seconded by Posti that the Board adopts Policy EHBA, School District Electronic Records/Signatures in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Kubit and seconded by Birks that the Board approves revisions to Policy LEA, Student Teaching, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Posti and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves the following list of change orders for the High School Renovation Project: (Copy in official minutes.)

- a. EL-09-36 to Farfield for \$7,718 to add power to elevator sump pumps in Buildings H and G,
- b. PL-04-37 to Vrael for \$6,100 to add sump pumps in elevator shafts in Buildings H and G,
- c. GC-22-43 to Nello for \$6,537 to add chase walls in athletic building restrooms for plumbing rough in,
- d. EL-10-44 to Farfield for a credit of (\$49,987) to change CAT 6 to CAT 5e at IT Department's request,
- e. GC-23-45 to Nello for \$5,105 for wood furring at 6<sup>th</sup> floor window jambs,
- f. GC-24-46 to Nello for \$4,984 to add supports to existing compromised plaster bulkheads,
- g. GC-25-47 to Nello for \$15,461 to laminate corridor side of classrooms in B-building,
- h. GC-26-48 to Nello for \$3,786 to provide floor infill for a chase in B-building near restroom B610,

- i. EL-11-49 to Farfield for \$3,929 to modify light fixtures in room D108,
- j. EL-12-50 to Farfield for a credit of (\$7,774) to eliminate a light fixture in Room D108,
- k. ME-03-51 to McKamish for \$23,192 to demolish and replace ductwork in conflict with elevator in F-building,,
- l. FP-02-52 to Simplex Grinnell for \$1,581 to provide 6 sprinkler heads to create water curtain around glass at library entrance, and
- m. EL-13-53 to Farfield for \$17,351 to provide raceway between server room in F-building through new athletic building for MLSD to replace fiber and phone feed to football field.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Goldman and seconded by Kubit that the Board acknowledges receipt of the January 2013 State Performance Audit Report and directs that the report be attached to the minutes. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Cappucci  
 Against: Posti  
 MOTION APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Birks that the Board approves an agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the extension of the Regional Wide Area Network service through June 30, 2015. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Posti that the Board approves the following list of change orders for the High School Renovation Project: (Copies in official minutes.)

- a. GC-27-54 to Nello credit for -\$485 as a final accounting for Change Order GC-08-21 issued in the amount of \$36,229 with a final cost of \$35,744,
- b. GC-28-55 to Nello credit for -\$6,204 as a final accounting for Change Order GC-09-22 issued in the amount of \$22,945 with a final cost of \$16,741,
- c. GC-29-56 to Nello credit for -\$1,287 as a final accounting for Change Order GC-10-23 issued in the amount of \$25,658 with a final cost of \$24,371,
- d. GC-30-57 to Nello for time and materials in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for replacement of damaged corridor walls on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of B Building which had to be demolished and rebuilt.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Ostergaard, Posti, Cappucci  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Mr. Lebowitz suggested a discussion on the Capital Campaign.

Mrs. Birks suggested having someone from PSERS or PSBA speak to the Board regarding PSERS.

Mrs. Birks suggested a discussion on the Markham to Mellon assignments. The Board decided that an item would be placed on the next Policy Committee agenda for discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary  
Board of School Directors

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