

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

November 18, 2013

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:34 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2013, in the Jefferson Middle School Library.

Mrs. Cappucci called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Hoover Elementary School students Grace Donis, Luke Iovino, Sam Petrich, and MacKenzie Ridge. The students presented a brief report on Honesty, the character education attribute of the month.

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

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

MINUTES

It was moved by Posti and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on October 2, 2013; the Discussion Meeting held on October 14, 2013; and the Regular Meeting held on October 21, 2013.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORTS

Jefferson Middle School Student Council Executive members reported on the activities at Jefferson Middle School. Sixty-four students are involved in the Student Council this year. Students raised \$1,602 for the District Pink Out initiative by selling t-shirts, bandanas, pink cupcakes, and pink lemonade. Other Pink Out activities included Pink Out Wednesdays, Teacher Costume Madness and Costumes for a Cause.

Twenty sixth graders and three seventh grade members attended the PASC Middle Level Mini-Conference at Fort Couch Middle School in Upper St. Clair. This experience gave new members a start in leadership training as well as an idea of what PASC is all about.

Other activities at JMS include Random Acts of Kindness, birthday recognition for student birthdays, Wish Week, and plans for an all school dance. Students are raising funds to help an 18-year old in need of a lung transplant. Allegheny General Hospital has set a goal of \$50,000 to donate to "John Doe" and his family to help pay for his medical expenses. JMS students look forward in helping meet that goal.

High School Student Body officers, Nick Lies and Sam Blehar, reported on the activities at the High School.

The end of October marked many exciting events at the High School. The annual Halloween door decorating contest brought out the creativity and artistry on the classroom doors of 69 out of 83 homerooms. There were 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winner from each of the four grades.

The hugely successful Pink Out fundraiser came to an end on October 25. Forty-three faculty members, administrators and staff members wore a kilt throughout day. Each person was sponsored by the high school faculty, staff members, and/or students. Athletic Director John Grogan raised the most funds with a grand total of \$700 gather for the Kilts for Cancer fundraiser. The month long Pink Out event culminated at the football game with a sea of pink as students and community members showed their support of breast cancer awareness and research. Over \$3,600 was raised for the Young Women's Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

Link Crew Leaders went into the freshmen homeroom during an extended homeroom period to teach an interactive lesson about adjusting to high school, the obstacles that they have faced thus far, and how to overcome them. On October 25, the Link Crew Leaders sponsored a tailgate for all freshmen prior to the Pink Out football game.

The Junior Class is conducting a canned food drive throughout the month of November. All donations will be sent to the South Hills Interfaith Ministries food pantry in time for Thanksgiving.

On November 11, Student Council organized a Veterans Day celebration. Eleven members of the high school faculty and high school stadium employees were recognized, and 60 students and staff members who have family currently serving in the military wore corsages to honor their loved one's service to our country.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Cappucci congratulated Mrs. Posti and Mrs. Remely for completing eight years of service to the Board and presented them with a certificate and a pin from the Pennsylvania School Board Association. According to PSBA, an effective member of the board of school directors is committed to creating a positive learning environment where students can realize their potential and enter the world ready for the challenges ahead. Throughout their years on the Board, both Mr. Remely and Mrs. Posti have kept that thought in mind.

The board president announced that the Board will be saying goodbye to two of its members. Mrs. Posti and Mr. Ostergaard had decided to end their tenures on the board, and they will be greatly missed. They have kept the best interests of children first without losing sight of the interest of all residents. On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Cappucci presented Mrs. Posti and Mr. Ostergaard with a token of appreciation honoring them for their years of service. The Board will also be making a small donation to the capital campaign in their honor. Mrs. Cappucci invited everyone to join her in thanking Mrs. Posti and Mr. Ostergaard.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer recognized the Girls Cross Country Team for their second consecutive WPIAL title and the program's remarkable eighth WPIAL title. In addition, Senior Jillian Hunsberger, and sophomore Kelsey Potts were selected to the Pennsylvania Track & Field Coaches Association's first team All-State Cross Country Team for the 2013 season. The superintendent congratulated the entire team, their head coach Ron Schreiner, and assistant coaches Oscar Shutt and Megan Tramagalini. Representing the team and accepting certificates of recognition were Coach Ron Schreiner, Julia Staltari, Callie Gunzenhauser, Jillian Hunsberger, Audrey Gordon, Kelsey Potts, Sadie Saxton, Clair Dougherty, and Grace Tandon.

Members of the Lincoln Elementary School staff are attending the National Blue Ribbon Conference in Washington DC to accept recognition as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. As one of only 286 school recognized throughout our country, we again congratulate Principal Irvin and the entire Lincoln community on this outstanding achievement.

The superintendent reported that student athletes and high school administration celebrated the opening of the new pool and wrestling room this afternoon. The students cut a ceremonial ribbon and then they quickly got to work practicing. In addition to our students using these spaces, we are fulfilling our promise that these spaces would be available to all residents. The District's continuing education program has an open swim session and a lap swim session scheduled in the new pool.

Dr. Steinhauer thanked Mrs. Posti and Mr. Ostergaard for their service to the children of Mt. Lebanon and the community. The District has been fortunate to have two residents who volunteered countless hours, positive energy, and outstanding effort to support and guide a quality education in Mt. Lebanon. Their positive impact has been felt by thousands of students and hundreds of educators and staff. Our schools are a better place because of their service.

Dr. Steinhauer introduced Dr. Davis and Dr. Allen who presented the District's annual Student Academic Outcomes Report. This report highlights the academic performance of our students on a multitude of assessment results including the PSSA, Keystone, ACT, SAT, and AP scores. The superintendent reported that the report will be posted on the District's website.

BOARD REPORTS

High School Renovation – Mr. Remely reported the he attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the high school pool and at the wrestling room in the new athletic building. The main gym floor is completed with a small punch list to be completed. The sixth floor of B building has been occupied and the Fine Arts Theatre will be ready for the first performance on December 15th.

Parkway West Career and Technical Center – Mr. Remely reported that the following students from Mt. Lebanon made the Director's Honor Roll at Parkway: Louis DeSomma, Joseph Dryburgh, Joshua Foster, Jacob Keller, Caitlin Kemmler, Malachi Owens, Joseph Roberto, Frederick Sikes, and Patience Sutherin.

Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education (MLFE) – Mr. Ostergaard reported that the MLFE Board will be meeting this week to review grant proposals submitted by teaching staff.

Revenue Generation/Capital Campaign – Mr. Lebowitz reported that the committee is putting together a leadership team. Mr. Lebowitz and Mrs. Carol Walton will be the co-chairs of the Capital Campaign Committee.

Municipal Liaison – Mrs. Posti reported that she participated in a panel discussion sponsored by the Drug Task Force at the Municipal building with Todd Pritchard, MRTSA; Coleman McDonough, Mt. Lebanon police chief; Lilly Brindle, Gateway Rehab; Blaise Larotonda, district judge; Kelly Fraasch, Mt. Lebanon commissioner; Kathe Niznik, St. Clair Hospital; Karen Johnson, Outreach Teen and Family Services; and Joy Rullo, Mt. Lebanon High School guidance counselor. The presentation was videotaped and will be presented on the Municipal website.

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 October 31, 2013,
- b. List of Bills dated October 31, 2013, and November 13, 2013,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated October 31, 2013, and
- d. List of Unusable Equipment dated November 1, 2013.

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

It was moved by Goldman and seconded by Posti that the Board accepts the audit of the School District's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2013, as presented by Maher Duessel, Certified Public Accountants. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Goldman and seconded by Ostergaard that the Board appoints Joseph T. Senko as the interim Real Estate Tax Collector beginning December 1, 2013, until further action by the Board at an annualized rate of \$10,000 per year (\$833.33 per month).

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

It was moved by Goldman and seconded by Posti that the Board appoints Joseph T. Senko as the interim Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector beginning December 1, 2013, until further action by the Board at no remuneration.

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Remely that the Board approves the November 7, 2013, list of personnel changes, as revised November 14, 2013, and November 18, 2013. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Remely that the Board does hereby adopt the 2014-2015 graduation requirements, course offerings and course options for Mt. Lebanon High School as presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the membership in the AIU Joint Purchasing Board for 2014 as per the attached resolution designating Richard Marciniak as the regular member and Jan Klein as the alternative member. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves an agreement with WealthEngine to provide wealth screening services for the capital campaign at a cost of \$6,840. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Posti that the Board approves the rental fees for 2014 as presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Cooper, Goldman, 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. 13-002, Lincoln Elementary Replacement of Existing Electrical Service Conductors, to Merit Electrical Group, Inc. in the amount of \$33,400 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specification. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board awards Project No. 13-003, Self-Contained Trash Compactor and Control System, to Republic Services in the amount of \$27,244.51 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Posti that the Board approves the purchase of a 2014 Ford Van from Woltz & Wind Ford in the amount of \$21,143. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board approves an agreement with Peoples Natural Gas for transportation of gas services for 3 years beginning December, 2013 at a rate of \$1.90 per mcf in substantially the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Cooper, Goldman, 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. Forensics Team to Princeton, NJ from December 6 to December 8, 2013,
- b. Forensics Team to Harvard University from February 14 to February 17, 2014,
- c. High School Winter Guard to Cincinnati, OH from March 14 to March 16, 2014,
- d. Forensics Team to Susquehanna, PA from March 20 to March 22, 2014, and
- e. High School Winter Guard to Dayton, OH from April 2 to April 6, 2014.

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

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

- a. GC-85-182 to Nello for \$22,394 for fine arts building design coordination,
- b. GC-86-183 to Nello for \$24,717 for athletic wing window pockets and new beam,
- c. GC-87-184 to Nello for \$19,516 for B building code revisions ,
- d. GC-88-185 to Nello for \$17,445 for time & materials on doors jamb corrections,
- e. FP-04-186 to SimplexGrinnell for \$10,081 for phasing and changes in rated walls,
- f. ME-16-187 to McKamish for \$25,430 for added duct in Little Theatre,
- g. PL-24-188 to Vrabel for \$22,955 for courtyard storm work,
- h. PL- 25-189 to Vrabel for \$21,162 for phasing relocation of utilities,
- i. EL-50-190 to Farfield for \$6,348 for changes to walls and added electrical controls,
- j. EL-51-191 to Farfield for \$29,973 for sound system in Little Theatre,
- k. EL-52-192 to Farfield for \$27,924 for lights changes, chiller and duct work, and
- l. GC-89-193 to Nello for \$16,441 to phasing change on structure demolition.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary
Board of School Directors