

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MT. LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 19, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 pm on Monday, September 19, 2022 in Mt. Lebanon High School Room D205 and via Zoom.

Mr. Wyland called the meeting to order.

ATTENDING

Board Members: Mrs. Melinda Berdyck, Mr. Todd Ellwein, Ms. Valerie Fleisher, Mrs. Erin Gentzel, Ms. Claire Guth, Dr. Justin Hackett, Ms. Annamaria Johnson, Ms. Sarah Olbrich, Mr. Jacob Wyland

Others: Superintendent Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Solicitor Thomas Peterson, Dr. Ronald Davis, Dr. Heather Doyle, Mr. Robert Geletko, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Ms. Kristen James, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Ms. Tenecia Ross, Mr. Chris Stengel

MINUTES

It was moved by Wyland and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the minutes of the Special Meeting held on August 3, 2022 and continued on August 4, 2022, the Discussion Meeting held on August 8, 2022; and the Regular Meeting held on August 15, 2022.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Wyland reported that it's been a great start to the school year for students and families. The Board and Dr. Steinhauer have met and agreed upon goals for the 2022-2023 school year, which will be posted on the District website. Mr. Wyland extended his gratitude to Dr. Steinhauer for his leadership, as Dr. Steinhauer has announced that he will retire at the end of this school year. The superintendent search has begun and a consulting firm will be utilized.

Mr. Wyland presented Mr. Jeremy DeLuca with the Extra Mile Award. Thirty two families submitted nominations. Mr. DeLuca was lauded for his work with the percussion program, his positivity during the pandemic, and his leadership. Many families attended the meeting in support.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer reported that the Great Alumni luncheon will be held on September 30, 2022. Five alumni will be recognized for their exceptional work. There will also be a recognition at that evening's home football game. Biographies are on the District website. Six Seniors have been selected as National Merit Semi-Finalists and were recognized by the Board for their achievements. Dr. Steinhauer also announced that all school buildings will conduct evacuation drills in the coming weeks to ensure that students and staff will be prepared in the event of an emergency. The District is working with alternative sights, the MLPD and MRTSA to prepare. Building principals will share more information with families.

BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee - Ms. Olbrich reported that minor revisions of three policies will be voted on tonight.

Board Development - Mr. Wyland reported that the Board met for a training with a representative from PSBA to address Board culture, roles and responsibilities, communication, and a review of a self assessment audit that Board members completed earlier this year.

PSBA Liaison - Mr. Ellwein reported that the Department of Education Act 1 base index will be set at 4.1% for the 2023 - 2024 fiscal year, which is used to set the maximum tax increase that can be levied without having to request a PDE exception or receiving voter approval. He also reported that the Pennsylvania Department of Education has scheduled several public, regional round tables in October to receive input on gifted education regulations from the public.

Environmental Sustainability - Mrs. Berdyck reported that the Environmental Sustainability Committee met on September 8. Members of the municipal Board, as well as a PTA Council representative and high school student representative were in attendance. The climate action plan is nearing its final stages; a public hearing is scheduled for October and input is welcome. The public is also asked to complete a survey regarding the 5-year comprehensive plan. The committee brainstormed on initiatives, such as plastics used in area restaurants and schools, supporting recycling and composting initiatives, support for the use of solar energy in municipal buildings, enhancing the safety of our walking streets, fuel efficiency of municipal vehicles, the need for additional bike racks in the community, the need for enhancing rain gardens, and student-led initiatives.

Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education - Mrs. Gentzel reported that the MLFE will be holding a fundraiser tailgate on September 30 on the back patio of the athletic building.

Municipal Liaison - Dr. Hackett reported that applicants for the MLPD Chief of Police position will be presented to the community on October 3. The comprehensive plan survey is still open and resident input is requested. A Ward 3 commission seat is open and the target completion date for the uptown renewal project is November 30.

Parkway West CTC - Ms. Johnson reported that enrollment at PWCTC has increased this school year and programs in adult welding testing and certification have been added, which will bring in additional revenue.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee - Ms. Johnson reported that the DEI committee met on September 19 to discuss 2022-2023 school year goals, the inclusivity calendar, and to update 2022-2023 initiatives and planning for this school year.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Berdyck and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves, ratifies, and accepts the following financial reports:

- a. Treasurer's Reports dated August 31, 2022
- b. List of Bills dated August 11, 2022, and August 31, 2022
- c. List of Bills dated September 16, 2022
- d. List of Tax Refunds August 31, 2022

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Berdyck and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves for public display the list of liened property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Berdyck and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves authorizing the Tax Collector to remove all delinquent properties with assessments of \$8,000 or less from the properties to be liened for the 2021 tax year and approves the filing of liens on all remaining properties.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Hackett that the Board approves the September 8, 2022 list of personnel changes, as revised September 15, 2022.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Fleisher that the Board accepts Dr. Steinhauer's notice of retirement effective June 30, 2023.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves an agreement with The Watson Institute for the placement of students with special needs for the 2022-2023 school year. Annual cost of this service will not exceed \$53,223 per student for no more than (5) students.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Ellwein and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves an agreement with The Watson Institute Social Center for Academic Achievement (WISCA) for the placement of special education students for the 2022-2023 school year. Annual cost of this service will not exceed \$51,901 per student for no more than (3) students.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Ellwein and seconded by Hackett that the Board approves an agreement with Olivia Burk for the purpose of providing psychoeducational evaluations to determine students' eligibility and need for special education and gifted support services.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Ellwein and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves an agreement with Leaders in Learning to provide psychoeducational evaluations to determine students' eligibility and need for special education and gifted support services.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Fleisher and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves an agreement with Sunbelt Staffing to provide skilled nursing services for a student with special needs throughout the school day.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Fleisher and seconded by Guth that the Board approves an agreement with a parent to transport their student with special needs to their current outside placement school.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Fleisher and seconded by Guth that the Board approves an agreement with the South Hills Catholic Academy to provide lunches for their students.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Hackett and seconded by Guth that the Board approves the lowest responsible bid meeting specifications from Jim Shorkey Ford for a new box truck at their bid price of \$52,498.07.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Hackett and seconded by Gentzel that the Board approves the field hockey team to travel to Detroit, Michigan for a tournament on September 16-17, 2022.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Hackett and seconded Gentzel that the Board approves the yearbook production trip to New York, New York (Columbia University) on March 13-17, 2023.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Gentzel and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves the boys lacrosse team to travel to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for a tournament on the weekend of April 22-23, 2023.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Gentzel and seconded by Hackett that the Board authorizes Claire Guth, Annamaria Johnson, and Sarah Olbrich to be voting delegates to the Annual PSBA Delegate Assembly.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Gentzel and seconded by Olbrich That the Board approves revisions to the following policies:

- a. JRC - Student Records Release of Information on Students and Annual Notification of Rights
- b. IHBEA - English Language Learners Program
- c. IMG - Service Animals in Schools

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Guth and seconded by Olbrich that the foregoing Stipulated Adjudication is hereby adopted as the decision of the Board of School Directors of the Mt. Lebanon School District with regard to the matter of Student AB.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Guth and seconded by Wyland that the Board appoints Melinda Berdyck to replace Claire Guth as an alternate of the Parkway West Career and Technology Center Joint Committee for a term ending in December 2024.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson,
Olbrich, Wyland
Against: None
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One (1) resident spoke before the Board about the following teaching financial skillst to students, an increase in drug overdoses, drugs, alcohol, and smoking, hiring of a new superintendent, and the time allotted to residents to speak at Board meetings.

Upcoming Public Meetings

October 10, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.	Policy Committee Meeting Room D205, High School
October 10, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.	Board Discussion Meeting Room D205, High School
October 17, 2022 - 6:45 p.m.	Board DEI Committee Meeting Room D205, High School
October 17, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.	Board Regular Meeting Room D205, High School

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Olbrich and approved unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Kimberly Walters, Secretary
Board of School Directors

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