

**Conneaut School District**  
Additional Work Session Minutes  
September 18, 2018  
Alice Schafer Annex Gym

The Conneaut School Board of Directors met Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at the Alice Schafer Annex gymnasium/cafeteria.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Board President Mrs. Dorothy Luckock.

The following members answered to roll call:

Mr. Burnham	Mr. Hornstein	Mr. Jacobs
Mrs. Luckock	Mrs. Krachkowski	Mrs. Miller

It is noted that Mr. Ellis, Mrs. Klink, and Mr. McQuiston were absent.

**Administrators Present-**

**Superintendent:** Jarrin Sperry

**Business Manager:** Greg Mayle

**Special Education Director-** Susy Dressel

**Director of Buildings and Grounds-** Frank Kimmel

**Curriculum Director** – Brenda Kantz

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

**Visitor Recognition**

Mrs. Luckock offered a 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.

Mr. VanDusen addressed the Board regarding aides no longer having iPads. This makes it difficult for them as they have to share desktops/computers each day. Please consider providing them once again.

**Discussion Items**

a. Raw Data Review

Each building principal provided a snapshot of their 2017/2018 school year preliminary

PSSA/Keystone proficiency numbers. Mr. Wentling, Conneaut Lake Middle School started off noting his building had a little better performing year than the previous year. It is noted only 2 areas (Grade 8 ELA and Grade 8 Science) scores were lowering in 17/18 sy compared to 16/17 in proficiency. He is hoping with increased instruction time this year we will see improved scores and growth. Interestingly that 96 percent of the students passed the Keystone Math and only half of those same students didn't pass the PSSA. It is different than Algebra, in fact, one student in the entire 8<sup>th</sup> grade scored Advanced. That is the job our teachers have, teaching two different things. He noted that there is new growth there and we increased instruction time this new school year so we should see continued growth.

With the new focus On-Hands program this year, which Mr. Wentling stated was a "god send", we can look at every student and their individual trends. His building focuses on engaging the students, and a lot of positive work driven by the staff within the building. This year he has increased the instruction time to 71 minutes for Science and Math.

Mr. Burns, Conneaut Valley Middle School noted that Conneaut Lake did a little better in Math than his building. There were some staff changes within his building in Math, with and a teacher retired who always had Math proficiency scores in the 90's. Math is always a major concern and the students understand that the PSSA tests don't really matter, they don't go on their report card. He did provide tutoring near the end of last year and this year he would like to gear it specific to PSSA for those students on the PSSA bubble. Transportation is a concern with any after school tutoring therefore he will be asking the Board to approve paying for that. His building always emphasizes doing your best and with food motivators that are not normally done every day. He noted that Science scores do well across the state because teachers enjoy conducting the labs and students are up, walking around staying active and enjoy it.

It is noted Mr. McQuiston arrived at 7:30 PM.

Mr. Jardina/Conneaut Valley Elementary feels it is hard to do raw figures right now, these are high stakes testing's and although not an excuse but demographics plays a key role. He has a well-rounded group of elementary school students. In his opinion, the overall proficiency will be higher in wealthier districts in 75 percent or more. Our district deals with students enrolling, for example just this week who are listed as homeless. A surprising number of our students live with their grandparents for one reason or another. So when students enroll or return to school with challenging home lives, there is more we have challenges to address before we even think about core curriculum. Elementary schools are different than the upper grades when it comes to motivating, it is easier in the lower grades and more challenging as you go up in grades.

Mr. Parks/Conneaut Lake Elementary School faces the same challenges with demographics but is very pleased that the teachers care. When he left his building tonight to come to this meeting there were still a number of cars in the parking lot. He and his staff motivate with engaging the students in a great atmosphere where they come first.

Ms. Dressel/Director of Special Education noted on the mental health services data. She reminded the Board that as students' needs change we as a district have to make sure we provide for the population. We have tried to link with community agencies and trauma directors. Right now the positions are very transient, not paid well with a lot of turnover. The high school has one trauma counselor and we need 2 ½ more. As we link with community agencies we try to fill the needs of homeless students, those facing trauma and help meet their needs.

It is noted Mr. Burnham left at 8:28 PM.

b. Board Goals

Mr. Hornstein had summarized the suggestions received by the rest of the Board into four subjects: Education/Community and School Climate/Financial/Governance and each having Long Term Objects; 2018 Goals and, Success Metrics.

The Board reviewed these with some verbiage changes/revisions. He will make the changes and provide at the October work session for final review.

It is noted at 9:22 Mr. McQuiston left.

c. Board Study Committee Update

Mr. Hornstein, Committee Chair noted the Committee summarized their ideas and he sent it to Mr. Joseph in a email. Laughing, he said essentially the ideas they had Mr. Joseph nixed. They will provide an update at the October work session.

**Mrs. Luckock noted there would be No EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

  
Mrs. Luckock, Board President

  
Mr. Mayle, Board Secretary