

Conneaut School District

**PUBLIC WORK SESSION
Minutes
Wednesday, December 6, 2017
7:00 PM**

The Conneaut School Board of Directors met Wednesday, December 6, 2017 at the Alice Schafer Annex cafeteria.

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Dorothy Luckock.

The following members answered to roll call:

Mr. Burnham	Mr. Ellis	Mr. Hornstein
Mrs. Klink	Mrs. Krachkowski	Mrs. Luckock
Mr. McQuiston	Mrs. Miller	Mrs. Sperry

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

District Solicitor- George Joseph

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

Mrs. Luckock provided a visitor Recognition as Per Policy 903 – Public Participation in Board Meetings. She announced 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.

Discussion Items

1. *Local Audit Presentation...*

Mr. Mayle indicated it has been a busy couple months and have successfully wrapped up both the state audit and the local audit the past couple weeks.

The local audit, conducted by McGill, Power and Bell from Meadville with Bruce Lawrence and Associates here tonight to provide a two page summary.

In conclusion, the auditor’s report received a clean opinion, unmodified.

2. *State Audit Update...*

Mr. Mayle wrapped up the state audit with an exit conference call to wrap it up. They significantly changed the audit process since last time due to reduction in staffing within Pennsylvania Department of Education. It was not the man power anymore.

Levels based on risk for every district with level 3 receiving a full performance audit. We were a level 1, the lowest risk. This audit was very clean with the state auditor performing a limited procedures engagement. Each cycle identified hot topics as a whole and then keyed into specific areas. Our auditor looked specifically at the Sunshine law, Right to Know Requests and budget procedures. This audit was certainly a different process and done remotely.

Mr. Mayle was pleased to announce there were no finding, a clean audit with one verbal comment to be extremely minor. A couple ethics forms had some boxes not checked. We should receive a formal report and letter soon.

3. *Document Retention...*

Mr. Mayle addressed District Policy 800 which involves the development of record retention guide for whole district when how stored how long records are kept. To his knowledge never created. Anticipating approval next week, records mgmt. committee are looking thru this.

4. *Nurse...*

Mrs. Walters informed the Board of a nursing substitute shortage and the district has quite a liability if nurses are off sick and we cannot find a replacement. Then compensatory education is where a child a parent doesn't feel comfortable sending their child if we don't have a nurse for them. Mrs Andrews at the high school has been working above and beyond to recruit and beef up the nursing substitute list. She and Mrs. Walters spend evenings and weekends finding someone to come in when a nurse is to be off or there is need for another nurse. This is time consuming and would be costly to the district if we cannot get substitutes. Would like to create a position to pay up to 2 hours a week if working beyond the school day. In keeping with contract would post and interview for it and would be titled Called substitute nurse scheduler.

5. *Academic Intervention...*

Mr. Jardina/Conneaut Valley Elementary is traditionally a title 1 program and utilizes a homework after school club involving one hour after school 2 days a week. Depending on student needs utilized one or two teachers. In Mr. Jardina' observation he felt it was not meaningful last few years so he wants to change it to make good use of time.

Mr. Jardina proposing an academic intervention program which target students who traditionally, is geared towards students right on would border of basic and proficient. Mr. Jardina has come up with a station rotation model involving 10-20 targeted students on a voluntary program.

He is presenting this to the Board because it would change the title one after school program and become a pilot program this year. He would provide opportunities for Mr. Parks and his teachers to come out see how it works.

In speaking with Mr. Bridge about the transportation, it looks like transportation costs would be \$75/vehicle in the afternoon, depending on which students and how many parents can provide transportation. Mr. Jardina would like to provide transportation for the students as the neediest in the program would need transportation.

He is proposing one day a week at 2 hours for up to 40 targeted students but would be happy if it is 15-20 students. Proposal includes three instructors per session all covered by Title monies.

The Board commended him for seeing a program was not working and figuring out a new pilot.

6. *A2i Grant Discussion...*

Mr. Sperry announced he has a link in canvas work session folder for A2i grant. This started last year when Mr. Sperry was invited to hear the CEO Learning Oventions on A2i. They were trying to get a multimillion dollar federal grant to run the program nationwide. Girard School District has helped develop their software and are presently using it as part of the grant work. They have since received the grant so Mrs. Kantz and he met via a webinar and. The grant would be a three year commitment using our elementary schools and put into basket where they could be a full grant recipient and get all aspects of grant. We could receive \$20,000/year for 3 years. It targets Reading K-3, grouped by need and reassessing as students' needs change. Learning Oventions would need to know by February if we are on board and would have a Memorandum of Understanding to approve.

Again, this is a national grant with NW Pennsylvania targeted along with Los Angeles who has a District with 43 elementary schools. We are targeted because we are so rural, Erie was classified and Titusville.

Mrs. Luckock noted that we have made it obvious that we have been trying to increase our awareness of test scores and the challenges but what can we do to help move students to proficient or advanced. It is the premise that if a student reads well then it helps in other subjects and if one reads poorly it affects other subjects as well. So she questioned in trying to be sensitive to overloading multiple assessments. Is this replacing or money spent on something we are already spending on It does look like a fabulous opportunity in the elementary school with some of the data analysis to get students to transition to individualized instruction and resources without figuring it all out could be a great benefit to the teaching staff.

Mrs. Kantz replied that this personalizes instruction for every student's needs, in general give every student an IEP. She is unsure yet if it would take the place of other testing but hopes it does. She has asked teachers to do a small group instruction that is what it does. It could be

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a chore for teachers to be organized, know who goes where and knowing the needs of each that change all the time. This program does the testing and breaks into two domains, those that need code and those that need focus. This is not a field test, this is a propagation grant.

Mrs. Luckock commented that so many tests and we think about getting those that are struggling but this program looks like it also takes students who read high in their activities as well.

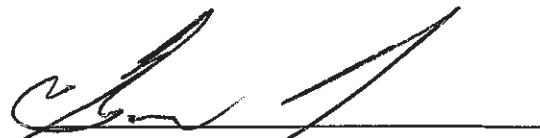
7. *Policy Updates...*
Mr. Jardina/Mrs. Kantz reviewed each policy for review and first reading policies.
8. *Maintenance Updates...*
Mr. Kimmel is conducting a soft start at Conneaut Valley for the maintenance job program, which went really well. This is providing better communication for maintenance and staff with better tracking. The cost is \$3,700.00.
9. *Superintendent's Report ...*
Mr. Sperry read his report.
10. *PSBA and New Board Training Updates...*
Mr. Ellis reviewed some upcoming webinars.
11. *Agenda Review...*
Board President Dorothy Luckock provided an opportunity for members to review the draft agenda and ask questions.

The Board thanked Mr. David Schaefer for his 33 years of service and to Mrs. Sperry for her leadership as president the last few years.

Mrs. Luckock noted that there would be 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 discussing a grievance.

The Board adjourned at 9:12 pm.


Mrs. Dorothy Luckock, Board President


Mr. Greg Mayle, Board Secretary