



## MAY 5, 2021 CONNEAUT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORK SESSION MINUTES

05/05/2021 [07:00 PM-08:00 PM] @ Alice Shafer Annex cafeteria

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### MAY 5, 2021 CONNEAUT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC WORK SESSION MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order

##### 1.a. Moment of Silence

###### Minutes

It is noted the following Board members were present;

Mr. Burnham      Mr. Ellis      Mr. Hall  
Mr. Hornstein      Mrs. Luckock      Mr. McGuirk  
Mrs. Klink      Mr. McQuiston      Mrs. Miller

Administrators present;

Mr. Sperry      Mr. Mayle      Mr. Joseph  
Mrs. Kantz      Mr. Kelly      Mr. Kimmel

Principals present:

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

##### 1.b. Salute the Flag Ceremony

#### 2. VISITOR RECOGNITION

###### Minutes

Mrs. Luckock opened the meeting for Visitor Recognition-

Ms. Leanne Pineiro-Malik, a mother of a CASH student dealing with some issues. She came with a question and thought the process of allowing children to use the restrooms for which they are gender aligned with, and are in trouble for washing hands. She noted our children are there to learn and get an education, they shouldn't be worried about where to use the bathroom. How is asking people to leave a class and go to a separate building to use the bathroom because it is a unisex bathroom. They have a history of issues and still do now. She asked if people have a problem, look within yourself. She pleaded her major point which is to allow students to use the bathroom gender they are aligned with. Noting in high school how is it one can't change your friends. Instead students put a sign on their backs to use a special bathroom and how is it they then get in trouble if divert from the plan. This is segregating, so civil rights versus opinion, whether right and wrong with who they want in bathroom and not, instead of comfortability. We shouldn't have zero tolerance, it should be about what we teach. LGB students will continue to come, we can't put them in a box and ignore, so catering to what matters and what is uncomfortable. We have students missing class as they have to get to a bathroom too far, are getting calls at home, and written up with disciplinary actions. Segregation encourages violence, and approving segregation encourages violence, students should not have to worry about that, instead should worry about tests, etc. Ousting students should be the last thing on their minds. We should encourage our kids to step up and be their own, not discouraging them. There is plenty of discrimination at this school, all over a bathroom, the get threats, but

nothing happens. My final thoughts/argument is people have concessions, no information to backup general aligning bathrooms. If teachers are uncomfortable use the staff/teacher bathroom.

Ms. Tara Horter, a parent of two transgender students and both are afraid to use boys restroom for a safety issue, we have outlets, nurses office, another bathroom in office they can use, no issue. She did go into a restroom at high school which only had three stalls down and three up, she went during break, with the nurse who went in with her. All stalls were being used, that is an issue so it could be dangerous, there have been fights in bathroom with boys alone. Her oldest said he wanted to drop school, boys are mean, he is not comfortable, her children are not provoking it and this is provoking it. She is not sure what else to say, she don't agree with it, when my child is at school I expect him to come home safe and by allowing this to happen, it needs addressed.

Mrs. Miller asked to interject before Mrs. Luckock continued with the next topic and asked her to explain the structure of board meetings after visitor recognition. Mrs. Luckock noted to the audience that the school board meetings are very structured, when we receive visitor input, in normal circumstances we as a Board cannot give feedback right away. The Board does take in consideration the input and follow up accordingly. She noted then we go through some boring parts of the meeting, the budget is next and is not most riveting therefore, visitors do not have to stay, you can enjoy the evening as you see fit.

### 3. Discussion Items

#### 3.a. 21/22 SY Budget Review...Mr. Mayle

##### Minutes

Mr. Mayle reported, as we near the end of the budget process, tonight is the next step in that goal, with the voting meeting tonight at conclusion to adoption of final proposed budget.

He has no formal presentation as there has not been too many changes since the April presentation. Revenues and expenditures is had a slight change which is down \$500,000 from April. This sounds like a lot but most is exchanges with stimulus monies for capital projects and reserves. The equation went down \$500,000 and he has provided a backup for Board review on Agenda Manager.

Some reports are in a summary level on first page and the detail is behind. He also included an attachment which is PDE Form 2028. This is the official budget form we have to submit the budget on. Once final stage, the state requires that same form to be presented/used. He admitted it is not as detailed but previous information is detailed with attachments for the Board to review. The Board will vote tonight for final proposed and final to be approved in June.

#### 3.b. Board Treasurer...Mr. Mayle

##### Minutes

Mr. Mayle explained the Board Treasurer is normally held by the bank the District uses. Historically, the bank manager and this position has been the same person for a number of years. But, the trend lately has been the bank manager is only staying in the branch for a year or two and moving up the career ladder. This has been frustrating with the turnover and difficult as each resignation is still our treasurer until this Board approves a new one.

In talking with Mr. Joseph he has indicated some use banks and are gravitating to a board member.

Mr. Joseph took over noting districts historically use banks and the problem Mr. Mayle speaks of is not unique to this District. There are discussions in a number of districts he represents. A lot of turnover in these career positions and rollover, and he sees a lot moving to a board appointed individual. You as a Board are able to appoint a board member to fill position. This roll has changed some, boards are feeling more comfortable having one of their own as treasurer, but was opposed to in the past.

The treasurer is responsible for review of receipts and payments of schools UNDS?, paid for proper orders, when you vote to pay bills that is the process the treasurers ensures happens, reviewing monthly deposits, investment reports and settlement of accounts, basic stuff for a banker, which has been a little problematic lately.

Mrs. Luckock added that Mrs. Nottingham was the treasurer for a long time. She has since retired and the branch manager has changed twice since her retirement, leaving some gaps in coverage for Mr. Mayle. So what is the desire of the board, do we continue to use the bank or make adjustment and appoint, this is a bonded position.

Mrs. Klink asked is that something our finance committee can do funds. Mr. Joseph replied, no it is not a committee role. Mrs. Klink recommended whoever it is to be on the budget committee. Mr. Joseph reminded the person cannot be an officer. The members of the budget committee are Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Luckock and Mr. Hornstein. In moving forward can make that adjustment. Mr. Burnham noted something to take under advisement after election and reorganization. Mrs. Luckock asked Mr. Joseph what if consensus is since election year we appoint the bank person and midyear if desire to re-evaluate and change that position is that an option. Mr. Joseph said isn't unless a vacancy, the school code is to appoint in May and serve one year term. Mrs. Klink noted she is in full favor taking away from bank, we are not getting our monies worth, even though it is not a paid position but clearly she would not mind having a board person. Mr. Ellis asked to confer under school code we cannot appoint any of the officers for this? Mr. Joseph noted that is correct. To be fair it does not even have to be a board member since it is an appointed a bank so if there is not a board member to be here for full school year due to election that person can continue to serve the balance of the year.

Mr. Burnham asked how involved is this. Mr. Mayle noted, not much at all, they are the designee on the checks.

Mr. Hall agreed to put his name in for appointment, thus declaring his interest.

Mr. Joseph noted there is another appointments in May as well, coming up this year is board secretary position to appoint for a term of four years under school code every 4 years since 1953 so every board in state is doing this this month.

### **3.c. Maintenance Updates...Mr. Kimmel**

#### **Minutes**

Mr. Kimmel noted the bids are back for generator for Conneaut Lake Elementary and Alice Schafer Annex, the came in under budget \$3,400 under, and are on tonights special voting meeting agenda. We also have tile replacement at Conneaut Valley Elementary School and repointing in the District which is standard at this time.

### **3.d. Policies for 1st Reading...Mr. Sperry**

Policy 005 - Organization, as per detailed backup on Agenda Manager.

#### **Minutes**

Mr. Sperry reviewed Policy 005 Organization noting it ties in with the Treasurer discussion we had earlier. Currently the policy committee appointed or is organized by residency in the district. For example, Mr. McGuirk desires to be on the CCCTC board but he and Mr. Burnham live in the same region. Mr. McGuirk has a vast working knowledge of the Tech Center but cannot be a representative due to the policy. We have reworded the policy so that the Board President may seek people just not by residency. This is only for first reading and the backup is on Agenda Manager for review.

Mr. McQuiston questioned if this change is only in appointing from any area, correct? Mr. Sperry noted it is for all board committees, he noted the possibility that it may end up being one from each region, but it won't have that restriction.

Mrs. Miller noted this is one she has been fighting since day one and is extremely disappointed. Before she was on the board residents were promised each would be represented. So this change means we can have three Lake



board members on the budget committee? That is not transparent to our constituents, I represent all outside the areas and our community deserves us to represent them, we are elected by them, so I need to make sure I talk about them/represent them. I have a desperate idea for the Athletic Committee and that is why I talk here. If you have three members when/if we talk reconfiguring and they are in the same region? This is ridiculous, there are certain members on this committee from years ago and this was promised to stay... that is not transparent.

Mr. Ellis responded saying "that is the difference between you and I, I represent all not just a portion!" Mr. Hall agreed with Mr. Ellis, he was elected out of the Lake region but we ask students, parents, community to be one and represent everyone of them, this would allow us to align skill sets to the committees each board member should be on. Mrs. Miller replied; we have to add the rotation then. Mrs. Luckock has been on the budget committee for how many years now and on the Athletic Committee. It should be one year and then move on. All four years I have been here I started on the policy committee and now on the budget committee. We need to rotate and represent as a whole. Our constituents are who elect us, my constituents don't talk the way others do. I am in a community in a lot of different areas. The issues in Lake are different than Atlantic, Harmonsburg, Springboro, we need to represent those.

Mrs. Luckock reminded all these meetings are a public committee meeting and are advertised public, other board members are allowed to attend. Mrs. Miller responded; yes that is why I attend others, I will put this on Facebook, this is not right.

Mr. Hornstein replied that he takes exception to the way your present this Mrs. Miller, I agree with Mr. Ellis and Mr. Hall as I represent the whole district.

Mr. Ellis added that consistently changing members on committees will not have flow, we have people on this board with specialties and if you cannot admit that there is something wrong. The Buildings and Grounds Committee have members with that specialty, why would you want to be on a committee you cannot help. We are representing all of the district.

Mr. Hornstein mentioned we are aligning with today, not years ago; Mr. Hall again said he is elected to represent all of the district. Mrs. Miller noted twelve years ago there was a promise to keep the regions.

Mr. Burnham responded saying Mrs. Miller makes a justifiable point and others do, we are elected by regions by our specific constituents but with that we are here to represent those who don't elect us and that is everywhere. But due to demographics and geography, I don't know what happens in other areas, Custards, Hartstown, etc are set that are not my back yard. It is geography with those I know and interact with on occasion. We all try to represent but there are differences in areas, always has been. We promised 21 years ago but yet we re-did our schools, promises were made to the public that by redoing all high schools and spending money instead of consolidating, now we sit here and here this said repeatedly, so why now we have consolidated school. That promise was broken, no outpouring to consolidate but it happened anyway. So how credible are we if we don't keep our promises. We have here this policy, a major problem now Mr. McGuirk wants to be on the Tech Board, but cannot due to policy. It never used to be this way, this is a case repeated in the past. That part of the policy should not have been applied to the Tech Board. He doesn't argue the case should have knowledgeable committee members matching to the right committees.

Mr. McGuirk clarified that discussions in committees with his appointment never really came up for the Tech Board. We were talking about other committees as a whole and Tech came up at the end of the committee. I still have to take my shoes off to count to 20, so whatever committee meetings remember they are always open to the public, whoever is on committees can listen and voting happens as a whole board. It is obvious to him he should be on the policy committee, other two members have students in the schools. The whole idea i looking at this is to have the best/right people serving the district in the right manner.

### 3.e. Superintendent's Report...Mr. Sperry

#### Minutes

Mr. Sperry reported as follows;

1. 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. We are seeing a decrease in the number of people getting vaccinated with about 44% of Crawford County either fully vaccinated or with at least one shot. Currently, the breakdown of schools in PA are: In person- 43%, Hybrid- 32%, Remote- 25%
2. Ed Pietroski and I got to spend some time together on Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. We started the day with a breakfast at CASH so Ed could meet staff at the High School. After that, we toured the district, talked to all the office staff and principals in the buildings and drove around the various corners of the district. We then went to the Career and Tech Center so Ed could meet Kevin and Mike.
3. We ran a Covid Vaccination Clinic at CASH on April 30<sup>th</sup>. We had 40 students take advantage of the vaccination. Clinics were also run at Crawford Central and PENNCREST. Additionally, we received notice that as early as next week, 12-15 yr olds will be able to get the Pfizer vaccine.
4. I attended our National Honor Society Induction at CASH on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We have 99 students in National Honor Society after this most recent induction. The ceremony was broadcasted live through You Tube.
5. Systems of Care meeting was Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Topics were: Bethesda and a grant request for Ukeru equipment, SOC funds for training for Parkside Trauma Therapists, Expulsions from Pre –K of black males, and Trauma Training throughout the county for various agencies.
6. Tim Glasspool, Tom Washington, Becky Dawson, and I are going to do a virtual “Covid Town Hall” – “Strong Ending for a Strong Beginning” on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. We are putting the agenda together now and will get the announcement out this week. We are doing this in attempt to educate our K-12 families in all our districts with what we know about: Covid, Vaccinations, current protocols, and what we expect (at this time) the fall might look like.
7. The Superintendent Advisory Council meeting was held on April 9<sup>th</sup>. We received updates from the Dept of Health, Vaccinations in PA, and discussed ESSR funds, end of year plans, and summer and fall plans. We were also informed of a service in Erie through “White Pine Center for Healing” concerning Eating Disorders. White Pine offers outpatient services for: Eating Disorders, and Body Image. They also offer education for: Healthcare, Businesses, Education and Nonprofits.

### **3.f. Pathways...Mr. Sperry**

Pathway Brochure for Business Finance and IT 2021

Pathway Brochure for Engineer and Industrial Technologies 2021

Pathway Brochure Human Services 2021

Pathway Brochure Science and Health 2021

Pathways Brochure Arts and Communications 2021

### **Minutes**

Mr. Sperry briefly reviewed his brochures for 8th/9th graders interested in vocational. He noted they are available at the schools, starting this spring, five different avenues for students to consider.

### **3.g. Lifetrack...Mr. Sperry**

#### **Minutes**

Mr. Sperry updated the Board on the Lifetrack discussion from last months work session. The program/surveys will start with the graduating class of 2022 with a survey in April/spring and then survey again 18 months after graduation and five years later to see if their plans from high school came to five years later if they changed. The cost is \$14/student based on the graduating class and is already setup in next years budget. We are setup starting July and will be surveying seniors in the Spring of 2022. Lifetrack has an 86-89% return rate on receiving information on students and 10 percent in the entire country for not receiving data.

### **3.h. Northwest Tri-County IU #5 Representative ... Mrs. Luckock**

Mrs. Luckock's term as the District's representative on the Northwest Tri-County IU#5 will expire effective July 1, 2021.

#### **Minutes**

Mrs. Luckock noted in regards to the Northwest Tri-County IU#5 representative, she finished out Mrs. Sperry when she resigned. Mrs. Luckock was re-elected to the appointment and now it expires again. She is opening it up for someone else if interested in serving. She noted they are still meeting remotely, have been for over a year but may start meeting again with the relaxation of orders.

No one else expressed interest therefore, Mrs. Luckock is willing to take the spot again.

### **3.i. PSBA Updates...Mrs. Klink**

- PSBA Membership Renewal

#### **Minutes**

Mrs. Klink noted they are still making available every Thursday for all school board to discuss/talk. She noted to keeping watching for cyber school reforms.

### **3.j. Agenda Review...Mrs. Luckock**

#### **Minutes**

Mr. Burnham asked assurances have we been given the vaccinations for 16 year olds? Mr. Sperry replied; Pfizer is doing trials as young as six year olds since fall, and when information came out from Meadville Medical Center letter were sent to families that any children under 18 parents had to consent. Pfizer again has been doing trials down to age two, for sure six and have recently applied for emergency authorize for ages 12-16 and potentially as young as six by June of this year. Mr. Burnham had heard the Food and Drug Administration had given authorization but not officially approved vaccine. He is concerned with side effects on students down the road long term.

The Board reviewed the draft voting meeting agenda.

## **4. ADJOURNMENT**

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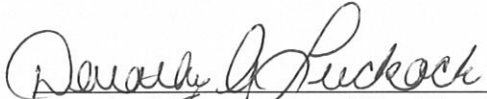
**Minutes**

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

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**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 student and real estate concerns.

  
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Dorothy Luckock, Board President

  
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Greg Mayle, Board Secretary

