

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

August 19, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:32 p.m. on Monday, August 19, 2019, in Room D205, Mt. Lebanon High School.

Mr. Riemer called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Hugh Beal, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci, Mr. William Cooper, Dr. Aviva Diamond, Mr. Al Frioni, Mr. Lawrence Lebowitz, Ms. Sarah Olbrich, Dr. Stephen Strotmeyer, Mr. Michael Riemer
Absent: None

ATTENDING:

Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent
John Vogel, Solicitor's Office
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Dr. Ronald Davis, Ms. Katie Devine, Dr. Heather Doyle, Mr. Robert Geletko, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Mr. Christopher Stengel

MINUTES

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board approves the minutes of the Discussion Meeting held on June 10, 2019, and the Regular Meeting held on June 17, 2019.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Riemer reported that today was the first day back for staff members. The upper practice field is finished, and there are a few minor details to totally complete the project.

The board president reported that the District received the State audit report last week and there were no findings. The Board will take official action in September.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer reported that the administration is excited and well-prepared to welcome back students, faculty and staff for the new school year that will begin on August 26. The buildings and grounds look beautiful thanks to the exceptional work of our maintenance and custodial staff.

The fall sports teams have been practicing and band camp has been underway since the beginning of August.

Today was the first day back for teachers and tomorrow will kick off the school year with convocation for all staff. Staff members with 25 years of service will be recognized along with new staff members. Leslie Bonci, a well know nutritionist will speak to the staff about being "Fit, Fed, and Fearless."

The superintendent announced that Mt. Lebanon School District is ranked the #1 school district in the region for the second year in a row in the Niche 2020 school rankings. The District also ranked #4 in the state and #32 in the nation out of 10,782 districts. In the area of school safety, Mt. Lebanon was ranked as the #1 Safety School District in the Pittsburgh area, 3rd safest in Pennsylvania, and 6th in the nation. All Mt. Lebanon Schools achieved an A+ rating from Niche, and Jefferson Middle School was ranked the #1 middle school in the state. Dr. Steinhauer congratulated the administrators, faculty, staff, students, parents, and the community for their hard work, dedication and support of our schools.

The continued priority of the District is the safety of our students and staff, and after review and refinement of procedures and the recommendation of the Mt. Lebanon Police Department, the District will be using an electronic visitor management systems in all buildings beginning the first day of school. Visitors that go beyond the office will need to present a driver's license or any valid government issued ID that allows the District to electronically check against know offender databases and produce customized visitor badges while tracking who is in the building. Parents or visitors will not be required to show ID if they only need to stop in the office to drop off items, pick up a child, etc. Primary security practices of screening visitors at the front door of the school before allowing entry to the building vestibule and office will continue as before.

BOARD REPORTS

Audit & Finance Committee – Mr. Beal reported that a report on the state single audit will be presented to the Board.

Board Development – Dr. Strotmeyer reported that PSBA will be holding workshops for new school board members. PSBA also offers online continuing education, workshops, and specialized board retreats throughout the year. Information can be found on their website.

MLFE – Dr. Diamond reported that the first MLFE meeting will be held in September.

Municipal Liaison – Mr. Frioni reported that he met with Municipal Manager Keith McGill. The municipality is preparing for the start of school by painting crosswalks and hiring crossing guards. Mr. Frioni and Mr. McGill also discussed the upper practice field and the visitor management system.

Community/District Task Force on Safety, Security & Mental Well-Being – Mrs. Cappucci reported that a Safety Forum for the Mt. Lebanon community will be held on October 10. Dr. Steinhauer will resume the task force meetings following the forum.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer's Report dated June 30, 2019, and July 31, 2019,
- b. List of Bills dated July 16, 2019, July 31, 2019, and August 14, 2019,
- c. June 30, 2019 List of Bills,
- d. List of District Bank Accounts dated July 16, 2019,
- e. List of Tax Refunds dated June 30, 2019, and July 31, 2019, and
- f. List of Unusable Equipment dated August 1, 2019.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves for public display the list of lien property taxes for the 2018 tax year. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves authorizing the Tax Collector to remove all delinquent properties with assessments of \$8,000 or less from the properties to be lien for the 2018 tax year and approves the filing of liens on all remaining properties.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Diamond that the Board approves the August 15, 2019, list of personnel changes, as revised August 19, 2019. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Frioni and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the 2019-2020 bus drivers as listed. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Frioni and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the 2019-2020 list of contracted salaries for 10-month clerical employees and personal care assistants effective September 1, 2019, reflecting an average increase as negotiated of 3.35% over the duration of the contract effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2022. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer
Abstain: Riemer
Against: None
MOTION APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Frioni that the board approves the 2019-2020 list of annual contract salaries for food service employees to be effective September 1, 2019, reflecting an average increase as negotiated of 2.9% over the duration of the contract effective July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2021. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Strotmeyer that That the Board approves the 2019-2020 list of annual contract salaries for teachers to be effective September 1, 2019, reflecting an average increase as negotiated of 3.9% over the duration of the contract effective July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2023. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz, Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Frioni
Abstain: Cappucci
Against: None
MOTION APPROVED

It was moved by Strotmeyer and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves the following Federal Grants:

Title I - \$265,721 (\$289,247 with Title IV Transfer)

The funds will be used for:

- Two full-time reading specialists at Lincoln and Washington Elementary; Two 0.6 reading specialists at Lincoln and Washington (90% of salaries totaling \$269,190)
- Non-public contracted services to Our Lady of Grace that will be provided by the contracted service provider (\$2,002)
- Professional Development (\$11,455)
- Liaison services (\$6,500)
- Supplies for homeless (\$100)

Title II – \$78,079

The funds will be used for:

- A portion of this is set aside for non-public professional development (\$9,080)
- A portion of the salaries for a first and a fifth grade teacher in order to reduce class size (\$40,000)
- Purchased professional and technical services to provide staff development (\$22,000)
- Professional development supplies and literature (\$6,999)

Title III - \$45,343 = \$25,959 (English Learner) + \$19,384 (Immigrant Students)

Title III funds (\$25,959) will be used for:

- A variety of professional development options and supplies
- Program support staff from the AIU
- English Learner after-school tutoring program (\$4000)
- Quarterly technical training sessions for the District ESL Liaison

Immigrant Education funds (\$19,384) will be used for:

- Expanding after-school ELD tutoring programs
- Summer Learning Center or alternate summer program for EL students
- Instructional supplies for EL teachers
- Expanding District outreach to immigrant parents through school-based initiatives

Title IV - \$23,526

The funds will be used for:

- Offsetting the reduction of funds in Title I

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz, Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves an agreement with Allegheny Children's Initiative to provide Student Assistance Program services to the District for the 2019-2020 school year at no cost to the District. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Lebowitz that the Board approves an agreement with Wesley Spectrum Services to provide Mental Health Therapists for students with Individualized Education Plans during the 2019-2020 school year at a cost not to exceed \$117,396. The positions will be reimbursed through ACCESS funds. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves a contract with The University School for the provision of special education services for Mt. Lebanon exceptional students during the 2019-2020 school year at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 per student for no more than three students. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves an agreement with The Watson Institute for the placement of special education students during the 2019-2020 school year at a cost not to exceed \$47,865 per student for no more than five students. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves a contract with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for its Waterfront Learning Services to provide cyber education program options for the 2019-2020 school year in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Lebowitz and seconded by Olbrich that the Mt. Lebanon School District appoints Dr. Timothy Steinhauer as the school safety and security coordinator as required by Act 44.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Lebowitz that the resolution of the Board dated June 17, 2019, approving the driver education vehicle lease with Colussy Chevrolet is rescinded, and in lieu thereof the vehicle lease with Bud Behling Leasing, Inc. for the driver education vehicle is approved in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Diamond that the Board awards Bid # 20-01-SB, School Bus Purchase, to Myers Equipment Corp. at their bid price of \$95,086 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Cooper that the Board awards the 2019-2020 Ice Cream Bid to Hershey's Ice Cream at their bid price of \$3,756 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves the following student trips:

- a. High School Field Hockey team to Novi, MI, September 13-14, 2019, and
- b. High School Basketball team to Miami, FL, December 26-31, 2019.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Cooper, Diamond, Frioni, Lebowitz,
Olbrich, Strotmeyer, Riemer
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

Teacher salaries and rate of inflation
Questioned the number of F1 visa students
Asked Dr. Steinhauer to repeat the Niche.com rankings

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Strotmeyer to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary
Board of School Director

/js