



School Board of Directors Meeting October 18, 2021 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, October 18, 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, Brian Conroy, Jacqueline Geyer, Paul Irvin, Dina Maio, Kevin McCarroll, Bryan Naranjo, and Thomas Wentzel

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

Mr. Dahl 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

Dr. Sanger presented and congratulated the Students of the Month for the month of September being chosen for their character trait of “Leadership”.

Grade 12: William Fithian, Narvon, PA, Unable to Attend

Grade 11: Kayla Parry, New Holland, PA, Unable to Attend

Grade 10: Rocky Heisig, Denver, PA, Unable to Attend

Grade 9: Kelvin Guzman, New Holland, PA, Unable to Attend

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) 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):

Stephanie Shirk, 1645 Silver Valley East Earl PA

Prayer

Loving and Gracious God, you are indeed the giver of all good gifts and we thank you today for all your blessings, for the successful outcomes of our school events and for all our staff members, both the teaching and support members.

We ask that you bless them abundantly and we continue to seek your wisdom, guidance, courage and strength. Be with us in the deliberations and help us to be wise in the decisions we make for the good of all those who have placed their trust and confidence in our leadership.

Give us insight to lead with integrity that our decisions may reflect what is right and good. Keep us from short-sightedness and pettiness. Help us to make decisions that are for the good of all and guard us from blind self interest. Dear Lord, grant us the humility to always seek your will in all that we do and say.

In Jesus Name,
Amen.

COMMENTS (IN-PERSON):

President Wentzel made a statement regarding public comment procedures.

Sue Harpel, 1161 Reading Road, Narvon, PA

Ms. Harpel presented her concerns and comments regarding the possibility of a possible vaccine clinic in the school district and her concerns about the book, Lighter my Shadows, a book with mature themes that was checked out from the school library by an 8th grader.

Jennifer Jarvis, 335 Broad Street, East Earl, PA

Ms. Jarvis presented her concerns and comments regarding library book with mature themes.

Michele Good, 572 W. Conestoga Street, New Holland, PA

Ms. Good presented her concerns and comments regarding the lack of mitigations and the effect it was having on the teachers.

Mike Good, 572 W. Conestoga Street, New Holland, PA

Mr. Good presented his concerns and comments regarding the current mask policy and requested the Board to reinstate the mask mandate and exclusion protocol.

Sean Reese, 348 E. Main Street, New Holland, PA

Mr. Reese presented her concerns and comments regarding the current mask policy and his concerns with the 10 additional sick day incentive of the Memorandum of Understanding for vaccinated staff.

Dave Horst, 1186 East Earl Road, East Earl, PA

Mr. Horst presented his comments regarding the effects of the Covid-19 vaccine.

Steven Hurst, 209 Jared Way, New Holland, PA

Mr. Hurst thanked the Board and presented his comments and concerns about surveys that learners are being asked to participate in.

Dianne Boone, 729 Pleasant Drive, New Holland, PA

Ms. Boone presented her concerns and comments regarding the 10 additional sick day incentive of the Memorandum of Understanding for vaccinated staff.

Tony Bellini, 124 Shalom Drive, Denver, PA

Mr. Bellini commented on the current Covid numbers of the District and presented his concerns and comments regarding the 10 additional sick day incentive of the Memorandum of Understanding for vaccinated staff. He also requested the Board not reinstate the mask mandate.

6. Consent Agenda

Items listed under the Consent Agenda section of our Board Meeting 10 additional sick day incentive of the Memorandum of Understanding for vaccinated staff 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."

Kara Martin, Director of Special Education and Gifted Services introduced, Rashelle Whitcomb as the new Autistic Support Special Education Teacher at Brecknock Elementary.

Mr. Dahl noted that September 20, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes indicated that he was present and he was not present at that meeting and the meeting minutes should reflect that.

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

6.a. Cafeteria Fund Treasurer's Report

6.b. Bills Paid

6.c. Approve Personnel Report

6.d. Treasurer's Report

6.e. Approval of Minutes

6.f. Approve Budgetary Transfers

6.g. Student Activity Account

6.h. Investments

6.i. Action Item - Approval of the Revision to Policy # 334 for Sick Leave

6.j. Action Item - Approval of the Change Order for the Synthetic Turf and Track Project

Change Order # 2 - \$2,924.90 ADD: This is to supply and install erosion control matting and seed the slope with a blend that will give quick coverage here this Fall as well as a permanent low-grow turfgrass stabilizing the slope.

6.k. Action Item- Approval of Affidavits of Guardianship

6.l. Action Item - Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Teacher Association (ELCEA) Regarding Livestreaming & Camera Use

6.m. Action Item - Approval of the Agriculture Department Ag Advisory Board for the 2021-2022 school year to comply with PDE Requirement.

Approval of the Agriculture Department Ag Advisory Board for the 2021-2022 school year to comply with PDE Requirement:

Cliff Horning
Erin Varley
Jim Shirk
Kevin Stoltzfus
Larry Shirk
Michael Miller
Sheldon Hoover
Scott Bailey

7. Action Items

Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Separate Consideration.

7.a. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Teacher Association (ELCEA) Regarding Absences due to Covid-19 & Teleworking

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Teacher Association (ELCEA) Regarding Absences due to Covid-19 & Teleworking. It was seconded by Mr. Naranjo.

The Board and Administration discussed the language in Section 3 of the Memorandum of Understanding regarding additional 10 sick days incentive for staff who are vaccinated.

Mr. Irvin amended his motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Teacher Association (ELCEA) Regarding Absences due to Covid-19 & Teleworking with the amended language in Section 3 to include all staff. It was seconded by Mrs. Maio. **The motion was approved. (7-0; 2 abstained)**

7.b. District 2021-2022 Covid-19 Health & Safety Plan Updates and/or Clarifications

The Board plans to discuss these topics and potentially take action to change the Health & Safety Plan:

Antibody Testing

Home Covid-19 Testing

Exclusion Protocol

Mr. Conroy made a motion to amend Section E. of the Health and Safety Plan to read:
Learners and staff will be sent home if they present with severe symptoms, as assessed by the school nurses, that are closely associated with COVID-19.

The nurse will strongly recommend these learners or staff be tested for COVID-19 based on the nature of the symptoms.

If these learners or staff test positive for COVID- 19, they will quarantine for the number of days based on their doctor's recommendation.

If these learners or staff are tested negative for Covid-19 they may return to school when symptoms are no longer present for a minimum of 24hrs.

If leaners or staff decide not to get tested, they should remain home until symptoms are no longer present for a minimum of 24 hrs.

Learners and/or staff within 6' for 15 minutes or more of a positive case, will be notified of their exposure through contact tracing in the school and unless they present symptoms these learners and/or staff will be allowed to remain in school.

It was seconded by Mr. Irvin. **Mr. Conroy rescinded his motion.**

The Board and Administration discussed the District's exclusion protocol, covid testing, and language changes to Section E of the Health & Safety Plan as presented by Mr. Conroy.

Mr. Conroy made a motion to amend Section E. of the Health and Safety Plan to include the first four paragraphs of his original amendment which read:

Learners and staff will be sent home if they present with severe symptoms, as assessed by the school nurses, that are closely associated with COVID-19.

The nurse will strongly recommend these learners or staff be tested for COVID-19 based on the nature of the symptoms.

If these learners or staff test positive for COVID- 19, they will quarantine for the number of days based on their doctor's recommendation.

If these learners or staff are tested negative for Covid-19 they may return to school when symptoms are no longer present for a minimum of 24hrs.

It was Seconded by Mr. Buck. **The motion was approved. (9-0)**

Mr. Conroy made a motion to amend Section E. of the Health and Safety Plan to include the 5 paragraph of his original amendment which read:

If these learners or staff decide not to get tested, they should remain home until symptoms are no longer present for a minimum of 24 hrs.

Mr. Conroy amended his motion to amend Section E of the Health and Safety Plan to include the 5th paragraph of his original amendment with these changes:

If learners or staff who are symptomatic and sent home and decide not to get tested for Covid-19, they should remain home until symptoms are no longer present for a minimum of 24hrs.

Mr. Conroy rescinded his motion.

Mr. Conroy made a motion to amend Section E. of the Health and Safety Plan to include the last paragraph from his original amendment which read:

Learners and/or staff within 6' for 15 minutes or more of a positive case, will be notified of their exposure through contact tracing in the school and unless they present symptoms these learners and/or staff will be allowed to remain in school.

It Seconded by Mr. Naranjo. **The motion was approved. (7-2)**

Mr. Buck made a motion to accept home Covid-19 testing as an option for the Health and Safety Plan requiring two tests. It was seconded by Mr. Dahl.

Mr. Buck amended his motion to accept home Covid-19 testing as an option for the Health and Safety Plan. It was second by Mr. Dahl. **The motion was approved (8-1)**

Mr. Buck made a motion that individuals in the District who can show proof of a Covid positive test and a positive antibody test the same way as a person who has been vaccinated. It was seconded by Mr. Irvin

Mr. Buck amended his motion that individuals in the District who can show proof of a Covid positive test or a positive antibody test the same way as a person who has been vaccinated. It was seconded by Mr. Irvin. **The motion was approved (8-1)**

8. Reports

8.a. Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau

No Report. Mr. Ramsey indicated that there was no meeting. The next meeting would occur on November 10th.

8.b. Lancaster-Lebanon IU13

Mr. Irvin shared several highlights from the October 13th board meeting report: He reported that the IU13 Board approved \$15,807,607.394 in disbursements and approved new or addition to service contracts for Business Services, Early Childhood & Special Education Services, Instructional/Technology Services and Human Resource Services. He noted that there were Thirty-five (35) new hires, seven (7) resignations, four (4) terminations, three (3)

retirements, fifty (50) changes in position or salaries, and eight (8) leaves of absence. Mr. Irvin reported that the IU approved Comprehensive Plan for the IU13 through June 2024.

8.c. Lancaster CTC

Mrs. Maio reported on the September 23rd JOC meeting noting that the Board first had a Board appreciation dinner from the Administration and Foundation. She reported that the LCCTC held their first all staff Inservice day for both adult education and secondary staff members. She also reported that the LCCTC established the articulation for precision machining with Thaddeus Stevens College.

8.d. Legislative

Mr. Wentzel reported that the State was still working on drawing the Legislative lines.

9. Superintendent's Report

9.a. School Board Policy 903 - Public Participation in Board Meetings - First Reading

Dr. Hollister presented to the Board with School Board Policy 903 - Public Participation in Board Meetings with updated language from the solicitor.

Dr. Hollister presented several athletic successes for girls field hockey, boys soccer, and cross country. He also acknowledged several learners who were successful at the New Holland Fair for their digital photography.

The Board and Administration discussed and addressed the public's concerns regarding library books with mature themes.

10. Announcements

Mr. Buck asked to discuss BrainPop and address its concerns.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Irvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. with a second by Mr. Conroy.
The motion was approved. (9-0)

Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
October 18, 2021