

Conneaut School District

PUBLIC WORK SESSION

Minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

7:00 PM

The Conneaut School Board of Directors met Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at the Conneaut Lake Elementary School 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. Ellis

Mr. Hornstein

Mr. Jacobs

Mrs. Klink

Mrs. Luckock

Mr. McGuirk

Mr. McQuiston

Mrs. Miller

Administrators Present-

Superintendent: Jarrin Sperry

Technology Coordinator: Rick Kelly

Director of Special Education: Susy Dressel

Business Manager: Greg Mayle

Director of Buildings and Grounds- Frank Kimmel

Curriculum Director: Brenda Kantz

Principals: Mr. Maskrey, Mr. Burns, Mr. Jardina and Mr. 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.

It is noted three individuals addressed the Board;

Travis Crytzer addressed the Board. He quoted the definition of “great” and asked what happened to morals and ethics. The Board does not see any issues at all and extended a contract for five more years. Since speaking the last time he has received numerous calls, letters and confidence up to this week of employees, parents and others concerned of what the status is and the state of our district. The moral is at an all-time low with the staff, with tenured teachers looking elsewhere. The board needs to consider their actions and roles, what is this teaching our students when top of the administration acts in such unethical manner and has no regard to morals.

Randy Grout, wanted to go on record agreeing with Mr. Crytzer. He has a hard time following ethical and moral decision to extend contracts, it doesn't seem like the right decision.

Holly Blair addressed the Board regarding her request to waive the kindergarten age requirement a few weeks back. It was denied by the Board and she felt it was a disgrace to still hire certain employees and won't waive an age requirement.

Jennifer Shelatz, trailing off of Mr. Crytzer, she is an officer of a correction facility and teaches her daughter morals, what is good and bad. She has to deal with them every day and now had to explain to her daughter this situation. She felt it was an absolute disgrace.

Discussion Items

Budget...

Mr. Mayle provided a budget update as follows;

The Budget process and status from November through January included buildings and departments enter budget proposals. February through April were Committee reviews and meetings with supervisors. May and June are the finalization and presentation.

He reviewed the Revenue, Expenditures over the current school year, previous school year and the projected budget for next year.

In first looking at the progress so far in February, 2019 revenues and expenditures had a deficit of -\$1,427,793.00 but currently they have been able to cut that deficit to -\$909,177.00.

The key changes for expenditures include decreases in wages by an average of 2.41% or \$319,997.00. Key changes in expenditures showed decreases in capital projects transferred, cyber tuition and professional services.

A graph of the state budget for 2019/2020 revenue by source was explained to the Board. The 2019/2020 State budget proposed by Governor Wolfe includes a \$200 million dollar increase to the Basic Education Subsidy. Our district's share is approximately \$154,214.00. The State budget also includes a \$50 million dollar increase to the Special education Subsidy, with our share to be approximately \$57,413.00.

Going forward in April the Committee meetings relating to remaining departmental budgets, staffing needs and more. The May work session will provide a budget update; the May voting meeting will include the voting of the proposed final budget; June work session will have another budget update and then the June voting meeting will be the vote for the final budget.

Conclusion, Mr. Mayle noted the decisions left include insurance rates, staffing, the state budget, food service budget and capital projects budget.

Buildings and Grounds...

Mr. Kimmel noted the custodial extension on the voting meeting agenda and explained it is for another 5 years contract with a 0 percent increase but asking for an option to renegotiate if minimum wage increases. This is on top of their remaining 2 year contract.

He noted the dust collector project quotes are in and are higher than anticipated. Mr. Kimmel explained the mass upgrade drove those costs but is still \$150,000 under budget for that line item.

Agenda Manager...

Mr. Mayle discovered this program while attending the PASBO conference and along with Mr. Hornstein/Mrs. Miller as the Agenda Study Committee scheduled a web-demonstration with the company. Others attending the demonstration included Mrs. Luckock and Mrs. Moss. The software is used for managing documents, integration and board or any agenda. The software, coming out of an Intermediate Unit, is used the flow of meeting and location of documents, did not seem cumbersome, and seemed streamlined. Mrs. Luckock, the IU representative noted in comparing it to Board Docs which the IU uses, she liked it's ease in navigating and felt it was more user friendly.

Others agreed that it seemed user friendly, appeared easy to navigate, provided a public view link for public transparency, could be implemented into the Board Goals. And had a 60 to 90 day trial period. The cost was \$3,500 with a 3 year commitment, if a one year commitment it was \$3,900.00.

The Committee recommended the trial period and would bring the topic backup once the budget was completed.

PA Schools to Work Report...

Mr. Jacobs and Mrs. Luckock attended a PA Schools to Work program last fall, held regionally. Basically it is getting the grass roots effort to stress to our PA Legislators for an increase in school funding. Our question we had was we're not going to try and change the hold harmless option but ask that any new monies not be a detriment to the existing districts and do try to take some additional factors in the new formula and run additional monies.

Policies for 1st Reading...

Mrs. Kantz/Mr. Jardina noted policies available on Canvas. Mrs. Miller questioned one specifically. Mrs. Kantz provided an explanation.

Athletic Ad Hoc Committee Report...

Mr. Ellis provided extensive minutes on this month's agenda for approval. Two items in particular 1) letters for club sports and 2) middle school winter cheerleading brought back. The letters for club sports was proposed was recommended from the committee for sports sanctioned by PIAA and athletes representing CASH at the varsity level. If the board wants to consider this on this week's agenda he needs to know. At this point we have a cooperative agreement with the Boys and girls in swimming, boys and girls in track in the spring and currently boys in lacrosse. Bowling is not a sanctioned PIAA sport and Trap shooting is not recognized by PIAA.

Other items- middle school assistant athletic directors noted there are no winter sports for girls at the middle school level. And ask to reconsider reinstating winter cheerleading for basketball.

Mrs. Miller asked about the coach who spoke last month regarding post season qualifications policy is unfair, she heard the same from a parent in football. She is disappointed it never got out

of committee to discuss the idea of changes to allow sports to grow and get better as they move on. So these two recommendations that you're bringing are minor and do not discuss a bigger overall policy to challenge our kids to be the best and brightest. Mrs. Luckock noted the subject has not been eliminated, if you read the minutes it is taken for further study and coming back at the next meeting. Mrs. Miller did not read it that way, she feels it should be discussed at a broader level and not a member of three. Mrs. Luckock corrected her noting the group is bigger than three. Mr. Burnham felt there should be a special session devoted to that to accommodate those coaches for their input. Mrs. Luckock again noted it is on the next athletic ad hoc meeting agenda.

Discussion on skeet shooting, there is not skeet, trap or sporting clays sport recognized by PIAA.

Board Goals Review...

Mr. Hornstein noted he owed an updated version to be posted on Canvas. He will update it with accomplishments to date and what the next steps are for the Board.

Superintendent's Report...

Mr. Sperry reported the on his activities as follows;

1. Superintendent's SAC Meeting at IU5 on March 8th. Topics were: NWPA summit/Legislative Trip, (April 15-16) PASA/PARSS update, Flexible Instruction Days, eSports (trip to Bradford on April 12th), and an IU5 wide Security Survey. However, I had to talk to Dean Maynard about the meeting as Kurt and I were training new hires and secretaries on A.L.I.C.E. on this day as it was a Crawford County In-Service day.
2. Dave Maskrey and I traveled down to PDE on March 12th to meet with Dr. Volkman and some of the people who work in his office. He met with Dave and I after Dave sent an email to the governor with some concerns that affect all school districts and specifically ours and other rural districts like ours. We discussed: testing, drop-outs, mental health and availability of services, transportation, weather and delays/cancellations, flexible instruction days, cyber charters, and vocational agriculture.
3. On March 14th, a few of us attend the Spring Legal Round Up at the CCCTC. This is a yearly event put on by PSBA. Every year attorneys from different law firms present cases that are pertinent to School Districts. This year was no exception with topics ranging from: Sale of unused property, to First Amendment rights, to Right to Know and many other topics. (PPT on Canvas) As usual with questions and comments, it was difficult to get all the topics covered in time. This is always a valuable and informative training.
4. Susy and I met with Bethany Christian Services on Thursday, March 21st. We met with Lesha Powell and Jessica Setta. Bethany Christian has a program that addresses working with traumatized youth. We are working with them and attempting to have them present at one or more in-service days next school year.
5. I covered CVES on Friday, March 22nd and then returned on Friday the 29th to get a pie (two actually) in the face to celebrate their PTO fundraising. Adam and I asked them to use shaving cream this year as the whipped topping last year created quite a mess. (see picture)
6. On Monday, March 25th, Tim Glasspool Kevin Sprong and I met with Dean Maynard at the CCCTC to review how RCI went this year and to plan for next year. CASH has approximately 17 students that are planning on attending RCI classes next year along

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with 19 MASH students. Penncrest will more than likely be sending students next year as well. Classes for next year include: Public Speaking, Ethics in Sports, Child Development, Psychology, College Writing, Contemporary Social Problems, Criminal Justice, Multiculturalism in American Schools, Early Childhood Learning, American Government, and Earth Environments. These course are taught by Edinboro Faculty and students earn College Credits.

7. On Thursday, March 28th, Tom Washington and I met with George Trauner and Jarrad Rimel to formalize plans for the Mental Health Liaison to be hired by Bethesda. George and Jarrad are creating a job description and will be interviewing soon. This person will work in Crawford Central and Conneaut with the goal of counseling and connecting families in both districts with services that are available in the county. This position is primarily paid for with the ACT 44 grant money that all school districts in the state received.
8. Ryan and I attended RoboBots on Saturday in Meadville. Once again, Cochranon dominated the event and the top three finishers were all Cochranon teams. CVMS went deep into the competition, but couldn't upset the Cochranon Bot they ultimately had to go against.
9. On April 2nd, I attended an AEDY (Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth) conference at PATTAN (Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network) in Pittsburgh. This conference was mandatory whether you have your own Alt Ed program OR send students to one. The conference high-lighted changes that are coming from the state in 2019 for both.

PSBA Update...

Mr. Ellis noted on several webinars and meetings coming up through PSBA.

Ethics Form Reminder....

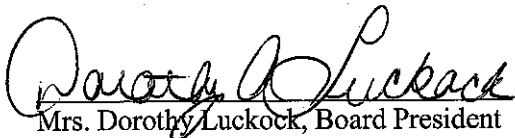
Mrs. Luckock reminded the Board of the May 1, 2019 deadline.

Agenda Review...

The Board reviewed the draft agenda with a few questions.

Mrs. Luckock announced there would not be an EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.


Mrs. Dorothy Luckock, Board President


Mr. Greg Mayle, Board Secretary