

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

October 17, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 pm on Monday, October 17, 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 Hackett that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on September 12, 2022; the Discussion Meeting held on September 12, 2022; the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meeting held on September 19, 2022; and the Regular Meeting held on September 19, 2022.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORTS

Mellon Middle School eighth grade students Bre'ajiah Leslie and Diego Casillas reported on recent activities at MMS. Student council met to review a survey that was presented to the student body in order to gather ideas on how to improve MMS. They also began activities for the annual MMS October pink out. Students partnered with St. Clair Hospital to increase awareness and raise money for breast cancer research. Student council worked with local business, Commonwealth Press, to make and sell t-shirts and were able to raise \$197.52 from the sale. Two more pink out events will be held to raise additional funds. Any participating students are able to purchase tickets to win prizes, which has raised an additional \$541. Students will also be collecting fuzzy socks for patients. A Halloween costume contest will also be held, as well as a red, white, and blue spirit day to honor veterans and a cardigan day to celebrate kindness in honor of Fred Rogers.

Mt. Lebanon High School students Sam Noll, Gina Malachow, and Lilly Girod presented a report to the Board. Link Crew welcomed new High School students to start the year with numerous activities, such as orientation, a pizza and game night, and a tailgate event. The traditional senior boat ride was held and was a fun and safe night. On September 30, five exceptional Mt. Lebanon graduates were honored at the Great Alumni Luncheon. Class officers gave speeches to acknowledge the reasons for choosing these five candidates. A tour was provided and the honorees were presented at the homecoming football game. In addition to the presentation of the Great Alumni recipients, the class of 2023 homecoming court was also presented. The homecoming dance was also held in center court. Student council members also look forward to weekly meetings with Director of Technology, Mr. Chris Stengel, to discuss all things technology. Many more activities are upcoming, including the Halloween door decorating contest, the celebration of Custodian's Day, and the first of three blood drives. Spirit week is next week and students can dress in a different theme each day. The fall spirit assembly will also be held. The pink out football game on October 28 will raise money for the St. Clair Hospital Cancer Caring Center and the Young Womens' Cancer Foundation.

BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Wyland began his report by reaffirming his statements from the October 10 Discussion meeting regarding the Board's deep respect for the work of the members of the Mt. Lebanon Secretarial/Aides Education Support Professionals Association. Contract negotiations are underway and engaging in discussion outside of negotiations would be inappropriate. The Board is hopeful to fill positions with District employees, rather than with outside staffing, but students' needs must be met and occasionally outside staffing may be necessary.

Next, Mr. Wyland recognized the hard work of PTA Council members and building PTA presidents. Members were presented with certificates and thanked for their contributions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer began by thanking the recognized PTA members for their leadership. He then introduced and recognized High School Senior Deborah Fu, who was selected to be part of the All-National Orchestra being held in Washington D.C. in November. Next, Dr. Steinhauer announced that Dr. Marybeth has submitted a notice of her intent to retire at the end of the 2022-2023 school year and noted her great work.

BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee - Ms. Olbrich reported that minor revisions were made to policies IMD - Holiday Ceremonies and Observances in Schools, IHBA - Independent Educational Evaluation Policy and JLI - School Violence, Terroristic Threats and Terroristic Acts.

PSBA Liaison - Mr. Ellwein reported that the Department of Education has announced the development of new educator competencies to increase literacy.

Environmental Sustainability - Mrs. Berdyck reported that the Environmental Sustainability Committee met on October 13. The Lebo Green group is relaunching and planning for Earth Day celebrations. Sidewalk safety and safe walking for schools were discussed and problematic crossing areas were identified. Walking safety concerns can be brought to the municipality via their website. The Snow Angels program, in which homeowners can be connected with high school volunteers to shovel snow, was promoted. Dr. Steinhauer added information regarding upcoming District initiatives in the area of sustainability. The District will be working with the municipality in the near future.

Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education - Mrs. Gentzel reported that the MLFE has been focusing on fundraising, selling blankets and sweatshirts. Proceeds support innovative teacher grants. Grant proposals are due to the Foundation in December.

Municipal Liaison - Dr. Hackett reported that the Pumpkin Patch Parade has been canceled due to Uptown construction projects. A “trunk or “treat” event will be held instead. A special meeting is being held tonight to appoint a new commissioner for Ward 3. Public budget meetings will be held next month and the new municipality website will be launched before the end of the year.

Parkway West CTC - Ms. Johnson reported the committee met on October 4. Students are taking part in National Assessment of Career and Technical Education pre-testing.

Pathfinder School - Ms. Fleisher reported that 81 students from 26 different school districts are currently Enrolled at Pathfinder, including students from the five jointure districts. Pathfinder school intends to add additional autistic support classrooms, when they are able to be staffed. There are currently no major building repair or maintenance issues.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee - Ms. Johnson reported that the DEI committee met this evening to discuss goal updates, initiatives, and action plans. Students and parents presented information and resources from the Human Rights Campaign, which the committee will be reviewing.

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS CONCERNING ACTION ITEMS

Three residents spoke before the Board about the following; District paraprofessional employees, and contract negotiations.

NEW BUSINESS

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

- a. Treasurer’s Reports dated September 30, 2022
- b. List of Bills dated September 30, 2022, and October 12, 2022
- c. List of Tax Refunds September 30, 2022 and
- d. List of Unusable Equipment dated October 1, 2022

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 Board approves the October 6, 2022 list of personnel changes, as revised October 13, 2022 and October 17, 2022.

ROLL CALL: For: Berdyck, Ellwein, Fleisher, Gentzel, Guth, Hackett, Johnson, Olbrich, Wyland

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Wyland and seconded by Olbrich that the Board remove the Energy Harbour agreement from the list of action items on the October 17, 2022 regular meeting agenda.

MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE

It was moved by Gentzel and seconded by Fleisher that the Board approves an agreement with Joseph Consolmagno to prepare and respond to the State Department of Food and Nutrition bi-annual review of our operations in substantially the form presented.

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 as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the members of the Student Assistance Teams are memorialized by the Board of Directors for the 2022-2023 school year.

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 Olbrich that the Board approves the Boys Basketball team trip to Hilton Head, South Carolina for a holiday tournament on December 18 - 22, 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 by Fleisher that the Board approves the High School Orchestra trip to New York, NY to participate in the Orchestra Cup at Lincoln Center from March 3 - 5, 2023.

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 Hackett that the Board approves the High School and Jefferson Middle School Student Council Executive Board trip to Boyertown Area High School in Boyertown, PA to participate in the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils' State Leadership Conference from November 4 - 5, 2022.

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 agreements with two families who requested to transport their exceptional students to their current outside placement school in the form presented.

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 STAT Medical Staffing Services, Inc. for the 2022-2023 school year for the purpose of providing temporary certified school nurse and/or skilled nursing services in substantially the form presented.

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 Interim HealthCare of Pittsburgh, Inc. for the 2022-2023 school year for the purpose of providing temporary certified school nurse and/or skilled nursing services as an interim support measure for coverage of daily nursing operations, and to assist with students with special needs for after school activities in substantially the form presented.

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

It was moved by Johnson and seconded by Wyland that the Board approves an agreement with Sunbelt beginning September 19, 2022 and ending December 2, 2022 for the purpose of providing speech language pathology services for students with disabilities throughout the school day in substantially the form presented.

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

It was moved by Johnson and seconded by Wyland that the Board approves an agreement with Sunbelt for the purpose of providing temporary substitute paraprofessional services for students with disabilities throughout the school day for the 2022-2023 school year in substantially the form presented.

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 Wyland that the Board approves an agreement with ProCare Therapy for the purpose of providing temporary substitute paraprofessional services for students with disabilities throughout the school day for the 2022-2023 school year in substantially the form presented.

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 Ellwein and seconded by Olbrich That the Board approves the student Settlement Agreement in the form presented.

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 revisions to the following policies in the form presented:

- a. IMD - Holiday Ceremonies and Observances in Schools
- b. IHBA - Independent Educational Evaluation Policy
- c. JLI - School Violence, Terroristic Threats and Terroristic Acts

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

COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Sixteen residents spoke before the Board about the following; the secretarial/aide contract, fare wages, boys' volleyball, and the District energy agreement.

Mr. Wyland announced that an Executive Session was held prior to this evening's meeting for the purpose of personnel and labor negotiations.

Upcoming Public Meetings

November 14, 2022 - TBD	Policy Committee D205, Mt. Lebanon High School
November 14, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.	Board Discussion Meeting D205, Mt. Lebanon High School Zoom
November 21, 2022 - TBD	Board DEI Committee D205, Mt. Lebanon High School Zoom

November 21, 2022 - 7:30 p.m.

Board Regular Meeting
D205, Mt. Lebanon High School
Zoom

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 9:49 p.m.

Kimberly Walters, Secretary
Board of School Directors

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