



Committee of the Whole Meeting April 12, 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, April 12, 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, Brian Conroy, Jacqueline Geyer, Paul Irvin, Dina Maio, Bryan Naranjo, and Thomas Wentzel

Board Members not in attendance were: Jonathan Dahl and Kevin McCarroll

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. and indicated that Mr. McConnell and Mr. Dahl were unable to attend the meeting that evening.

2. MOMENT OF SILENCE/REFLECTION - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Wentzel led in a silent mediation 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):

Beth Sharp, 408 Mentzer Avenue, New Holland, PA 17557

Dear Members of the Board and Dr. Hollister,

I am sorry I am not able to join the meeting in person this evening, as I will be attending my son's volleyball game at Governor Mifflin HS. First, I want to thank all of you for your part in making it possible for school to continue in person as much as possible, for making it possible for students to participate in extra-curricular activities - whether that be sports, drama, band, etc), for giving the seniors an opportunity to have a special senior event, for allowing students to have a Homecoming Court, and for everything you are doing to make this year as meaningful as possible for students and their families. Your work has not gone unnoticed and it means more than you know.

As we approach the end of the school year, I know you have more decisions to make regarding end of year events, including graduation. After emailing with Dr. Hollister last month and communicating with a Board member, I learned you will likely begin increasing discussions about plans for graduation in your next several meetings.

As you begin these discussions, I would ask that you strongly consider the option for an in-person graduation ceremony with the understanding that there will be a very limited number of tickets per graduate. If it were indoors, I know things would have to look different in the gym, and I am wondering if students could be spaced on the gym floor with two tickets per graduate allotted for family members to sit spaced apart in the bleachers. My understanding is the gym bleacher capacity is 1800, and the current senior class has 231 students. If each student receives 2 tickets, that would be 462 guests in the bleachers, which would be 12 over the 25% capacity for indoor events. That would be if every student attended graduation. I understand spaced out seating for students on the gym floor would likely eliminate the band performing, yet seniors in the band would still be part of graduation.

Other options that could also be considered include Calvary Church who hosts graduations for many high schools in the district at no cost, or possibly even a church in New Holland such as Petra. Could we also consider the option of the stadium? With the construction occurring this summer, graduation could actually be a nice "final" event on the stadium field. I am not sure

when construction is slotted to start, though I would hope we could consider a start of construction on June 5th, if the stadium is the only option for an in-person graduation.

I recognize there are still limitations that will guide your decisions, and there are factors that I am not aware of that impact the decisions. I also recognize that not everyone will have the same opinion or desire for an in-person graduation. That being said, with so many families who have chosen in-person instruction this year, I hope the majority will be considered, and those who are not comfortable attending can have the option to view the ceremony online, which has been an option for several years for overflow guests. Dr. Hollister had shared in our email exchange last month that the district was looking into Calvary as well as other options, and I am very thankful for that and hopeful for an in-person graduation ceremony.

I apologize again that I am not able to attend the meeting in person tonight to share these thoughts. Thank you very much for hearing my thoughts and for your consideration of an in-person graduation. Thank you again for all you do for our students and the community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist with researching venues and/or any other tasks I can assist with in making an in-person graduation ceremony possible. Sincerely, Beth Sharp Parent of Joseph Sharp (Senior), Amelia Sharp (Sophomore) and Matthew Sharp (Class of 2019)

COMMENTS (IN-PERSON):

[Frank Umbel, New Holland, PA](#)

Mr. Umbel thanked the Board for their service and said a prayer.

4. APPROVE PERSONNEL REPORT

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

Dr. Larkin informed the Board of several retirements, including Joan Betzner, Librarian at New Holland Elementary and Mr. Neal Walsh, Director of Facilities and the resignation of Mr. Kimberly Andersen's, Principal at Brecknock Elementary.

Dr. Hollister introduced, Mr. Lars White as the new Assistant Director of Facilities who would be taking the place of Mr. Walsh once he retired.

5. PROPERTY AND SERVICES

a. ACTION ITEMS:

a. 2021-22 GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE LANCASTER-LEBANON IU #13

The General Operating Budget consists of the following:

- Core Program of Services:
 - Increase of 1.18%
 - There is no assessment to the local school districts (no membership fee)
- Instructional Media Services (IMS):
 - Increase of 1.23%.
 - Estimated cost for ELANCO \$37,777.43 (2020-21 - \$37,681.25)

Mr. Ramsey presented to the Board the proposed IU13 General Operating Budget noting that there was slight increase of \$90 in the District's contribution to the Instructional Media Services Budget. He requested the Board to approve the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit #13 General Operating Budget (GOB) Budget for 2021-2022 at the upcoming Board meeting.

b. SALE OF PROPERTY (HOUSE LOCATED AT 1240 MAIN STREET, EAST EARL)

Mr. Ramsey updated the Board on the property the District purchased behind Blue Ball Elementary school, indicating that the Administration was recommending the sale of the house on the land, funds from which would be placed in the capital reserve. He noted that he would bring the resolution to the next Board meeting for their approval.

c. SYNTHETIC TURF AND TRACK AGREEMENT

Mr. Ramsey presented the Board with the updated proposal for the turf field and track project. He noted an increase of \$89,123 from the original proposal presented in February. He reviewed each line item that contributed to the increase and noted that the total cost of the program remained under budget.

The Board and Administration discussed several of the line items of the turf field and track proposal and the Board requested additional information and alternatives to some of those items.

b. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. CHANGES TO OUTSIDE CONCESSIONS FOR 2021-22

Mr. Ramsey informed the Board that the District would be returning the management of the concession stand back to the Booster Clubs with support from the District starting the 2021-2022 school year.

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. SECOND AND FINAL READING OF POLICY 100 - STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Larkin presented the Board with Board Policy 100 -Strategic Plan for its second and final reading and requested its approval at the upcoming Board meeting.

d. SECOND AND FINAL 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 second and final reading and requested its approval at the upcoming Board meeting.

e. NEW COURSES 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

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 audiot 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 a 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.

Dr. Larkin presented the Board with four new electives for the 2021-2022 school year for Garden Spot Middle School for approval.

b. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. UPDATE ON SIGN LANGUAGE COURSE

Dr. Larkin updated the Board on the request from a Middle School learner for a sign language course or club to be added to the District's curriculum. She indicated that due to certain constraints of offering it as a world language, the District was going to pursue having a Sign Language Club that would be open to both Middle School & High School learners. Dr. Larkin informed the Board that they were currently looking for teachers who were interested in getting their ASL Certification.

b. PRESENTATION - GARDEN SPOT SECONDARY CAMPUS COMMON BELL SCHEDULE - DR. MATTHEW SANGER

Dr. Larkin introduced Dr. Matthew Sanger, Principal at the Garden Spot Secondary Campus who presented the Board with the District's plan for a Common Bell Schedule for the Secondary Campus Grades 7-12 and the timeline for that change.

The Board and Administration discussed the pros and cons of the new proposed Common Bell Schedule.

Dr. Larkin thanked Dr. Sanger for his presentation.

7. MANAGEMENT

a. ACTION ITEMS: NONE

b. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a. NEED FOR AN MOA WITH ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP FOR MASTER SCHEDULE CHANGE AT THE SECONDARY CAMPUS.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that in order for the District to proceed with the change to the Common Bell Schedule, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Teacher Association would need to be drafted due to changes in the teachers' preparatory time.

b. LANCASTER LEBANON IU13 BOARD REPRESENTATIVE NOMINATION

Dr. Hollister formally requested Mr. Irvin to continue to sit on the Lancaster-Lebanon IU13 Board as the representative for Eastern Lancaster County School District. Mr. Irvin agreed, and Dr. Hollister informed the Board they would approve his nomination at the upcoming Board meeting.

Dr. Hollister presented the Board with several options for Graduation indicating that the District was not committing to any of the options at that time.

The Board and Administration discussed the various options for having an in-person Graduation.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the District had conducted interviews to replace Mr. Steve Good as Assistant Principal at the High School. He also informed them that they were reviewing applications for the replacement for Mrs. Kimberly Andersen.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the FFA would be presenting to the Board at the upcoming Board Meeting.

The Board and Administration discussed testing for incoming Kindergarten learners.

The Board and Administration discussed the District's procedures for shifting to remote learning.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Announcements.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Conroy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. with a second by Mr. Irvin.
The motion was approved. (7-0; 2 absent)

Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
April 12, 2021