



## School Board of Directors Meeting June 15, 2020 Minutes

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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, June 15, 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.

### **Roll Call**

**Board Members in attendance were:** Gary Buck, Brian Conroy, Jacqueline Geyer, Paul Irvin, Dina Maio, Kevin McCarroll, Bryan Naranjo, and Thomas Wentzel Note: All Members were joining via videocam.

**NOTE:** Mr. Bryan Naranjo left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

**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. and welcomed the community.

### **2. Moment of Silence/Reflection - Pledge of Allegiance**

President Wentzel led in a silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **3. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda**

Requests by board members to remove an item for separate consideration.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the Athletic Health and Safety Plan had been added to the agenda as an action item to be approved, indicating that it had not been discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting due to the guidelines not being given until the previous week.

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

#### 4. 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](#)

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

Thank you.

#### COMMENTS:

Frederick Eck, 152 Bluebell Court, New Holland, PA 17557

My desire is to thank all members of our school board and for the great job they are doing for our school district here in New Holland, PA. I believe that we have one of the best school districts in the state, if not the best! I would like to give a short prayer on your behalf:

"Dear God and Heavenly Father, I would like to thank you for each and every school board member that is working for the very best interests of our students here in New Holland. We thank you for their selfless and very hard work that they are doing on our behalf. Please give them wisdom and stamina to do the work that they are doing for our schools. May we, the citizens of this community support and help them in anyway possible in the sometimes difficult decisions that have to be made in these Covid-19 times that we find ourselves in. We pray that YOU may help and guide us successfully during these difficult and trying times. All this we pray in your precious and holy name. AMEN."

Cheryl Fuller, 1262 East Earl Road, East Earl, PA 17519

Our kids need normalcy. They need to get back to school and not have to be concerned with masks. If there is hand sanitizer in every room. Wipe down desks between each class. Tell parents if kids feel sick do not send them to school or they will be sent home. But please let our kids get back to class.

Steve Wallace, 326 Hill Road New Holland PA. 17557

To the members of the Elanco School Board, This is in regards to the instillation of a turf field inside the sports stadium. As someone who attends just about every sporting event inside the stadium I cannot emphasize enough our needs for a turf field. The problem is there are way to many events happening on the field that natural grass is no longer the answer. In the Spring

before the grass has a chance to turn green we are playing boys and girls lax on the field tearing it up before the growing season ever begins. Then over the Summer we spend a lot of money every year in a effort to get the field in shape for fall. Then as the growing season is ending we have Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer, Varsity and JV Football, Junior high Football and some junior high JV. games, Midget Football A, b, c, and d teams. Plus Friday night home games we have bands marching on the field pregame and halftime. Band also practices preseason on the field almost every night. Plus due to limited field space Boys soccer practices on the field also but I don't think that happened last year but I could be wrong on that. Then there are other events like the battle of the classes, track and field day, and some fund raising activities also like relay for life and others. All these things should be happening on the field but no grass field ever made can take all of that. It has now come to the point that it is a major safety issue I have seen soccer games called a couple minutes into the game because of players getting hurt and the officials deemed the field unplayable. I have had people from Blue Ridge cable tell me they aren't trying to be sarcastic but this is the worst field in the LL league. But other than that we have about the nicest facilities inside the stadium. I could go on but I will end it here we need turf ASAP. Thank you for your serious consideration on this matter. Respectfully submitted Steve Wallace.

Katy Eby, 199 Orlon Street, New Holland, PA 17557

I am writing to thank you for spending time assessing the need for a turf field in the Elanco School District. As an alumni, resident, and employee of the district, I feel synthetic turf is absolutely necessary for our athletic programs to continue to grow and be successful. First and foremost, the stadium field must be replaced first. The current grass field cannot handle the stress of all the games and practices it sees each year. Replacing the grass with a synthetic turf will allow the heavy use to continue on a great surface. It will allow our teams to speed up their game and host competition in all weather. Utilizing the existing lights, bleachers and proximity to the school is a perfect use of the land and the district's finances. I also implore you to consider an alternative option of creating 2 turf fields at the same time if the district funds allow it. I personally feel that one turf field will not be enough for our district's needs. Placing a second field at Tower Road will provide more adequate practice and game time to all district sports. If there is only one turf field, there will not be enough time for community use that we currently see with midget sports in the stadium. They would have to find a new home. Tower Road is also a perfect place for a second field as it has parking close to it, which has been a big complaint of field hockey families over the years as our field is not easily handicapped accessible. Having two fields would also allow our players to switch surfaces less (from grass to turf) which will help decrease shin splint issues. Lastly, I wish to share some specific thoughts regarding our field hockey program who would greatly benefit from the addition of a turf field.

GSFH has been placed in Section 3 for the next 2 year cycle in the Lancaster Lebanon League. We were moved to this lower section simply due to NOT having a turf playing surface. It is an all grass section. We are now playing against lower competition and more District 3 A teams

which will hurt our chances of getting into district playoffs due to a decreased power ranking.

The GSFH Booster Club regularly rents turf time during our fall season to try to stay competitive in away games.

It is difficult to be competitive in field hockey without turf to practice on regularly due to the change in speed. Here is our record over the 2018 and 2019 seasons to show that GSFH is at a disadvantage for away games held on turf.

Grass record- 15 wins, 6 losses      71.42% win record

Turf record- 3 wins, 1 tie, 12 losses    18.75% win record

Again, thank you for seeing that there is value and a need for a turf field in our community. Thank you for doing the due diligence necessary by requesting to see more options of field layouts and a sample turf schedule.

Dana Conrad, 6241 Division Hwy, Narvon PA.17555

Please consider putting turf in for the children this is something they need and this is part of keeping up with the times. My daughter please feel khaki and the cross for Garden Spot Spot and is very proud of that with that being said we have had to travel to other schools to practice on turf fields because they call required to play on turf fields it is very different from practicing on regular grass. With that being said again it is for the children. Thank you for your consideration

Chris Smeltz, 190 Laurel Rd, East Earl, PA 17519

Dear School Board, I'm writing you to strongly encourage you to consider upgrades to the current athletic surfaces at Garden Spot High School. As an alumni (class of 99) a Parent of six children in the district and a taxpayer I feel that it is important to have safe playing surfaces for our student athletes. I have coached at the midget level over the last 7 years and I know that most of the athletic fields haven't been updated since before 1999 when I graduated. I would encourage you to make the investment to move toward several turf fields. The stadium field quality at GS is in the lower third of the Lancaster Lebanon league, is this good for our student athletes who play all their home games on that field? Additionally I would ask you to consider making a change to the basketball playing surface in the High school main gym. We have two basketball players in our family, their knees and ankles thank you for your consideration.

Scott & Jennifer Youndt, 1050 Dry Tavern Rd, Denver, PA 17517

Our current situation in regards to COVID 19 and the 2020- 2021 school year is uncharted

territory. No one wants to jeopardize the health and safety of our students, teachers, and staff. That being said, students mental and emotional health are equally as important as their physical health.

Our students can not continue to try be educated the way they were since March. Public school students are ment to be educated in public schools.

The teachers did a marvelous job of trying to keep things as normal as possible. They were so flexible with the students and available to help the students via zoom or Google; however, it is no where near as effective as classroom learning.

I believe the teachers want to teach. The students want to go to school. An overwhelming amount of students do not want to wear masks. Additionally, trying to enforce masks will be a discipline nightmare that will rob the students of valuable education time.

Personally, our children will not grow and thrive in an altered educational environment. We have contingency plans for our children for the school year if we do not have access to a public school education as it is intended to be.

We ask that you carefully consider the long term consequences of not providing the children of ELANCO school district with the education that we the parents/taxpayers expect.

Keyla Salas-Araya, 630 Sunflower Street, New Holland PA 17557

I have many concerns about the extremists CDC guidelines for school settings and do not find them realistic, flexible, or appropriate, especially for elementary age children. I will not write my issues to the Governor and Secretary of Education because unfortunately the current state government hast not shown a minimal interest in listening to the citizens of the Commonwealth of PA, even with representation of our many political representatives. At this point what is MOST IMPORTANT to me and my family is the following: By when can we expect the Elanco School District to publish the guidelines and expectations that will be followed and observed for the new school year? It is very crucial for us to know a date so we can begin shifting towards a plan B, if necessary, for the academical, social, and psychological development and well-being of our children. We truly appreciate knowing that date sooner than later and want to thank each board member and school official for all the hard work that you continue to do every day. Thank you.

Erin Varley, 105 Grayson Ave, East Earl, PA 17519

I would like to express my support for adding artificial turf athletic fields at Garden Spot. My daughter utilizes the current fields for both lacrosse and field hockey. I am concerned about the safety of the current fields. We are fortunate that our fields are well used by several different athletic teams. The unfortunate result is the existing fields are under a lot of pressure. Keeping the fields in shape for the safety of our student athletes, the speed at which games are now played, and the quantity of teams that utilize these facilities lends me to believe we should explore other options and I think an artificial turf field is a good solution. Thank you for all you do and I appreciate your commitment to bettering our school and our community

Heidi Sauder, 407 Orchard Rd, Mohnton, PA 19540

Thank you for continuing to work on behalf of all the students, staff and parents in our school district during this crazy time. There is no other way to describe the last few months other than, crazy. You are now tasked with the job of determining what the 2020/21 school year will look like. I know that the teachers and support staff have worked tirelessly to help all students excel while working remotely. I sincerely want to thank Mrs Cooley and Mrs Laird for their help with my daughter but I know that many of her other teachers really put forth extra effort to try to help her learn as well. It was no easy feat. Mrs Zoll and Mrs Trovinger spent extra time with her regularly through google meets working on concepts and assignments. They really went over and above the call of duty. I have no doubt that all the teachers did the same. I can't imagine that there is any more they could have done. But, I don't think my daughter really learned and comprehended what she was being taught enough to say she is proficient in the 4th quarter work she did. Now we have a summer where she didn't qualify for extended school year and I am very concerned about how far behind she might be next year. I'm sure she will not be the only student behind next year. My concern builds when I think about the possibility of not being on campus starting in August. How much farther behind will she fall and can we afford to let that happen? What will graduation requirements look like in the next 5 years or so because of this crazy time in history? I emailed you all last week so you are all aware that I also don't support requiring masks for students. I know that my daughter will be distracted wearing a mask. She will also probably complain about dizziness and being too hot. She gets overheated more quickly to start with. Whether in this meeting or in the near future I would appreciate a public statement about the thought process you are in right now. I understand it might change based of Dept of Education guidelines etc. I'm wondering if a parent survey would be beneficial so you can understand how parents are feeling regarding next school year. Will they send their children to school wearing a mask or will they choose another avenue of schooling if masks are required? These are things that parents are talking about right now. Many are waiting to hear how the school will proceed before deciding whether or not their child will return to school next year. These issues can't wait much longer. They need to be discussed now. Thank you for your time and I continue to pray that God would bless you with great wisdom and creative thinking as you navigate this crazy time.

## **5. Presentation - Artificial Turf Options and Track Reconstruction**

Mr. Jim Hocker of Derck & Edson Associates updated the board of the options for the installation of artificial turf fields. He reviewed the previous 4 options that were discussed at the Committee of the Whole Meeting and presented the Board with another option that would displace a baseball field. He noted the pros and cons of this option, indicating that it would be the most expensive option due to there being 35% turf that would need to be laid.

The Board and Administration discussed the various artificial turf field options with the Administration recommending Option 2 replacing the main field with turf. They also discussed costs, budget, and timeline for construction.

## 6. 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."

Dr. Hollister made a note that that the Administrative pay raises were less than the Board allowed for. He also thanked Dr. Larkin and Mr. Ramsey for taking a pay freeze, indicating that he was as well.

Dr. Larkin noted that Mr. Good would be retiring from the District in October.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the consent agenda report. It was seconded by Mr. Conroy. **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 Final Budget for General Fund Approval Resolution**

The final budget does not include a tax increase

**j. Approval of Annual Tax Levy Resolution**

This resolution sets the tax rates for 2020-21. The real estate tax rate is 12.5711

**k. Approval of Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion Resolution**

The real estate tax reduction amount for 2020-21 is \$64.73 per homestead and farmstead

**I. Authorize Budgetary and Fund Transfers for the 2019-20 school year with approval, of such, at acceptance of the Audit Report**

This approval authorizes the Chief of Finance and Operations to make the necessary budgetary transfers, after June 30, 2020, for the completion of the 2019-2020 financial reports and fund transfers with subsequent approval of such at acceptance of the final audited financial statements.

**m. Approval of the Resolution for Commitment of June 30, 2020 Fund Balance**

This resolution just authorizes what areas will be included in the committed fund balance. Currently, the District’s committed fund balance includes PSERS and Technology Initiatives.

Actual amounts committed will be included in the audit report.

**n. Approve the Special Education Service Contracts with the Lancaster-Lebanon IU #13 for the 2020-21 School Year**

Adjusted since June 8, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting:

	<u>FINAL</u>	<u>AS OF 6-8-20</u>	
Contracted Special Education Services	<b>\$ 588,004</b>	\$ 637,615	(\$ 495,658 for 19-20)
Job Training Services	<b>\$ 138,377</b>	\$ 138,377	(\$ 139,914 for 19-20)
Speech and Language Itinerant Services	<b>\$ 1,512</b>	\$ 0	(\$ 1,512 for 19-20)
OT/PT Itinerant Services	<b>\$ 1,134</b>	\$ 0	(\$ 0 for 19-20)

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

**General Contractor - ECI Construction**

**GC-02 \$500 Deduct** - Removal of job site sign

**GC-03 \$1,394 Add** - Add 1/4" steel closure plates on the existing unforeseen steel column  
 Architect's comment on GC-03 - The background behind this is there is an existing structural steel column that was not shown on the existing drawings, nor picked up in our survey. It’s embedded within an existing wall to be removed, and it’s profile is that of an “I” beam (not a tube column). As a result, that column will now be located within the new training room. The cost is to have the contractor tack weld a new steel plate on each open end of the column and finish so it looks like a finished tube column. Removing the column is an option, though the cost to re-work structure above would be significant. We could just leave the column alone, however not only would it not look good aesthetically, but it’s a dirt collector as well.

**GC-04 \$1,269 Add** - Add 1/4" steel closure place to exposed sections of unforeseen steel column

Architect's comment on GC-04 - It’s a little less than GC-03, and the background behind it is the same. This column is at a corner location, and more than aesthetics and dirt-catching, my biggest concern would be because it sticks out slightly from the wall, the safety of people turning the corner tightly.

**GC-05 \$2,730 Add** - Additional support beam



Architect's comment on GC-05 - The background behind this is that during demolition, the contractor discovered an existing steel column that had been cut off during a previous renovation and left unsupported. This change order adds a beam to remedy the support condition. The structural engineer reviewed the cost and found it to be in line.

**p. Approval of Trash Removal RFP Award**

**q. Approval of Part-Time Classroom and Food Services RFP Award**

**r. Approve Addendum to Agreement with Brightbill Transportation, Inc. concerning period of COVID-19 school closure**

**s. Approve Assistant Superintendent signing SAP contract with Caron Foundation for the 2020-2021 School Year.**

This contract with Caron Foundation provides the school district with 7 days of Student Assistance Program (SAP) K-12. 4-5 days will be at the secondary level and 2-3 days will be at the elementary level. Total cost of the contract is \$60,315.00. We have added a day to last year's contract due to additional needs at the elementary level with groups of learners.

**t. Approval of TSI Plans for Blue Ball Elementary and Garden Spot High School**

**u. Approval of MOA between ELANCOSD and ELCEA regarding Teacher In-Service Days**

## **7. Action Items**

Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Separate Consideration.

**a. Approval of Eastern Lancaster County School District Athletics Health & Safety Plan**

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with the Athletics Health & Safety Plan for approval. The Board and Administration discussed one aspect of the plan with regard to attendees to athletic events based on the current phase the County was in.

Mr. Dahl made a motion to approve the Eastern Lancaster County School District Athletics Health & Safety Plan. It was seconded by Mr. Irvin. **The motion was approved. (9-0)**

Mr. Bryan Naranjo left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

## **8. Reports**

**a. Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau**

Met on Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Received the following updates:

Operational - Offices reopened to the public on June 8

Real Estate Taxes - Beginning to collect taxes for Penn Manor on hold for 2020-21  
Economy -

- 20% of Lancaster County filed for unemployment
- Predicting 2nd quarter distribution to be 12% down
- 10% reduction equals \$15 million loss in total revenue to the Bureau
- Bureau is in a great position to provide economic data

Next meeting is September 9, 2020

Mr. Ramsey reported on the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau (LCTCB) meeting held on June 10, 2020. He reported on several updates informing the Board that the office of the LCTCB reopened to the public on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ramsey noted that the LCTCB would be placing a hold on the tax collection for Penn Manor, but would continue to collect taxes for Pequea Valley, Conestoga Valley, Eastern Lancaster County, and Columbia Borough School Districts. He also updated the Board on the current economic status of the County and informed the Board that the next LCTCB meeting would be held on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Lancaster-Lebanon IU13**

Mr. Irvin reported on the May 20<sup>th</sup> IU Board meeting and shared several highlights from the board meeting report: He reported that the IU Board welcomed a new Board member from the School District of Lancaster. 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 two (2) resignations, two (2) terminations, ten (10) retirements, nineteen (19) new hires, twelve (12) changes in position or salaries, and one (1) leaves of absence. He also distributed to the Board copies of the Helping Districts, Helping Students newsletter.

**c. Lancaster CTC**

Mrs. Maio reported on the Lancaster County Career and Technology JOC meeting. She reported that the adult operations with the non-commercial CDL drivers license program had restarted with several adaptations due to Covid-19. She also reported that the medical classes would be restarting soon with the hope that all adult ed classes to be in session by July 10<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Maio also reported on the current CTC secondary enrollment for the Fall, noting that enrollment was at 98% capacity with 1500 learners. She noted that the CTC was currently working on their phase reopening plan.

**d. Legislative**

Mr. Wentzel reported the resignation of the Speaker of the House, Mike Turzai and the selection of Bryan Cutler of Lancaster county as holdover until the election. He also reported on House Bill 2438 regarding the expansion of broadband access to help with the current shortcomings.

## 9. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hollister congratulated Mr. Jonathan Long and Mr. Zachary Fulmer for receiving a grant through the Community Foundation in total of \$25,000 to go towards a new STEM program called SpotWorks. He publicly acknowledged Mr. Dave Koser, the Director of Program for Community Foundation.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the District would reopen on July 1<sup>st</sup> with Administrators, 12-month secretaries, and 10-month secretaries in offices.

He also reported on the current District's considerations on plans for reopening schools in the fall based on the CDC guidelines, noting that the District would have to submit a plan to state that would need to be approved by the Board. He also noted that a survey would go out to parents about the reopening of schools.

## 10. Announcements

Dr. Hollister recommended the Board hold two separate meetings in July since there would a lot information to review and approve for that month.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve an additional Board meeting in July; Committee of the Whole meeting, Monday, July 13, 2020. It was seconded by Mr. Conroy. **The motion was approved. (8-0, 1 absent)**

## 11. Adjournment

Meeting lost connection. Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Justin W. Johnson  
School Board Secretary  
June 15, 2020