Committee of the Whole Meeting
November 11, 2013
Minutes

Roll Call
Members in attendance were: Jonathan Boyd, Glenn Hartz, Paul Irvin, Rodney Jones, Melissa Readman, Thomas Wentzel, Glenn Yoder and Heidi Zimmerman
Non-Voting Members in attendance were: Robert Hollister, Nadine Larkin, Marion L. Martin, Nick Olson and Keith Ramsey
Members not in attendance were: Jennifer Zeiset
Staff/Public in attendance were: Several citizens, a student and a member of the press were also in attendance.

1. Welcome and Call to Order
President Yoder welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

2. Moment of Silence/Reflection - Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Yoder asked everyone to remember former board member, Alex Sitar's family, in our silent meditation and then we said the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Citizens Comments
At this time we invited public comment on any topic that is within the Board’s jurisdiction.

Martin Fickes, Denver

Mr. Fickes came this evening to thank and encourage the board for the job they are doing. He noted his 10th grade daughter has had a positive school experience and she has been encouraged by many in the district. He said a prayer.

Justin Stoltzfus, East Petersburg

Mr. Stoltzfus introduced himself as the new reporter with the Intelligencer Journal. He will be replacing Mr. Patrick Burns.
Priscilla Eberly, Stevens

Mrs. Eberly shared she likes the new teaching system with laptops, etc. She did express concern that her daughter's coaches are not allowed to pray before their games. It is usually the students who initiate the prayer. At the last sports banquet, no prayer was said and she asked if the board had made a ruling against prayers. Dr. Hollister noted the school's solicitor would say teachers, coaches or anyone employed by the district cannot lead in prayer. He would be willing to get a legal opinion. She then asked what we can do as a parent, business or citizen to change this. Again, Dr. Hollister answered her question saying she needs to talk to her congressmen. Mrs. Eberly thanked the board for their information. Dr. Zimmerman noted the board is under a different set of guidelines, but encouraged her as a citizen to use her freedom of speech in positive ways.

Mr. Hartz also noted that since the board has not been allowed to pray before meetings, it has been a special blessing to have the community involved by coming out to the meetings and saying a prayer. Mr. Irvin reported right now prayer before meetings is in front of the Supreme Court and you may make your voice known. Mr. Wentzel affirmed that students are allowed to lead in prayer as Mrs. Eberly indicated they have been doing.

4. Approve Personnel Report
Mr. Boyd made a motion to approve the personnel report with a second by Mr. Wentzel. The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)

Again, Mr. Jones is voting by video.

5. Property and Services
   5.1 Action Items - None
   5.2 Information Items - None

6. Program
   6.1 Approve Affidavit of Guardianship Application
       Approval of guardianship for an elementary student.

   6.2 Approval of WarwickWare Software License Agreement
       Approve the Superintendent signing an agreement with Warwick School District for the Data Blender software which Eastern Lancaster County School District will use to house all student data from formative, benchmark, and summative assessments. The cost for the software is based on the October 1 Child Count of 3,343 students @ $5.00 per student for a total cost of $16,715.00.

   6.3 Information Items - None
7. Management

7.1 Action Items - None

7.2 Information Items

Report of Superintendent's Focus Areas (Goals) for the 2013-2014 school year. Focus areas will be posted on the District website following the presentation to the public.

Dr. Hollister's report focused on the following five goals. As mentioned above, the details of his full report will be available online.

- Student Academic Achievement and Performance
  Objective - improve student academic performance

- Teacher Evaluation System
  Objective - ensure all required portions of the system are appropriately implemented

- Pre-Kindergarten Educational Program
  Objective - Improve kindergarten readiness of incoming students

- Revenue Development
  Objective - Generate non-tax related revenue and present a budget at or below the 2014 base Act I Index.

- Policy Guideline Manual Development
  Objective: Work with PSBA to develop a Policy Guideline Manual

7.3 Other

Hybrid Learning Video

Dr. Hollister explained the details of a new way of learning and teaching in the classrooms. Students break into three groups and rotate at various stations. This hybrid learning allows smaller one-on-one groups, independent learning and more personal teacher instruction. Currently, we have 12 teachers involved in this program that is in its second year. Across the State, there are only 20 districts participating. In our IU, four school districts are represented that include Lebanon, Manheim Central, Manheim Township and us. Our IU is highly supportive of this program and has been instrumental in our training.

A short video on Hybrid Learning produced by Dellicker Strategies was shown to all in attendance. For more information on hybrid learning, check out www.pahli.org.
8. **Announcements**
Dr. Hollister reminded those in attendance of the upcoming changes in the schedule of the board meetings.

**November 18th** Board Meeting will be held at the District Office, not at Brecknock as previously planned due to construction.

**December 2nd** Committee of the Whole Meeting and Reorganizational Meeting will be held the first week of December.

**December 16th** Regular Board Meeting held at New Holland Elementary School.

9. **Adjournment**
Mr. Irvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM with a second by Dr. Zimmerman. *The motion was approved.* (8-0; 1 absent)

Marion L. Martin
School Board Secretary
November 11, 2013