



School Board of Directors Meeting December 20, 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, December 20, 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, Bryan Naranjo, and Thomas Wentzel

Board Members not in attendance were: 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, staff members of the District, and a member of the media.

1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Dahl opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2. Moment of Silence/Reflection - Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Irvin 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 Conroy noted that the Board would like to add an additional action item: Motion to Appoint, Dr. Nadine Larkin, Assistant Superintendent, as Interim Superintendent starting January 25, 2022, until new superintendent was seated.

Mr. Naranjo requested that the action item, Approval of School Board Policy 109 - Resource Materials - Second & Final Reading to be moved from the consent agenda as a separate action item.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the modified agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Conroy. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

4. Student of the Month Presentation

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

Grade 12: Tanner Donahue, Narvon, PA, Unable to Attend

Grade 11: Carli Laudermilch, New Holland, PA, Unable to Attend

Grade 10: Burger Lilly, with parents Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Kristin Barshinger

Grade 9: Luke Canales, Narvon, 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):

Steven Hurst, East Earl Township

It has been brought up to the community's attention that a English teacher presented an essay called "A modest proposal to slash the elderly population." Have you read it? Let me share a few paragraphs from the essay before expressing my utmost disgust in it.

"Today, as in 1729 when a "modest proposal" was written, the same cloud of overpopulation darkens our lives. But to deal with the problem we should forgo sacrificing children- humanity's seed corn- as a solution. Instead let us consider judicious pruning of the withered branches of the tree of life- the elderly. Let them pay the price for dawdling in passing lanes on freeways, monopolizing harried clerks at computer stores, and voting down needed public school tax increases. The elderly are living too long and consuming more than just air and sunshine."

"are the elderly entitled to our sympathy? Of course, but the elderly, though no fault of their own, ravage the earth like an endless cloud of locusts".

The writer suggest two options to help speed the elderly exit, 1. The carrot, 2. The stick

The "carrot" recommends that the government should create a program to encourage voluntary self termination by the elderly called sunset of great opportunity "So Go". The government would offer a modest sum of \$25,000 to anyone aged 55 or older willing to take an early exit from worldly woes. Money could help pay for a grandchild's college education or it could finance a last trip to the slot machines and craps tables in Los Vegas casinos. Surely, the generous financial incentives of the program and opportunity to end life peacefully accompanied by loved ones would be attractive.

The "stick" If volunteerism doesn't work (carrot) sterner measures would be needed. He proposes establishment of terminal taxes- Remuneration in Place of Full Future Service (RIPOFFS),to be assessed at the age of 65. This would acknowledge seniors' lessened contributions to society. OF COURSE exceptions could be made for members of Congress, billionaires, and popular entertainers. If too few elders took advantage of this offer, names would be drawn from a national lottery to make up any shortfall." Doesn't this remind you of the movie hunger games?

I just don't understand in any capacity how the teacher thought this example would be acceptable to use. To use literature such as this, that has a complete disregard for human life is inexcusable, disgusting, and should not be tolerated and I would go as far as suggesting termination!! The complete absence of judgement on behalf of the teacher to even consider including this in the curriculum should be very concerning to the administration and parents alike.

Just imagine sitting around the dinner table, Christmas dinner this Saturday and out of nowhere your 10th grader suggests that grandma or grandpa take an early exit from this world in order to pay for their college tuition. How would this make you feel? This is sickening. With all the other negative information our children have to process in today's society, was this really the best material this teacher had to offer.

I'm sure I can speak for others when I say this deserves an explanation.

Would this be consider this THE SPARTAN WAY?

COMMENTS (IN-PERSON):

Dr. Hollister made a statement regarding safety and security due to safety concerns from a threat incident that occurred the previous week.

Dave Horst, 1186 East Earl Drive, East Earl, PA

Mr. Horst read several scriptures from the Bible.

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

Mr. Reese presented his comments regarding the Board's discussion at a previous board meeting about the purchase of Covid-19 home test kits. He also made comments regarding Board Policy 109 and the restatement of BrainPOP.

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."

Mr. Robert Arrick, Principal of New Holland Elementary, introduced Katie Waite 5th Grade Teacher and Maria Buck, Health & Physical Education Teacher starting at New Holland Elementary.

Mrs. Heather Schrantz, Principal of Blue Ball Elementary introduced Megan Heckman starting as a new 1st Grade Teacher at Blue Ball Elementary.

Mr. Conroy made a motion to approve the personnel report. It was seconded by Mr. Naranjo. **The motion was approved. (7-0; 1 absent; 1 abstained) Mr. Buck abstained due to his wife being listed on the personnel report for approval.**

6.a. Treasurer's Report

6.b. Approval of Minutes

- 6.c. Bills Paid**
- 6.d. Approve Personnel Report**
- 6.e. Investments**
- 6.f. Cafeteria Fund Treasurer's Report**
- 6.g. Approve Budgetary Transfers**
- 6.h. Student Activity Account**
- 6.i. Approve the Accelerated Budget Opt Out Resolution Certifying Tax Rate Within Inflation Index**

This resolution certifies that the District will not increase the real estate tax rate more than 3.4% for 2022-23.

- 6.j. Approval of Agreement to Waive Expulsion Hearing**
- 6.k. Approve the Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Property to Garden Spot Fire Rescue**
- 6.l. Approval of the School Board Meeting Calendar Schedule 2022-2023**
- 6.m. Approval of the 2022-2023 School Year Calendar**

7. Action Items

Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Separate Consideration.

- 7.a. Motion to appoint Dr. Nadine Larkin as interim superintendent starting January 25th until the new superintendent is seated.**

Mr. Conroy made a motion to appoint Dr. Nadine Larkin as interim superintendent starting January 25th until the new superintendent is seated. It was seconded by Mr. Irvin. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

- 7.b. Approval of School Board Policy 109 - Resource Materials - Second & Final Reading**

The Board and Administration discussed School Board Policy 109 – Resource Materials and the development process for the administrative regulations that were attached.

Mr. Naranjo made a motion to approve School Board Policy 109 - Resource Materials. It was seconded by Mr. Buck. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

- 7.c. Approval of Changes to 2021-2022 Academic School Year Calendar**

Change of January 20, 2022, from an HS Only Early Dismissal to a Secondary Campus (HS/MS) Only Early Dismissal.

Dr. Hollister requested the Board to approve an adjustment to the 2021-2022 academic school calendar with the change of the January 20th High School Only Early Dismissal to a Secondary Campus Only, including both High School and Middle School.

Mr. Irvin made a motion to approve the Changes to 2021-2022 Academic School Year Calendar. It was seconded by Mr. Naranjo. **The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)**

8. Reports

8.a. Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau

No Report. Mr. Ramsey indicated that the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau did not meet, and the next meeting would be their January 12th Reorganization meeting.

8.b. Lancaster-Lebanon IU13

Mr. Irvin shared several highlights from the December 8th board meeting report: He noted that the IU13 had approved two new board members from Palmyra and Manheim Central. He reported that the IU13 Board approved \$7,331,211 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 twelve (12) resignations, two (2) terminations, two (2) retirements, twenty-six (26) new hires, fifteen (15) changes in position or salaries, and six (6) leaves of absence. Mr. Irvin also informed the Board that the IU13 approved the hiring of the new executive director. He had distributed to the Administration copies of the IU13 newsletter Helping Districts Help Students, and the Board meeting highlights.

8.c. Lancaster CTC

Mr. Conroy reported on the Lancaster CTC meeting held on December 12th. He noted that this was the reorganization meeting. Mr. Conroy thanked Mrs. Dina Maio for her service on the Joint Operating Committee. Mr. Conroy reported that the JOC was presented the LCCTC Budget and indicated that the Business Manager, Mr. DelPriore would be willing to come and answer any specific questions regarding the budget. He also reported on the Open House events that occurred, stating that they had a record attendance.

8.d. Legislative

Mr. Conroy reported on a hearing that occurred December 13th regarding Covid preventions, vaccine treatments, and data collection. He also reported on Bill 938 regarding the Covid-19 vaccine not being required for children to enter school. He also reported on the development of a medical freedom act and on the CRT Hearing that occurred on December 15th. Mr. Conroy reported on House Bill 1332 regarding the posting of curriculum on school websites. Mr. Conroy thanked the Administration on how the District is providing their curriculum information to the community.

9. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hollister reported that music teachers, Mr. Heckman and Mr. Wiedemer took a representative of learners to the District Honors Band held at Manheim Central.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board about a Board Orientation event being held by Lancaster Lebanon IU13 and noted that if anyone was interested in attending, they should contact Mr. Johnson or Dr. Hollister.

Dr. Hollister also informed the Board that the District would be switching to a new website platform in January and thanked Mr. Johnson for his work on the project.

Dr. Hollister commended Mr. Matthew Zamperini, coach of the football team for being named co-coach of the year.

Dr. Hollister congratulated Mr. Joseph Steinmacher and Mr. Michael Stitzer for receiving another \$25,000 grant from CNH for printer technology for the school's STEM labs.

10. Announcements

Dr. Hollister announced that an executive session was held prior to the Board meeting to discuss a personnel matter.

Dr. Hollister also presented his concerns regarding the current mental health crisis and the safety and emotional support needs of learners.

The Administration updated the Board on information regarding at-home Covid-19 test kits.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Irvin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. with a second by Mr. Naranjo.
The motion was approved. (8-0; 1 absent)

Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
December 20, 2021