

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

September 15, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, September 15, 2014, 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, Mr. Edward Kubit Mr. Larry Lebowitz, Mr. William Moorhead, Mr. Michael Riemer (by phone), Mrs. Elaine Cappucci

Absent: Mr. Daniel Remely

ATTENDING: Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent  
Mr. Thomas Peterson, Solicitor  
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Dr. Ronald Davis, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Ms. Janice Klein, Mr. Carl Salemi, Mr. Stephen Scheurer, Mr. Christopher Stengel

MINUTES

It was moved by Kubit and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the minutes of the Discussion Meeting held on August 11, 2014, and the Regular Meeting held on August 18, 2014.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Cappucci welcomed back students to school and reported that the Board is working to make this year a great learning opportunity.

There are two items on the agenda for action this evening that Mrs. Cappucci wanted to mention. First, the Board will be voting to approve an agreement with Al Maiello from Maiello Brungo and Maiello, to act as the chief negotiator for the upcoming teacher negotiations. Second, the Board will be voting to approve a resolution regarding the necessary reform of the process for state reimbursement for school construction and renovation projects. This resolution will not help Mt. Lebanon but will help other school districts in the future.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer announced that four Mt. Lebanon High School students have been selected as 2015 National Merit Semifinalists. The superintendent congratulated these students for this outstanding achievement and presented certificates to the following students: Mitchell Bognar, Andrei Mihailescu, Amanda Vosburgh, and Chenhui (Charles) Yuan. A special congratulation goes to Charles who had a perfect score of 240 on the PSAT last year.

Each year, the Mt. Lebanon High School Student Council selects outstanding alumni to be recognized as Great Alumni. This year's recipients will be honored at a luncheon in the High School on October 17, 2014 and at the football game that evening. The 2014 Great Alumni Award recipients are Dean Calland, Class of 1972; Dr. Betty Jo Hirschfield, Class of 1972;

Colonel Clinton A. Hodder, Class of 1958; Ruby Kang, Class of 1983; Dr. John MacDonald, Class of 1954; Father Donald McIlvane, Class of 1942; and Commander James Offut; Class of 1961. Dr. Steinhauer congratulated these outstanding Mt. Lebanon graduates on their far reaching contributions that have made a significant impact in the lives of others.

The Mt. Lebanon Alumni Association is sponsoring the first Alumni Homecoming Tailgate before the homecoming game on October 17. The tailgate will be held on the Athletic Building plaza at the back of the building from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Ticket information can be found on our website and Facebook.

Dr. Steinhauer reported that the third day enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year reflects an increase of 104 students. There are increases at both the elementary and high school level.

The Mt. Lebanon High School Marching Blue Devil Band under the direction of Ms. Louise Marino will present its 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Bands on Saturday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mt. Lebanon Stadium.

Dr. Steinhauer introduced high school technology education teachers Andrew Kuskil and Tom Shultz who presented an overview of the tech ed program and the fabrication laboratory.

## BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee – Mr. Cooper reported that the Policy Committee met on September 8 to discuss revisions to policies FF, Naming Rights, and JID, Residency/Enrollment. The committee also reviewed policy JICD, Bullying, which is required to be reviewed every three years. Revisions to policy JID, Residency/Enrollment, is on the agenda this evening for approval by the Board. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on October 13 at 5:30 p.m.

Board Development – Mrs. Birks reported that she along with Dr. Steinhauer, Dr. Davis and Dr. Irvin, met with representatives from PSBA about online programs available for Board professional development.

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Birks reported that she met with Representative Dan Miller to discuss the PA Core Standards and testing. Drs. Irvin and Davis provided Mrs. Birks with a comprehensive report outlining our District's view of the standards as the 'floor,' not the 'ceiling' of curricular expectations to share with Rep. Miller. They also discussed the standardized testing of the District. Mrs. Birks indicated to Rep. Miller that the testings we conduct are mandated, excluding our MAP testing which lends itself to better individualized classroom instruction to better serve our students' needs.

Mrs. Birks, Dr. Steinhauer, Dr. Davis, and Dr. Irvin met with the PSBA's Assistant Executive Director, Lin Carpenter and Director of Policy Services, Davelin Smeltzer regarding member services, District challenges and professional development opportunities.

The District has been encouraged to present a resolution to the School Board on HB 2124, which will be brought to committee this week. This bill will overhaul the PlanCon process, and although it does not loosen the purse strings to provide districts the monies owed to them, it does change the time-consuming process for applying for such funds in the future.

NSBA and other national education groups worked to reintroduce a bill (S. 2789) that would establish a multi-year plan to ultimately achieve full funding of the federal share of costs for special education under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

In response to a Pulse Poll sent out by NSBA to assess the financial and operational impact of the federal child nutrition law called the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act, Tazeen Chowdhury, Mt. Lebanon Food Service Director, completed the five question survey on how the HHFKA has affected our school lunch program. She explained that our “school lunch participation has remained steady over the years with very little plate-waste issues, however we do anticipate some loss of revenues this year due to the competitive food (Ala-carte) regulations. Mrs. Birks thanked Mrs. Chowdhury for completing the survey and for providing additional information to utilize for a meeting with Representative Tim Murphy.

Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education/Revenue Generation – Mr. Lebowitz reported that the Foundation welcomed two new members, Carly McGinty and Brian Schieman. Mt. Lebanon teacher Lee Cabalik, created a new logo for the Foundation. The Revenue Generation committee is focusing on an activity for the fall.

Municipal Liaison – Mr. Riemer reported that he met with Kelly Fraasch from the Municipality. The drug drop off box has exceeded the goals of the Drug Task Force. The box is the leading collection site in the state.

#### COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Two residents spoke before the Board about the following:

Naming rights policy and residency/enrollment policy  
Chief negotiator agreement

#### NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer’s Report dated August 31, 2014,
- b. List of Bills dated August 29, 2014 and September 12, 2014,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated August 31, 2014, and
- d. List of Unusable Equipment dated September 1, 2014.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks (except for checks to Mr. David Birks), Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Lebowitz, Moorhead, Riemer, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves opening a PLGIT (Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust) Investment Bank Account for term investments in the Capital Projects Fund and authorizes the administration to complete such paperwork to open this account. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Kubit and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the September 8, 2014, list of personnel changes, as revised September 11, 2014 and September 15, 2014. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves entering into a contract with Maiello Brungo & Maiello, LLP for Chief Negotiator services as per their proposal dated August 20, 2014. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves revisions to Policy JID, Residency/Enrollment, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Birks that the Board approves an agreement with Allie Wandrisco 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, Kubit, Lebowitz, Moorhead,  
Riemer, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves an agreement with Lindsey Venesky 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, Kubit, Lebowitz, Moorhead,  
Riemer, Cappucci  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Kubit that the Board approves the renewal of the agreement with WealthEngine to provide wealth screening services for the capital campaign at a cost of \$3,300. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Goldman and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board awards Project No. 14-006, District Wide Distributed Antenna System, to Vision Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$387,703.38 for the High School and \$30,978.01 for Hoover School as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board authorizes the Board Secretary to vote for the following PSBA Officers:

President Elect Kathy K. Swope  
Vice President Mark B. Miller  
Treasurer Otto W. Voit III  
Member at Large Daniel J. O'Keefe

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

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

- a. GC-105-244 to Nello for \$62,921 for wall patching and fireworking, door revisions and concrete work,
- b. EL-66-245 to Farfield for \$4,501 for concrete pad removal and light replacement, and
- c. ME-27-246 to McKamish for \$3,200 for ductwork.

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

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves a resolution supporting House Bill 2124 regarding the necessary reform of the process for state reimbursement of school construction and renovation projects in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes.)

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

#### COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Three residents spoke before the Board about the following:

STEM Program  
District programs in place for our students now are what is needed  
Questioned how many non-resident students are enrolled now  
Questions regarding tuition rate  
Questions regarding the antenna bid

Increases to teachers' contract should be tied to national inflation rate  
Winterization costs by contractor

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary  
Board of School Directors