

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

December 9, 2013

A Joint Discussion/Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:31 p.m. on Monday, December 9, 2013, in the Jefferson Middle School Library.

Mrs. Cappucci called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Washington Elementary School students Eddie Ercegovic, Sylvie Eriksen, Zach Huff, Anandhi Narayan, Jack West, and Julianna Ellis. The students presented a report on the OLEWUS program at Washington Elementary followed by a video that was a school wide project on being a bully free school.

ROLL CALL    Present:    Mrs. Mary Birks, Mr. William Cooper, Mr. Scott Goldman, Mr. Larry Lebowitz, Mr. William Moorhead, Mr. Daniel Remely, Mr. Michael Riemer, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci  
                 Absent:    Mr. Edward Kubit

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. Carl Salemi, Mr. Stephen Scheurer, Mr. Christopher Stengel, Mr. Christopher Wolfson

MINUTES

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the minutes of the Discussion Meeting held on November 11, 2013, and the Regular Meeting held on November 18, 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. Mellon students donated over 800 items for local food pantries just in time for Thanksgiving. As part of Military Connection's 7<sup>th</sup> annual stocking blitz, families at Mellon donated thousands of items to stuff over 600 stockings for our military overseas who will not be home for the holidays. In February, Mellon will join all the schools in the District for Cancer Awareness week. Students will be recognizing those in Mellon who have been affected by cancer.

Mt. Lebanon High School co-secretary, Carly Bellini, reported on the activities in the high school. The junior class sponsored the annual food drive with the theme "Hunger Isn't a Game" throughout the month of November. Students collected 1,196 canned goods which were donated to the South Hills Interfaith Ministries.

The high school is in the midst of the annual gift drive, "Toys for Tots and Teen." Each homeroom met the requests of teenagers and young adults who are in treatment with FamilyLinks. Eighty-three homerooms participated and over 150 gifts were purchased.

The annual Holiday Show will be held on December 12<sup>th</sup>. This is the 34<sup>th</sup> year for this annual event, and the Class of 2014 is proud to continue the tradition of donating the proceeds from the show to various charities including the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, the Children's Institute's "Lose the Wheels" project, Sojourner House, the High School Principal's Award and the Georgia Pogue scholarships.

#### BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Cappucci reported that the Board held its annual reorganization meeting on December 2 and chose to reelect her and Mr. Lebowitz as Board President and Vice-President for a second one year term. They are both pleased to serve the Board and appreciate the confidence in their leadership. Mrs. Cappucci announced the following Board appointments for the year:

Policy Committee - Mr. Cooper, chair; Mr. Goldman, member; Mr. Moorhead, member

High School Renovation - Mr. Remely and Mrs. Cappucci

Board Development - Mrs. Birks

Pathfinder School Board - Mr. Kubit

Parkway West Career and Technical Center Board - Mr. Remely

SHASDA representative - Mr. Riemer

PSBA/NSBA representative - Mrs. Birks

MLFE representative - Mr. Lebowitz

Revenue Generation - Mr. Lebowitz

Environmental Sustainability Board Liaison - Mrs. Cappucci

Municipal Liaison - Mr. Riemer

Economic Development - Mr. Remely

Mrs. Birks presented Mrs. Cappucci with an engraved gavel in appreciation for her service as Board President in 2013.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer announced that the District received the Association of Business Officials, International (ASBO)'s Meritorious Budget Award for the 19<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Comments from the review team stated, "overall, the document has been extremely well prepared and is one of the best budgets to meet the criteria of the MBA program that this reviewer has seen to date. The Mt. Lebanon Public School District produced a budget of the highest quality that provides essential information for every stakeholder of the district, in a professional and well-designed format." Specific congratulations go to Jan Klein and her team for the preparation of this award winning document.

Two new spaces were opened for use on the high school campus. The new pool and main gym were used for competition for the first time. Prior to the basketball game on December 6, student representatives were invited from all of the teams that use the gym to cut a ceremonial ribbon. Beginning today, physical education classes are being held in the new athletic building. On December 13, the newly renovated fine arts theatre will be opened for the percussion ensemble concerts. Prior to the start of the concert, a ribbon cutting ceremony will be held with student representatives from our many performing arts groups.

Mt. Lebanon alumni will have two opportunities to tour the site on Monday, December 23 and Monday, December 30 at 10:00 a.m. Any alumni who would like the tour are invited to meet the superintendent at entrance C-28 for a tour.

Dr. Steinhauer announced that Act 1 of 2006 requires each school district to approve a 2014-2015 Preliminary Budget prior to February 19, 2014. We have prepared such a budget and will place it

on our website to meet legal requirements for public inspection by the third week in December. The Board will take the legally required action in January.

While this budget is legally required, it pre-dates the acquisition of accurate numbers for information such as staffing, retirements, student course selection, rates for health insurance and most importantly the Governor's proposed state funding. Without accurate information on these issues, the budget is a projection subject to change.

In order to maintain the Board's eligibility to apply for exceptions to the Act 1 Index of 2.1%, a budget must be approved with a millage rate that exceeds the Index inflationary amount. Please remember that while approval of the preliminary budget is required by February, the final budget approved by the Board in May does not have to adhere to the millage rate from this preliminary budget. The Board will have considerably more information prior to making any final budget decision.

### NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer's report dated November 30, 2013,
- b. Monthly list of bills dated November 27 and December 5, 2013,
- c. List of tax refunds dated November 30, 2013, and
- d. Sale of unusable equipment list dated December 1, 2013.

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

It was moved by Riemer and seconded by Remely that the Board approves the December 5, 2013, list of personnel changes as revised December 9, 2013. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves revisions to Policy IGBJ, Behavior Support for Students with Disabilities, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the 2014-2015 school calendar as presented by the administration. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves an agreement with Ms. Friedrich Schaffner in the form presented to provide psychological services to the District on an as needed basis. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Remely that authorization be given for attendance and appropriate expenditures of Board members at national, state, and local conferences and workshops for 2014.

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

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

- a. ME-17-194 to McKamish for \$26,675 to install ductwork in the Little Theatre,
- b. ME-18-195 to McKamish for \$21,919 for changes in mechanical work and an added heat exchanger for the pool,
- c. EL-53-196 to Farfield for \$20,981 for emergency lighting upgrades based on ML Fire Inspection and generator testing,
- d. GC-90-197 to Nello for \$22,117 for 5<sup>th</sup> floor B corridor work,
- e. GC-91-198 to Nello for \$11,272 for ceiling and wall revisions in new buildings, and
- f. PL-26-199 to Vrabel for \$6,020 for athletic building plumbing changes.

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

### ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Cappucci announced that an Executive Session was held before this evening's meeting for the purpose of personnel matters.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary  
Board of School Directors