



Committee of the Whole Meeting March 8, 2021 Minutes

A Committee Meeting of the Eastern Lancaster County School Board of Directors, which was properly advertised in the LNP *Lancaster Newspaper*, was held on Monday, March 8, 2021 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, Jacqueline Geyer, Paul Irvin, Dina Maio, Kevin McCarroll, and Thomas Wentzel

Board Members not in attendance were: Brian Conroy and Bryan Naranjo

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 several members 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

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

3. 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) to 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):

Neal Martin, 17 S Whisper Lane, New Holland, PA 17557

First of all, I want to thank the board for their service to our community. Thank you for your efforts and the efforts of the school administration to keep our children learning in person as much as possible. I also want to offer a prayer for the board. Heavenly Father, I thank you that you place men and women in positions of leadership in our community. Thank you for these members of the school board. I pray that as they serve our community that they would serve with wisdom, creativity, graciousness, courage, and integrity. I pray that they would make decisions that would be in the best interests of our students and community. Lead and guide them as they meet tonight. Bless the school administration, staff and faculty, and our students. In Jesus name, Amen.

COMMENTS (IN-PERSON):

Marshall Usner, 4517 Division Hwy, East Earl, PA 17519

Mr. Usner presented the Board with a proposal to name the old High School gym after a recently passed Garden Spot Athletics Basketball Coach, George Stroup.

4. APPROVE PERSONNEL REPORT

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the personnel report. It was seconded by Mrs. Geyer. **The motion was approved. (7-0; 2 absent)**

5. PROPERTY AND SERVICES

a. ACTION ITEMS:

a. APPROVAL OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT ON THE ROOF LEAK INSURANCE CLAIM AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHIEF OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS TO SIGN

Mr. Ramsey presented the Board with the settlement agreement on the roof leak insurance claim, informing the Board that the roofing company's insurance would reimburse the District for the total amount for the sanding, painting, and resurfacing of the gym floor. Mr. Ramsey presented the Board with 3 options of action on the settlement agreement with the Administration recommending the first option of accepting the settlement agreement for full reimbursement and removing any future liability from the roofing company. He noted that the District's Solicitor reviewed and approved the agreement.

The Board and Administration discussed the three action options of the settlement agreement.

b. APPROVAL OF THE CHANGE ORDERS THAT WERE EXECUTED FOR THE HS/MS LOCKER ROOM AND HVAC PROJECT, AS FOLLOWS:

General Contractor - ECI Construction

GC-16 \$64,775 Add - Gym floor refinishing

Architect's comment on GC-16 - This is the remediation work for the water damage from the roof leak. Total cost to be reimbursed by the roofer's insurance.

GC-17 \$14,717 Add - Modify the lock type on the lockers

Architect's comment on GC-17 - This modification was requested by the owner. The initial design included permanent locks on the lockers. After further review, the District felt that it would be better to not have permanent locks on the lockers. The District will be keeping the locks for future use.

Electrical Contractor - Hirneisen Electric, Inc.

EC-08 \$44,984.51 Credit - Balance of remaining built-in allowances

HVAC Contractor - Myco Mechanical

HC-06 \$2,860.93 Credit - Balance of remaining built-in allowances

Plumbing Contractor - Myco Mechanical

PC-03 \$23,883.34 Credit - Balance of remaining built-in allowances

Mr. Ramsey requested the Board to approve the most recent change orders that were executed for the HS/MS Locker Room and HVAC Project. He reported that the total

amount for change orders for the project, indicating that the District received more credits than adds.

b. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. HS/MS LOCKER ROOM AND HVAC PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Ramsey updated the Board on the HVAC and locker room renovations noting that the final inspection had occurred that day and the District hoped to have final occupancy soon. He noted that the contractor would be cleaning up from the project in the next two days and with the completion of some final small projects, including the lock switch for lockers, the locker room project would be completed in the next few weeks. He noted that the resurfacing of the floor would occur in June.

b. GOVERNOR'S 2021-22 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Ramsey presented the Board with the Governor's 2021-2022 proposed budget, indicating that based on the governor proposal of tax increases and additional funding, Eastern Lancaster County School District would receive approximately 7.3 million dollars in basic education funding and 1.7 million for special education funding. He also noted that the District would save \$337,644 in cyber charter school tuition for regular education students and approximately 282,440 for special education cyber charter school tuition based on the charter school reform in the Governor's budget proposal. Mr. Ramsey also reported that the Governor proposed a minimum teacher salary of \$45,000 and minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$12.00 an hour, with an increase of \$0.50 per year, until it reached \$15.00 in 2027. Mr. Ramsey commented that this probably would not be the final proposed state budget but hoped to have something approved by June 30th.

c. DISTRICT'S 2021-22 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Ramsey presented a preview of the 2021-2022 budget. Mr. Ramsey presented both the Expenditures and Revenues for the proposed budget indicating several increases in areas of expenditures, including staffing, online learning, and technology and most revenues being budgeted at 2020-2021 level. He presented the Board with the final projection of the funding gap with a proposed 3.0% tax increase.

Mr. Ramsey informed the Board that the next step for the budget were updates at the April and May Committee of the Whole meetings with an adopted proposed final Budget approved at the May 17th Board meeting, another budget update at the June 14th Committee of the Whole meeting and the adoption of the final budget at the June 21st Board Meeting.

6. PROGRAM

a. ACTION ITEMS:

a. ACTION ITEM - APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVITS OF GUARDIANSHIP

Dr. Larkin requested the Board to approve Affidavits of Guardianship.

b. APPROVAL OF EXPULSION WAIVER

Dr. Larkin requested the Board to approve an Expulsion Hearing Waiver.

c. APPROVAL OF NOCTI WAIVER FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Given the pandemic conditions during the 2020-2021 school year, the hands-on portion of the NOCTI Test is not available for our learners in our agriculture production program.

Dr. Larkin requested the Board to approve the signing of the NOCTI waiver form for the 2020-2021 school year. She noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic the hands-on portion of the NOCTI Test was not available for learners in our agriculture production program and the state was allowing for schools to submit waivers for this year. She noted that Eastern Lancaster County School District used the facilities at Manheim Central in previous years, but they would not be available this school year.

b. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. FIRST READING OF POLICY 100 - STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Larkin presented the Board with Board Policy 100 -Strategic Plan for its first reading, indicating that there were no changes, but it was the next policy as part of the Superintendent's goal of reviewing all Board policies.

b. FIRST READING OF POLICY 101 - MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE VALUES

Dr. Larkin presented the Board with Board Policy 101 -Mission Statement and Core Values for its first reading, indicating that the revisions were based on the District's Strategic Design Plan that was completed in May of 2019.

c. ACADEMIES AND PATHWAYS PRESENTATION

Dr. Larkin introduced Mr. Cory Ilgenfritz, Assistant Principal at the Garden Spot Middle School who presented the Board with the District's planning towards aligning student learning with the Strategic Design Plan at the Secondary level. This alignment consists of multiple pathways to graduation learning.

d. NEW COURSES 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Dr. Larkin presented the Board with four new electives for the 2021-2022 school year for Garden Spot Middle School. She reviewed each of the new courses with the Board and indicated that she would be bringing these courses to the Board for approval in April. Dr. Larkin directed the Board to send any questions that they had to her and she would try and get the answers for them.

Foreign Language Course

Exploratory Spanish and German GSMS - In this course, learners are introduced to foreign language study and the two languages offered at the high school level. The course includes an introduction to the language and customs of Spanish and German-speaking countries. Language topics covered include the alphabet, numbers, introducing oneself, basic dialogues, and commonly used verbs. Cultural topics may include famous Spanish/German speakers, holidays and celebrations, regional foods, and basic geographical facts.

Music Courses

Guitar/Ukulele Class GSMS - In this entry-level music class, open to both 7th & 8th grade, learners will explore fundamental concepts of music as they apply to ukulele and guitar. These concepts include rhythm basics, reading treble clef notes, and understanding basic chord structure. The course will be divided into two sections: approximately three weeks on ukulele, then six weeks on guitar. Unlike a musical survey class, this course is performance focused. Learners will be expected to perform at least twice for the class, either in small groups or as a solo. One performance session will take place at the end of the ukulele section, and the second will be on guitar at the end of the quarter.

Music Production Class GSMS - Music Production is an entry-level music class open to any 7th or 8th grade learner. In this class, the learners will cover basic music production concepts including digital audio workstation (DAW) essentials, music creation, and introductory recording and mixing techniques. As a non-prerequisite class, the learners will also explore career options in the field of music business and production by making assignments and projects relatable to real-world situations. By the end of this course, learners will understand the role of a music producer, be able to navigate basic functions of a DAW and demonstrate a proficiency in audition recording and editing.

Advanced Music Production/Performance GSMS - This is a second-tier music class in the line of humanities electives. In order to sign up for this course, learners must have already taken either Ukulele/Guitar or Basic Music Production. The goal of Advanced Production/Performance is to combine the two skillsets from the prerequisite classes to create collaborative-focused courses. Throughout the quarter, learners will engage in various projects that will draw on the knowledge and talents of performers and producers in the class. These projects will include song covers, finishing a song based on a premade template, and creating an original song from scratch.

7. MANAGEMENT

a. ACTION ITEMS:

a. APPROVE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR JUNE 4, 2021 FOR THE CLASS OF 2021. (IT IS UNCLEAR AT THIS TIME WHAT THE FORMAT FOR GRADUATION WILL BE. TBD)

Dr. Hollister requested the Board to approve the graduation date of Friday, June 4, 2021 for the Class of 2021 noting that the format of the graduation was still yet to be determined.

b. APPROVE UPDATED DRUG, ALCOHOL, & TOBACCO LEARNER/ATHLETIC CONTRACT.

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with an updated Athletic Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco learner contract for their approval. Mr. Marc Schaffer, Athletic Director, informed the Board that there were minor changes for more accountability, the addition of e-cigarettes and language to better align with the PIAA.

b. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL TENTATIVE PLANS TO CONDUCT SENIOR PROM/CELEBRATION.

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with the tentative plans presented by the student council representatives on a celebration for the Class of 2021. He noted that several protocols would be in place to have the event that include only seniors attending, no sit down dinner, and mask wearing. Dr. Hollister also indicated that the event would take place at the Marriott in Lancaster which also had safety protocols in place.

b. VACCINATION OF TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF PERSONNEL.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the state was prioritizing vaccinations for teachers and staff with the Johnson and Johnson vaccine to start this week. Dr. Hollister indicated that the District was working to be flexible for staff as the appointments started at 2:00 p.m. and ended at 8:00 p.m. He noted that if there was a significant number of staff that were out at a particular time, the District may need to shift to remote learning.

Dr. Hollister publicly commended the Lancaster-Lebanon IU13, Mr. Flip Steinour, IU13 HR Director and Mr. Brian Barnhart, IU13 Executive Director, for the process that they have in place for educators to receive their vaccination, noting that the Administration was being told that the whole process had been very easy.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Announcements.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Irvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m. with a second by Mr. Buck.
The motion was approved. (7-0; 2 absent)

Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
March 8, 2021