

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

October 21, 2013

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2013, in the Jefferson Middle School Library.

Mrs. Cappucci called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jefferson Elementary students Lillia Harris, Lauren Anstandig, Luke Dumm, Joey Tipton, Victoria Pettko, Reagan Quigley, Connor Frank, Olivia Fantini, and Cassandra Westwood. The students presented a report and a video on the Jefferson Buddies Program, implemented through a partnership with the Jefferson PTA. The Buddies program matched students with new students at the beginning of the school year.

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

ATTENDING: Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent  
Mr. Gavin Robb, Tucker Arensberg  
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, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Mr. Marc Thornton

MINUTES

It was moved by Posti and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on September 4, 2013; the Discussion Meeting held on September 9, 2013; and the Regular Meeting held on September 16, 2013.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORTS

Mellon Middle School student council members Maddie Maselko and Anna Conway reported on the activities at Mellon. Eighth grade officers recruited new students by visiting each classroom to present how Student Council works. As a result, a record number of sixth and seventh graders are participating.

The first fundraiser of the year made over \$500 for cancer patients at Children's Hospital. The fundraiser efforts continued with a bake sale and Pink Out sale at Mellon's open house. Upcoming events include the stocking blitz for Military Connections and the Book Fair.

High School student body co-presidents, Nick Lies and Billy Moorhead, reported on the activities in the High School. Before school officially started, the Link Crew program was launched. Juniors and seniors were trained on how best to welcome the freshman class to Mt. Lebanon High School. Senior activities include the annual boat ride on September 15 and the Homecoming Parade on October 18. Upcoming events include Spirit Week, the Homecoming Dance on October 26 and the ever popular Halloween Door Decorating contest on October 31.

The Great Alumni Award Luncheon and Ceremony was held on September 27. Six alumni were recognized for their important contributions to the business world, to college athletics, in developing a STEM middle school, on behalf of nonprofit organizations, and taking care of children with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malnutrition in an African country. Five of the six awardees, Kim Frock, Richard Lackner, Preston McMurry, Jr., Bill Roth, and Eric Schmude were able to attend the luncheon and evening recognition program. Dr. Jason Bacha was needed in the medical clinic in Mbeya, Tanzania and was unable to attend.

### BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Cappucci reported that the Board will be taking action on several personnel items this evening—the retirements of Assistant Superintendent Dr. Deborah Allen and Director of Special Education, Mrs. Connie Lewis; and the extension of new five-year contract for Assistant Superintendent Dr. Ronald Davis. Dr. Allen and Mrs. Lewis have worked in the District for 26 and 14 years, respectively and the Board thanks them for their many years of service. Dr. Davis has been an asset to the District and the Board is pleased to offer him this five-year contract.

Dr. Steinhauer, Ms. Klein and Mrs. Cappucci made a presentation at the annual PSBA School Leadership Conference on Student Centered Budgeting. They were able to share the District's method of budgeting in which decisions are made based on affects in the classroom and on student learning, as well as fiscal effect. The session was well-attended by other school board members, superintendents, and business officers who were very interested in the District's thoughts on budgeting.

The board president spoke of the Great Alumni Awards. Each year, a group of alumni are nominated for this award based upon their exceptional work in improving the lives of others, involvement in community service, and/or achievement in a professional field. This year's Great Alumni have given back to their communities, and the communities throughout the world. They include a pediatrician working with AIDS patients in Tanzania, a business woman who founded a school for Math and Science, a college football coach who has mentored countless young men, an advertising/marketing executive who started a charitable organization aimed at preventing domestic violence, a college sports radio broadcaster who works with disadvantaged youth, and a business man who has worked extensively with several organizations, including the Arthritis Foundation, Autism Speaks, and the Tourette Syndrome Association. Mrs. Cappucci congratulated this year's awardees.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer reported that every year the Board takes the opportunity to acknowledge the work of the PTA in schools. For over 75 years, the PTA has been a key partner of the District, helping us to provide the best education possible for each and every student. On behalf of the students, staff and the Board of School Directors, the superintendent thanked all of the PTA volunteers who work tirelessly and volunteer thousands of hours each year to make our schools a better place for children. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the following PTA presidents: Julie Daubner, Council PTA; Sara Dougherty, High School, Jodi Kubit, Jefferson Middle School; Julie Maselko, Mellon Middle School; Kelly McKinney, Foster Elementary; Julie Smith, Hoover Elementary; Tara Bell, Howe Elementary; Colleen Frank, Jefferson Elementary; Aimee Girod, Lincoln Elementary; Chantelle Moore, Markham Elementary; and Hayley Gbur, Washington Elementary.

The superintendent was proud to announce that Mt. Lebanon High School had 11 students designated as National Merit Semifinalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Competition. These students are among the academic elite in the country. Dr. Steinhauer presented the following students with a certificate of achievement recognizing them for this outstanding academic accomplishment: Liam Currie-O'Brien, Marianne Donley, Stephen Helmecci, Alex

Kurland, Megan McAdoo, Azfar Merchant, Alexa Rhodes, Daphne Schlesinger, Madeleine Scott, Abby Xie, and Yiming Wang. Special congratulations to Yiming Wang who scored a perfect 36 on the ACT.

Congratulations to Mt. Lebanon High School senior Callie Frey who successfully defended her WPIAL singles tennis championship this fall. Last year Callie became the first Mt. Lebanon girls' tennis player to win a WPIAL singles title since 1984.

Ms. Louise Marino and representatives of the High School Marching Band presented a check to the District in the amount of \$378 that will be donated to the Mt. Lebanon Band Instrument Fund. The funds were raised at a car wash held in August.

Lincoln Elementary was named a National Blue Ribbon School for 2013. This is Lincoln's third National Blue Ribbon. The National Blue Ribbon School award affirms the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in outstanding schools. Lincoln School will mark their designation as Blue Ribbon School on October 24 at 2:30 p.m. with a parade around the Lincoln community, ending with a ceremony on the school playground. Dr. Marybeth Irvin will be honored on behalf of her school at a recognition ceremony on November 18-19 in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Steinhauer introduced District librarians Bridget Belardi, Christy Smith, and Cassie Mader who presented an overview of the library program in the elementary, middle and high schools.

Dr. Davis and Dr. Allen presented an overview of the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Community members can view Mt. Lebanon profile at [www.paschoolperformance.org](http://www.paschoolperformance.org).

## BOARD REPORTS

Parkway West Career and Technical Center – Mr. Remely reported that enrollment is up 11% at the school. The CCAC credit course program is up and running with 17 students enrolled. Parkway received a grant for kitchen equipment to repair the student work kitchen. The Center will hold its annual open house on November 4. Mr. Remely invited all Board members to attend.

SHASDA – Mr. Cooper reported that a SHASDA meeting was held on September 26 where a legal update was presented by Trish Andrews from Andrews and Price, LLC.

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Birks reported that she attended the PSBA Leadership Conference in Hershey, and thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend. The newly elected officers of PSBA are President Elect, William S. LaCoff; Vice President, Charles H. Ballard; Treasurer, Otto Voit; and Member at Large, Daniel O'Keefe.

Mrs. Birks reported on pending legislation being discussed by legislators.

Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education (MLFE) – Mr. Ostergaard reported that Alyssa DeLuca was introduced as the new director of the MLFE. Grant applications for teachers are due November 8. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on November 21.

Revenue Generation – Mr. Lebowitz reported that a meeting was held to identify leaders in the community to serve as co-chairs of the Capital Campaign Committee.

Municipal Liaison – Mrs. Posti thanked the members of the Board, District administration and the PTA for their involvement and hard work on the Drug Task Force. As a result of their efforts a pharmaceutical disposal box has been placed at the Mt. Lebanon Police station. Residents can drop off unused and expired drugs and the police will dispose of them.

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

Change orders for high school renovation project  
Rifle Range

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer’s Report dated September 30, 2013,
- b. List of Bills dated September 30, 2013, and, and October 16, 2013,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated September 30, 2013,
- d. Budgetary Transfers dated October 9, 2013,
- e. June 30, 2013 List of Budgetary Transfers, and
- f. List of Unusable Equipment dated October 1, 2013.

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

It was moved by Posti and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves the October 10, 2013, list of personnel changes, as revised October 14, 2013 and October 21, 2013. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Posti and seconded by Remely that the Board hereby re-elects Dr. Ronald Davis to the position of Assistant Superintendent for a term commencing July 1, 2014 and expiring June 30, 2019, and does approve an employment contract with Dr. Davis for said term and does authorize the President and Secretary or Assistant Secretary to execute said contract with Dr. Davis substantially in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Remely that the Board approves revisions to Policy AC, Nondiscrimination, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board approves revisions to Policy JFABD, Homeless Students, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves revisions to Policy JICFA, Hazing, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves revisions to Policy JKA, Prohibition of Corporal Punishment and Permitted Use of Reasonable Force, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Birks that as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the following members of the Student Assistance Team are memorialized by the Board of School Directors for the 2013-2014 school year:

**Central Office Representative**, Dr. Ronald Davis, Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Education, **Mellon Middle School Student Assistance Program Team**, Chris Wolfson-Principal; Kelly Szesterniak-Assistant Principal; Kara Berman-School Counselor; Amy Whealdon-School Counselor; Do Sabol-School Nurse; Cindy Bronen-Teacher; Francis Raitano-Teacher; Kelly Tanner-Teacher; and Heather Rehrig-School Psychologist, **Jefferson Middle School Student Assistance Program Team**, Dr. James Walsh-Principal; Jeffrey Zeiders-Dean of Students; Allison Levison-School Counselor; Colleen Pasquale-School Counselor; Barbara Austin-School Nurse; Ashlee Beckett-Teacher; Susan Carris-Teacher; Kristin Hertzog-Teacher; Ed Petsko-Teacher; Stephanie Ross-Teacher; Krista Wagner-Teacher; Molly Wetmore-Teacher; John Young-Teacher; Janice Cherry-STRIVE Teacher; Erika Vasquez-School Psychologist; and Jennifer Deering-M/H Liaison, **Senior High School Student Assistance Program Team**, Brian McFeeley-Principal; Peter Berg-Dean of Students; Doug Szokoly-Unit Principal; Erin Wright-Unit Principal; Teri Joseph-School Nurse; John Ambrose-School Counselor; Diana Becker-School Counselor; Chad Johnston-School Counselor; Tara Leja-School Counselor; Joy Rullo- School Counselor; Shelly Saba-School Counselor; Beth Schneider-School Counselor; Lia Christulides-Teacher; Jodi Dunlap-Teacher; Beverly Jones- Teacher; Tim Kirsch-Teacher; April McCracken-Teacher; Darren McGregor-Teacher; Ben Minett-Teacher; Richard Schmitt-Teacher; Julianne Slogick-Teacher; Stu Snodgrass-Teacher; Joe Tighe-Teacher; Liz Tighe-Teacher; Heather Rehrig-School Psychologist; Erika Vasquez-School Psychologist; Janet Carol-M/H Liaison; and Amy Kochirka (Family Links)

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves renewal of the contract with Pennsylvania Educators' Clearinghouse, PA-Educator.net, at an annual cost of \$3,000. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves an agreement with Goodwill Industries for the 2013-2014 school year to provide student transition and skill development for Mt. Lebanon special education students at a cost not to exceed \$14,400. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves an agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2013-2014 school year to provide and operate programs for the benefit of students assigned by the District and in accordance with state and federal law at a cost not to exceed \$750,000. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves an agreement with Wesley Spectrum Services for the 2013-2014 school year informing the District of services and costs of services provided by Wesley Spectrum Services. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves an agreement with Wesley Academy for the 2013-2014 school year to provide special education services for Mt. Lebanon students at a cost not to exceed \$25,870 per student (full time) per school year for no more than five students. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves a contract with The University School for the 2013-2014 school year to provide special education services to Mt. Lebanon special education students at a cost not to exceed \$18,825 per student for no more than three students. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Birks that the Board approves a contract with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for its Waterfront Learning Services to provide cyber educational program options for Mt. Lebanon students. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Remely that the Board awards Project No. 14-002, District Elevator Maintenance Services, to Kone Elevator in the amount of \$1,775 a month in year one, \$1,838 a month in year two, and an optional \$1,902 a month in year three as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Remely that the Board awards Bid No. 14-001, Refuse Removal and Recycling Bid, to Allied Waste Services in the amount of \$78,832 a year for a three year term as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Remely that the Board approves a two year agreement with ComDoc for networked laser printer maintenance at a cost of \$2,160 per month. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

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

- a. Girls' Basketball Team to Miami, FL from December 26 to December 31, 2013,
- b. Boys' Basketball Team to Starkville MS from December 26 to December 29, 2013,
- c. High School Marching Band to Orlando, FL from February 12 to February 17, 2014,
- d. Jefferson Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade History Classes to Washington DC from April 16 to April 17, 2014, and
- e. Academic Games Team to Knoxville, TN from April 25 to April 29, 2014.

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

It was moved by Kubit and seconded by Posti that the Board approves the following list of change orders for the High School Renovation Project:

- a. GC-82-172 to Nello for \$9,142 for stairwell reconstruction in F Building,
- b. GC-83-173 to Nello for \$29,827 for fireproofing due to unforeseen conditions,
- c. GC-84-174 to Nello for \$12,915 to address door, window and floor site conditions,
- d. ME-14-175 to McKamish for \$10,854 for duct and grille modifications,
- e. ME-15-176 to McKamish for \$21,978 for changes to pipes and ducts in B and J Buildings,
- f. PL-23-177 to Vrael for \$15,171 for gas turrets, house traps and hose bibs due to unforeseen conditions,
- g. EL-47-178 to Farfield for \$33,174 for elevator power modifications,
- h. EL-48-179 to Farfield for \$30,835 for additional security cameras in Athletic Building,
- i. EL-49-180 to Farfield for \$25,970 for power access changes, and
- j. CA-01-181 to Reed for \$8,048 for additional gas turrets and concession stand changes.

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

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

#### COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Two residents spoke before the Board about the following:

Questions regarding elevator maintenance bid

Sunday use of buildings

Article in the *Devil's Advocate*

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary  
Board of School Directors

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