



MARCH 3, 2021 CONNEAUT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORK SESSION AGENDA

03/03/2021 [07:00 PM-08:00 PM] @ Alice Schafer Annex Cafeteria

CONNEAUT SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC WORKSESSION AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes

Mrs. Luckock called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

It is noted the following Board members were present;

Mr. Burnham Mr. Ellis Mr. Hall

Mr. Hornstein Mrs. Klink Mrs. Luckock

Mr. McGuirk Mr. McQuiston Mrs. Miller

Administrators present;

Mr. Sperry Mr. Mayle Mr. Joseph

Mrs. Kantz Mr. Kimmel Mr. Kelly

Principals present:

Mr. Parks Mr. Burns Dr. Jardina Mr. Hans Mr. Maskrey

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

No one addressed the Board.

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. BUDGET PRESENTATION...MR. MAYLE

Minutes

Mr. Mayle presented the 21-22 Budget update starting off with the COVID-19 Financial Implications in revenues. Listing off four main items affecting the budget to include decreases in local tax revenues; significant decreases to investment earnings; uncertainty regarding state subsidies and significant temporary increases in federal funding.

In comparing local revenues 20-21 school year versus 19-22 school year, Real Estate taxes currently through February 2021 are at \$13,198,373.61 compared to \$13,306,125.68 the year prior a difference of \$107,752.07. Real Estate Taxes Delinquent through February 2021 are at \$832,560.60 compared to \$927,536.90 a difference of \$94,976.30. Earned Income Taxes through February 2021 are at \$1,012,260.91 compared to February, 2020 at \$1,023,741.66 a difference of \$11,480.75. Investment earnings through January 2021 are at \$32,244.65 compared to February 2020 at \$207,866.78 a big difference by \$175,622.13. Mr. Mayle accounted the investment earnings due to interest rates having a huge drop.

Taxable Assessed Values from 14-15 to 21-22 school years have been gradually increasing with a leveling off between 19-20 to 20-21 school years, Mr. Mayle noted this leveling off was before COVID and it has started to increase once again around the beginning of the 20-21 school year.

COVID-19 Financial implications have had both increases and savings, as explained by Mr. Mayle. The increases he highlighted on include significant increase to cyber program costs; significant increases to cyber charter tuition and PPE/cleaning requirements. The cost savings the district has experienced in expenditures include less need for substitutes, a slight savings in transportation and general supplies and the district saved monies during a 2020 bond refinance due to the interest rate environment.

Mr. Mayle provided a 21-22 budget summary of revenue and expenditures and the account codes.

The Big Three, as Mr. Mayle terms include the PSERS Contributions rate raising in 21-22 to 34.94%, current year is at 34.51%, this is an increase of \$109,826 to \$4,888,303; Health Insurance 7.55% increase in the overall rate of \$199,845 to \$3,569,672.00; Cyber Charter Expenditures 83 students projected for 21-22 school year (current year projected 71 pre-COVID) which is a projected cost increase of \$178,086 to \$1,356,791.00.

Mr. Mayle provided a graph showing the PSERS Annual Expenditures from 09-10 to the 25-26 school years. He noted in 09-10 the rate was 4.78% and 25-26 school year the rate is at 37.22%.

Federal Stimulus Funds received or anticipated to be received by the District include the following three; CARES Act (first stimulus) in the amount of \$1,019,841.00; ESSER II - CRRSA (second stimulus) \$2,935,676.00 and the possible third stimulus is estimated to be \$6,467,000.00. Mr. Mayle reminded the Board the stimulus monies came with guidelines/stipulations on what the District was able to spend these monies on and not all were three included the same. the CRRSA (ESSER II) Funds in the amount of \$2,935,676 (\$362,510.80 currently budgeted) can be spent between March 2020 and September 2023 on a wide variety of uses and allowable costs through temporary revenue sources ("Structural deficit" is important to keep in mind). The allowable costs include activities necessary to maintain LEA operations and employee staff; any activity authorized by IDEA; procedures and systems to improve preparedness and response efforts; cleaning supplies/PPE; planning for and coordinating during long-term closures; educational technology; mental health services and supports and summer learning and after school programs. He noted the possible uses for CRRSA (ESSER II) include

cleaning supplies/PPE; technology, classroom displays, Chromebooks, etc, cafeteria equipment, mental health support, after school/summer tutoring and remediation, CSD Cyber Program, K-12 assessment resources, HVAC controls upgrades and upgrades to virtual board meeting capabilities.

Mr. Mayle concluded with the budget timeline over the next several months as-

April 7 Work Session - Budget update; May5 Work Session - Budget Update, Transportation Contract, Food Service Budget, Capital Projects Budget/5 Year Plan; May 5 Special Voting Meeting - Adopt Proposed Final Budget; June 2 Work Session - Budget Update; and June 9 the Regular Voting Meeting to Adopt the Final Budget.

b. VIRTUAL MEETING CAPABILITIES...MR. MAYLE

Minutes

In line with Board goals this year, one of the items is to increase capability or offering of virtual board meetings. This is an item that would qualify through the stimulus monies, thus we are looking at it explained Mr. Mayle.

Administration is seeking guidance from the Board/clarity on what you envision going forward.

Mrs. Luckock would like to see an improved speaker system; Mr. Hornstein asked if the desire was to be mobile or fixed space, it would be more economical to do in one space. If operating as such we don't need to move around so more of the public will come. He also sees an improved audio situation, video share content and he would like to login with his Chromebook and see the budget presentation and a digital agenda. Mrs. Miller agreed, she would like to have a board home, not have a mobile board meeting. We could opt to go that way as it is important to hold trainings or have executive sessions from school to school. She likes to see what each building has on their walls as we do not get the school experience through mobile board meetings. It is okay to lock into one location but asks to be able to post to the site, with a consistent process on the webpage, link to it and documents for the community.

Mr. Kelly jumped into the discussion noting he has already begun to talk to vendors and received and received one formal quote but quickly realized without knowing the intent of mobile or fixed the task of moving from spaces from gyms to cafe to library was a challenge. He noted improvements to delivering remotely and globally are important.

Mrs. Luckock agreed with the others that the most economical system would be to establish in one location. We as a Board need to look for other ways to see school buildings and she recommends making an effort to go to buildings events instead.

Mr. Hall asked do we need to define where to hold meetings, do we need that as step one? Mr. Sperry said for sound quality, which is an issue in the current situation, we would want it either in a large room in the district or setup the CASH library that could be used as a meeting space quickly. Some equipment is hard mounted and others setup. Mrs. Miller asked about the CASH stage, Mr. Sperry explained using the stage would intervene against practices, dramas and setup of plays therefore it is not available several months out of the schoolyear. Mr. Maskrey added to that the stage is definitely not available for several months as plays go on for month or two as well as rehearsals. Mrs. Luckock asked if there was a large classroom setup with ceilings lower which we can look into. She believes this space not scheduled as routinely by athletic department as space we call gymatorium.

Mr. Kelly suggested forming a committee., Mr. Hornstein offered to participate, as well as Mr. Hall. Mrs. Miller asked about Mr. Kimmel as Buildings and Grounds Director to be on the committee as well.

c. MAINTENANCE UPDATES...MR. KIMMEL

Minutes

Mr. Kimmel updated the Board on maintenance activities-

1st-with school communications we are looking at a 2 part system with the phones expanding to the rest of the school buildings. The original bid went out and did not look favorable, he is now working with two companies whose pricing seems right in line. CASH/ASA building prices are well under budget.

2nd-he has spoken with Bonded Services regarding a renewal, prices have dropped down so this recommendation on the board agenda. He would like to go with the equipment pricing due to costs we incur. Their pricing came in less than we would spend ourselves on equipment. Mrs. Miller noted she still wants to make sure purchasing equipment for asset tag purchases, if we have it we can depreciate and last longer than it depreciates. she feels depreciating internally is better. Mr. Kimmel responded that we are following industry standards so no matter who does pricing. He emphasized if we own the equipment what keeps them from damaging the equipment and saying we need to replace that. Mrs. Luckock agreed with Mr. Kimmel recommendation, this is time to have vendors assume the equipment. Mr. Mayle spoke saying keep in mind that the fine aspects of government accounting on fund financial statements really isn't depreciation, we have to expense it in one year so it does not help us to depreciate it.

Mr. Hall was curious and asked what the industry standard for who provided equipment; Mr. Kimmel thought probably 50/50 and from working elsewhere when equipment that owns them the repair is a lot less. Mr. Kimmel is trying to minimize the upkeep, the district used to have a repair man to repair everything for 50 years, he has retired so we do not have that luxury anymore. The plan is to once we outsource the equipment we have enough left over to have them assume the equipment.

3rd- Asphalt pricing came back, really good pricing \$19,000 which is under budget, it is a fixed bid, we received three bids.

d. 2021/2022 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR...MR. SPERRY

Minutes

Mr. Sperry noted this next school year calendar is pretty straight forward with a Thursday graduation again. It coordinates with the other two school districts and the technical center. We did leave snow days in and continue to have discussion with FID (Flexible Instruction Days) days. The next year that may change a little. There are some nice breaks for longer weekends.

e. POLICIES FOR 1ST READING...MR. SPERRY

Policy 201 - Admission of Beginners

Minutes

Mr. Sperry noted the policy for first reading this month is the same one tabled last month in order for Mr. Joseph to review. This now is the wording from him.

Mrs. Miller still wanted verbiage for a "life event" in the event something happens. Mr. Hornstein asked isn't there an appeals process for kindergarten.

It was explained we have to have a deadline, ours being August 1 to be five years of age, other districts even go as far back as June 1st. This eliminates a parent from enrolling in a cyber and pulling out and trying to get through a loophole of age deadline. Mrs. Miller argued that doesn't help a situation of a life event. It seems the only exception is a gifted student. Mr. Hall reminded Mrs. Miller she can vote no and policies are always subject for review.

Mr. Sperry reminded everyone for clarity this is only on first reading. Mrs. Miller asked the committee to please look at life event under consideration. Mr. Hall said ok we will prior to next week's meeting.

Mrs. Miller reiterated again her reasoning for wanting verbiage for a life event in our policies.

Mrs. Luckock interjected Mrs. Miller noting her continued attempt and reasoning. Mrs. Miller noted again she just wants to be heard, it is extremely difficult to be reprimanded time and again. She further stated her reasoning for voting no for Mrs. Luckock renewed president term. Mr. McQuiston took offense and noted he was very pleased with Mrs. Luckock' leadership.

Mr. Burnham noted this policy has language we may not agree with what has been proposed so how about we put an amendment to change the language and the policy committee can review.

Mrs. Luckock appreciates those who participates in various committees and ask to please respect others service and hard work as they spend extra time on committees to bring their reports to the Board as a whole.

Mrs. Luckock announced the negotiations committee for CESPAs has had a preparatory organization meeting followed by two additional meetings during February and meeting again in March.

f. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT...MR. SPERRY

Minutes

This week, the other superintendents of the county and I (along with the CCCTC) have worked on getting a unified message out about the Corona Virus. All the messages contained what we are doing as school districts and what parents and caregivers can do at home. We continue to monitor the situation.

1. This was the last item on the Superintendent Report a year ago this week. A year ago this week, schools were still open, and the country was operating "normally." Obviously, everything we used to take for granted was turned on its head during these last 365 days. Today, it seems we may be turning the corner. Case counts in the nation, state, and county continue to drop and we have even seen an easing of some restrictions. There is some light showing at the end of this tunnel. However, we need to remain vigilant, and continue our best practices.
2. All Crawford County School Districts continue to attend weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly meetings with: Local Agencies, other school districts, the department of health, IU5, local hospitals, county and state government officials, and doctors concerning COVID 19 and effective mitigation.
3. 1,000 copies of the "Cash Register" have been passed out in our community and we have heard great things from those that have read it.
4. I have met with Ralph Egyud and with proper protocols in place we will be starting chorus and band again. Utilizing bigger spaces and wearing masks or custom musical masks will allow students to once again start singing and playing instruments.
5. CLMS was used as a POD (Point of Distribution) for the COVID Vaccine on Monday, March 1, 2021. CLMS has been a designated POD for decades and this was the first time it was actually used by the county for any event. The distribution was well run and patients were in and out in very little time. Over 2500 vaccinations were administered.

6. Crawford County Systems of Care meeting was held virtually on March 2, 2021. Covid and mitigation as well as vaccinations were topics especially as our numbers continue to drop in the county. Numerous grant requests were approved for local agencies. Conneaut Valley Middle School's WEB program received \$1,300 dollars for continued support of the WEB program there.

PA is undertaking a priority in the next month to vaccinate school employees across the commonwealth. Starting as early as next Wednesday, school employees will be able to get the Johnson & Johnson Vaccine (this is a one shot vaccination). The goal is to have all school employees in Pennsylvania who want a vaccine to be able to get one by the end of March. Edinboro IU5 will receive 3,100 doses for the initial week. The vaccines will be administered at IU's across the state.

g. PSBA UPDATES...MRS. KLINK

h. AGENDA REVIEW...MRS. LUCKOCK

Minutes

The Board reviewed the draft agenda.

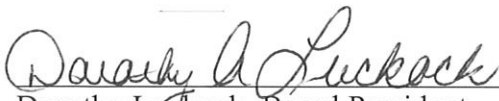
4. ADJOURNMENT

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.

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.



Dorothy Luckock, Board President



Greg Mayle, Board Secretary