

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

April 14, 2020

A Joint Discussion/Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, via a Zoom web meeting.

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, Mr. Michael Riemer, Dr. Stephen Strotmeyer, Mr. Jacob Wyland, Ms. Sarah Olbrich
Absent: None

ATTENDING:

Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent
Thomas Peterson, Solicitor
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Dr. Ronald Davis, Ms. Katie Devine, Mr. Robert Geletko, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Mr. Christopher Stengel

MEETING RESOLUTION

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Wyland that until further action by the Board on the issues addressed in this Resolution, and in light the COVID-19 pandemic and governmental and medical direction and recommendations as to health and safety, the Board suspends the requirements of Policy BEDL (a) that a majority of the Board be physically present at a meeting, and (b) that Board member participation in a meeting by teleconference may be limited to two (2) times per year.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

MINUTES

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Committee held on March 9, 2020; the Discussion Meeting held on March 9, 2020; and the Regular Meeting held on March 16, 2020.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ms. Olbrich thanked the community for joining the meeting in these unprecedented times, and thanked Dr. Steinhauer, Dr. Davis, Dr. Irvin, Dr. Doyle, Ms. Devine, Ms. Bowman, Mr. Marciniak, Mr. Geletko, Ms. Szalinski, and Mr. Stengel for everything they are doing seven days a week to help our teachers, staff and students. She also thanked the teachers who have stepped out of the physical classroom into a digital classroom. This is something that was not planned for and the teachers and staff willingness to adapt and step up is immeasurable. The Board president also thanked Mr. Fetchko and Mr. Saban, the "Lunch Laddies," for providing breakfast and lunch meals every day to our students. Not only are they providing lunch with a smile, they are providing a connection to the community.

These unprecedented times call for creative measures. Ms. Olbrich announced that board members will be voting this evening on a zero millage tax increase for our community for the 2020-2021 school year. The ability to make this a reality for our neighbors is a tribute not only to the advice and diligent work of Ms Jan Klein and Mr Rob Geletko, but to all the boards that have deliberated over budgets in years past. The Mt Lebanon School board members have - as a collective - made conscious budgeting decisions that have kept us in a strong financial position. It is that strong financial position with appropriate fund balances enables us to vote on a Zero Millage budget. This is our rainy day. The Board does not take this lightly. But they know that this budget is necessary for many in our community. This can't be done every year or even as often as some would like without an impact to the quality of the education that we strive to provide as a community. However, the Board has no doubt that the decision will not - due to the efforts of our fine teachers, administrators and support staff - result in any diminishment to the quality of a Mt. Lebanon education.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer reported how every morning at 9:00 am he brings out Wishbone and Bob for a mindful moment and talks to the kids and community. The last few days he has been talking about gratitude and to be thankful for all that we have. This morning he made a gratitude flower for central office administrators and this evening he presented a gratitude flower for all board members who help educate the students of Mt. Lebanon to let them know that are appreciated. He also likes to encourage people and let them know that we will get through this trying time. The superintendent shared with the Board the following that he reads every morning to the students and parents: *Have no doubt that we are going to get through this. There are a lot of smart, energetic and thoughtful people guiding us through these times. There are a lot of committed doctors, nurses, health care workers, school board members who are doing everything they can to address the needs of our community. So working together we'll get through this.*

BOARD REPORTS

Mrs. Cappucci reported that a Hall of Champions event was held in October which raised \$5,000 for the upkeep of the Hall of Champions. Nominations are now open for a Hall of Champion recognition.

BOARD DISCUSSION

The following items were discussed: Monthly treasurer's report, list of bills, list of tax refunds, 2020-2021 proposed final budget, monthly personnel report, revisions to Policy DF AA, Use of Surplus Funds, Class of 2020 Standardized Test Graduation Waiver, revisions to the 2019-2020 school calendar, South Central Area Special Schools (Pathfinder) Jointure budget, approval of building and stadium use fee schedule, approval of list of leases for Mt. Lebanon Extended Day Program, agreement with Harbor Energy, contract with AoPS Online, and textbook adoptions for the 2020-2021 school year.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer's Report dated March 31, 2020,
- b. Monthly List of Bills dated March 31, 2020 and April 8, 2020, and,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated March 31, 2020.

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

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Riemer that the Board approves the 2020-2021 Proposed Final Budget in the amount of \$105,724,915 setting the millage rate at 24.79 mills in the form presented, representing no increase in millage. The Board directs that the budget be placed on the District's website and be made available to the public upon request to jszalinski@mtlsd.net until final approval with such changes as may be directed on May 18, 2020. (Copy in official minutes)

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

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves the April 9, 2020, list of personnel changes, as revised April 10, 2020. (Copy in official minutes)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Diamond that for purposes of the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget only, the Board hereby supersedes the requirements of Policy DFAA to the extent that they would require an Unreserved Fund Balance of 6% of budgeted expenditures. For purposes of the 2020-2021 fiscal year budget only, the Unreserved Fund Balance will be set at 5% of budgeted expenditures in light of unique circumstances, including but not limited to the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon completion of the annual fiscal audit for fiscal 2020-2021, all funds in excess of 5% but not more than 6% of budgeted expenditures shall be allocated at the Board's discretion.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that all other provisions of Policy DFAA will remain in effect absent further action by the Board, including but not limited to the following:

1. Upon completion of the annual fiscal audit for fiscal 2020-2021, all funds in excess of 6% of budgeted expenditures will be transferred as directed by Policy DFAA.
2. For fiscal year 2021-2022 and thereafter, the Unreserved Fund Balance shall again be set at 6% of budgeted expenditures.

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

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Hackett that the Board approves that Students in the Class of 2020 who have not demonstrated proficiency on one or more Keystone Exams and have not successfully completed the supplemental instruction program will be eligible for graduation, provided that all other graduation requirements have been met.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Wyland that the Board approves the revisions to the 2019-2020 School Calendar as presented. (Copy in official minutes)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves the 2020-2021 South Central Area Special School Jointure Budget of \$172,000 with no cost to the District. (Copy in official minutes)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves the Permit and Use Fee Schedule for 2020-2021 as presented effective July 1, 2020. (Copy in official minutes)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Cappucci that the Board approves the lease agreements with Mt. Lebanon Extended Day Program per the 2020-2021 list of leases as presented dated July 1, 2020. (Copy in official minutes)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves an agreement with Energy Harbor, LLC. in substantially the form presented to provide Carbon-Free Electricity to the District for the term January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2024, subject to approval of a final agreement acceptable to the Superintendent and the Solicitor. (Copy in official minutes)

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

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Diamond that the Board approves a contract with AoPS Online to provide an online enrichment program in mathematics through June 15, 2020 with no cost to the District. (Copy in official minutes)

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following;

Decision for third and fourth semester pass/fail grading

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Olbrich announced that the Board met on April 13, 2020 for a trial run of the video board meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Riemer and seconded by Beal to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Cecile D. Bowman; Secretary
Board of School Directors

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