School Board of Directors Meeting  
November 16, 2020  
Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Eastern Lancaster County School Board of Directors, which was properly advertised in the LNP Lancaster Newspaper, was held on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., in Community Hall located at the Garden Spot High School and Middle Complex, 669 E. Main Street, New Holland, PA 17557. The meeting was broadcasted via live video feed as well.

Roll Call  
Board Members in attendance were: Gary Buck, Jonathan Dahl, Brian Conroy, Jacqueline Geyer, Paul Irvin, Dina Maio, Kevin McCarroll, Bryan Naranjo, and Thomas Wentzel  
Note: Mrs. Jacqueline Geyer and Mr. Kevin O’Connell were joining via videocam.  
Board Members not in attendance were: Also in attendance were: Dr. Robert Hollister, Justin W. Johnson, Dr. Nadine Larkin and Keith Ramsey  
Staff/Public in attendance were: Several citizens of the community and staff members of the District and a member of the media.

1. Welcome and Call to Order  
President Wentzel opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. Moment of Silence/Reflection - Pledge of Allegiance  
Mrs. Jacqueline Geyer led in a silent mediation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda  
Requests by board members to remove an item for separate consideration.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Naranjo. The motion was approved. (9-0)
4. Student of the Month Presentation

Mr. Sanger presented and congratulated the Students of the Month for the month of October being chosen for their character trait of “Integrity”.

- Grade 12: Paula Gauthier, New Holland, PA
- Grade 11: Shathey Yang, East Earl, PA
- Grade 10: Rowan Sensenig, Narvon, PA
- Grade 9: Jane Umbel, New Holland, PA
- Grade 8: Angely Martinez Cruz, New Holland, PA
- Grade 7: Jenna Zueno, New Holland, PA

5. Citizens of the District Comments

The Board encourages citizens of the district to come before the Board to present their petitions, inquiries, or other communications of interest. The Board invites public (Citizens of the District) comment on any topic that is within the Board’s jurisdiction. As outlined in Board Policy 903, the Board requires that public participants be residents or taxpayers of this district. Due to the virtual aspect of the Board meeting, the Board is requesting if you wish to provide public comment during the virtual board meeting, you should sign-up to do so by completing the online form prior to the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP FORM** *(Please use this form only if you are not attending the meeting in person.)*

Public comments will be read aloud during the public comment section of the agenda.

Thank you.

**SUBMITTED COMMENTS** *(VIA PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP FORM):*

Stephanie Shirk, 1645 Silver Valley, East Earl, PA 17519

Loving God, Your desire is for our wholeness and well being.
We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.
We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.
We ache for ourselves and our neighbors, standing before an uncertain future. We pray for strength to ask for help when feeling overwhelmed.
We pray: may love, not fear, go viral.
Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.
Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.
We pray for peace and calm for all our learners, teachers, staff, administration and school board directors.
Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,  
You, the God who does not abandon. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lisa Garrett, 1607 Main Street, East Earl, PA 17519

To Dr. Hollister and the School Board:

I wish to thank the school administration for taking the secondary schools to virtual learning to attempt to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the schools. It was shocking enough to hear my daughter say that there were nearly 200 students quarantining or otherwise absent in the high school alone, a fact blatantly obvious by looking at the student parking lot with its many empty parking spaces, and, then Monday, she was suddenly among those numbers of students quarantining. As I dropped off homework and picked up another assignment, the temporary mailroom now in the high school foyer was a telling visual of just how many students (and their families) were impacted. So, I appreciate the administration trying to get ahead of the issue and keep everyone home to flatten the curve. It was the right thing to do.

I would like to suggest that now is the time to take further measures to continue to limit that spread. Because the secondary schools cannot be set up in the cohorts that were so much at the forefront of discussions of returning to school this summer, I would like to see hybrid schooling offered in the secondary schools. When my children were in the middle school it was set up with Blue and Gray teams. Why can't we do that again? Blue teams attend school in person on Mondays and Tuesdays, everyone is virtual Wednesdays, and Gray teams attend school on Thursdays and Fridays. This would finally get classroom sizes down to where students could actually be 6 feet or more apart, a key part of social distancing to prevent spread of the virus. Having smaller numbers of students in classrooms would also mean less students are impacted when another student comes down with COVID-19 and would certainly make contact tracing easier. At this point, teachers are already having to incorporate virtual students in their daily teaching as so many are quarantined, something that is not likely to lessen as we head further into winter, so making it official would not really change much for them, other than all students being virtual on Wednesdays. Perhaps teachers could also be virtual on Wednesdays allowing for a midweek deep cleaning of classrooms. And finally, the hybrid model would dedensify the hallways and buses, which the administration admitted at a prior school board meeting that we can't do on the current plan. There is a shortage of substitute teachers and bus drivers, which can also translate to further disruptions to our childrens' schooling if spread includes staff.

When community spread has reduced we can return secondary students to face to face instruction all week. Right now it is vitally important that we not overload our hospitals and our medical professionals unnecessarily. There is a definite shortage of PPE (I order for my work and there is a 3-4 month wait for gloves), a shortage of tests (we couldn't get a test for our daughter unless she was symptomatic), and a limited number of ICU beds, which can translate to deaths not just from COVID-19, but also other life-threatening illnesses. The
school community needs to be a key part of containing community spread and the hybrid model should help.

Take care,
Lisa R. Garrett

**COMMENTS (IN-PERSON):**

None.

6. **Special Presentation - Spartan Sprouts Pre-Kindergarten Program**

Alice Irwin, Pre-K Literacy and Transition Specialist
Greg Frederick, Director of Elementary Instruction

Dr. Hollister introduced Mrs. Alice Irwin, Pre-K Literacy and Transition Specialist and Mr. Greg Frederick, Director of Elementary Instruction who presented the Board with an update on the District’s Spartan Sprouts Pre-Kindergarten Program.

Mr. Frederick first thanked Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Lauren Hillen, Mrs. Karen Senior and Mrs. Alice Irwin and then presented the Board the status of the District’s kindergarten readiness. Mrs. Irvin presented an overview of the different events and resources that were being offered through the Spartan Sprouts program.

Dr. Hollister thanked Mr. Frederick, Mrs. Irwin, and the community partners working with the District.

7. **Consent Agenda**

Items listed under the Consent Agenda section of our Board Meeting Agenda are considered to be routine and are acted on by the Board in one motion. There is no Board discussion of these items individually prior to the Board vote unless a member of the Board requests that a specific item be removed from the Consent Agenda. Requests to remove an item from the Consent Agenda will be accepted at agenda section 3. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda. (Requests to remove an item for separate consideration). Items Removed from the Consent Agenda will be moved to agenda section "Action Items."

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the consent agenda report. It was seconded by Mr. Buck. **The motion was approved. (9-0)**

a. **Approval of Minutes**

b. **Treasurer's Report**
c. Approve Personnel Report

d. Bills Paid

e. Cafeteria Fund Treasurer's Report

f. Investments

g. Student Activity Account

h. Approve Budgetary Transfers

i. Approval of the Change orders that were executed for the HS/MS Locker Room and HVAC Project, as follows:

**General Contractor - ECI Construction**

**GC-12 $4,428 Add** - level out gym floor substrate & modify press box in preparation of new flooring install

Architect's comment on GC-12 - There are two components of this cost, one was a concealed condition and one was not included in the proposal:

- Several areas of the concrete under the old gym floor needed leveled prior to installing the new gym floor.
- The press box needed modified in order to move the bleachers out so the old gym floor could be removed and the new gym floor installed.

**GC-13 $1,719 Add - remove wall tile and patch and remove existing CMU at door**

Architect's comment on GC-13 - additional cutting and patching needed to get a better finished result in several locations

**Plumbing Contractor - Myco Mechanical**

**PC-02 $1,542.12 Credit** - gas meter work and trench drain credit

Architect's comment on PC-02 - There are several components of this credit:

- Decrease in pipe sizes and lengths in corridor
- Trench drain credit
- Relocated rain water into new wall
- Relocated water cooler piping
- Added drain pans over electrical
- Added tie-ins to mains in the restroom
- Re-pipe existing gas piping at service meter

**HVAC Contractor - Myco Mechanical**

**HC-02 $0.00** - additional cabinet unit heaters in the stair/vestibule (cost offset utilizing built-in allowances)

Architect's comment on HC-02 - The initial design wasn’t going to work due to the existing structure. So, the decision was made to go with electrical heaters instead. Since we haven’t used any of the HVAC bid allowances included in the project, we’re going to utilize a portion of them now so the net result is no additional cost. The change order log reflects this, as will the change order itself when processed.
HC-03 $32,215.51 Add - install new gas line up and onto the roof
Architect's comment on HC-03 - There was a leak detected in the existing underground line when the system was pressurized. This change order is to install the new gas line up and onto the roof. This proposal was reviewed by the Engineer and found to be in line. We need to have this work done as quickly as possible to get heat in the new gym and to reduce temporary heat costs from ECI.

j. Approval of the Addendum to the current Agreement with CBSD for Business and Human Resource Services
k. Approval of Affidavits of Guardianship
l. Approval of Resolution calling for Charter School Funding Reform by the Board of School Directors of Eastern Lancaster County School District
m. Approval of POLICY 005 – Organization | Second & Final Reading

8. Action Items
Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Separate Consideration.

9. Reports
a. Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau
   Met on November 11, 2020
   Received the SOC (Service Organization Control) Audit
   Approved waiving the EIT Collection Fee for November and December
   Rate history after fee waiver:
   
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   Approved the 2021 Operating Budget and the 2021 fees - EIT (1.70%) and LST (1.50%)
   Next meeting is January 6, 2021 (Reorganization)

Mr. Ramsey reported that the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau met on November 11, 2020. He reported that the Bureau received the SOC (Service Organization Control) Audit, indicating that they had past with flying colors. He also reported that they had approved the waiving of the EIT collection fees for November and December, stating that the rate continued to go down each year. Mr. Ramsey reported that the Bureau approved the 2021 Operating Budget and that the fees would remain the same. He informed the Board that next meeting would be held on January 6th which would be the Bureau’s reorganization meeting.
b. Lancaster-Lebanon IU13
Mr. Irvin reported on the November 11th IU Board meeting and shared several highlights from the board meeting report: He reported that the Board approved $12,804,496.16 in disbursements. Mr. Irvin also reported that the IU13 Board approved new or addition to service contracts for Business Services, Early Childhood & Special Education Services, Instructional/Technology Services and Human Resource Services. There were twenty-four (24) resignations, six (6) terminations, thirteen (13) new hires, thirty-seven (37) changes in position or salaries, and eleven (11) leaves of absence. Mr. Irvin reported that the Board had also approved IU13 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. He also distributed to the Board copies of the IU13 Helping Districts, Helping Students newsletter.

c. Lancaster CTC
Mrs. Maio reported that the Lancaster County CTC would be hosting their virtual open houses this week and noted that the school was continuing to operate on a 5-day in-person schedule. She reported that the schools only had to shutdown the Health Science Campus for 10 days and the day school for ½ day in October due to COVID-19. Mrs. Maio informed the Board that the building pilot program was being postponed and rescheduled for the 2022-2023 school year.

d. Legislative
Mr. Wentzel reported on election results.

10. Superintendent’s Report
Dr. Hollister updated the Board on the current enrollment numbers for the School District regarding total enrollment and percentages of in-person versus in-person remoter learners, cyber learners, and homeschool learners.

He updated the Board on the current teacher substitute challenge and updated the Board on the current COVID-19 case numbers, noting that the school district in Lancaster County were being asked to strongly consider going all remote by the Department of Education.

Dr. Hollister acknowledge the efforts of the learners and everyone in the District.

Dr. Hollister reported to the Board his concerns with staffing indicating that there were currently 17 staff out at the High School at the moment.

The Board and Administration discussed the pros and cons of shifting to a A/B Schedule, in-person learning versus in-person remote learning, and the possibility of shifting to all remote in the future.
Dr. Hollister noted that he would try and give parents as much notice as he could if the District did decide to shift to remote learning.

11. Announcements

Dr. Hollister announced that the next Board meeting would occur the first week in December on the 7th for the Board’s reorganization meeting, noting that the Board member would receive special invitation letters as required by law.

Dr. Hollister invited the Board to view the Garden Spot High School renovations.

Mr. Wentzel announced that several Garden Spot learners had been featured in the opinions section of the Lancaster Newspaper.

Mr. Conroy informed that Board that he and Mr. Irvin had attended the KKLL Annual Education Law "Breakfast" Presentation COVID-19 regarding “Furloughs Due to Economic Reasons during Harsh Economic Times”.

12. Adjournment

Mr. Naranjo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. with a second by Mr. Irvin. The motion was approved. (9-0)

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Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
November 16, 2020