Conneaut School District Board of Directors November 4, 2020 Work Session Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 4, 2020 BOD WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
11/4/2020  [7:00PM-8:00PM] @ Alice Schafer Annex Cafeteria

- CONNEAUT SCHOOL DIST PUBLIC WS AGENDA -

1. Call to Order

The meeting was opened at 7:44 pm

Minutes
Mrs. Luckock opened the meeting at 7:44 pm. She noted due to the recent unexpected closure of CASH/ASA due to COVID, and the uncertainty of other buildings in the district being like affected, this meeting was moved to a virtual format. A phone number was readily available for any members of the media/public that wanted to attend.

It is noted the following Board members were present;
Mr. Burnham  Mr. Ellis  Mr. Hall
Mr. Hornstein  Mrs. Luckock  Mrs. Klink
Mr. McGuirk  Mr. McQuiston  Mrs. Miller

Administrators present;
Mr. Sperry  Ms. Dressel  Mr. Mayle
Mrs. Kantz  Mr. Kimmel  Mr. Kelly
Mr. Joseph

Principals present:
Mr. Parks  Mr. Maskrey  Mr. Burns  Dr. Jardina

a. Moment of Silence
b. Salute the Flag Ceremony

2. VISITOR RECOGNITION

1. Visitor Recognition *

*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.

Minutes
Mr. Burnham, addressed the Board, stating on behalf of the public, we should have met in person, there are several important issues and he doesn’t understand why we could not have. We had 3 buildings open/in session and so why couldn’t meet at them. Even if shut down we have a very large number of fire halls which could have been made available if requested and large areas in churches we could have used. if this arises in future he strongly suggests reaching out to hold in person.

3. Discussion Items

a. Maintenance Updates...Mr. Kimmel

Minutes
Mr. Kimmel addressed the board noting the Buildings and Grounds Ad Hoc Committee met and reviewed projects coming up. There were some control upgrades to finish up for the district amounting to $382,000 worth. This completes upgrades from the summer. The Committee did put on hold a building/Alice Schafer Annex project, as

Page 1 of 4
part of those feel too much to accomplish down the road. The parking lots we are redoing, as well as replacing the well systems at Conneaut Lake Middle School. It is rather aged and if it fails would put us in a bad situation, Mr. Kimmel is looking into the costs. The Alice Schafer Annex and Conneaut Lake Middle School generators will need replaced, they too are very aged equipment and cannot be repaired easily and the parts are no longer available. We continue with carpet to tile changeovers, re-pointing, and recently have been looking at an addition to the high school project. A couple rooms are requiring dust collection therefore we are meeting with engineers. Mr. Hall asked regarding the well at Conneaut Lake Middle School; is there a chance of tapping into the towns water, opposed to adding another well. Mr. Kimmel responded, no it is not impossible. We did have an engineer look at it and contacted Conneaut Lake. This route would not be cheaper. Mr. McQuiston remarked this was also discussed at the Buildings and Grounds Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

b. Board Goals... Mr. Hornstein

Minutes
Mr. Hornstein reviewed the Board goals, noting they were short and sweet. They included Board Self Development, Community Engagement, and Career Readiness.

c. Superintendent’s Report...Mr. Sperry

Minutes
Mr. Sperry updated the Board on his activities with-

1. On October 9th, the Superintendents from IU5 met and discussed plans if an uptick in cases happened in our respective counties. We discussed educational plans, transportation, winter athletics, athletic playoffs, current health dept. recommendations and changes in protocols, keystone and PSSA testing, sub shortages, remote learning, and PA legislative updates.

2. On October 13th, Tim Glasspool, Tom Washington, and I met at the CCCTC with Kevin Sprong and Mike Costa. We reviewed the agenda for the upcoming CCCTC board meeting on the 21st and then began the process of amending our county wide health and safety plan as well as our flow chart for the county.

3. On October 15th, Tim, Tom, Kevin, and I met virtually with the Crawford County Emergency Management to review current county COVID data and to learn about the ‘Rapid Testing’ available in the county. Rapid testing will only work when a patient has symptoms for at least 48 hours and ideally 72 hours. Prior to this meeting we had been under the impression that the Rapid Test worked for anyone with the virus. This is not the case. Asymptomatic patients OR those that just began showing symptoms will generate a false negative with the Rapid Test. For individuals in those circumstances, the PCR test (swab up the nose) has to be the test used.

4. On October 21st, Crawford County Superintendents met at the CCCTC with Kevin and Mike to finalize changes to the Health and Safety plan and our flow chart.

5. Brenda Kantz, Greg, Susy, and I worked on a few grants this past month either related to our ATSI designation at our high school, or in regards to COVID-19

6. On October 29th, there was a virtual meeting concerning the “Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Grant.” All Crawford County School Districts were represented at the meeting. This grant is run through our Systems of Care committee and is tied in to our Universal Screener that we do K-12.

7. The County wide Safety Summit was held on October 30th (virtually). Over 30 attendees listened to speakers that talked about: PAYs Data, Safe to Say Data, Building Security, and Covid protocols. It was a very interesting summit with lots of facts and data presented. Frank Kimmel, Kurt Sitler, and I attended.

8. As you all know by now, the Pennsylvania Department of Health as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Education contacted all three Crawford County Superintendents on Sunday, November 1st to inform us of a meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Monday the 2nd. At that meeting they reviewed the data concerning our county moving to the “substantial” designation for Covid spread and they recommended our instructional model change.
9. We continue to have weekly meetings through Zoom with IU5 Superintendents, Teams meetings with our administration team here, Tim, Tom, Kevin and I talk daily, and we are constantly watching data and staying up on current protocols and procedures in regards to all aspects of Covid-19.

Mrs. Miller asked about security at games, she had forgotten where we left security guard status with fire arms. Mr. Sperry replied; our contract is with the Constables of Crawford County, they each individually took the class to be able to carry weapons on school property in order to keep the contract with our District and to carry weapons. Mr. Burnham asked if this was the same training for police. Yes, Mr. Sperry replied, it was a 4 or 5 day training, mandated by legislators.

d. Superintendent’s Evaluation...Mrs. Luckock

Minutes

Mrs. Luckock noted the following points on Mr. Sperry’s Evaluation include guiding us through COVID; creating an action plan for career pathways with 85% of students having a career pathways; and participation in board town hall.

She reminded the board members of the hand out printed and emailed, please send back to me if possible by next Wednesday. She can start the tally and schedule the meeting to sit with him to review early December.

e. PSBA Updates...Mr. Ellis

- PSBA Federal Focus Newsletter October 12, 2020
- PSBA School Law Information Vol. 57 No. 21
- PSBA Liaison Insider October 26, 2020
- PSBA School Law Information Exchange Vol. 57 No. 22
- PSBA Federal Focus November 2, 2020
- PSBA Leadership November December Bulletin

Minutes

Mr. Ellis asked if anyone attended the virtual PSBA conference, no one responded. He will find out if it is available to access.

f. Agenda Review...Mrs. Luckock

Minutes

Mrs. Luckock provided an Agenda Review.

Mrs. Miller asked what the thought process was when conducting athletic interviews. She is concerned there is not any transparency and does not agree with the system. She admitted to not understanding the process, and how alienated she felt when she first came on board. She would like correspondence to send out to coaches who have excelled this quarter, such as cross country, football, volleyball and Conneaut Valley Middle School girls team went undefeated.

It was noted the Board has congratulation cards to go out to those teams and send next week.

Mr. Burnham commented on Mrs. Millers comments; this is one concern he has always had, we as board members approve the hiring(s), we rely on administration/all involved in the interviewing and recommendations. Ultimately if a bad choice generally Administration is not the ones that get the flack. We as board members who have hired someone it is directed at and if things goes south, it is the board that gets blamed, not matter who is on the board nor who hired and recommended. That is the way things roll down hill, for me if we want to request more information on the process then it is perfectly in our elected authority to do so and we keep anything (documents) we do so with complete confidential to our eyes only.
4. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes
Motion by Mr. Ellis, second by Mr. Hornstein to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 personnel concerns....from CESPA.

Minutes
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 personnel concerns and a grievance received from the CESPA.

Dorothy Luckock, Board President

Greg Mayle, Board Secretary