

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

January 20, 2020

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:32 p.m. on Monday, January 20, 2020, in Room D205, Mt. Lebanon High School.

Ms. Olbrich called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Hugh Beal, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci, Dr. Aviva Diamond, Ms. Valerie Fleisher, Dr. Justin Hackett, Ms. Sarah Olbrich, Dr. Stephen Strotmeyer,
Absent: Mr. Michael Riemer, Mr. Jacob Wyland

ATTENDING:

Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Peterson, Solicitor
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 Cappucci and seconded by Beal that the Board approves the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting held on December 3, 2019, and the Joint Discussion/Regular Meeting held on December 10, 2019.

Dr. Hackett noted that his name was listed in error in the December 10 minutes as being a member of the Policy Committee. The correct name should be Mr. Jacob Wyland.

Ms. Olbrich asked to approve the amended minutes with Mr. Wyland's name on the Policy Committee, and Mr. Beal seconded the motion.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Olbrich reported that today we remember the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, and how personal the day is for her. Ms. Olbrich's grandfather marched with Dr. King in Selma, both grandparents were seated on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the "I Have a Dream" speech, and her mother and siblings passed out pamphlets. One of Dr. King's early memorable quotes from an article he wrote while at Morehouse College in 1947, "Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education." Ms. Olbrich believes that in Mt. Lebanon we try to emulate that goal in educating our children.

In the past year all 10 of our schools completed the ADL No Place for Hate program. The student council at Mellon Middle Schools has made this year a kindness year. Reminders and messages were placed all around the school to remind everyone that #Kindness Rocks. Jefferson Middle celebrated their 13th Annual International Night to celebrate the diversity of JMS families and students through food and entertainment. The High School recently opened the MinDen for quiet reflection and a place to regroup. The High School also sponsored the panel discussion for the

community "Hate Has No Home Here – Listening to and Learning from our Neighbors' Stories." The panelists shared their personal narratives and the ways in which they work to address injustice and offered ways we can confront discrimination and injustice.

All of the elementary schools shared how they are "Being A Force For Good" by using the hashtag on social media with photos of how they are making a difference in their schools. Two examples of this effort includes Hoover's "Do Good December Challenge" which posed a challenge to students and staff to see "How Many People Can you Smile at Today?" and Washington's "Giving Tuesday 2019 Project" included writing thank you notes to the Mt. Lebanon Police and Fire Departments and veterans.

Mt. Lebanon School District's commitment to Social and Emotional Learning is an attempt to address the needs and growth of the whole child. We recognize that it's not just teaching children the three Rs, but that by looking inward, by taking that deep breath we can hear what others are saying and learn something of the world beyond our community.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer presented an update on Goal #2 of his superintendent's goals—Social and Emotional Learning (SEL). "The Superintendent will lead the learning of social and emotional competencies as critical components for each child's educational program, using the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) model."

The superintendent's presentation discussed how the schools are providing staff with SEL training and he detailed how the District has established school-based SEL Teams at each school, provided evidence of SEL Assured Experiences K-12, and how the District has expanded Student Assistance Teams from the middle school and high school to all seven elementary schools providing all ten of our school with Student Assistance Teams to support our students.

January is School Board Appreciation month, a time to celebrate and recognize the vital and challenging work school boards do on behalf of students, schools, and families. Dr. Steinhauer recognized the nine board members for their time and commitment for the students of Mt. Lebanon School District. On behalf of students, faculty, administrators and staff, the superintendent thanked the board and presented each board member with at Mt. Lebanon water bottle and note cards made by the art teachers of the District. In honor of the School Board, PTA Council, represented by Mrs. Bonnie Dougherty, Council President, donated the following four books to the public library: *Rewire your Anxious Brain for Teens* by Debra Kissen and Ashley D. Kendall, *Thanku: Poems of Gratitude* by Miranda Paul and Marlena Myles, *Because*, by Mo Willems, and *Born to Fly - The First Women's Air Race Across America* - by Steve Sheinkin and Bijou Karman

BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee – Dr. Diamond reported that a Policy Committee meeting was held on January 13, 2020, where the Committee discussed revisions to policies DFAA, Use of Surplus Funds; ECE, Traffic and Parking Regulations; and JJF, Student Activity Fund. The policies were moved forward for approval by the Board this evening.

Board Development – Dr. Strotmeyer reported that as part of continued professional development, PSBA will hold a workshop on February 26, for the Board, including Dr. Steinhauer.

Environmental Sustainability – Mr. Beal attended the December and January meetings of the municipal Environmental Sustainability Board. The ESB commended Mr. Fetchko and the entire

high school kitchen staff for the successful composting of kitchen food waste, and suggested teaching the students at the elementary and middle school level so that they may do composting easily when they reach high school. Mr. Beal also reported that the Municipality will be installing solar panels on the public library roof, and purchasing two hybrid vehicles.

Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education (MLFE) – Mrs. Cappucci reported that she is glad to be MLFE representative again and working with a dedicated group of people to raise money for teacher grants. Mrs. Cappucci reported that MLFE is searching for a date to hold the 6th annual Taste of Lebo. Note cards created by Mt. Lebanon School District art teachers are sale for \$10 and can be purchased on the District website on the MLFE page, along with stadium blankets for \$65. Proceeds from the sale of these items help teacher do innovated and special things for our students.

Municipal Liaison – Dr. Hackett reported that the new commissioners were sworn in this month, and they are currently working on a municipal wide survey conducted to assess what information residents want from municipal leadership. This information will be used for anew municipal communications policy. The next meeting is on February 28 where they will discuss the street reconstruction program for 2020. There will be a public discussion on how sports field selection works and a request has been made for school district representation at the meeting.

Pathfinder School – Ms. Fleisher reported that the Pathfinder board met on January 15 for reorganization of the board and Ms. Fleisher was elected secretary/treasurer of the Pathfinder board. In old business, the roof project is wrapped up and refunds were received and distributed. A grant was received from the state for security assessment and infrastructure which will be used for two way radios, and the reconfiguring of the entrance. Principal Nick Fratto reported that enrollment at the school is 82 students. Ms. Fleisher toured the upgraded PRIDE classroom.

PSBA/NSBA – Dr. Strotmeyer touched on Governor Wolf's program, *Reach Out PA-Your Mental Health Matters*, which includes an educational component to increase the number of trained social workers in the schools, and how school districts can provide full time counselors, social workers, and nurses, and expands efforts to address everything from adverse childhood experiences to trauma informed approaches in education. Dr. Strotmeyer commended the District administration for being slightly ahead of the rest of the state this initiative.

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

- Questioned estimated cost of the track and field replacement
- Questioned project was from the general fund or capital fund

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer's Report dated December 31, 2019,
- b. List of Bills dated January 2, 2020, and January 14, 2020,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated December 31, 2019, and
- d. List of Unusable Equipment dated January 1, 2020.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Diamond that the Board approves the transfer of \$2.4 million from the General Fund Assigned Fund Balance to the Capital Reserve Fund for the approved capital projects list and the yearly technology and book replacement.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Hackett and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves the January 9, 2020 list of personnel changes as revised January 16, 2020, and January 20, 2020. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves revisions to Policy DFAA, Use of Surplus Funds, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Beal that the Board approves revisions to Policy ECE, Traffic and Parking Regulations, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Diamond and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves revisions to Policy JJF, Student Activity Fund, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Fleisher and seconded by Diamond that the Board awards Bid #2020 Duplicating Paper to W.B. Mason Co. in the amount of \$72,732 for High Speed Duplicating Paper and \$6,358 for Cover Stock Paper as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Strotmeyer and seconded by Hackett that the Administration is authorized and directed to solicit bids for the High School Stadium Field and Track Renovations as described in the presentation to the Board by the Administration and J.T. Sauer & Associates.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cappucci, Diamond, Fleisher, Hackett, Strotmeyer, Olbrich

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by Beal and seconded by Fleisher to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary
Board of School Director

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