The Conneaut School Board of Directors met Wednesday, August 7, 2019 at the Alice Schafer Annex 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  
Mrs. Klink  
Mr. McQuiston
Mr. Hornstein  
Mrs. Luckock  
Mrs. Miller  
Mr. Jacobs  
Mr. McGuirk

It is noted Mr. Ellis was absent for work.

Administrators Present-
Superintendent: Jarrin Sperry
Technology Coordinator: Rick Kelly
Director of Special Education: Susy Dressel
Business Manager: Greg Mayle
Curriculum Director: Brenda Kantz
Director of Buildings and Grounds- Frank Kimmel

Principals: None.

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 no one approached the podium.

Discussion Items
Coaches Professional Development...
Mr. Acklin briefed the Board on last night’s coach professional development meeting. 41 coaches were in attendance and 15 new coaching positions were introduced including 3 new head coaches. Guest speaker was a Senior Pastor from Linesville and the topic was “As a Coach you make a difference.”

Post Season Play Policy...
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Mr. Acklin noted revisions made to Policy 123 – Interscholastic Athletics, specifically to page 69 in the Athletic Handbook. A summary of the revisions include: 1. When a team has achieved a .500 or better overall season record. 2. When a team has achieved a .500 or better record in their respective Region. 3. When a team finishes the season in the top half of all teams participating in their classification. 4. If the “Opt Out” deadline is prior to the end of the season contests, the record at that time can be used for all of the criteria above. 5. New Policy added: If a team fails to meet the criteria above at the time of the “Opt Out” deadline but enough wins can still be accomplished in their remaining scheduled games, then that team will be considered eligible for playoffs.

The Board requested the wording include “within District 10”.

Mr. Acklin also updated the Board all fall sports start officially next Monday, football has 35 trying out, volleyball has 50- a huge amount. There is a new sound system that the boosters paid for installed just today. The Board appreciated the boosters and how they benefit the athletes.

FID Implementation …

Mr. Sperry briefed the Board on Flexible Instruction Days noting that he and Mr. Bossard had presented this idea to PDE back in 2014 calling them Cyber Snow Days. He and Mr. Bossard traveled down to Harrisburg and presented the idea. PDE conducted a pilot program that next school year, of which we were a part of but we didn’t have any snow days. Cyber Snow Days were incorporated into the current CEA contract. Legislation drafted a Bill which passed and it is now allowed in the state now. Filing must be done by the end of August, although PDE just released the information this week. Much of what they want filed is what we already did in 2014. The Board has to approve the implementation of the FID. We may not need these FID Days as we may not have any snow days. It only works if we know a snow day is imminent because we have to send work home with the elementary students. Middle Schools don’t take their equipment home but the high school has Chrome books.

All Hazards Plan …

Mr. Sperry noted this is an Executive Session item.

Curriculum…

Pathways Guide- Mrs. Kantz provided a guide with the help from the Guidance intern this past year. The information compiled by our guidance/administration was able to be placed into a guide that is user friendly. It is a pathway planner for students college, career and life readiness which provides scheduling procedures, graduation requirements, required courses, course descriptions and discusses dual enrollment.

Curriculum Map was provided to the Board. Mrs. Kantz noted it usually is a seven year cycle. It ensures an ongoing and systematic review of each subject area. The schedule allows for spacing reviews of subject areas to minimize an overload of new materials for students and staff.

Business Manager Updates…

Mr. Mayle reported the office has started with Agenda Manager trial and a preview will be ready at next weeks voting meeting. He asked the Board to come in around 6 or 6:30 to have the app loaded on their Chrome books and get logged in before the board meeting. Ms. Moss noted it
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was a pretty easy system to figure out and a template has been created so far. The “real” August agenda will be there for the August voting meeting.

State Budget Update-

Mr. Mayle reported good news, there will be some increases to the Basic Subsidy and the Special Ed Subsidy, a total of around $115,000 for basic education and $54,000 for special ed. Our official budget does not change, it will be applied towards the deficit and cut it in half.

Bus Tour…

Mrs. Luckock asked the Board if they wanted to continue these tours as this years board meetings are spread out around the District and we are able to see the buildings at that time. Fellow Board members really liked the tour as it provided access before school started. The decision was to continue with the tour, this one being Monday, August 26, 2019 to meet at Central at 5:30 pm. Bagged lunches will be provided.

Board Goals…

Mrs. Luckock felt tonight would be a good opportunity to start thinking about new board goals. She would like something along the lines of Ace’s Trauma and to be more informed of the guidelines. Mr. Hornstein would like 339 awareness and to have Act 48 hours to be earned at the technical center, although this is not a board goal it is something to encourage. Mr. McGuirk would like more new board member information, a retreat, or trainings. Something for new board member mentorship. It was also suggested to look into how we as a Board evaluate Jarrin’s goals.

Superintendent’s Report…

Mr. Sperry reported the following:

1. We have conducted numerous interviews since July 10th. As you can see from the Agenda, we have many new hires. We still have a few to fill before we start the school year. We have had many great candidates and coming to a decision on one candidate has often been a lengthy and difficult decision.

2. I participated in a Flexible Instructional Day Conference call on July 15th. The state just released the application this week, however, boards across the commonwealth have to approve districts implementing FID’s before Sept 30th. The application is due by the end of August. We are meeting next week to complete the application. The application is a list of assurances and samples of lessons that the district will be accountable for. Most of the assurances are from our district from the year that we proposed FID’s to the state. (2014)

3. I attended a RCI (Regional Choice Initiative) Meeting with Kevin Sprong, Tom Washington, Tim Glasspool, Dean Maynard, Brad Whitman, and Karen Regen on July 16th. Conneaut has 17 students participating in RCI this school year. These students will receive Edinboro college credits, and they will attend classes taught by Edinboro professors at the CCCTC on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

4. Scott Hagy from On-Hands was in our district for a workshop on July 31st. On-Hands is the service we use to compile all of our attendance data, assessment data and discipline data in the district. Scott showed all in attendance (principals and teachers) new features in the system and how to use the data effectively. Of note, Titusville’s new superintendent was here along with her curriculum director and some of their teachers to see the system in action.
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5. I checked in on Kinder Camp at CLES a few times this week. We had 13 kindergarten students in attendance, and they were learning the “ropes” of what it means to be in kindergarten with rules, expectations, behaviors, etc. 15 students were invited to attend the camp.

6. Dot and I attended the DCI (Drum Corps International) at Edinboro University on August 5th. There were seven drum corps competing that evening. Music City Corps out of Nashville stayed at CLMS for a few days as they have the past couple of years. Dot, Frank, and Craig Z all have helped out in the past and again this year in accommodating this group.

7. Don Ellis, Kevin Sprong, Mike Costa and I met to discuss the possibility of EMT classes at the CCCTC. There is a nationwide shortage of EMT’s. Our own region recently had a 911 operator that had to leave her post to answer a call as there was no one to send. There will be a meeting in the future with a current EMT and an individual that went through a high school program in Fairfax County Virginia who works in our county.

8. The Systems of Care meeting was held on August 6th. A lengthy discussion was held on the recent development of Delaware instituting a procedure where law enforcement is notifying schools of students that have experienced trauma. Often times, law enforcement is aware of children being in traumatic situations but schools never become aware. We are investigating the possibility of trying a pilot program in our county. Discussion was also lengthy about the Safe 2 Say program and the experiences that the three districts in the county had with the program.

9. Dot, Susy, and I met with Gail Kelly from Crawford County Human Services on August 7th to discuss the county’s funding levels for students placed in outside agencies.

10. As of today, (August 7th, 2019) we have 131 kindergarteners registered for this school year. 62 at CVE, and 69 at CLE.

PSBA Update...
Mr. Ellis was absent.

Agenda Review...
Mrs. Luckock and the Board reviewed the Draft voting meeting agenda.

Executive Session
Mrs. Luckock announced the Board would be going into an EXECUTIVE SESSION - to review and discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, might lead to disclosure of information protected by law, specifically to discuss student and school safety specifically the All Hazards Plan and student concerns.

Adjournment was at 8:41 PM.

Mrs. Dorothy Luckock, Board President

Mr. Greg Mayle, Board Secretary