

Conneaut School District

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Minutes

Wednesday, October 5, 2016

7:05 PM

The Conneaut School Board of Directors met Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at the Alice Schaefer Annex cafeteria.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Jody Sperry.

The following members answered to roll call:

Mr. Burnham	Mr. Ellis	Mr. Hornstein
Mrs. Krachkowski	Mrs. Luckock	Mr. McQuiston
Mr. Schaefer	Mrs. Sperry	

It is noted Mrs. Klink was absent at the opening of the meeting, she arrived at 7:35 PM.

Administrators Present-

Superintendent: Jarrin Sperry

Director of Special Education- Susy Walters

Business Manager- Greg Mayle

Curriculum Director- Brenda Kantz

Director of Buildings and Grounds- Frank Kimmel

Technology Coordinator – Rick Kelly

Principals: John Hines, Adam Jardina, Joel Wentling, David Maskrey, Doug Parks and Kevin Burns.

Visitor Recognition

Mrs. Sperry offered visitor recognition on Agenda Items noting as per Policy 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings. All visitors who are recognized during the Visitor Recognition are allotted a maximum of five (5) minutes to address matters of their concern, unless otherwise determined by the Board President. Visitor recognition is to be limited to thirty (30) minutes unless otherwise decided by the Board.

No visitors

Discussion Items-

1. *Policies for 1st Reading –*
 - 200 – Enrollment in District
 - 201 – Admission of Students
 - 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students
 - 202.1 – Enrollment of Foreign Exchange Students

Mr. Jardina briefed the Board on the four policies up for 1st Reading. They will be on the agenda as information at the October 18, 2016 Regular Board Meeting.

2. *Title I Parent Conference –*

Mrs. Kantz invited the school board to the 1st Annual Parent Conference to be held Monday, October 17, 2016 at the Hotel Conneaut. This program is sponsored by Title I, Federal Programs for parents/guardians. She explained in the past this program had been offered in Meadville with a very low

turnout. So far she has over 30 who have indicated they will attend and attributes this to hosting it within our district boundaries.

One of the speakers will discuss how the work force is in need of soft skills in our youth today. She explain how a parent telling a student “you don’t have to go to school today” relates to work performance later in life.

3. *School Performance Profile-*

Mrs. Kantz reported that the School Performance Profile scores have not been made available as of earlier this evening. Last year, there was no report in elementary as the state “paused” for one year.

Mr. Sperry he is hearing the scores are all over the place but the hope is that they are accurate. The delay from the state indicates they “think” they are correct. In his opinion, this does not provide confidence in schools.

In explaining these scores to the new board members, Mr. Sperry indicated that the changes are actually hurting us in the future.

Mr. Schaef asked why the location this year was selected; Mrs. Kantz responded they considered a location that would be in the district, big enough for an unknown number attending. In the past it had a poor turnout and offered outside our district boundaries.

4. *Mental Health Counseling*

Mr. Sperry has been approached by Mental Health Counseling to service our students. This would be an out based service much like other counseling services we permit. Students/parents health insurance would be billed for services, not the district. If the district is okay with this, Mr. Sperry will ask our District Solicitor to draft a memorandum of understanding and present next month.

5. *School Tutoring*

Mr. Hines announced he had been approached this past summer from local pastors wishing to serve students, not in a ministry way but to help with support. Their ideas were to this fall offer supervision, games and such after school on Friday’s, before the football games. The first day they conducted did not have of a turnout but the effort is there to build relationships. Mr. Hines admits there is a void after school for students to have this kind of opportunity.

If the Board is amendable to this, they would be willing to come next month to discuss further.

6. *Buildings and Grounds*

- a. Auction or out to bid- Mr. Kimmel indicated there is an excess of equipment in the district such as wall pads, overhead projectors and the sort. In the past he understands the District has conducted an auction and would like to relook this idea again. The Board had no objections.
- b. Snowplowing- Mr. Kimmel provided a detailed report on showing the past five years snow plowing costs. The contracts are expired and he would like to extend them out one year in order to evaluate. He has heard all positive reviews of each contract and they are saving the district quite a bit. In talking to each one after last months meeting, a few lowered their price for the next school year. The Board was in support of extending their contract one more year.

- c. Summit Building- an update on the sale of this building. They are still receiving calls on it but no offers yet. It was noted the taxes are a bit high and could be a deterrent to potential buyers.

Mr. Schaef added that he attended the Summit Township Supervisors meeting. They are looking at building a new facility and incorporate the library. At the meeting a number of members of the library board were in attendance. During the meeting it was discussed by the supervisors and engineer on the funds our School District oversees and if those funds could be used towards the construction of the new building. Mr. Schaef answered he was not authorized to speak but hopefully over the next month he could firm things up. It was thought by several of the Conneaut School District board members that the funds had to remain with the school district, we would have to check the Foundation rules.

7. *Emotional Support Need-*

Mr. Sperry announced that since the start of the school year we have received several high needs and some emotional support students moving in. These are middle school and high school level students. Our emotional support program at Lake has one aid and one teacher and the numbers have continued to increase to the state limit of 15 students with very high need. He is asking permission to create a part time position for the Lake building. Many of the students have a high behavioral need, are in the regular ed population and often times need a second pair of hands.

The board was in agreement to post, advertise the required ten days and to place a motion on the 18th board meeting permission to hire.

8. *Teacher Master Schedules*

Mr. Sperry provided the buildings master schedules on Canvas for review.

9. *Superintendent's Evaluation*

Mrs. Sperry and the Committee worked on updating the Superintendent's Evaluation and provided a copy to each board member. The Committee asked to have it completed and turned back in within 2 weeks, at the October 18th Board meeting. IN November they can finish the evaluation within the timeline of Mr. Sperry's contract. They can then have an executive session with the Board to go over the evaluation results with Mr. Sperry before the November board meeting.

10. *Superintendent's Report*

Mr. Sperry reported on the following;

1. A survey went out to our cyber charter families in the last month. As of today, only two families have responded. We are hoping more will answer the survey and it only takes about 3-5 minutes to complete.
2. Kevin Sprong, Mike Costa, Ted Watts, Julie Bauer, Dave Schaef and I met at the CCCTC and started discussion for teacher negotiations with CCCTC staff.
3. The IU SAC (Superintendent's Advisory Council) meeting was Sept 14th. Discussion centered on upcoming state budgets, SPP scores, testing, link crew program, building safety and discussion about Erie.
4. Both middle schools had their open houses and had decent attendance. The CCCTC and other groups reported good discussion with families about their children's futures. We hope to expand and grow this every year.

5. I met with Dick Astor in the middle of Sept and we talked about a program to secure funds from delinquent tax payers. Greg and I are meeting with Dick and Jeff Spaulding later this month to get more details and hope to bring it to the board in November or December for discussion.
6. The CCCTC meeting was at the Trolley station in Cambridge Springs for September. We received a brief history lesson on the acquisition and restoration of the trolley station. We have had numerous students from all CCCTC attendance areas work on the restoration of the station under the tutelage of Rod Frazier.
7. I attended a meeting about new ESSA transportation regulations at Crawford County Human Services. Under ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) there are some rules changes in regards to homeless students and foster students. All the districts attending were in agreement that we will continue to work together and keep the best interests of the students at the forefront.
8. I met with Fred Johnson (Director of the IU in Edinboro) about conducting a Safety/Emergency Preparedness meeting/discussion at the IU for IU districts concerning District Safety. The meeting would provide an opportunity for districts to share what they have done and are doing to keep all district students and staff safe. The meeting is tentatively set for November 15th in the late afternoon with a light dinner provided.
9. We had a follow up meeting with the State Police, Allen Clark, and the Red Cross concerning our active shooter simulation this past July. The biggest issue with the drill was communication from inside the building to the command center. The issue has been resolved with Lt. Hines from the PA State Police contacting the State in regards to some methods to use 800mghz radios as walkie talkies for short distances. The set up was experimented with in all the district buildings and it was successful.
10. Greg and I met with Dot and finalized our Cyber Proposal that Dot and Don will present to the PSBA Delegate Assembly. Dot is ready to re-submit!
11. The CASH staff met with Dave Maskrey and me to hash out a policy concerning homework. The policy idea will be given to the policy committee for discussion and then brought to the board.
12. We had our October Admin Meeting on Monday and we discussed our SPP scores and Doug, Adam, Kevin, Joel, Brenda, and I are meeting again on Friday to come up with ideas to raise the scores of our middle schools.
13. I attended the monthly Systems of Care meeting at Crawford County Human Services on Tuesday, October 5th. Tom Washington from Crawford Central and Karen Jez from Titusville were also in attendance. Talk centered on spending the "Safe Schools Healthy Students" grant monies. We are attempting to write a proposal for the grant to pay for an after school tutoring program and possibly paying for the "Link Crew" program to come to Erie for training.

11. PSBA Updates

Mr. Ellis reported the Annual Conference is next week in Hershey with the "Success Starts Here" theme. There is also a free webinar on November 3, 2016 if anyone is interested.

On a side note, Mrs. Sperry indicated early registration is open for the National School Board Association in March, 2017 in Denver, Colorado. She and Mrs. Krachkowski had previously expressed interest in attending. Mrs. Sperry asked to have her attendance added to the professional growth requests at the October Board meeting. Mrs. Krachkowski indicated her attending the conference is unclear at this time.

12. Agenda Review-

The Board reviewed the draft agenda.


Mrs. Sperry announced there was a Negotiations Committee meeting today in which the committee met with insurance vendors as information.

Mrs. Sperry announced the Board would be going into an EXECUTIVE SESSION immediately following the meeting to review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, might lead to disclosure of information protected by law, issues might include district matters

Meeting Adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



Mrs. Jody Sperry, Board President



Mr. Greg Mayle, Board Secretary