

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting of School Board
Monday, January 28, 2019, at 7:00 PM

Executive Session @ 6:30 PM to Discuss Litigation

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order - A regular meeting of the Lehigh Area School Board was held in the Administration Building, Conference Room A, on the above date and called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐
Mr. Brian Feick, Business Manager	X	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor	X	☐
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Secretary	X	☐

** Notice of Executive Session - Prior to this meeting there was an Executive Session to discuss a litigation issue.

Presentations - None

Public Comment on Agenda

1. David Bradley – XIV. – A, C, K, J, M, L

- There's a bunch of things on the agenda that this board was not privy to and therefore should be either postponed, including many of the motions. One of which is the Portnoff Law Association which had no attachments to it. The addendum that just showed up prior to walking in the door. And, in addition to these court cases that we withdrew and Mr. Schwab gratefully brought his filings, I hope. Mine's about the same size, I'm surprised. Should've brought mine. Also, I noticed that there's no tax increase but the district has projections of a negative budget and using fund balance collected from over-taxation to compensate the shortfalls from an overspending habit. I don't know who put on Personnel, Agenda number A. for a list of candidates when none of the board has seen any of the resumes or was privy to any of the information. Same with the recommendations to hire people, there is no committee, no resumes, and no question as to the relations and/or abstentions that may occur for those personnel. I want to thank all the employees that are retiring after 25 years, 24 years, 23 year and 12 years of service. Thank you, it is fantastic to see that you stayed this long and did a great job, thank you. And the last one I had, sorry give me a second, the board is considering a climate study which I looked under the School Code and I could not find anywhere. So I don't know what authorizes us to be able to do things that are not within the School Code. And then also number C., I'm not sure who put this on the agenda to propose that the board agree to get the same clearances that all other school volunteers have to acquire. I'm not sure who put that on the agenda. I like that it's on there, but I don't know who put it on, contrary to social media, it was not me but thank you for the credit. And then I also want to look at letter L. if you look at School Code Section 608 and 610, the KingSpry resolution should be identified as to what part of School Code was that, those monies allocated and if they were misallocated, because they are not within School Code, the district should force those that voted for it, to repay to the district, thank you.

2. David Hauser – Directors' Concerns E & F

- Good evening, I'm referencing under Directors' Concerns, Items E & F. If I read these correctly, these would reduce graduation credit requirements for our students. I just wanted to go on the record as a former teacher in the district, a current administrator, a parent and taxpayer, I think this is a very bad idea. I would (inaudible) the board against reducing that. We presently have a very competitive district. Lots of opportunities for students in both core subject areas taking advanced courses at the advanced placement level, honors level, college preparatory level. We also have that same type of weighting in many of our electives. I've seen social media postings that reducing the credit requirements could potentially save the district tens of millions of dollars. One of my immediate questions is how? Which teachers and employees would be fired to come up with that if we do a reduction in the credits? I would also question which programs would need to be cut. If we go to the state minimum of 21 credits there's very specific requirements we have to jump through, 4 English credits, 3 in Science, 3 in Math, 3 in Social Studies and a few other odds and ends here and there. We would be cutting Art, Music, Band, Choir, what else would we be cutting in order to meet that? Where would the students not have an opportunity to advance? I don't know why this is on here but if we go to 21 credits, it's going to be very difficult for a student to say let's get the Calculus, if we're a college-bound student. Let's get to an Advanced Placement language course, let's get to a more rigorous Science course.

Those opportunities simply go away. I've seen things that other schools have something similar, referencing one or two sentences out of handbooks or out of publications. I would question to how many students those things actually apply. None of that content is there. So, in my opinion, we keep the credits where they're at. Contrary to what was also put out there, the policy revisions for the graduation requirements, there was no increase in credits. We've been at 28 credits for the better part of a decade, if not longer. So, it's maintaining status quo, just realigning what some of the requirements are. That's what was said at the policy meeting. Next thing I'd like to talk about very briefly, Item I. under Directors' Concerns releasing emails. My question is, are these the same emails that Judge Nanovic said that that Right-to-Know was shown not to have to release these and now it's on here again. So, why do we continue to discuss that. That's all I have for your consideration, thank you for your time.

Mr. Bradley – Excuse me, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern – Yes?

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. Would you like to answer Mr. Hauser?

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – Why not? I mean he's a stakeholder. He has concerns.

Mr. Stern – We'll discuss, we can discuss those items when it comes up to the agenda.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. I just wanted to make sure that that opportunity will exist. Are you saying it will?

Mr. Stern – Between us, we will discuss that item when it comes to the agenda.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

3. **Nathan Foeller – Sale of Previous Elementary Buildings, XII.**

- I'd like to address the agenda item regarding the sales of the previous elementary schools. First, I just want to say I'm pleased the first two schools that were sold happened so quickly. I've seen, in this area, other areas, schools that have sat, sometimes ultimately been sold for a dollar, problems pile up, schools turn from being an asset to a liability. So I'm just, I'm pleased first of all at how quickly the first two schools were sold. In regards to Franklin, I see that back on the agenda again tonight, Shull-David, I just want to encourage the board to keep the ball rolling and I'd like to see those get just off the school's books so they can continue to focus on education instead.

4. **Ron Snell – Motion K, Directors' Concerns**

Mr. Stern – I'd like to note Mr. Snell is not a resident of our district.

Mr. Bradley – Is he a resident of the state?

Mr. Snell – Excuse me?

Mr. Stern – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, good, then he's a taxpayer he can...I just want to make sure.

Mr. Cleaver – Thank you for your approval, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Stern – Yeah, I appreciate it. Mr. Snell?

- Thank you, Mr. President for allowing me time to speak. As a taxpayer in the state of Pennsylvania there are many things in the Lehigh School District that concern me. Due to limited time available for me to speak, I will concentrate on one very disturbing motion. That motion is Motion K. under Director Concerns. I surmise that this motion was brought forward due to a Right-to-Know request from a citizen for the pre-bid documents for the Mahoning and East Penn Elementary schools. That Right-to-Know request was fulfilled by saying the district was searched but the records couldn't be found. Those records are required by law to be kept on file for 4 years by the Lehigh Area School District. There was also the records of appraisals that nobody seems to have. When a school board approves to have district property, taxpayer's property, assessed, the people have the right to see those documents. For a director to have to put forth a motion to create a task force to uncover missing documents is inexcusable. This shows a gross dereliction of duty by the Business Manager, the Superintendent and the Solicitor in not ensuring these documents were retained. As a taxpayer in Pennsylvania, the values where my money's spent, I feel at the very least these employees of the district should be reprimanded by the board for their lack of oversight, thank you.
- Oh, and by the way, Mr. Cleaver, my Superintendent does not say where I can and can't go.

Mr. Cleaver – Okay.

5. **Walter Zlomsowitch – VIII, Directors' Concerns B, C, M**

- Motion M. that talks about the censure of Dave Bradley, I'm curious to know what the costs from KingSpry was that gives the opinion that he should be censured in public? Is there (inaudible) to that? Is there a cost yet?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't have it.

- Did we receive a bill yet; does anybody know?

Mr. Bradley – We have a cost if you'd like to have it. Mr. Stern, would you like to provide it to him?

Mr. Stern – Take the floor, go ahead.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Feick, would you like, did you share the information with Mr. Stern today?

Mr. Feick – It was given in your FYI packet.

Mr. Bradley – In that packet. It's in your packet, sir.

- I'll just do a Right-to-Know, it's okay. They're not expensive I guess. The other one that I want to talk about is redaction software. I think to reduce our costs and to comply with the law with Right-to-Knows, you should consider the purchase of redaction software. And, underneath the same one of C., I was one of them on social media that thought that that was Dave who was looking to get all the same clearances for the volunteers or as volunteers were needed for the board members. I just assumed it was you because it's usually under Directors' Concerns that these things pop up. Although it's a good idea (inaudible) that that becomes part of the boards (inaudible) you should really, really consider all the problems these could lead to and I think that's it. I'll file a Right-to-Know tomorrow for the costs to KingSpry.

Mr. Bradley - Excuse me, Mr. Stern could we have the floor for just a second, please?

Mr. Stern - Sure, go ahead.

Mr. Bradley - Mr., can you pronounce your name again, Zlomsowitch? Alright, he just walked away. Wally Z., I'll go with Wally Z.

Walter Zlomsowitch - We're really good friends Dave you should...

Mr. Bradley - I know. I'm gonna use, if it's not disrespectful, I'll use Wally Z. So, Wally Z. walking away from this podium just mentioned that you want to file a Right-to-Know to get the information that is currently sitting in the packet of Mr. Stern. There's no reason to incur the cost of the Right-to-Know request, the cost of the Solicitor...

Mr. Stern - Why don't you just give it to him?

Mr. Bradley - ...or the cost of our Right-to-Know Officer or according to the testimony in the Right-to-Know case, the cost of a lot of the administration, for information that is readily available to you 'cause it's a pertinent document as part of this agenda. So, it's required to give it to you without the Right-to-Know request. If you'd like a copy of it, we can do it. It was tens of thousands of dollars, thank you.

Mr. Stern - And I think you might be mistaken that the tens of thousands of dollars were billed associated just to that document, Mr. Bradley. So, Mr. Krause...

Mr. Bradley - One more time, Mr. Feick provided you with that information, thank you.

6. Dave Krause - Directors' Concerns, Motions A-M

- Thank you. My comments are in regards to the Courtesy of the Floor Director Concerns Motions A. through M. The motions under the Director Concerns are always nebulous, sometimes due to poor grammar, misspelled words, and lack of associated costs to the district taxpayers. On top of that, most are items that deal with policies, procedures, and our strategic plan that are either already in place or should be sent to committee first for discussion and clarification with a more meaningful motion before bringing to the floor to a vote. In regards to Item H, if emails were blocked because they were abusive, it is not a violation of the First Amendment rights, which court rulings will support. Language that is considered slander, liable, harassment or defamation is not protected by freedom of speech. When are we going to get down to business of governing this district with a focus on student achievement rather than what somebody

said in an email, rehashing history and constantly playing the blame game to support a fake narrative of transparency and corruption. You were elected to act on behalf of your electorate, not to abdicate your responsibility by turning everything over to a discussion point on social media platform. It's been fourteen months now of politicking. It's time to focus on moving the district forward before we fall further behind academically with all the ESSA initiative. It's time to stop wasting more of our taxpayer dollars chasing a fox down a rabbit hole. It's time to stop the tremendous waste of our district resources, administration and public's time at these meetings. Thank you.

7. Drewann Troutman – I. – Transparency Movement

- I'm here to talk about any motion that's pushing because of transparency. Transparent means having thoughts, feelings, or motives that are easily perceived. Back in 2006, I graduated from Lehigh Area High School. After working 4 jobs to earn my degree, I was blessed with the opportunity to return to my hometown. Work alongside educators who I'd spent years looking up to. Many of them are probably here tonight. It was honor to be offered a job at Lehigh Area School District. It wasn't a job I took lightly because I knew the high standard and good reputation the district had. I wanted to be part of this incredible team. I've been here since 2012 and I loved getting to know the kids, their families, and the community. Drive my husband a little nuts; going shopping takes 3 times as long because we always run into someone we know because of these connections brought on for working with the district. All of this and more has been fueled by the passion, which recently has been publically mocked, that I have for teaching kids and wanting to make a difference. If you were to have a conversation with any faculty or staff in this district, I'm sure you'd hear similar stories working hard to make a difference. Tonight I come forward, not only as an educator, but a taxpayer, future parent with two little Indians of my own. Since this whole transparency movement, I've been disgusted to find that it's been used to provoke fear, hostility, and division in our community. I've watched as a fraction of the truth has been used to create chaos. We've all watched this over and over for the last couple years in the name of transparency. I've watched good, not only good but great people, have been questioned and have to defend themselves on from following school policies. I've then watched these policies be manipulated, not by only board members but community members who support them for the sake of what, transparency. The transparency that's being sought after like the Holy Grail, where's it gotten us? Up to our ears in Right-to-Knows for repeated information, staff and faculty emails to endanger not only our employees but our kids as we're desperately villainizing the faculty and staff throughout the district. Shouldn't transparency be in search of full and complete information that's being used to bring this community together to find solutions that are to maintain a high achievement, academic environment for all learners? Rather than distort the definition of what that means? Sadly, I'm sure my words tonight will be distorted and misused like other things in the name of transparency. I'm sure sections will be taken out of context or legalistically combed through. There needs to be accountability, communication, and public involvement in our school district, absolutely. But this current method is not an appropriate way to achieve it. Whoever tries to claim that this transparency movement is for the sake of bettering the community, I challenge you to prove it. Shouldn't we be building a community that people want to be a part of and a district good educators what to work for than to deter them with the hostility. There was a time you could go anywhere in the town and feel the community bond by just simply being a Lehigh Indian. This school and it's programs use to bring something, bring us all together where we could all have

different opinions about how to make it better but discuss it respectfully. Instead of degrading publically and, instead of degrading people publically, we could advocate for our children in respectful ways. Instead of looking for solutions, many are focused on collecting problems to prove corruption and continue the division. I look forward to getting back to a place where we can be proud to call ourselves Lehighton Indians.

Communications

1. Superintendent's Report – *Mr. Cleaver*

- Lehighton School District was awarded a \$35,000 grant to expand Computer Science in our district. With being awarded this grant, we will now be able to implement Computer Science Essentials, a course through Project Lead the Way, for all 9th grade students. We will also be using the grant to add a new Project Lead the Way course called Computer Science for Innovators and Makers in our Middle School. The grant money will go to support rigorous teacher professional development and program curriculum costs as we introduce these new courses. I'd like to thank Mr. Tkach and Melissa Volcskai and their group for putting this information together and being awarded this grant. I believe our district and Weatherly were the only two in Carbon County that were awarded the funds to expand our Computer Science program for this district and we are currently also applying for an additional grant for Computer Sciences that also involves purchasing of software and different technology advances as well could be part of these programs.
- The Second Harvest Food Bank Program has been a big success. We are currently sending food items home with approximately 70 students every Friday. The parents and guardians are very thankful for the effort the district has made in relation to the community outreach for this program. Every Friday our staff is putting together upwards of around 70, we call it "to-go" bags for the weekend for parents for additional food for them for over the weekend to help offset some of the costs and give them an opportunity for a good, healthy meal. Again, I'd like to thank Mr. Tkach and Mrs. Karpowicz for spearheading this. Also, our alternative ed. students that every Friday get together and they enjoy packing the bags for the students and the cooperation from the elementary school with getting the students down on Fridays to get their bag to take home with them over the weekend. We've have a lot of positive feedback from many people involved.
- The Safe2Say Program, many people have heard, this has been on the news for several weeks now. The high school students, the parent letter and student awareness was sent and taken care of the week of the 21st. The middle school parent letter was sent home the week of the 14th and we had our training for the students in the middle school during January 22nd. At the elementary level, student/parent information was sent home with student report cards and their student awareness has been completed. To date, since the program was opened to the public on the 14th of January, we have responded to 8 referrals for students within our district. Some of the referrals consist of coming to us through email or text messaging. More serious ones will come through with a phone call. They will continue to call, there's 5 individuals on the call list, until they get a hold of someone. And to date, we've actually had 2 of the cases that involved local law enforcement as well to respond to the information they received through these programs. So, again, the great cooperative effort with the state, the district, and also the local law enforcement as well.

- The district as part of the safety grant that we received has purchased a visitor management system called Raptor Technology. This system will scan visitors and alert the administration of custodial alerts, registered sex offenders and any other banned visitor that may be entering the building. As part of the system, it will also print visitor badges with names, pictures and locations of the area the visitors are supposed to be visiting. We have the equipment. Right now we're uploading the programs into the office computers and once that is up and running a letter will go home to the parents. We'll post a lot of information on our website as well. When individuals come in, they will need to have a valid driver's license or a state ID that can be scanned through this new program that we have.
- January is School Board Member Recognition Month. During this month of recognition, we would like to recognize the volunteerism that these individuals put forth to assure our entire Lehighton Educational Community continues to move forward. On behalf of the entire Lehighton School District family, I would like to thank you for your efforts in public school advocacy and most importantly your continued support for the students of Lehighton. So, for the month of January, again School Board Member Awareness Month. So I'd like to thank all the school board members, past and present as well. There's many of them here today. For their amount of times, again they spend many, many hours here in meetings. This month alone, with proposals, thanks to Mr. Feick and the Finance Committee, they will be hearing presentations from several different insurance providers, different types of health programs that are out there, many different types of services through RFP's. And once they get through this, the next couple months we'll be sitting through RFP's for food service and we'll have these. So, again, those are examples of meetings that take place for the board members are here for hours and hours at a time that is not necessarily a meeting, but they have to be here to get all the information from the individuals who are presenting to them. So, again, thank you to the past and present school board members for the district.

Mr. Feick – I just want to add, and unpaid they're here.

Mr. Cleaver – Volunteerism.

Mr. Feick – Volunteer.

- And finally, for Tuesday, January 29th, the Lehighton Area School District is closed due to the pending weather storm that is coming. As are all other schools in Carbon County if anyone is in Carbon County.

Mr. Bradley – Excuse me, Mr. Cleaver. Can I have the floor for a second, Mr. Stern?

Mr. Stern – Sure, Mr. Bradley, after you interrupted, but that's fine.

Mr. Bradley – I'm sorry?

Mr. Stern – Go ahead.

Mr. Bradley – You sure?

Mr. Stern – Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. So you mentioned there was 2 Safe2Say events, is that what you're trying to say? Two times the app was used?

Mr. Cleaver – Eight.

Mr. Bradley – Eight times.

Mr. Cleaver – Two included police.

Mr. Bradley – Two included police, okay. And during our, I think it was the Policy meeting, you mentioned you were gonna write a letter to the Auditor General in reference to Safe2Say?

Mr. Cleaver – No, I didn't say I was gonna. I said many people have written and had resolutions that they were concerned about the amount of time it was going to encompass.

Mr. Bradley – But you did not write a letter?

Mr. Cleaver – No, I did not.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, thank you.

2. Finance Report - *Mr. Feick*

- We put out, as Mr. Cleaver said, 3 different RFP's for brokerage services for insurance brokers, one for the health care broker, one for a stop/loss broker and one for our property and casualty broker. We had 11 responses to the RFP. We are starting interviews for the first round interviews on Wednesday night of this week and Thursday and then the following week. We plan to do at least one round if not come back to a narrower group for the second round. It is for a 5-year contract for the brokerage services. So, the whole board is invited. I think we sent out the RFP's, the paper RFP's, to the board. I'm not putting them out to the public till the end of the night so their competition doesn't have it ahead of time. But as of Wednesday, the 4 that are interviewing, theirs will be public knowledge.
- I also in the FYI package included the LCCC budget. Question for the board right now. Do you want them to come in in February for a presentation? We haven't had a presentation from LCCC in 3 years.

Mr. Bradley – I thought another presentation that was supposed to be happening this month was moved to February, wasn't it?

Mr. Feick – That's the next thing I'm talking about, CCTI.

Mr. Bradley – No. I was talking about there was another presentation that was blocked from this meeting that Joy was bringing forth for educational services.

Mr. Feick – That's outside of finance so, that's not my realm.

Mr. Bradley – I understand but it's presentation so...okay.

Mr. Feick – But I'm asking does the board want LCCC to come up and do a presentation or?

Board agreed to a presentation.

Mr. Feick – Okay, I'll put the request in. Please review the budget that is in your packet. The next one is CCTI, Carbon County Technical Institute Budget. Mr. Cleaver and I met with them, because we're not pleased with it, as it stands right now, I will not recommend the board approving it. I told CCTI that, they would like to come and try to sell their case to the board next month. So I'm gonna scheduled them to come also. And let you decide, but as of now I'm not recommending approving their budget.

- Starting to work on the food service RFP. The state has a long, drawn out process. We'll probably be doing interviews sometime in March but I have to put it out within the next 2 weeks and then have it posted for 3 weeks. Have a walkthrough, let them ask questions, respond for 10 days after that and then we can finally accept proposals.
 - The audit's completed. I plan to have that presented at the February Finance Committee Meeting. I can tell you right now there's no findings but the auditors will be there and present the full audit to you. Once they present that, then the board will make it public and accept it at the February meeting. That finishes my report.
3. Board President's Report – *Mr. Stern*
- My report will be very short. As you will all find in your packets and which will be uploaded and public knowledge at the end of the meeting, if it isn't already, Mrs. Wagner, all the district building reports, I don't want to reiterate all that information, the committee reports, the board updates and highlights that are provided by each building and each part of the organization. So, I don't need to reiterate on those.
 - Just another thing I would like to remind everyone again, everybody is in tune with social media at this point, take the time and follow the Elementary Center, the Middle School, the High School and Lehighton Athletics. You'll find out that there are a lot of great things going on in and around this district that are not advertised and it's just good kids doing a lot of good things. So, that's how you find out what's going on, to observe what's put out on the media and to participate locally. So, that concludes my report.
4. Solicitor's Report – *Atty. William Schwab*
- Yes, I'm gonna stand. You've gotten my written report. What you see in front of you is a Right-to-Know Request that was made by a non-resident of this district to the Lehighton School District which we granted. Everything has been talked about at the Right-to-Know and lack of transparency but it's, what the person asked for they got everything except for 168 items that had to be redacted. Now, when you look at this stack, you have reams and reams and reams, you have approximately 7,000 pages of documents and you had to find 168 pages in that to redact so we didn't reveal student names. That we didn't reveal health information. That we didn't reveal teacher discipline or anything of that nature or administrative discipline. I thought the public would like to see what we do produce in this district. You know, you hear that this isn't being produced, this isn't being produced. This is one that we produced. This was done in 8 days, 8 business days it was gathered and put together. The problem that we're running into, and I know Ms. Maholick has talked about redaction software, but when we talk about redaction software we also have to look at

how the district maintains documents. We are not a paperless district. So, everything has to be found, or most of it in a paper file, it has to be researched, sometimes it could be misfiled, it'll turn up eventually, but right now may be misfiled. You have things that come into this district in paper, they're not scanned, so we have it. We have a problem with the email service right now. It's done by the I.U., they will produce emails for Outlook®. Now, most of the time, we don't have an Outlook® program that will generate the Outlook® into PDF. So you have to print the Outlook® then it can be put into PDF then it can be redacted. It's a very cumbersome process. But, this is a typical thing. Now, for all these documents, the district got paid less than \$2.00 under the Right-to-Know Law. So, this is basically so you can visualize what the district regularly produces in Right-to-Know. You always hear when we turn something down. Well, this is one where we granted everything but 168 items and they had to be redacted.

Ms. Beers – But Bill why wasn't this refused, you know, under the same reasons why...

Atty. Schwab – Because there's nothing in there that would have given us. He was very specific. He gave certain information. There was no reason to deny it.

Ms. Beers – Okay.

Atty. Schwab – I mean it's as simple as that.

Ms. Beers – Right. You removed 168 documents.

Atty. Schwab – Right. Well, we didn't remove, we redacted.

Ms. Beers – Redacted.

Atty. Schwab – But it took reviewing everything.

Ms. Beers – Sure.

Atty. Schwab – Okay. Why wasn't it refused? If it's a specific request, limited in timeframe, limited who's involved, you know, it's not a I want everything that the district has. That's difficult. I want every email for the last four years that have the word committee in it, it's an impossible task. We don't have the ability to do that. The I.U. can't do the search for us for that. I mean in this case, everything was specific for the grant. I think and I, Mr. Cleaver can probably, or Mr. Feick can advise you specifically, but I believe the district is granting close 95% of all Right-to-Know requests. It's the exception that's not and they are just too broad. But, I thought when we had this, and this is our most recent request. It might be something you want to see. So you have a visual on what the district does do and the problem we don't, the district doesn't have software for redaction. Even if it did because of how the I.U. keeps it, we still have to print it into a PDF to redact. So it's a 2 or 3 step process.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Schwab, the Right-to-Know request you mentioned was from a non-resident, correct?

Atty. Schwab – Yes.

Mr. Bradley - Of the district?

Atty. Schwab - Yes.

Mr. Bradley - Does the location of any Right-to-Know requestor matter as long as they're a resident of the United States?

Atty. Schwab - No. They can be a resident of Florida. We give Right-to-Know requests regularly from Florida for tax information. That's a (inaudible). I brought it so that the public has an idea that for less than \$2.00, you're subsidizing this as a taxpayer under the current Right-to-Know Law.

Mr. Bradley - Correct. And the number of records that they request is also irrelevant?

Atty. Schwab - No. That is not the case. Judge Nanovic has basically he has to weigh it.

Mr. Bradley - Okay. And, of the 168 items that got redacted, all of those documents were printed out first so that they could go through the redaction.

Atty. Schwab - Some of them were originally paper. For example, everything up here dealing with all your litigation, these are your, when you say your litigation, that's this stack. That was never in, was never paperless.

Mr. Bradley - But the rest of it. I mean we don't have, how many typewriters does our district have? I mean almost all of it's electronic, correct?

Atty. Schwab - No.

Mr. Feick - State forms are still typewriters.

Mr. Bradley - There's a couple things that are typewriters. But the bulk of them are already electronic?

Atty. Schwab - No.

Mr. Feick - No. Your bills aren't electronic, they come in paper in the mail.

Mr. Bradley - And are any of those bills?

Atty. Schwab - I don't believe he asked for that. But I'm just, so you have an idea, you know, this is...

Mr. Bradley - And once that's granted as a Right-to-Know request, all of those records that were already deemed public, presumed public, under the Right-to-Know Law and are now public, will the district publish them again so that we never have to do this work twice?

Atty. Schwab - I can't, I am not your administration, that's an administrative decision how much, how would say, hard disk space, if they have indexing software. I have no idea, that's beyond my...

Mr. Bradley - But the law says, once that's public for one person, it's public for all.

Atty. Schwab – Oh yeah.

Mr. Bradley – And the work to do it has already been done.

Atty. Schwab – Well, some of it yes but we still have to go back and see the timeframe, things may have to be pulled out, things may have to be added. It's not....

Mr. Bradley – But if it's made public originally, before the guy even requests it, there would be no cost.

Atty. Schwab – No.

Mr. Bradley – And what exactly what is our problem with the email from the I.U.?

Atty. Schwab – The I.U. keeps their email under Outlook®, it's in an Outlook® format and if you want to use, as Ms. Maholick says, go into an Adobe Acrobat, we have to have it converted. To convert it, we have to print it.

Mr. Bradley – What makes you think you have to print an email to make it into an Adobe Acrobat?

Atty. Schwab – Well, that's what our I.U. says in order to get an individual Outlook® email, they have to put it into print.

Mr. Bradley – So when you say print, you mean not print to a printer. You say you gotta print it to a printer?

Atty. Schwab – I can't tell you. They printed into paper. I am not your I.T. person, I'm not your I.T. department. They're the ones that gave us the paper.

Mr. Bradley – I believe what you're relating to, being that I'm only fifty something kinda know how email works, they're printing the email to a PDF file, not to a physical printer. Is that what they told you?

Atty. Schwab – No, that's not what they did. In order for them, since we don't own an Adobe Acrobat license that allows editing, they had to print it to paper.

Mr. Bradley – But if we had that very inexpensive software, it would be printed to a PDF through the computer system, not to a physical ink-jet printer and then therefore able to be electronically redacted, correct?

Atty. Schwab – I would have not the foggiest ideas beyond my capabilities. That's, you gotta talk to Marcus, he is your I.T. Director.

Mr. Bradley – Is he here today?

Mr. Feick – No.

Atty. Schwab – I think he's on Family Medical Leave yet?

Mr. Cleaver – Well, he's not here this evening.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Cleaver.

Mr. Cleaver – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Are these emails being printed to a physical printer or are they being printed to a PDF file?

Mr. Cleaver – I get the information from the I.U. and go through the process that way, thank you.

Mr. Bradley – So which one is it? Are they being printed to a, answer the question sir. Is it printed to a file or printed to a printer?

Mr. Cleaver – I'm not sure.

Atty. Schwab – For this one here, it was printed to a printer. I can tell you that 'cause this is what we got.

Mr. Bradley – Melissa...

Mrs. Wagner – I don't do Right-to-Knows.

Mr. Bradley – I'm just asking, do you have the ability to print to a printer or just to a file?

Mrs. Wagner – I don't work for the I.U. either.

Mr. Bradley – I understand but I mean when we send you things, you put them onto a PDF, correct? If someone wants to print an email or a copy of an email?

Mrs. Wagner – If you send me an email, I print it out.

Mr. Bradley – Physically print it?

Mrs. Wagner – Physically print it.

Mr. Bradley – And then you physically scan it?

Mrs. Wagner – Correct.

Mr. Bradley – Rather than print it to a PDF?

Mrs. Wagner – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Okay.

Atty. Schwab – And that's all I have. I just wanted the public to see what we do grant.

5. Leighton Memorial Library Report – *Mrs. Maholick*
 - No report.
6. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA Report – *Mrs. Spinelli*

- I do have a few things, not a whole lot. I did attend a policy conference down in Bethlehem at the Nitchmann Middle School concerning policies that are thought to be behind in some districts but I came back and ours were fine. Mr. Cleaver and I, I messed up and Mr. Cleaver fixed that for me. But they were fine. And I also met our legislative advocate. That's a program that apparently PSBA started last year but it has really never gotten off the ground so they hope to kinda start that.
- I also have two things that came from PSBA. I don't know if anyone saw this, if not, I'm putting this out there. If you look in the Reading Eagle, it's readingeagle.com, they did quite a nice article on all over the states and the country how they get their school taxes whether it be property or income and what the results of, what the performance of the academics are for various states as to how they do it. So, I just want to put that out there if anyone would like to read it, it was quite interesting.
- Also, I did see that the Pennsylvania legislature is looking to increase graduation guidelines just by a 1 credit, but they are looking to increase them. So, I'm certainly not in favor of reducing ours if the state's even looking to increase them. I also saw that they're going to composite Keystones score for various things.
- And the very last thing is I also did some legal looking up at redaction software and I have no problem with it, fine with me, but one thing I did see. You have to make sure that program is extremely secure. Because, it just happened down at Marjorie Douglas Stoneman, redaction software if put into another program other than PDF, show everything. The redaction isn't there. And, so there are programs that will take care of that but what the suggestion is from the legal standpoint on redaction software is do the redaction, look it over, get a magic marker, go over the redaction, copy that and send that out, not the file. Because even though it's redacted, someone can put it into another program. So, that's the end of my report.

Atty. Schwab – Just a comment on your last item about magic markers.

Mrs. Spinelli – Yes.

Atty. Schwab – This one here when we redacted initially with magic markers, it bled through, the same thing as the indictment down in Washington.

Mrs. Spinelli – Right.

Atty. Schwab – So then we had to rescan it in black and white so it couldn't be read.

Mrs. Spinelli – And they also said it, I mean you don't really have to do the magic marker portion but if the paper is redacted, they suggested don't send it, print it, scan it and send that because that can't be put into another program. That's, I'm just throwing that out there, FYI.

Mr. Bradley – Mrs. Spinelli, Adobe's a very large company.

Mrs. Spinelli – I know who they are.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. And, if you recognize that redaction software is done to redact something, it will be done professionally. When people use other parts of their program to black

out things is what you're describing and is what has happened in the past. That's why they created a very inexpensive program to do actually redaction that prevents what you're talking about specifically and also, you're welcome, and also prevents what Mr. Schwab is describing as a very labor-intensive process and they're responsible for that redaction. Now, I'll make one more statement. If you read the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law, there's an immunity to missing a redaction 'cause all records are deemed to be public. So, human error is way greater than most computer error. Therefore, if you let a computer do something and it's, let's say it's 99.9% accurate, the human then can check for that last .1% If you go the other direction, humans are typically less than 99% and then you're gonna use the...

Mrs. Spinelli – Mr. Bradley, I read all that, I know all that. All I'm telling you is I have no problem with this just make sure we get the right software. You don't have to describe it all to me. That's it, end of conversation.

Mr. Bradley – You used fear as did Mr. Schwab to describe why you're gonna do this marker thing that you suggested?

Mrs. Spinelli – I didn't suggest it.

Mr. Bradley – Okay.

Mrs. Spinelli – I'm simply giving what I said.

7. Title I Advisory Committee Report – *Mrs. Bowman*

- Before I give my Title report, I believe as a citizen I have the right to ask board members who are using their cell phones, if they're texting each other, since it's a public meeting, you need to share that with us. Just to let you know. So, thank you.
- Title I meeting we held on January 11th at 7:45 a.m. at the Center and we talked a lot about the Spring Title Night which will be held April 11th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Center in conjunction with the Art Show and a Book Fair. Our focus will be on STEAM activities which will include Reading, Math, Science and Music. And, we're coordinating that with Mrs. Volcskai.
- Other discussion we had was on our Comprehensive Plan which is on the agenda for tonight and we talked about the Teach Me to Read awareness training and phonemic awareness professional development.
- We also talked about preschool collaboration and we're finding from the Kindergarten teachers that preschool students are doing very well coming into Kindergarten. So, that program is kudos to our preschool staff and Kindergarten.
- We also have some preliminary discussion on benchmark assessments and they're presently used in Star® at the elementary level and they're looking at some diversity with trying to make a better assessment to make sure they understand student needs better.
- The tutoring program started on January the 14th with 20 students in the AM, 86 in the afternoon. And correct me if I'm wrong, Patti, we're up to 75 or is it 86?

Patti Ebbert – We're at 86.

- That's phenomenal for our students to stay and someone...we have a lot of staff, I think there's another additional staff person tonight.

- And the Parent Advisory Council will meet February the 12th at 6:30 p.m. and the next Title Meeting will be Friday, March the 8th. Any questions on this Title report?
8. CCTI Report - *Mr. Yenser*
- CCTI will be administering the winter wave of Keystone examinations coming up.
 - Also in February, they're celebrating the Career and Technical Education Month at CCTI which will include some activities as well as multiple presentations as well as teen related issues and topics being discussed. In addition to that, they're also working through their ALiCE drills and training with their students, similar to what we're doing here at Lehigh. That concludes my report.

Mr. Bradley - Excuse me, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern - Yes, sir.

Mr. Bradley - Does Mr. Yenser have any information in reference to the fund balance of CCTI?

Mr. Yenser - I don't have the information on me.

Mr. Bradley - Okay. Did any other schools talk about this? I know there's a couple that have already asked that. Did they have this discussion or?

Mr. Yenser - I'm assuming you read the paper?

Mr. Bradley - Correct. So a lot of schools, did they have a discussion at CCTI about this yet or not?

Mr. Yenser - Correct. Yes, they are having discussions at CCTI.

Mr. Bradley - They're having them now or they have already had them?

Mr. Yenser - It's been ongoing. Mr. Cleaver had started the conversation up there. They're having it not just with Lehigh but some other sending districts as well.

Mr. Bradley - Do you have anything to share with us at this time?

Mr. Yenser - Not at this time.

9. CLIU Report - *Mr. Wentz*
- Due to the impending storm tomorrow, the I.U. meeting has now been set for this coming Wednesday, January 30th. I'll have a full report at our February meeting.
10. Building/Grounds Report - *Mr. Holland*
- I'd like to discuss the Middle School press box. Ongoing problem I guess, 2 year plus now without a press box up there at the old stadium. We just found out, or at least I did, we have no monies this year for to bring up about a new press box. So hopefully in our new budget we will see funding for this press box.

- Routine maintenance at the High School, it's ongoing, the guys are working hard to keep up with everything. Also new doors for gymnasium were installed at the High School.
 - We discussed about a shed for down there at the Elementary Center. It's needed. We have to store our outdoor equipment in that and we had now, we just didn't think about it I guess in the building program. So, anyway, we're purchasing a new shed for the building.
 - Also Mr. Spotts discussed with us the need of a lift at the new Elementary Center because of the height in the gymnasium and that when lights and everything else go. So, we're gonna be looking at a lift for the Elementary Center. Things are going smoothly at the Elementary Center 'cause I can say thankfully at this point in time, Mr. Feick knows I've been on his case since August. Every month I ask when are we getting the tables and that for the cafeteria. I just found out the other day, everything's in place so I want to say thank you that everything's in place there at the cafeteria and that's my report, thank you.
11. Academic Affairs Committee Report – *Mr. Stern*
- Academic Affairs did not meet. The next meeting is next Wednesday right here at 5:45 p.m.
12. LCCC Report – *Mr. Krause*
- Good evening fellow public servants and Happy New Year. LCCC recently hired a new Business Manager since Brian Kaylor retired at the end of 2018. Our financial statements are strong due to his excellent work over the years and being very proactive in tightening controls and managing the college's assets. There were no findings in our 2017-18 audit.
 - The Community College's budget for 2019-20 was presented to the high school Superintendents and Business Managers. In summary, there is no increase in the rate charge to the member school districts and despite the small increase in tuition, LCCC is still the lowest cost of all neighboring colleges. I think enrollment figures that show an increase of 6.7% reflect the great value and extremely effective efforts of our leadership to recruit and retain students. For those that may not know, the funding breakdown for the Community College is one-third from the state, one-third from tuition and one-third from the local schools. The Board of Trustees continues to look at ways on reducing any percentage increase in the tuition.
 - In December I forwarded information to Mr. Tkach about the Success Engagement Education and Determination, the SEED acronym program, which provide comprehensive and individual supports for students with disabilities who are interested in vocational training through a college experience. It outlined the application process for scholarships and for students to get into the SEED program.
 - And, lastly, I learned about and would encourage Lehighton to take advantage of their Science in Motion, SIM, mobile technology lab. Much of their equipment is state-of-the-art type of equipment that the schools, it would be cost prohibited for any school to get. So, it's available to the school districts and they also will provide training for our teaching staff on how to use it for future use. And, that concludes my report.

Mr. Bradley – Excuse me, Mr. Stern, before we leave Mr. Krause.

Mr. Stern – Yes, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – Dave, do you have any records as to how many students here at the district partake in the LCCC program that when they're a Senior they can go down there and get credits during their school?

Dave Krause – The Dual Enrollment program?

Mr. Bradley – Yeah, like a Dual Enrollment or just...

Dave Krause – Yeah, those figures are available. We provide those to the Superintendent.

Mr. Bradley – Any idea about how many?

Dave Krause – I don't have that with me. I think it's in the 50's or 60's.

Mr. Bradley – Out of a class of 200, about 25%?

Dave Krause – Well, there could be Juniors in there too.

Mr. Bradley – So it's a pretty well adopted program?

Dave Krause – Oh it's a growing program and Lehighton's, I think, the largest group.

Mr. Cleaver – Right. Right now, percentage and per students, we have one of the more, one of the higher percentage of sending students for Dual Enrollment. In addition to it, LCCC, there's only 2 districts that have the Scholars' Program, us and Parkland right now. So that also increase the amount 'cause all those students are taking anywhere from 6-8 courses, Mrs. Howland a year?

Mrs. Howland explained, from the audience, the Scholars' Program and Dual Enrollment at the High School.

Mr. Bradley – And the cost to these students that are district students to go to LCCC?

Mrs. Howland – Off the top of my head per credit I don't want to quote...

Mr. Bradley – Negligible?

Dave Krause – Like \$50, \$52 something like that.

Mr. Cleaver – Per credit.

Dave Krause – They get credits. Say an AP course, they get credit for their high school, then they can get credit for their college.

Mrs. Howland – College courses are weighted as a honors level credit.

Mr. Bradley – So it's a tremendous advantage for these ambitious students to take advantage of this Dual Enrollment.

Mrs. Howland explained, from the audience, how its beneficial to some but there's pros and cons.

Mr. Bradley – And the choice is made by the student and their parent?

Mrs. Howland – And guidance counselor and administration, they meet as a team, they come forward and feel it's appropriate and (inaudible) and they go forward.

Mr. Bradley – Fantastic, thank you.

13. Policy Committee Report – *Mr. Stern*

- Policy Committee met on January 9th. Reviewed 7 policies including Graduation Requirements. I thought, and I could not find them, but I believe somewhere on the agenda for...

Mr. Cleaver – Two of them.

- ...second readings...

Mr. Cleaver – First readings.

- ...first readings, Policy 103 Non-discrimination in Classroom Practices, Policy 104 Non-discrimination in Employment and Contract Practices, Policy 108 Adoption of Textbooks, Policy 222 Tobacco Use, Policy 247 Hazing, Policy 249 Anti-Bullying and Policy 217 Graduation Requirements. And that concludes my report.

Mr. Bradley – Did the Policy meeting recommend any of these, Mr. Stern?

Mr. Stern – You were present at the Policy meeting, Mr. Bradley, did you recommend any?

Mr. Bradley – I don't think the Policy recommended any of them.

Mr. Stern – I believe we did.

Mr. Bradley – Which ones do you believe got recommended?

Mr. Stern – I think the ones that are on there for the first reading, I think we went...

Mr. Cleaver – 108 and 217 for the Graduation Requirements. There was other ones we had discussion about, you know, should it be included for employees, do we have it? So, the other ones we are gonna bring back to the Policy with the additional information and for second reading.

Mr. Bradley – But your saying that the Policy meeting took a vote to recommend all these policies?

Mr. Stern – It was only two.

Mr. Cleaver – There's only two.

Mr. Stern – Two on the agenda.

Mr. Bradley – 108 and 207.

Mr. Stern – Two on the agenda.

Mr. Cleaver – 108 and 217.

Mr. Bradley – I was at that Policy meeting. I don't remember recommending 'cause there was discussion that took place.

Mr. Stern – Well, there's discussion...

Mr. Bradley – Did you review the tape?

Mr. Stern – Yeah, review the video tape.

Mr. Bradley – Yes, sir. I will do that, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Thank you.

14. Athletic Committee Report – *Mr. Wentz*

- We're proud to announce that Chris Whiteman has won the Schuylkill League wrestling title for his weight class.
- Our boys' and girls' basketball teams will close out their respective season next week. And although there will be no playoffs in their future, both teams have been competitive throughout the season.
- Our football workouts have begun with a huge turnout of some 60 players. Hopefully they all stick with it.
- Our track team also had some 100 students apply for physicals.
- We are currently preparing for our baseball and softball seasons.
- However, the big news is not a new league but a combined schedule of the Colonial and Schuylkill Leagues for football only at this point beginning in 2020. This is a great opportunity to renew old rivalries with Palmerton and Northwestern as well as maintaining local rivals Jim Thorpe and Tamaqua. Lehighton begins the 2020 season at home with Palmerton and I can see a huge crowd attending that night. So, we're all looking forward to that. And next scheduled Athletic meeting is February 12th, 9:00 a.m.

15. Wellness Committee Report – *Mrs. Maholick*

- We had a brief meeting, the menus weren't ready but Lauren reported that the children are enjoying the breakfasts' in the Elementary Center. More children than ever are having the breakfast and they're even starting to offer breakfast in the High School that the students are taking advantage of. So, it seems like the meals are going well in the schools.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the Minutes of the November 19, 2018, regular meeting.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 1 (D.B.) ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the Minutes of the December 3, 2018, reorganization meeting.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 1 (D.B.) ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Financial Matter

Activities Fund MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the Lehigh Area High School and Lehigh Area Middle School Activities Fund for November 2018 and December 2018.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Payment of Bills MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Holland to approve the Payment of Bills for December 2018 and January 2019:

General Fund	\$ 3,311,940.29
--Benefits	\$ 1,136,868.80
--Payroll	\$ 2,861,550.65
--Debit Card	\$ 4,472.81
Capital Projects	\$ 1,322.92
Food Service Fund	\$ <u>136,401.99</u>
	\$ <u>7,452,557.46</u>

Note: Members with questions or requesting a copy of any payment, please contact the Business Office prior to the scheduled meeting.

Mr. Bradley – Under the credit card or debit card payment. That was partly paid to KingSpry, correct?

Mr. Feick – A virtual credit card, correct.

Mr. Bradley – When you use the word virtual...so you're doing it, you're paying it instead of like a check but using a credit card?

Mr. Feick – We get 2% cash back.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And that's a, hold on.

Mr. Feick – It keeps transactions in different numbers so they can't be reused.

Mr. Bradley – Correct. And, that's a district credit card?

Mr. Feick – No, it's a bank issued credit card number for each transaction. So, it's a once and done type.

Mr. Bradley – So whose name is it under?

Mr. Feick – The school district.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And...

Mr. Feick – No, I don't have a credit card.

Mr. Bradley – No, no, I understand that. We respect that, thank you. And then rightfully so. At the same time why would certain choices use a credit card versus. Why aren't you paying for all your bills and getting 2% back?

Mr. Feick – The vendors have to agree to it because they, basically their bank charges them for credit card payments.

Mr. Bradley – So we try this on every opportunity?

Mr. Feick – Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – Just about, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 1 (D.B.) ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

**Construction
Payments**

MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to approve payment on the following projects from the corresponding funds for a total of **\$563,104.18** pending documentation verification and solicitor review:

1. Elementary Center

Barry Isett & Associates, Inc. – Inv. #0127090	\$ 200.25
El Associates – Inv. #14196, 14136, 14138, 14152, 14161, 14162, 14163, 14176, 14177, 14137 & 14139	\$ 12,750.65
Jay R. Reynolds – App. #20	\$ 7,460.74
Lobar, Inc. – App. #25	\$ 144,720.00
Phillips Brothers Electrical – App. #21	<u>\$ 397,972.54</u>
	\$ 563,104.18

Walter Zlomsowitch – Yeah, when do we stop paying them? This is over half a million dollars, where does that come from? They're open for four months.

Mr. Cleaver – We just finalized our high school/middle school payments three months ago?

Mr. Feick – Yeah, the high school/middle school, the elementary we held a lot back because they, the gymnasium was just occupied in November and I didn't pay any bills for them in December. I waited till the Board for any construction bills. So, we're down to a small amount but I'm holding a lot back because there's little things that have be done and if you don't hold money back, they walk.

Walter Zlomsowitch – I understand that, that makes sense. I just thought there's another half a million dollars here.

Mr. Feick – Yeah, but I mean we didn't hardly pay anything on the gymnasium 'cause it wasn't ready to be occupied. They couldn't do the floor until they had the moisture content down below a certain amount and so.

Walter Zlomsowitch – That makes sense, thank you.

Mr. Feick – Okay.

Mr. Bradley – But excuse me, these payments are being made not just from the general fund but they're being made from the loan that we took out, correct? Disbursements off of a bond?

Mr. Feick – Right. Out of the capital funds, correct.

Mr. Bradley – So to answer your question, you'll paying for this for the next 26 is it? 25 years?

Mr. Feick – Twenty-five. It's gone down each year.

Mr. Bradley – Twenty-five, so were down to 25 left?

Mr. Feick – Yeah, we have a mortgage, if you want to call it that.

Mr. Bradley – Yeah and the interest on that mortgage per year is about?

Mr. Feick – 1.7, 1.8...

Mr. Bradley – Million dollars a year?

Mr. Feick – You get about a million of that back from the state under PlanCon reimbursement.

Mr. Bradley – Oh, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Reports MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the following reports:

- a. Budget/Revenue Report
- b. Treasurer's Reports
 1. General Fund
 2. Capital Reserve Fund
 3. Capital Projects Fund
 4. Food Service Fund

Mr. Bradley – I had my hand raised sir.

Mr. Stern – Sorry.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. So on the treasurer's report, I believe that's, Mr. Yenser you review the treasurer's report, is that correct? You're the treasurer.

Mr. Yenser – Usually ask me the question on Motion B but...

Mr. Bradley – I understand.

Mr. Yenser – I review all the reports and motions when they come in my board packet, yes.

Mr. Bradley – This one's very specific. So, under what section of our budget do we pay Mr. Schwab for his solicitor's fees?

Mr. Yenser – I don't have that information in front of me.

Mr. Bradley speaking.

Mr. Stern – I don't remember...

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Feick, do we know what under solicitor's fees, where does that come from?

Mr. Feick – It's under the 2300's, 2360 out of the board.

Mr. Bradley – So disbursed funds from that budget number has to match with the state, Pennsylvania Code for what you're paying for, correct?

Mr. Feick – Correct. Everything we pay has a code set by the state.

Mr. Bradley – So under what budget do we plan for Right-to-Know requests responsibilities? That's under the same 2360?

Mr. Feick – For the solicitor's fee, correct.

Mr. Bradley – If we use the solicitor.

Mr. Feick – For my employees, they're under the salary accounts which is 2513 I believe.

Mr. Bradley – If we use him for doing them, okay.

Mr. Feick – Correct.

Mr. Bradley – So, under which code or which budget code did we pay for this KingSpry resolution, Mr. Yenser?

Mr. Yenser speaking.

Mr. Bradley – We did back in November but it's okay.

Mr. Yenser – If you like having the "gotcha moment" (inaudible).

Mr. Bradley – It's a question, Mr. Yenser. I'm asking a professional question. Do we know under what budget the KingSpry resolution was funded?

Mr. Yenser – I don't have that information in front of me. I'm not sure which other way you'd like me to (inaudible).

Mr. Bradley – That's okay. Does Mr. Feick have that information?

Mr. Feick – Function 2310, Board Services.

Mr. Bradley – 2310 you're saying?

Mr. Feick – Yes, Board Services.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. Appreciate that.

Mr. Stern – So you had the report in front of you but you didn't know what it was or are you just trying to get us?

Mr. Bradley – Whatever you say, Mr. Stern. I just wanted to check.

Mr. Stern called for the vote.

Mr. Bradley – I'm a nay to make sure that I'm not part of the...

Mr. Stern – Thank you.

Mr. Bradley – ...responsibility and liability of making that motion.

Mr. Stern – Thank you.

Mr. Bradley – Can you do a roll call vote please, Mr. Stern?

Mr. Stern – You're noted as being a nay. Right, Ms. Wagner?

Mr. Bradley – I know, but can we please do a roll call vote on this?

Mr. Stern – Sure we can do a roll call vote Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

Mr. Stern – If that makes you happy.

Mr. Bradley – Pennsylvania Code 608, we want to make sure we verify whose authorizing these payments for those expenses.

Mr. Stern – Absolutely. It's another 10 or 15 minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 3 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Mr. Stern - And that was actually just the report. It wasn't actually payment of the bill. The payment of the bill was done in previous motion.

Refunds MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to refund from the general fund the following:

1. Per Capita & Occupational Taxes for year 2018 in the amount of \$135.00 to Keith Derhammer;
2. Occupational Tax for year 2018 in the amount of \$137.50 to Holly Haydt;
3. Occupational Tax for year 2018 in the amount of \$137.50 to Lloyd Heckman, Sr;
4. Occupational Tax for year 2018 in the amount of \$137.50 to Cindy Keeler;
5. Occupational Tax for year 2018 in the amount of \$275.00 to Glen Millen.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

**Per Capita/
Occ. Tax** MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve exemptions from Per Capita and/or Occupational Tax per the attached list.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Portnoff Law MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the retention of Portnoff Law Association Ltd. to collect the District's delinquent real estate taxes.

Mr. Bradley - No attachment was given to the board for this association. Was any given previously?

Mr. Feick – It was given in previous years. The contract basically says we have to give them 60 days notice to cancel but I put it on each year just to see if the Board still wants them or doesn't, you know, wants to go elsewhere, that's all.

Mr. Bradley – Can you explain how this system works? I think it's a Schwab question to be honest with you but you can answer it, Mr. Feick, I'm sure. While he's describing that I'm gonna pass out a document that I'd like to give to the board members.

Mr. Feick – The tax collectors by law have to turn over all unpaid real estate taxes after December 31st but before the 15th of January. At that time, we can either turn them over to the county or a collection agency. The Board has contracted Portnoff Associates before as a collection agency to collect the taxes. So that's basically the process.

Gloria Bowman speaking about Portnoff.

Mr. Bradley – Hold on one second. Did we ask, did we give her the floor on this? I missed that.

Gloria Bowman – I asked Mr. Feick and he said okay.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, I'm sorry, thank you. I didn't know Mr. Feick was running the meeting.

Gloria Bowman speaking.

Mr. Bradley – I want you to speak. I just wanted to make sure you had the floor so you have all the time possible. Everyone should have a right to speak. And, I think you're gonna find, once we read this out loud, a lot of people might want to speak. And, I'd like to get the information from anyone in this room that would believe in this after you read this, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. So, the way that the district can collect the taxes of delinquent accounts are three-fold, according to this paper published by the Portnoff Law Associates. One of them they call the Tax Claim Bureau operates under yet a third statutory collection scheme, the Real Estate Tax Sale law. Now, the way this law firm works is they file complaints against a delinquent taxpayer. This is someone that has trouble paying their taxes to put into two groups; people that physically can't afford it and might lose their home; and other people just working the system. Of the people that physically can't afford it and are delinquent property owners, this law firm will add to that burden and remove the time for them to save their house by bringing extra litigation against them and switching the burden of proof onto the taxpayer, not the district. And, in order to trigger the fee-shifting provisions of the statute, the Board has to authorize. Now, the disadvantage of not doing this, you're giving a homeowner 18 months to save their home before they lose it to a tax sale. We have a district budget surplus, I'm sorry, budget shortfall of a couple hundred thousand dollars we're taking from the over-taxation of millions of dollars that's in this general fund. I think we have about 3.7 million dollars left, correct? According to your budget report, Mr. Feick?

Mr. Feick – Mm hmm.

Mr. Bradley – And you're taking \$300,000 because we're over consuming. Why wouldn't we allow a homeowner to have a year and a half to maintain their legal right to stay within their home and normally they just have to make a small payment of 25% to give them that opportunity to save

their funds. This Portnoff Law Associates firm is strategically using complaint process to increase the burden, driving people out of their homes, just so you can collect your money after. But, you're still owed it and it's the same amount and they take a fee for doing it. So, if we're patient, the person can stay within the home. They have 18 months to pay. They only have to put a small percentage down to try to save their home. And you're putting the pressure of a law firm against people that are struggling. Whoever agreed to this originally has no sympathy for taxpayers. Does anyone in this Board want to justify why we want to do this? I'd like to hear it from all these board members. Because, I'll be also embarrassed, that the audience members should have a right to speak in reference to this and if you raise your hand, I'll ask for your information because I'm a board member and I want to hear it. You didn't get the chance to do that at the beginning of this meeting because all you were given was a motion with no information. And, the pertinent documents, according to our School Code, are required to be given to you transparently. Now that you know how this scheme works. Defined as a scheme by the company that's selling us this service. Does anyone have additional input for this board prior to us making a decision?

Atty. Schwab – Mr. Bradley, Mr. Stern asked me to give a little history on how we got Portnoff Law Firm. There was a problem with the Mahoning Township tax collector. He was extremely ill, close to passing, right at the time the taxes were supposed to be collected for the school district. Under the Tax Claim Bureau law for Mahoning Township, he had to do an end-of-the-year report within so many days of the end of the year. The County, in their infinite wisdom, decided they weren't going to cooperate with the school district and the township to try to solve the problem and they indicated they would not collect the taxes that year. I believe it was three years ago.

Someone stated 2015.

Atty. Schwab – I don't recall the exact year, but it was when Mr. Sverchak was basically on his deathbed, that they would not collect the taxes. So, the only way we could collect delinquent taxes that year, since the County refused, was to hire Portnoff and that's how they got hired.

Mr. Bradley – Actually there's three ways to collect those things. You don't have to hire Portnoff. According to Portnoff themselves, there's three ways. The district can do it.

Atty. Schwab – The district doesn't have, didn't have the staff at the time to work with the township because the township was in the same position as the county.

Mr. Bradley – According to this...

Atty. Schwab – They just didn't have cooperation.

Mr. Bradley – You're saying that they can't. So if we don't have a tax collector, 'cause he's injured, or sick...

Atty. Schwab – He's in office. Now we have to have a deputy tax collector. The law has changed since then.

Mr. Bradley – Correct.

Atty. Schwab – But at the time, we had nobody. We had an office holder that wasn't doing their jobs.

Mr. Bradley – So the band-aid was one at that time?

Atty. Schwab - Mm hmm, for that year.

Mr. Bradley - The band-aid is no longer needed, the wound has healed and rather than put an additional burden on to every taxpayer with additional legal fees to fight, and here it is, to trigger the fee-shifting provision. Not only do they have to pay the taxes that they're behind on, they have to pay the legal fees to be attacked by Portnoff Law Firm. Is that correct?

Atty. Schwab - Remember, your question was why did they get here.

Mr. Bradley - I understand that. I knew why.

Atty. Schwab - Okay, now you don't want to talk about why...

Mr. Bradley - I know why they were here. I understand...

Atty. Schwab - They got here because there was a problem.

Mr. Bradley - ...they got weaseled in. Yeah, there was a problem. There was a band-aid, you put it on, people didn't understand what was going on, they did it anyway.

Atty. Schwab - Even the wisdom of the board after that, the board decided that the taxes were collected so much quicker and their duty as a director is to the district.

Mr. Bradley - Correct.

Atty. Schwab - And as a duty to the district they found that the money got collected quicker in Mahoning than it did in East Penn and Franklin and Lehigh and Parryville and Weissport that year. And, a higher percentage was collected having this outside source.

Mr. Bradley - And how much more money did those taxpayers have to pay because they had to pay for this service?

Atty. Schwab - To be blunt, I don't know. That would...

Mr. Bradley - But they paid more than their tax?

Atty. Schwab - Well, they would pay more than their tax to the Tax Claim Bureau too.

Mr. Bradley - If they were late.

Atty. Schwab - No, oh no. As soon as it goes...

Mr. Feick - The Claim Bureau charges fees also.

Atty. Schwab - They charge fees also, they charge interest also, they charge costs also.

Mr. Bradley - Correct. Do they file complaints or do they give them this 25% down and 18 months to get their bill paid?

Atty. Schwab - They don't file complaints.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you, so that saves them money.

Atty. Schwab – They lien property and sell it at auction sale.

Mr. Bradley – All the time, we agree. But, they get 18 months and a 25% down to save their home, Mr. Schwab. Why are you in such a rush? When you had at that point, in 2015 we had 16 million dollars, 15 million dollars in the bank.

Atty. Schwab – I can't speak for the Board. I can talk about why it happened. This is a policy decision the Board has to make.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent. So, Ms. Bowman, you spoke earlier on this. Can you please explain why you would put this much more burden on top of these taxpayers?

Gloria Bowman speaking from the audience regarding taxes.

Mr. Bradley – Maybe you don't understand what this company does? I don't understand it. I'm under the impression that this company files legal action to trigger fee-shifting provisions under the statute.

Mrs. Spinelli – Mr. President could we call the question please?

Mr. Stern repeated the motion.

Mr. Bradley – Roll call vote Mr. Stern, please.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 4 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Tax Collector's Reports MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to approve the annual Tax Collector's reports for East Penn Twp., Franklin Twp., Lehighon Borough, Parryville Borough, Mahoning Twp. and Weissport Borough.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

TCC Delegates MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mr. Beltz to appoint the following delegates to the Carbon County Tax Collection Committee of Delegation Resolution:
1. **Tina Champ**, Delegate
2. **Melissa Wagner**, Alternate Delegate

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Litigation Matters MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli that the following litigation matters approved by the Board President pursuant to this Board's Motion of November 19, 2018, are ratified:

1. Appeal of Office of Open Records decision concerning good faith search and release of individual employee's medical information to Court of Common Pleas.
2. Pleadings for Mandamus Action filed by Mr. Bradley concerning Superintendent Contract.

Mr. Bradley – So, the Office of Open Records decision containing the good faith search and release, which case was that for Mr. Schwab?

Atty. Schwab – That was when you tried to, there was a redaction of someone's medical information and Open Records said we should...

Mr. Bradley – Redact it?

Atty. Schwab – No, they said we should release it to you un-redacted.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent.

Atty. Schwab – That was the reason there was a recommendation to take an appeal.

Mr. Bradley – So which, which one was that for? Do you know the case number by any chance?

Atty. Schwab – I don't, to be very blunt with you.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. But that's the one with the 7,000 emails? Or that's the one with the smaller number?

Atty. Schwab – That's something you lost by Judge Nanovic. This one was never, went to court.

Mr. Bradley – But this appeal...

Atty. Schwab – This is the one, I believe that you have on February 12th before Judge Matika.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent. Okay. So, you're appealing that after the state Office of Open Records approved it.

Atty. Schwab – Yes. Well, Mr. Stern said we should.

Mr. Bradley – He said you should. Okay. So, to make sure we get this straight.

Atty. Schwab – You have 30 days to take the appeal.

Mr. Bradley – Correct. So, we asked for records. The state Office of Open Records approved those records to be distributed. Much like the ones behind you, right?

Atty. Schwab – Mm hmm.

Mr. Bradley – And rather than comply with the state's records or negotiate with the requestor, both of which are available to you. You chose to spend money in court under the direction of Mr. Stern...

Mr. Stern – Put your finger down, please.

Mr. Bradley – ...to appeal it...

Mr. Stern – Put your finger down, please. It's impolite to point, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you, alright. I have a question. Anyway, so...

Mr. Stern – I got an answer.

Mr. Bradley – ...the, Mr. Stern decided that instead of just honoring the Office of Open Records appeal and either negotiating to redact and then hand out or just comply, he choosing, himself prior to this Board's approval, to spend money with you to file paperwork to appeal a decision that the state made.

Atty. Schwab – Yes.

Mr. Stern – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Right to prove me wrong again. Exactly right. After the state proved me right. So the question becomes did Mr. Stern poll, ask or review that decision with anybody else besides himself?

Atty. Schwab – I don't believe the motion required him to but I don't know if he did or he didn't.

Mr. Bradley – That's why I'm asking him.

Mr. Stern – I did not.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. So did you ask Mr. Schwab...

Mr. Stern – No. I, we, Mr. Schwab and I discussed it of course we did.

Mr. Bradley – Okay that's what I want to find out. So you and Mr. Schwab discussed whether or not Mr. Schwab should file the appeal. So he gave you a percentage of whether or not you can win based upon...

Mr. Stern – No, it wasn't, no.

Mr. Bradley – Before you hire an attorney you usually check...

Mr. Stern – No. No, no, no, no...

Mr. Bradley – What did you guys discuss?

Mr. Stern – The issue was at hand is that a employee's information was given out that should not be given out.

Mr. Bradley – Okay.

Mr. Stern – And according to the Office of Open Records they said yes but we say no and that's why we went through that. We're not giving away private information.

Mr. Bradley – I agree. So, the question is...

Mr. Stern – You don't agree or you wouldn't be arguing to the point.

Mr. Bradley – Wait, whose decision whether or not it's private? You just told me that the state...

Mr. Stern – I wanted to appeal it because it's, I believe it is private.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, but the state said it wasn't.

Mr. Cleaver – Again...

Mr. Stern – Again...

Mr. Bradley – One more question. I just, we're understanding before you spend money with an attorney...

Mr. Stern – I had the authorization to proceed in that fashion.

Mr. Bradley – ...what decision process did you use?

Mr. Stern – I had these authorizations from the Board according to the motion to proceed in that fashion. That's my statement.

Mr. Bradley – So my question is, did Mr. Schwab encourage you at all...

Mr. Stern – No, he didn't encourage me. He showed me the facts and said would we, should we do this?

Mr. Bradley – Okay and then you chose yourself?

Mr. Stern – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Did you review with him?

Mr. Stern – And counsel.

Mr. Bradley – With his counsel, so he did advise you.

Mr. Stern – Of course, well...

Mr. Yenser – Larry, thank you for making that decision to protect the district and protect our employees.

Mr. Bradley – But my question is, he did give you advice. The question is simple. Did Mr. Schwab encourage you to spend money with Mr. Schwab...

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – ...to appeal a record...

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – ...that was given by the state of open records?

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – Are you sure?

Mr. Stern – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And, the second one is the pleading of Mandamus Action. Again, did you get counsel to decide to hire Mr. Schwab to file these pleadings concerning that information?

Mr. Stern – I don't hire Mr. Schwab.

Mr. Cleaver – The Board has hired.

Mr. Bradley – The Board hires him through your action which you took action by yourself which you were authorized to do by the Board. The Board authorizes you.

Atty. Schwab – Under the rules of civil procedures we had 20 days after a complaint is served in which to file preliminary objections which we did. You have now an order of Judge Nanovic saying if you don't file a response it's going to be dismissed.

Mr. Bradley – Correct.

Atty. Schwab – Because it's, you can't sue the district for what and ask somebody else to do something.

Mr. Bradley – I'm gonna pass these out because somewhere along the line you choose to hire Mr. Schwab to defend this action, correct?

Mr. Stern – He would be hired to defend you should you so choose.

Mr. Bradley – If I so choose, right. So, prior to that decision, when I hire a lawyer, if...

Mr. Stern – I don't hire a lawyer. Ugh, social media. Okay.

Mr. Cleaver – We had enough time for discussion, call the question.

Mrs. Spinelli – Call the question, please.

Mr. Stern reread the motion.

Mr. Bradley – Excuse me, Mr. Stern. You can't call the question if we're still deliberating.

Mr. Stern – I believe I can.

Mr. Bradley – Especially if I just handed out the information.

Mr. Stern – She did. I believe we can.

Mr. Bradley – I'm just handing out the information.

Mr. Stern – I believe we can. It's proper protocol. It's proper protocol.

Mr. Bradley – But you authorized, for your own benefit...

Mr. Stern – Do I need to call the vote Mr. Bradley or would you like to continue?

Mr. Bradley – I just want to make sure we're clear before you vote. You authorized, through the authority of the Board, to hire an attorney, Schwab, to defend a Mandamus Action, filed by me, concerning the Superintendent's contract in which your social media is the one that said you met with this guy, you agreed to move things and you're saying it doesn't have an action. So you're the one that decided these things. Now the question is, you authorized that prior to talking to your board members.

Mr. Stern – Which I had the motion to do so.

Mr. Bradley – Or you could've called a special meeting within the 20 day period to get board's approval prior to do something for your benefit.

Mr. Stern – To perform the same action, sir.

Mr. Bradley – Possibly. Depends on, but you gotta give them the right to vote.

Mr. Stern – I have a call to question. If you'd like a roll call vote we can do a roll call vote. Would like one of those sir?

Mr. Bradley – Oh, most definitely, thank you, sir.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 3 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS - 1
Motion carried.

Case 18-3584 MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli that in Carbon County Case 18-3584, unless the Plaintiff files a responsive pleading to the Judge's January 16, 2019 Rule, the Lehigh Area School District's Solicitor is directed to take the necessary steps to have the case dismissed. If the Plaintiff files a response to the Rule, the solicitor is directed to take the steps necessary to protect the District's position and preliminary objections.

Case 18-3584 was mandamus action filed by Mr. Bradley seeking affidavits from individuals and requiring the district to attend training. Preliminary objections were filed in this case and the Court issued a rule on Mr. Bradley to show cause why the case should not be dismissed.

Atty. Schwab – You better do a roll call.

Mr. Stern – Do a roll call, Ms. Wagner, please, thank you.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 2 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS - 2

Case 18-3748 MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley that in Carbon County Case 18-3748, the Lehigh Area School District's Solicitor is directed to negotiate a stipulation with the Defendant, wherein the case is dismissed and the District is not required to disclose any individual's confidential information. If a stipulation cannot be reached, the solicitor is directed to take the steps necessary to protect the District's position and preserve its current appeal.

Case 18-3748 is a District Appeal from the Office of Open Records. We appealed the decision because the O.O.R. directed the district to release private medical information. A hearing on this appeal is currently scheduled for February 12, 2019.

Mr. Bradley - Good.

Mr. Stern - Yes, sir.

Mr. Bradley - Okay, thank you.

Mr. Stern - I show you more respect than you show me, that's for sure, so thank you.

Mr. Bradley - You're welcome, thank you. So, Mr. Schwab, who is the plaintiff?

Mr. Schwab - The plaintiff is the District.

Mr. Bradley - Okay. And, who brought this litigation to the court?

Mr. Schwab - The district took the appeal and you attempted to discontinue the case or withdraw something that the district filed, another party filed. You can't do that. We can accomplish the same thing with stipulation with Mr. Filer and you.

Mr. Bradley - Correct.

Atty. Schwab - To avoid the February 12th. But, we can't do it procedurally how you want to do it.

Mr. Bradley - Excellent. And, if the district, since they're the plaintiff, if they were gonna subpoena witnesses for this case, like they did for the last case, who would be the person requesting those people attend a hearing?

Atty. Schwab - Well, generally, in this case, it would be I would decide who would need be. And, normally, I wouldn't subpoena anyone.

Mr. Bradley - Well, you just ask them.

Atty. Schwab - We ask the district.

Mr. Bradley - Unless they refuse but you need their testimony, then you'd subpoena them.

Atty. Schwab - Yes.

Mr. Bradley - If you needed their testimony.

Atty. Schwab – The February 12th date is not a hearing date for testimony.

Mr. Bradley – Correct. So, regardless, in the past case did you subpoena all those witnesses as well?

Atty. Schwab – No. I didn't subpoena anyone.

Mr. Bradley – So then you just asked them and they attended?

Atty. Schwab – I talked to who I needed. The same as do with any client. I don't subpoena my own clients.

Mr. Bradley – You wouldn't have to because once you asked them, they would attend. Correct?

Atty. Schwab – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you very much. So you asked all those witnesses to attend that last hearing?

Atty. Schwab – Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Censure David Bradley MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli that the Lehigh Area School Board hereby public censures Director David Bradley for his conduct as outlined in the opinion letter from King, Spry for failure to meet the expectations of a school director as set forth in its Policies and the generally recognized School Board Members Code of Ethics. Further the District Administration is directed to take no further action at this time on furtherance of its November 19, 2018 Resolution hiring King, Spry.

Ms. Beers – Shouldn't these be two different motions?

Mr. Stern – I get a motion and a second we can discuss it as soon as that's completed.

Ms. Beers – Okay.

Mr. Stern – Was that Ms. Spinelli was the second? And, Mr. Wentz was the first?

Mr. Cleaver – Yes.

Ms. Beers – My comment is that maybe it should be two different motions. One for a public censure and then the other one to take no further action.

Atty. Schwab – That's up to the board but it's perfectly okay.

Mr. Stern – They can be split if the Board so chooses but we have motion and a second on the floor. So, Ms. Spinelli do you like the way it's written right now.

Mrs. Spinelli – Well, it's fine with me to split it but it's written this way because the letter from King Spry puts all of these things together. So if we're going to go by the recommendation of the letter, then there's no problem with them being together. So, I'm okay either way. I'm not going to argue with anybody but I see no reason why it needs to be changed.

Mr. Stern – Any further questions?

Mr. Bradley – I'd like to speak, Mr. Stern when you have a chance.

Mr. Stern – Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – According to the KingSpry letter, which is somewhere, thank you. There's a bunch of accusations that they made in reference to me. It's a very politically motivated letter. However, I gotta ask the question, somewhere in this PSBA Code of Conduct, I'm being accused of violating this Code of Conduct. I'd like to know if this is a selective enforcement, first of all, and second of all which one of these Codes of Conduct did I violate? The letter referenced none of these.

Mrs. Spinelli – I have a couple that I see.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent, thank you.

Mrs. Spinelli – Board members should work together in a spirit of harmony, respect and cooperation despite differences of opinions. Individuals have no legal authority outside a meeting of the board and should conduct their relationships with all stakeholders and media on this basis. We will not use our positions as school directors to benefit ourselves or any individual or agency.

Mrs. Maholick – I want to see an example.

Mrs. Spinelli – You want to see an example.

Mrs. Maholick – Exactly.

Mrs. Spinelli – In the spirit of harmony. Does he work in the spirit of harmony despite differences of opinion?

Mrs. Maholick – I think so.

Mrs. Spinelli – Oh, alrighty, alrighty. We're gonna have to agree to disagree on that one.

Mrs. Maholick – And you had people on here that were child molesters and you didn't try to get rid of them?

Mr. Stern – What?

Mrs. Spinelli – What are you talking about?

Mrs. Maholick – Oh, yes.

Mrs. Spinelli – What are you talking about?

Mrs. Maholick – I'm not saying any names. I'm not saying any names.

Mr. Bradley – Please, wait your turn. It's a motion, it's a motion, hold on...Mr. Stern can you please control...

Mr. Stern – Quiet, quiet please, quiet, quiet, order, thank you.

Mrs. Spinelli – As far as individuals have no legal authority outside the meetings of the board and should conduct their relationships with all stakeholders and media on this basis. Mr. Bradley continually tells us how he engages with other stakeholders but he won't name them for us to tell us who they are or why they're complaining. He takes certain media things on his own. He posts things on the web, he posts things on social media, and he doesn't go through the board, he does it all on his own. He's 1 of 9, 1 of 9, 1 of 9, 1 of 9, 1 of 9. You are board, Mr. Bradley, just like the rest of us.

Mrs. Maholick – Okay and where did he use it to help himself?

Mrs. Spinelli – He uses it to help himself by furthering his state-wide political agenda. He is acting...

Mrs. Maholick – What? For Governor?

Mrs. Spinelli – That's not what I'm talking about and you know it, Gail. You asked for examples. I'm giving you mine. Again, we can agree to disagree but you asked for examples.

Mr. Bradley – Do you have a physical example? Your saying that my posting of videos is an example of not meeting a Code of Conduct?

Mrs. Spinelli – Using it to benefit yourself because you parse them and edit them to make your opinion look like this primary opinion. And, that sir, is a benefit to you.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And, I'll ask one more question. So...

Mrs. Maholick – No, that's not what it means. It means like if you have a business and you try to sell insurance or something.

Audience member speaking.

Mrs. Maholick – Well she does, so why can't I?

Mr. Bradley – One more, so I gotta ask right. So, when I have a difference of opinion in comparison to the 5 board members that have rubber stamped things and shoved things through and prevented people from speaking, that difference of opinion is what you're saying is what I have and am blocking?

Mrs. Spinelli – No, not at all. You see how you take things out of context?

Mr. Bradley – I do, apparently I do.

Mrs. Spinelli – You do, you definitely do.

Mr. Bradley – So my question is, you’re gonna say that I have a responsibility to honor your opinion but you don’t have a...

Mrs. Spinelli – No. You have a responsibility to put out the facts, all of them, not the way you see them and not the way you edit them. That’s what I’m telling you.

Mr. Bradley – So what other ones that I noted then...

Mr. Stern – You know what it is...

Mr. Cleaver – Can we give someone one second...

Mr. Stern – Hold on please, hold on.

Mr. Cleaver – For clarification, okay, you wanted to know the facts and everything else. They’re highlighted in the letter. Number 1 – Filed three baseless civil actions against the district in Carbon County Court of Common Pleas, Bowman, Flickinger, Bradley, Bradley vs. Lehigh School District, Bradley vs. Lehigh School District Stern lawsuit and there’s an amount that it costs it the district. That one for Bowman, Flickinger, Bradley - \$9,645.00, Bradley vs. Lehigh School District - \$20,000.00 costs to the district, Bradley vs. Lehigh School District and Larry served the mandamus that we discussed - \$3,791.00. Filed two baseless private criminal complaints. The Attorney General investigated and had declined to prosecute the complaint against Larry Stern. The second complaint against the district is also likely to be dismissed but cannot be criminal charged. Number three misuse of Right-to-Know process. Initiated multiple requests and failed to pay cost of copies, total of \$400.00 owed. Initiated repeat requests for the same or similar documents. Repeatedly requests records that ignored considerations regarding HIPPA, FERPA, foster care, homeless students, sensitive labor issues and PFA’s involving matters. One of the requests for volume emails record which would require extensive time and review. That was the appeal that we filed and the hearing is scheduled for February 12, 2019. Appears to have employed the assistance of another individual to request records from the district and has taken a meritless appeal because no response records exist. Number four, engaged in a pattern of inappropriate and abusive communication. Used student and staff names or described to the extent that individuals can be identified. Harassed a female district employee. Launched unfounded accusations against school administration doing strip searches in public. Had inappropriately accused a staff member of “getting stimulated” when he conducts searches. Has made defamatory claims that the school board has falsified its minutes by adopting minutes from meetings. Because of these actions, is why this is being filed. So there’s where the facts that are pointed out.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent. So, as fairness...

Mr. Cleaver – Mrs. Maholick, so reading the document would have answered many of those questions.

Mr. Bradley – But in fairness, Mr. Cleaver and Mr. Stern, where as this. I’m sorry, excuse me.

Audience members speaking.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, so, in responsibility of our school policy, the term Due Process is required. And, since just to be cursory on these events. Repeated meritless court filed legal actions for Right-to-Know requests. The Right-to-Know requests were granted by the state. It was you, Mr. Stern, that chose to invoke the defense of counsel and spend that money. Filed three baseless civil actions. I filed two, so this things wrong. The other one was filed by a group of individuals, not just myself, but I definitely adjoined with them because those rights were violated. And, Mr. Stern, when you decided to defend that action, even after Mr. Schwab in the December meeting said we were correct in our reading of the Sunshine Act that requires a public comment prior to making an action of the board, he agreed. You chose to defend it. You should have just said I’m gonna take another vote. I’m gonna let people speak. When you silenced them, Mr. Stern, is when these costs occurred.

Mr. Stern – It’s amazing that it ruled in my favor, Mr. Bradley. I don’t know how...

Mr. Bradley – It did not rule in your favor, sir.

Mr. Stern – I think it did.

Mr. Bradley – We dropped the case when I saw you spending tens of thousands of dollars to defend yourself.

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – For Sunshine Act that were not baseless.

Mr. Stern – There was a judge....

Mr. Bradley – And the judge...

Mr. Stern – Ruled in our favor.

Mr. Bradley – And the judge...

Mr. Stern – It was ruled in my favor.

Mr. Bradley – I’ll go two more. And, the Attorney General did investigate...

Mrs. Spinelli – Please call the question, that’s enough of this.

Mr. Bradley – So, were gonna end due process, Ms. Spinelli? I have a right.

Mr. Yenser – Two pages of actions that benefited our students not one bit. Money funneled out of our education for nothing.

Mr. Stern – Roll call vote, Mrs. Wagner.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	☐	☐	X
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 3 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS - 1

Act 1 Resolution MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Beltz upon recommendation by the Finance Committee to approve the Act 1 resolution #18-19-#07 to stay under the index as well as recommending no tax increase for the 2019-2020 school fiscal budget year.

Mr. Bradley – If I’m not mistaken Mr. Feick the district projections is to be at a loss and we’re gonna use fund balance to cover this non-increase.

Mr. Feick – The district projections as the budget stands now which is only a preliminary budget is to use \$323,000 of fund balance. I also said though, I think there’s a big savings from not paying what CCTI wants. I also think we can scrub that down probably to zero as a breakeven budget if you want to call it that. But right now this is just a preliminary budget. By law you have to say you’re gonna ask for an Act 1 exception to the state and go above the index or you’re gonna stay under the index. My recommendation is we stay under the index and we don’t have a tax increase and we bring it down to a balanced budget. But we have four or five months to do that now if this is approved.

Mr. Bradley – And, what gives us the opportunity to use fund balance for meeting our budget? Is that fiscally responsible? ‘Cause we’re consuming more than we’re taking in at this point.

Mr. Feick – It’s fiscally responsible when we had a larger fund balance and needed and it was projected. When I came here, you know we built the stadium out of fund balance and we had a 5-year plan to use it. To bring it down without just dropping it and then have to raise taxes down in the future. We scheduled the use of fund balance over 5 years and basically we’re down to there and hopefully we can just maintain where we’re at then.

Mr. Bradley – But do we have any reduction in the expenditures to meet our budget responsibility instead of just grabbing the over-taxation that was taken years past?

Mr. Feick – I’m gonna say we have had a reduction in expenditures. Last year we used 1.8 million of fund balance. This year, right now I’m only talking \$300,000. I plan to get that down to zero. So there’s a million eight that we reduced in expenditures and most of that is because of the Elementary Center and not replacing certain individuals. Now in this budget we have five teachers retiring, we’re replacing all five teachers. We’ve got our staff down to where we need

them now. There is no other cuts in those areas but there's other areas. If I can sell Shull-David and Franklin I won't have to heat those places anymore. So there's other things we can look at.

Mr. Bradley – Correct and the monies that was, did we receive monies from Mahoning and East Penn?

Mr. Feick – Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – The money was received from the people purchasing those properties.

Mr. Feick – Correct and that went into general fund budget. That went in this year, not last year.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. Did it go directly to paying off some of the debt or are using that monies as well for this?

Mr. Feick – It's being held. We can't pay off debt till I think 7 years from now. It was a 10 year call on the debt.

Mr. Bradley – So that monies going...

Mr. Feick – That will go back in the fund balance and then we'll use that to pay off.

Mr. Bradley – Is it earmarked specifically for that, that you can't consume it as part of this reduction?

Mr. Feick – No because there's never a motion made for that.

Mr. Bradley – Well there was a motion made that if you're going to sell the schools can it go directly to pay off the debt.

Mr. Feick – No, that was a finance committee recommendation but there was never a motion made last year in the board minutes. So it never got put on there.

Mr. Bradley – So we're gonna consume, we're gonna consume those dollars?

Mr. Feick – Not necessarily. It's up to the Board to make a motion to gear it towards paying off debt or to actually put it into a sinking fund to pay off debt.

Mr. Bradley – And what's the rate of our money in our fund balance collecting currently? What are we getting as a return on investment?

Mr. Feick – We're up to almost 2.1%.

Mr. Bradley – And what's the rate for the debt?

Mr. Feick – Right now it's underneath that.

Mr. Bradley – Right, but soon as it's gonna turn to what about 5?

Mr. Feick – In 6 to 7 years it goes, depending on which it is, it'll be about 4%.

Mr. Bradley – Yeah, 4.7 in think's in the bond or 4.9.

Mr. Feick – Right, right now the lower bonds are a lot shorter, right.

Mr. Bradley – So if we use the monies that was taken in for the sale of the schools, and do not consume it, we can pay off some of the debt making a differential of A) a couple percent and B)...

Mr. Feick – Basically you're gonna pay it off earlier. Correct.

Mr. Bradley – And that would take up a million, \$700,000 out of our fund balance that's currently there.

Mr. Feick – Right and if you wanted to, you know if we sold the other two properties, you can do the same with that.

Mr. Bradley – But right now we have 3.7 million in fund balance. \$700,000 of that is the proceeds from the...

Mr. Feick – Well the \$700,000 is, we have 3.7 million in fund balance as of June 30, 2018. That \$700,000 wasn't received until this school year. So that'll increase the fund balance or we'll have to put it aside before the end of the year. Make a motion before the end of the year to put it aside.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Mr. Feick, for your continued work to keep the district fiscally sound.

Food Service MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz upon recommendation by
Liaison the Finance Committee to approve the Letter of Understanding with the LAESPA
for the position of Food Service Liaison (State and Federal Reports for Non-District
Student Accounts).

Mr. Stern – Just so folks are aware of what that actually is there's...

Mr. Cleaver – Brian...

Mr. Stern – Feick?

Mr. Cleaver – Yep.

Mr. Feick – Do you want me to...

Mr. Stern – Yeah, just explain because I don't know if...

Mr. Feick – Last July we approved a 3886 contract with BHA Services. When the state started looking at that they suggested we actually process their free and reduced. It actually saves them a lot of money but puts probably about 3-4 hours extra work a week on us. BHA has said they would pay for that. So what we're doing is setting up a separate stipend for that person instead of paying them overtime so they have an exact amount that we pay them the year for it instead an

overtime rate. I went to the Union and talked to them, they came out with letter of understanding. If this is approved tonight, then we'll post that position. There's requirements. They have to be state certified. And then they'll come back to the board for approval for that person.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Donation MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to accept the donation to
Griff's Ale the general fund of \$100.00 from Griff's Ale Haus & Grille for the Title I Reading
Haus Program at the Lehigh Area Elementary Center.

Mr. Stern - Personally I'd like to thank Griff's Ale Haus & Grille for their generous support of the Title I Reading Program.

Mr. Cleaver - Title I will generate a letter to sending.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Donation MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to accept the donation of
Rod & Gun \$9,000.00 from the Bowmanstown Rod & Gun Club, Inc. to be used for
Environmental Science Curriculum programs.

Mr. Stern - Again, I believe this is the second or third, I mean they're continually, the Bowmanstown Rod & Gun Club has continually supporting the environmental sciences in our district. I know, they're specifically interested in the programs that I think Mr. Yescavage such does with the trout and all of those types of things and the trips they take, and Mr. Rabenold. I believe they all take advantage of the generosity of the Bowmanstown Rod & Gun Club. So again, thank you to them.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Subdivision MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli approve the Final Plan for
Approval Subdivision as submitted from Carbon Engineering on behalf of Franklin Township, Project #018-0013-006 along with utility easement over Lot #2. Lot #1 (11.804 acres) to be conveyed to Franklin Township and Lot #2 (13.600) to remain property of Lehigh Area School District.

Kevin O'Donnell speaking from the audience.

Mr. Bradley - Mr. Stern?

Mr. Stern - Yes, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – I'd like you to thank you for changing your ways and letting Mr. O'Donnell speak in not in accordance of our policy but allowing stakeholders to have input. I think it's fantastic the changes that have taken place in this board, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Roll call vote, please, Mrs. Wagner.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Mr. Stern – Thank you for the continued support of Franklin Township Athletic Association and the township itself, thank you very much.

PMEA MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve **Employee #848**
Conference to attend the PMEA/NAFME Eastern Division Conference in Pittsburgh on April 4-10, 2019, at a cost not to exceed **\$1,000.00**. Funding provided through the Middle School Budget.

Mr. Stern – I have a question. Could you explain the economics of that role?

Mr. Cleaver – The Pennsylvania Music Education Association is for our music. It is for our music and choral department head to attend this conference that is out in Pittsburgh.

Mr. Stern – Okay, thank you very much, Mr. Cleaver.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Personnel

2018-2019 Substitutes MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the attached list of candidates for the **2018-2019 Substitute List** pending clearances.

Mr. Bradley – Did anyone on this board see the resumes of these individuals?

Mr. Cleaver – Not that I'm aware of.

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – And it says pending clearances, so they obviously have to get their clearances as any employee would. It's also my understanding that the clearances, once they get it, they actually signing an agreement that if they violate those clearances, they have a responsibility to tell the district within 48 hours. Is that correct?

Atty. Schwab – That's our policy, that's not on the clearances. They have requirement to notify PDE if they have a teaching certificate. But the 48 hours is our local policy.

Mr. Bradley – But what does the state require?

Atty. Schwab – I don't know that it actually has an amount, a time.

Mr. Cleaver – They have an Act 24 that is signed that says it, but that's for certain violations that they require and there's a list of violations on that.

Mr. Bradley – And then we only do a clearance check every, what is it 3-5 years or something?

Mr. Cleaver – Five years.

Mr. Bradley – Five years. So if anything happens in between that five year period...

Atty. Schwab – We have our policy.

Mr. Bradley – We have our own policy which is our district law.

Atty. Schwab – That's our policy that actually indicates failure to notify the district, this includes someone who would be arrested for DUI, they have 48 hours to notify the district or that can be grounds for termination. That's a policy that was done approximately 15 years ago.

Mr. Bradley – And, in the policy, can you tell me where that grounds for termination comes in?

Atty. Schwab – No I can't.

Mr. Bradley – 'Cause I didn't see that part. You're saying it, but I didn't find that part in our policy.

Atty. Schwab – I don't have the policy in front of me. I just recall when I wrote it back then. No, I'm not gonna look it up for you now.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. So you recall when you wrote it.

Mr. Stern – How did we go from...

Mr. Bradley – I was looking for it. I couldn't find it. That's why I'm. Is it memory or do you think it's really...

Atty. Schwab – It was memory when I wrote it because there's a particular incident that the district found out about it because the person appeared in the newspaper having been arrested.

Mr. Bradley – Right.

Atty. Schwab – Okay? And, that's when we changed the policy to require 48 hours notice so that we could pull somebody out of the courtroom if they had a DUI for whatever reason.

Mr. Stern – The classroom, yes.

Atty. Schwab – What do you mean by pull them out of the courtroom?

Mr. Stern – Out of the classroom.

Atty. Schwab – Out of the classroom.

Mr. Bradley – Pull them out of the classroom. Right. If they had an issue. I couldn't find it.

Atty. Schwab – Okay.

Mr. Bradley – If someone can find that, I think that there's value to it. Can we instruct Mr. Schwab to look that up for us and send it to the board so we can see it? Just to make sure it hasn't been. It might've got purged in one of the many changes that took place. 'Cause how long ago do you think you put that in?

Atty. Schwab – About, the incident was about 15 years ago. There was actually two incidences in 6 months.

Mr. Bradley – Fifteen years ago?

Atty. Schwab – Fifteen years ago.

Mr. Bradley – So in those 15 years it might've got purged possibly?

Atty. Schwab – Can't tell you. I don't go to Policy meetings.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Athletic Hires MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to approve the Athletic/Extra-Curricular hires for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school year (per attachment).

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Course Approvals MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to approve the following requests for pre-approval of courses/Programs of Study for continuing education:

1. **Cristina Bueti** - January 22-May 10, 2019/Supervision of Instruction
2. **Cristina Bueti** - January 22-May 10, 2019/Middle School and High School Curriculum
3. **Patricia Ebbert** - January 26, 2019/Classroom Walk Through
4. **Patricia Ebbert** - March 20-May 8, 2019/Management of Education
5. **Ashley Lichtenwalner** - January 14-April 20, 2019/Developing a Results-Driven Early Literacy Classroom
6. **Sydney Schafer** - January 2-March 3, 2019/Content Literacy
7. **Sydney Schafer** - February 18-April 20, 2019/Accommodations and Adaptations in Literacy
8. **Simon Tkach** - February 2-March 1, 2019/Classroom Management for the 21st Century Educator
9. **Ryan Wentz** - February 2-March 1, 2019/An Educator's Guide to Managing and Solving Discipline Problems
10. **Ryan Wentz** - February 1-March 15, 2019/Effective Use of Mobile Devices in the Classroom
11. **Kevin Bond** - February 2-March 1, 2019/Classroom Instruction that Works
12. **Brandi Lees** - February 2-March 1, 2019/Meeting All Learners' Needs through Differentiated Instruction
13. **Brandi Lees** - June 3-June 26, 2019/An Educator's Guide
14. **Kevin Kotch** - February 1-March 15, 2019/Embracing Modern Pillars of Teaching
15. **Kevin Kotch** - February 1-March 15, 2019/Designing Blended Learning

Mr. Wentz - I'd like to make a comment.

Mr. Stern - Yes.

Mr. Wentz - Okay. To save the taxpayers money with another ridiculous Right-to-Know, Ryan Wentz is not my son. Not this one anyhow.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Hires Approved MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to approve the recommendation to hire the following employees in accordance with the respective contracts, funding through the general fund:

1. **Rachel Atwood** – Part-Time Paraprofessional - **\$11.00/hour** – effective date February 5, 2019
2. **Joseph Beck** – Part-Time Cleaner - **\$8.92/hour** – effective date January 29, 2019
3. **Austin Diehl** – Lunch-Time Aide - **\$8.50/hour** – effective date TBD
4. **Jennifer Hansler** – Lunch-Time Aide - **\$8.50/hour** – effective date TBD
5. **Charlotte Wagner** – Lunch-Time Aide - **\$8.50/hour** – effective date TBD
6. ~~**Clyde Green** – Part-Time Cleaner - **\$8.92/hour** – effective date TBD~~
7. **Michelle Mertz** – Part-Time Cleaner - **\$8.92/hour** – effective date TBD
8. **Lynne Mayo** – Long-Term Substitute School Psychologist – **Step 1, Master's +45 \$46,400 (prorated)** – effective date TBD

Mr. Stern – One through 8 with number 6 being sure that everybody has a scratch on number 6.

Mrs. Wagner – They don't know that I just got the call that he's not taking it.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

Mrs. Wagner – So, scratch number 6.

Mr. Bradley – Sorry, sorry, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Usually just shout out so I'm not use to you raising your hand like that.

Mr. Bradley – I'm being polite, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, appreciate that.

Mr. Bradley – Did anyone, this is a recommendation, so was it recommended from the committee and did anyone on the Policy Committee, I'm sorry, the Personnel Committee see the resumes of these individuals?

Atty. Schwab – It wouldn't go to Personnel.

Mr. Cleaver – Not that I'm aware of, no.

Atty. Schwab – Personnel wouldn't get those.

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – Say it again?

Mr. Cleaver – No, not that I'm aware of.

Mr. Bradley – So the recommendation came from?

Mr. Cleaver – My office.

Mr. Bradley – Only from you, not from the Personnel Committee?

Mr. Cleaver – Well, they're also interviewed from individuals depending on the positions.

Mr. Bradley – On the Personnel Committee?

Mr. Cleaver – No. Administration.

Mr. Bradley – So, one more time, the recommendations only coming from the administration. The Personnel Committee did not do anything related to these hires?

Mr. Cleaver – The interview committee conducted the interviews. There was no one from the Personnel, Negotiations, no one from the Board on those committees. Those recommendations come to us. We do our check with clearances and then the recommendation is made to the board.

Mr. Bradley – But no one on the Board saw anything from any of these people prior to hiring them?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't know how much clearer that can be.

Mr. Bradley – So there's a Personnel Committee for that purpose.

Mr. Stern – No there's not.

Atty. Schwab – No.

Mr. Bradley – There is a Personnel Committee for the purpose...

Mr. Stern – Not for the purpose of hiring.

Mr. Bradley – The Board has a responsibility of hiring and firing individuals within the district. How do you do it blindly? How do you do it blindly? That's blind trust, Mr. Stern. So you're telling me no one on this Board knows anything about any of these members other than the fact that Mr. Cleaver is making the sole recommendation from his.

Mr. Yenser – I'll say that my eyes are wide open making this upon the recommendation of our administration who at least, in my opinion as a Board Member, has my full trust. As a witness to the interview committee that the administration has put together in the past. So, my eyes are wide open, it's not blind trust.

Mr. Bradley – But no one here...

Mr. Yenser – Speak for yourself on the blind trust part. Wide open.

Mr. Bradley – I understand but nobody here. You didn't review any of these till today. Correct? First you're seeing them.

Mr. Stern – No, we saw them when the agenda came out.

Mr. Yenser – When the agenda came out a couple days ago

Mr. Bradley – Thursday. Yep, you saw them then. Did you get resumes? Did you check anything?

Mr. Yenser – Let me be clear. Let me be clear with you. The recommendation came from the administration. My eyes are wide open with trust to the administration as I know the process for the interviews and interview committees that are assembled for these positions. I have no problem endorsing, putting my vote on these recommendations from our administration. No concern whatsoever.

Mr. Bradley – But, no board members were involved in that process.

Mr. Stern – For the fourth time, no.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent. Just clarifying. I don't know why...

Mr. Stern – I can say it again if you want me to say no again, Mr. Bradley, that would be fine. I could do that.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Resignations Accepted MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to accept the resignation of the following employees:

1. **Roxann Barnhart** – Lunch-Time Aide – effective date December 5, 2018.
2. **Debra Patterson** – Part-Time Cleaner – effective date December 5, 2018.
3. **Jenny Nonweiler** – Lunch-Time Aide – effective date December 18, 2018.
4. **Todd Christman** – Part-Time Cleaner – effective date of January 8, 2019
5. **Dale Moulthrop** – Lunch-Time Aide – effective date of January 11, 2019

Mr. Bradley – Did we do any exit interviews again Mr. Cleaver on these guys?

Mr. Cleaver – Again Mr. Bradley, once the resignation is approved from the Board, we will ask them if they'd like an exit interview.

Mr. Bradley – In a year we haven't had any of those come to the Board. I'm just making sure we'll still doing that process.

Mr. Cleaver – Yes.

Audience members speaking about resignations.

Mr. Stern – Can you please, please, please, please, please, please, please. I'm giving you the courtesy of asking a question, please.

Walter Zlomsowitch – My question is why are we having a rotation?

Mr. Cleaver – First of all, I really wouldn't disclose personnel information, number 1. A lot of times with part-time positions, you'll notice that there's a lot of turnover for different reasons. But, I wouldn't disclose any individual personnel information.

Walter Zlomsowitch – Do you have a number of the amount?

Mr. Cleaver – No.

Walter Zlomsowitch – You're not even listening.

Mr. Cleaver – You asked for a number. I don't have a number.

Walter Zlomsowitch – I pay your salary. I'm asking a question.

Mr. Stern – Mr. Zlomsowitch, you're out of order, please.

Walter Zlomsowitch – Okay, what...

Mr. Stern – You're out of order.

Walter Zlomsowitch – What is the number...

Mr. Stern – We don't have the number.

Walter Zlomsowitch – You don't have the number...

Mr. Stern – Oh, of total professional staff? Resigned to retire, resigned for personal reasons, resigned to move on to other districts?

Walter Zlomsowitch – How many teachers resigned in the last 12 months?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't have that number.

Walter Zlomsowitch – Not retired.

Mr. Cleaver – These are not teachers.

Mr. Bradley – Let me try to help and I'll ask the question more. What is our current turnover rate within the district for employees?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't have that number.

Mr. Bradley – Do we measure that metric at all?

Mr. Cleaver – No, we do not.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, thank you.

Thomas Wertman – Mr. Stern, may I make a comment here, please.

Mr. Stern – Yes, please, sir.

Thomas Wertman – Why do you think our school district is any different from any other school district?

Walter Zlomsowitch – It's not.

Thomas Wertman – Why do you think our turnover rate is any greater than in other school districts?

Mr. Cleaver – Mr. Wertman, Mr. Wertman, your question should be directed toward the Board, toward the Board, please.

Thomas Wertman – Why should we believe here at Lehighton that our turnover rate is any other difference than any other school district.

Mr. Cleaver – I can only speak...

Thomas Wertman – This is ridiculous. It's a ridiculous statement and you should be (inaudible).

Mr. Cleaver – Well, I can't...

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Mr. Wertman.

Mr. Cleaver – Mr. Wertman, just as for myself, I can't give you that information because we are like most districts when it comes to positions like this.

Walter Zlomosowitch – That was my point. That was my point. Teachers ain't resigning.

Mr. Cleaver – No, I think your point was to let everyone you know you pay my salary, but thank you.

Mr. Bradley – The real point. Wait, wait a second. Mr. Cleaver, I believe, including Mr. Wertman's comments which I really appreciate once again. You allowing them to add them to motions that are already on the floor and I appreciate that. That's more transparency and we love that.

Mrs. Spinelli – Mr. President, can we just call the question?

Mr. Bradley – Hold on a second. I got a statement to make Ms. Spinelli.

Mrs. Spinelli – Make it quick.

Mr. Bradley – Working on it, thank you. So the question is since we don't currently track that metric, most companies do, it's a tell. You can measure it against other districts. You can measure it against yourself and you can see if year to year if you're improving or unimproving in your retention. Retention costs the district money. If we have a high retention rate, we save money. If we have a low retention rate, we lose money. Therefore, there's a value to tracking it. All's Mr., Wally Z. asked was do we track it and all that Mr. Wertman requested is it different from others.

And what makes you assume that it isn't? So I think we should track it. There's value to it. It's not hard to do, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

FMLA MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to acknowledge FMLA leaves for the following employees, not to exceed 12 weeks:

1. **Employee #395** - effective November 8, 2018
2. **Employee #483** - effective December 19, 2018
3. **Employee #892** - effective January 12, 2019
4. **Employee #420** - effective January 15, 2019
5. **Employee #504** - effective January 31, 2019

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Retirees 2018-2019 MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to accept the intent to retire for the following professional employees, effective the end of the 2018-2019 school year (unless otherwise noted) under terms of their respective contract with eligibility of all retirement benefits:

1. **Donald Herman** - Elementary Teacher - Hired May 21, 2007 - 12 Years of Service
2. **Vicky Kocher** - Elementary Teacher - Hired July 28, 2003 - 16 Years of Service
3. **Larry Koons** - Physical Education Teacher - Hired July 22, 1996 - 23 Years of Service
4. **Jennifer Lopata** - Secondary Mathematics Teacher - Hired July 24, 1995 - 24 Years of Service
5. **Robin Roberts** - Elementary Teacher - Hired August 8, 1994 - 25 Years of Service

Mr. Cleaver - I'd just like to personally congratulate all them and also thank them for their commitment to the district. Many of the individuals there put a lot of extra time and extra effort into different programs here throughout the district. I mean hours and hours of programs. Probably many people sitting here could list off our programs that they've offered for the kids and programs that they've worked with our students. Not only in the classroom but and out of the classroom as well. So I just wanted to send out a thank you and also congratulatory to those individuals.

Mrs. Spinelli - I second that Mr. Cleaver. I know two of these people personally and the district will really be losing some good employees. I accept their retirement with regret.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Hires MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to approve the following hires
After-School for the 2018-2019 School Year per the professional contract:

1. **Joseph Ellis** - After-School Student Supervision Program/\$31.00 per hour for no more than 5 hours per week
2. **Brandi Lees** After-School Student Supervision Program/\$31.00 per hour for no more than 5 hours per week
3. **Diane Schnell** - Elementary After-School Program/\$31.00 per hour for one (1) hour per session

Mr. Bradley - So these are current employees or these are...

Mr. Stern - Right.

Mr. Bradley - ...right. Just adding on to their process. Did the committee recommend them? Did they get choose? Did they volunteer? How did they get picked?

Mr. Cleaver - These positions are posted. They apply and then there's a recommendation made that they get approved.

Mr. Bradley - How many applied for each of the positions, roughly?

Mr. Cleaver - No a 100%, I can't answer that for sure. I was not part of that interview process.

Mr. Bradley - More than one, or?

Mr. Cleaver - I can't answer that for sure.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Middle School MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the hiring
After-School of the following Teachers and Paraprofessionals for the Middle School, PSSA After School Program. They will be hired at the current contracted hourly rate of pay for one (1) hour per session, four (4) days per week. The program begins Tuesday, January 29, 2019 and ends on Thursday, April 4, 2019.

Teachers: Jennifer Tracy & Tavia Cardell

Paraprofessionals: Michele Dobrowski & Alyssa Bachman

Mr. Bradley was absent from the Board Room at the time of the vote.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 (D.B.) ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Miscellaneous

- School Journeys** MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following School Enrichment Journey requests:
1. **8 ACE (C. Schleicher)** - February 19, 20 & 21, 2019 - 7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - to travel to Tamaqua for the 8 ACE Competition (School Van-General Fund)
 2. **Jazz Ensemble (T. Weidner)** - March 8, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m. - to travel to Bethlehem for Jazz Festival (MS Budget)
 3. **Jazz Ensemble (T. Weidner)** - March 15, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.-11:30 p.m. - to travel to Bethlehem for Jazz Festival (MS Budget)
 4. **LAMS 7th & 8th Grade Band (B. Hudlow)** - March 20, 2019 - 7:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. - to travel to Pocono Mtn. East for PMEA District 10 Intermediate Band Fest (MS Budget)
 5. **5th Grade (S. Focht)** - March 29, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - to travel to Lehigh Gap Nature Center (EC Budget)
 6. **5th Grade (R. Rabenold/T. Strausberger)** - April 1, 2019 - 8:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - to travel to Lehigh Gap Nature Center (EC Budget)
 7. **6th Grade Band (B. Hudlow)** - April 12, 2019 - 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. - to travel to Tamaqua High School for PMEA District 10 Elementary Band Fest (MS Budget)
 8. **LAMS Music Express, Chorus and Band Members (L. Welkey, B. Hudlow)** - May 2, 2019 - 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. - to travel to Iron Pigs Game (Student Cost)
 9. **3rd Grade (L. Zimmerman, P. Bonser)** - May 14, 2019 - 8:45 a.m.-5:00 p.m. - to travel to Philadelphia (PTO Budget)
 10. **5th Grade (R. Rabenold)** - May 28 & 29, 2019 - 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. - to travel to #9 Mine, Mauch Chunk Museum and Mt. Pisgah (PTO Budget)
 11. **LAHS Physics, History & ELA Students (D. Hauser, M. Feifel, D. Bowman)** - Spring 2019 - 6:30 a.m.-10:00 p.m. - to travel to Manhattan, NY to museum exhibits (Student Cost)
 12. **Kindergarten (A. Lichtenwalner)** - May 23, 2019 - 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. - to travel to Philadelphia to the Please Touch Museum (PTO Budget)
 13. **LAHS FBLA (K. Kotch)** - April 7-10, 2019 - 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. - to travel to Hershey for the FBLA State Leadership Conference (Activities Fund & Supplemental Funding)
 14. **LAHS Chorus (J. Schafer)** - May 29, 2019 - 7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. - to travel to New York City for Broadway Singing Workshop and Broadway Show (Student Cost & Activities Fund)
 15. **LAMS Jazz Ensemble (T. Weidner)** - March 22, 2019 - 5:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m. - to travel to Nitschmann Middle School for Jazz Festival (MS Budget)
 16. **LAHS Band (B. Buffington)** - March 29 & 30, 2019 - 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. - to travel to Wilson High School, Easton for District Jazz Festival (HS Budget)

Mr. Bradley was absent from the Board Room at the time of the vote.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 (D.B.) ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Homebound MOTION by Mr. Beltz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve homebound instruction for the following students:

1. **Student #54497**
2. **Student #56916**

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Motion carried.

Add Bus. To Plan MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to appoint Mrs. Audra Doll, owner of the "Tribe Pride Barbershop" to the Comprehensive Plan under "Local Businesses". She will be replacing one of the original businesses, who asked to be removed from the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Stern, who was removed and can you explain how this program works?

Mr. Stern – Mr. Tkach, would you mind?

Mr. Tkach – One of the old businesses that was on the prior plan which was written four years ago asked to be removed from it for personal reasons. And, we had it on our website and Ms. Doll applied for that. We also had another person but the business was outside the district, so we said that we'd like to stay within. We appreciate their participation and that's what it was. This is a plan that was developed four years ago and this is a revision that we're looking at now from what we've done from three, four years ago. Changes have to be made based upon that plan.

Mr. Bradley – And it's what, students go out and experience work-related...

Mr. Tkach – No. It's the whole demographics. You'll see it's 96 pages. It goes through about everything, population, it goes about the income of people, talks about the standards, curriculum maps, assessments, committee, everything of that nature.

Mr. Bradley – But it was the whole business program of that Comprehensive Plan?

Mr. Tkach – No, no, that's just the committee. They're part of it. They're representation that they have there.

Mr. Bradley – I apologize for my ignorance. There was not attachment to our agenda and this is the first I've seen of this process. So I want to make sure it's okay, thank you.

Mr. Stern – It's on the website.

Mr. Tkach – It is attached.

Mr. Stern – It's enclosure peach. Wasn't it uploaded with our documents?

Mrs. Spinelli – Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – I'm sorry. Which enclosure is it?

Mr. Stern – It was peach and it was uploaded with our documents on the website.

Mr. Bradley – The comprehensive plan but this where the local businesses come in?

Mr. Feick – If you look, D. has it there.

VOTE: YES - 2 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Comp. Plan On Website MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to acknowledge that the Lehigh Area School District Comprehensive Plan is being posted on our website for public review and comment, as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education prior to recommendation of final approval.

Mrs. Spinelli – I have a comment. I see Ms. Beers you did work on this committee. Correct?

Ms. Beers – I did.

Mrs. Spinelli – Did you find everything okay on there? You have no changes or problems with it or?

Ms. Beers – (Inaudible) these plans in the past. So, all of the work was built off of that. It seemed more like a refinement of that.

Mrs. Spinelli – A redoing, okay. And, I have this question and this is really not. Do you think this board could have sat down and come up with this Comprehensive Plan?

Ms. Beers – What do you mean? Do you mean from scratch?

Mrs. Spinelli – Yeah.

Ms. Beers – It's possible.

Mrs. Spinelli – Possible. Because I read it. I read all of it. It's quite extensive. It's quite well done and I just want to point out that that's not something that we here at this table could've done and that's just my point. It's done very well. You agreed with me. Everybody agrees with me. But, I don't think this board could've done it. So, there is benefit to having professionals involved in our education, not just board members. That's all I have to say.

Mr. Bradley – And, I'd like to make that statement. So, the whole idea of a board is to assemble a team to do these things and oversee them doing it. This is the board has to approve it. Not those people. So, it's our responsibility, like any business owner or any management team to select the people that go on the team, Ms. Spinelli. Whereas the managers rarely do....

Mrs. Spinelli – You didn’t even know who they were. You didn’t know who the businesses were. You didn’t know what the plan did. So, don’t tell me you need to oversee it.

Mr. Bradley – You need to oversee it as a board member. We all need to oversee it as a board member. And, right now, we’re gonna put it on a website and then we’re gonna let them oversee it, our boss.

Mrs. Spinelli – Call the question, please.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Programs

Use of Sch. Property MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve Use of School Property for:

1. **Pre-K Program (Susan Maloney)** – January 30, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. – LAEC Classroom – Parent/Teacher Conferences
2. **Pre-K Program (Susan Maloney)** – February 25, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. – LAEC Classroom – Family Night
3. **570 Sports/LABC (George Ebbert)** – March 24, 2019 – 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – LAHS Gymnasium – Wrestling Tournament
4. **LAEC Art Department (Adrienne Fedor, Jessica Scholl)** – April 11, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – LAEC Gymnasium, Cafeteria, & Classrooms – Annual Art Show & Book Fair
5. **LAHS Theatre (Jessica Schafer)** – January 30-April 14, 2019 – Various Times – LAHS Auditorium & Classroom – Play Rehearsal
6. **LAHS Theatre (Jessica Schafer)** – April 12-14, 2019 – 6:15 p.m.-10:00 p.m. – LAHS Auditorium – Performance
7. **LAEC (Georgianna Messinger)** – May 8, 2019 (Rain Date: 5/9/19) – 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – Multi-Purpose Stadium – Annual Olympic Day Event
8. **LAEC PTO (Erica Mesaros)** – March 15, 2019 – School Hours – LAEC Gymnasium & Cafeteria – Box of Light Program
9. **Lehigh Area Soccer Club (Angela Peterman)** – March 1-June 29, 2019 – Monday-Friday 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Franklin Elementary Fields – Soccer Practice & Games
10. **Lehigh Volleyball Boosters (Timothy O’Connor)** – March 3, 2019 – 7:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m. – LAHS Gymnasium – Fundraiser Tournament
11. **LAHS (David Hauser)** – March 28 & 29, 2019 – 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – LAHS Auditorium – 2019 LAHS Drug & Opioid Symposium
12. **CCTI-GED Classes (Tonia Schaeffer)** – January 14-April 22, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. – LAHS Classroom – GED Classes
13. **FTAA (Mike Birnbaum)** – January 26, February 9 & 23, March 2, 2019 – 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. – LAMS Cafeteria – Sign-ups and Fundraiser Returns
14. **Lehigh Booster Club Track (John Dowbachuk)** – April 22-May 31, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., April 27-May 25, 2019 – 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m., June 1, 2019 (Rain Date: 6/2/19) – 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. – Multi-Purpose Stadium – Track Practice and Meet

15. **Touchdown Club (Tanya Haydt)** – February 21, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – LAMS Cafeteria – Parent Meeting
16. **LABC (Sean Monk)** – February 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 & March 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. – LAEC Gymnasium – Basketball Practice
17. **LAEC PTO (Tammy Serfass)** – May 30, 2019 (Rain Date: 5/31/19) – 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Old Stadium – Color Me Brilliant Race
18. **LAHS (Suzanne Howland)** – March 14, 2019 – 7:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. – LAHS Gymnasium – Career Day
19. **LST Class (Tim Sharrow & Rachel Quinn)** – January 30 & 31, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. – Middle School Auditorium
20. **LAHS Guidance (Kelli Costenbader)** – March 1, 2019 – 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. – LAHS Cafeteria – Scholarship Handouts

Mr. Stern – I just have one comment. I'm glad we're seeing the facilities being used on a more than 8 or 9 hour basis during the school date. That there's things happening all the time in our buildings. Places to go, things for kids to do. It can only be a good benefit to our community.

Mr. Cleaver – We have opened up the buildings because of you know being the renovations in the building has a lot of us to get a lot of these individuals in and groups in to use the facility which we weren't able to do so in the past. So you'll see, you'll continue to see increases based upon the current facilities we have to offer the community. And I'd like to thank the Building and Grounds Committee and Mr. Feick and Mr. Spotts and those individuals who oversee this and Nancy at the high school who tries to keep track of all the requests that come through. And, again, there's a large increase in the request for use of school facilities for sure, thank you.

Mr. Wentz – Number 9, Leighton Area Soccer Club, I see they'd like to use Franklin Elementary fields. We were, I was totally against allowing those fields not to go with Christman Field but what happens now? If we approve this and somebody buys it, you can't use it.

Mr. Cleaver – They are aware in the event that would happen then it would go to the owner and the owner would have to decide what to do with those fields.

Mr. Wentz – That's putting money in front of kids.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

1st Rdg. of Policies MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the 1st Reading of the following Leighton Area School District Policies:

1. **#108** – Adoption of Textbooks
2. **#217** – Graduation Requirements

Mr. Bradley – We're gonna publish this on the website what the requirements are for number...

Mr. Stern – This is the first reading of the policy.

Mr. Bradley – I know that. Are we gonna publish...

Mr. Stern – We need to have a second reading and then it will be published online.

Mr. Bradley – Then it gets published. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Stern – This one will be published with the results of our meeting that is normally published at this time.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Affiliation MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve an Affiliation
Misericordia Agreement between Lehigh Area School District and **Misericordia University**
for the purpose of providing experiential learning for Education students.

Mr. Stern – This is just for student teaching.

Mr. Cleaver – Yep and when we get a student teacher you can see them, that's why we did that first because we didn't have an affiliation so that's why the next motion comes after.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Student MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to acknowledge the
Teacher following student teacher for the spring semester 2018-2019:
1. **Rachel Moon** – Misericordia University – Speech-Language Pathology –
District-Wide

Ms. Beers was absent from the Board Room at the time of the vote.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - _____ ABSENT - 1 (J.B.) ABSTENTIONS - _____

M.S. Summer MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to approve the Lehigh
Wellness Area School District-run Lehigh Middle School Summer Wellness Program to be
held July 8 – August 9, 2019, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. based at the Middle School.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Old Business for Discussion

1. Sale of Franklin and Shull-David

Mr. Cleaver – Regarding the sale of Franklin and Shull-David just to update the Board. I did a brief update to the Building and Grounds Committee. We've had several individuals or companies interested. Some real estate companies have reached out to Brian and myself requesting, I believe probably since our last board meeting in November, December, we probably half a dozen times probably shown the buildings. At this point we have not received any offers for the buildings but we have a lot of people requesting additional information but to date we have not offers for either one of those buildings.

Atty. Schwab – I would expect, having talked to one of the bidders, you'll have something in the next two weeks.

Mr. Stern – That's great news.

Mr. Bradley – How did you get involved in speaking to them? If it went through Mr. Feick.

Atty. Schwab – They called me on the phone and asked what the procedure was and how the School Code, which way we're going to go. That's all. And I said it's gonna be up to the Board eventually either to do it like they did before with an auction with a pre-bid or they put it in a private sale and then we have to have two appraisals and then still have to go into court. So, they just wanted a little information.

Mr. Bradley – Did they call you directly?

Atty. Schwab – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – They didn't call Mr. Feick or Mr. Cleaver?

Mr. Feick – I told them to call him. They asked how...

Mr. Bradley – Okay so someone had to authorize him consuming district dollars.

Mr. Feick – Yeah, I told them to call because they asked about how the previous sales went.

Mr. Bradley – Correct.

Mr. Feick – And I asked them to call him just to get an update in case they wanted to make an offer. I think the motion you made for me before is if I get an offer I take to Building and Grounds Committee and then they take it to the board. But I wanted to make sure the offers legal, that's why I asked them to call him.

Mr. Bradley – But you authorized the consumption of those solicitor dollars.

Mr. Feick – Correct.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. That's what I was trying to verify and that would, under the general fund from...

Mr. Feick – That'll actually come out of my budget 'cause I do have legal budget for things like that.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, no problem. Just wanted, every expenditure has to be applied somewhere so I wanted to make sure. Thank you.

Atty. Schwab – I don't even know if I billed for it to be, thank you Mr. Bradley. I'll have to go back and see if I billed for it.

Mr. Feick – Too late.

Mr. Bradley – You're welcome, Mr. Schwab. I'm sure you'll try to bill for anything.

Mr. Beltz – Can we have an auction for these properties now that we have some interest in them?

Atty. Schwab – Yes, you can. You really want to set a floor bid and that's why you try to get a pre-bid and use that as the bid and then have an auction at that point and advertise and post the buildings. You don't need a second appraisal. You have the one from Mr. Gownley, although I haven't seen an updated one with the, with the subdivision. So you don't need a second appraisal. You don't need any appraisal at that point.

Mr. Beltz speaking.

Atty. Schwab – Well, but again, don't you want a floor that you're willing to accept.

Mr. Beltz – Absolutely, yeah.

Atty. Schwab – So, I mean it's easier if you have a floor that you're willing to take.

Mr. Beltz – Well the reason we want to do this is to put it out there for more people to see the properties and have more bidders.

Atty. Schwab – And that was on Franklin the one that called me.

Mr. Bradley – And is the floor of this bid gonna be set by this person making an offer or is it gonna be based upon our appraisal that we had?

Atty. Schwab – Well if we go by the past, they make an offer, it comes back to the board and the board authorizes an auction and accepts that. May or may not accept that as the floor bid. That's a board decision.

Mr. Bradley – Yeah so I'm think what Rusty's alluding to is if we announce a floor bid now, you'd be able to use the appraisal as an estimate and then let people bid it up from there. So at least they'd know what they're looking at. Is there detriment to that process?

Atty. Schwab – Selling real estate as a bankruptcy trustee, the last thing I would ever do, and I sell maybe 100 to 150 properties a year, is to let somebody know what my floor bid is 'cause I'm constantly surprised somebody's gonna come in higher.

Mr. Bradley – And you're dealing with people that are bankrupt.

Atty. Schwab – No. I sell to other people. These people have lost the...

Mr. Bradley – Right, they lost the house. So...

Atty. Schwab – Who I'm selling it to I have an appraisal. I'm not gonna tell them what the appraisal is because invariably they're gonna offer more money than my appraisal shows.

Mr. Bradley – Yet we haven't...

Atty. Schwab – That has been my experience.

Mr. Bradley – ...but we haven't experienced that here at a school district. School districts have a different experience, correct?

Atty. Schwab – I can't, it happens so rarely that I can't say that's accurate.

Mr. Bradley – Did these offers we had on the other two meet the appraisal numbers?

Atty. Schwab – You asked statistically two sales don't mean anything.

Mr. Bradley – Did they meet the appraisal numbers that we had?

Atty. Schwab – No.

Mr. Bradley – Were they higher or lower?

Atty. Schwab – They were slightly lower about 10% lower.

Mr. Bradley – Than our appraisal?

Atty. Schwab – Yeah.

Mr. Cleaver – But if the board would make a recommendation to start to set a minimum bid on one of these properties, we can then move forward with...

Atty. Schwab – Well the problem is, let pose the board said okay let's say \$400,000 to Shull-David. Well we may not get someone that's gonna bid \$425,000 or \$500,000 or \$600,000. If we say we want a million dollars for Shull-David, we may scare away a bidder that would come into at a number the board would agree to. It's just dangerous publishing it until you have a number you're gonna commit to as the board.

Mr. Cleaver – And at this time, we have not received any number from any interested parties.

2. Richard T. "Reds" O'Donnell Memorial

Mr. Stern – I'm not sure who wants to follow up with number 2.

Mr. Wentz – Kevin, you want to tell everybody what you told me?

Kevin O'Donnell – Yeah, first off on behalf of the family, thank you for taking the time to think about dad, Mr. Wertman, Mr. Schnell who's not here, Gail at the last meeting your recommendation. I did talk to Mr. Spotts, I talked to Mr. Wentz. And we'd like to have it tabled for now till I can meet with them. Sit down now that everything is, the dust is settled so to speak. And when the first recommendation came in, that was the day that dad passed. So it was too close. If we can table this, I'd really appreciate the gesture. In another month or two I'd be willing to sit down and go from there.

Mr. Stern – Okay, thank you.

New Business for Discussion

Confidential MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the Confidential Agreement Settlement Agreement and Release for Student #54284.

Mr. Bradley – Since this was an addendum, I'm glad you're giving the people the right to speak. But I just wanted to know when was this settlement first proposed to this district. What date?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't have the original date of the settlement.

Mr. Bradley – Within the last week? Two weeks? Four weeks? What's your guess?

Mr. Cleaver – Again, with settlements like this it goes back and forth, so I can't give you an exact date for this settlement. I would have to look.

Mr. Bradley – But you handed in executive session a copy of this settlement.

Mr. Cleaver – Correct.

Mr. Bradley – What date was that handed to you?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't have that date. I'm not gonna give a date without knowing for sure what date it was.

Mr. Bradley – Just how about before Thursday or after Thursday, last week?

Mr. Cleaver – Oh, it was definitely before last Thursday, yes.

Mr. Bradley – So why wasn't that on this, why was it not on the agenda and why is it an addendum if we knew about that prior to Thursday when we published the agenda?

Mr. Cleaver – And, again, Mr. Bradley, I wanted to have the discussion and review the agreement with the board. And, again, we cannot make contact, any comments. The agreement you had before you has both been recommended by the individuals and the school district to the board for final approval.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Mr. Bradley – One more new business, please, Mr. Stern. I'd like to make a motion that we use the proceeds of all the asset sales of the district to be placed towards the debt. Can I get a second on that motion please?

Mrs. Wagner – Assets from the sale of the buildings?

Mr. Bradley – No all. Any time we sell an asset.

Mr. Stern – I understand what you're saying.

Mr. Bradley – That's exactly what I said.

Mr. Stern – I believe there is. Mr. Feick it might've been before you but I recall us talking about this.

Mr. Feick – It was discussed but there was never a formal motion.

Mr. Stern – Never a formal motion?

Mr. Feick – Correct.

Mr. Bradley – But I'm extending that motion further to say that to use the proceeds of all asset sales towards the debt.

Atty. Schwab – You have a surplus sale as well. Every other year, your old equipment and textbooks.

Mr. Bradley – Correct. All asset sales towards the debt, thank you.

Mr. Beltz – And I did second that.

Mr. Cleaver – So that's above and beyond. You're not just talking the buildings. You're talking anything.

Mr. Bradley – Please read the motion. Make sure everybody understands, thank you.

Mr. Stern – You don't have to snicker, sir.

Mrs. Wagner reread the motion.

Mr. Stern – Can we have the Finance Committee discuss that at their next meeting which is coming up, Mr. Feick. Correct?

Mr. Feick – Yes.

Mr. Stern – And bring it should the recommendation be...

Mr. Bradley – If this, if this board so chooses to not vote on this that would make sense. But prior to that, it's a new motion at least those people should have an opportunity to speak on that first,

thank you. And if you want to make a motion to postpone it then you got a whole other public comment, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Anyone want to speak on that particular motion? Okay, my recommendation would be that we bring it to the finance meeting?

Mr. Feick – Can I speak? I agree with what you're saying. I'd like to put the wording in its towards paying down the debt not just. 'Cause right now I could say, okay, I sold this, I don't have to take this out of general fund.

Mr. Beltz – Like a higher credit card debt?

Mr. Feick – Well, no, not just that it's like I have a million 82. So I have that budgeted a million 8 but now you just gave me another \$100,000 from sale of all the equipment. I only have to take a million 7. So this is basically to pay down debt not to pay the debt.

Mr. Bradley – I'm actually getting you to physically pay...

Mr. Feick – Down the debt?

Mr. Bradley – ...down the district's liability debt, not the, like you said the credit card, the bond payments, the debt that has the...

Mr. Feick – Get is set that it's in stone so that someone in the future can't say, hey, you don't have to budget the full debt payment because we have asset sales that year.

Mr. Bradley – Correct. It's to pay down the debt.

Mr. Feick – I just want to make sure that it's right. That it goes to pay down the debt.

Mr. Bradley – Additional payment, additional principle payments on the debt. How about that?

Mr. Feick – Set up a sinking fund or whatever so it can pay it down.

Mr. Bradley – The idea is that most debts, most assets were purchased so you're doing a dollar for dollar exchange against the debt, thank you.

Mr. Stern – So if it's acceptable to Mr. Beltz and Mr. Bradley, I think it should go through Finance Committee for the proper wording and be brought to the next meeting.

Mr. Bradley – Absolutely not. We're just gonna use the word, from the recommendation, I will accept your modification to say we're gonna use the proceeds of all asset sales towards the paying down of the district debt, thank you.

Atty. Schwab – You may not be able to do that because we may not be able to set up to pay down the debt at this time. You really want to set up a sinking fund restricting the funds until such time as you can pay down the debt.

Mr. Feick – Right.

Atty. Schwab – And that's why...

Mr. Bradley – Why can't you make a payment on a debt, Mr. Schwab?

Atty. Schwab – Because it's not callable. It's not like your own mortgage where you can pay an extra principle payment in a month.

Mr. Bradley – All the debt is non-callable?

Atty. Schwab – Not everything.

Mr. Bradley – We have a couple that are non-callable, Mr. Schwab. So we're gonna use it to pay down some debt.

Mr. Feick – I have to look at the (inaudible) in here but the note can be paid but I think it's in increments.

Atty. Schwab – We just can't say yes. We don't have a motion that sets up restricted (inaudible). We haven't thought about it enough. It hasn't been presented to Mr. Feick.

Mr. Bradley – This motion has been presented many times.

Mr. Stern – According to who?

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Feick, myself.

Mr. Stern – We discussed it. Did you hear what he said? He said it...

Mr. Bradley – Talked about many times.

Mr. Feick – I'm not disagreeing with you on the motion.

Mr. Stern – No, we're not disagreeing. Let's get the right wording.

Mr. Feick – I want to make sure it sticks that a future board can't change it.

Mr. Stern – We don't have to do it today. We can do it in February.

Mr. Bradley – So you recommend it as long as it's gonna stick.

Mr. Feick – Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – This one will stick. Thanks for the recommendation.

Atty. Schwab – It's up to the board.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Schwab, if you're giving advice, it should be given to the entire board, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Mr. Beltz, your discussion on this. Do you have an issue with tabling it and getting the wording correct?

Mr. Beltz – I don't have a problem with discussing it in Finance Committee. I think we can fine tune this in Finance. The motion as it stands we can pay down the principle, right? Do you want to modify it so it actually says that?

Mr. Bradley – Or would you like us to modify it so that we give you the authority to pay down the principle payments and the funds are not used anywhere else?

Mr. Stern – No, we can't.

Mrs. Spinelli – I really think it should be tabled until we figure all this out. I mean Mr. Feick can tell us what debt can be paid down, what debt we have to wait for. It can wait till February. It's not gonna, we didn't sell the buildings yet. So, I see no reason why we can't table it.

Mr. Bradley – Actually you did and you took \$700,000. So we did sell the buildings. Two of them. And we have that money.

Mrs. Spinelli – And he told you he's holding it.

Mr. Bradley – I want to restrict this board and every board forward to make sure that when we sell one of their assets it goes on to take off the burden of their debt.

Mr. Stern – I don't have a problem with that.

Mrs. Spinelli – I don't have a problem with that.

Mr. Bradley – I don't know if anyone has a problem with it.

Mrs. Spinelli – Table it till February.

Mr. Feick – Why don't you make a motion to reserve those funds for paying down the debt and then the following motion next month how to do it?

Mr. Bradley – We can just authorize you to do it if you'd like because you're the business manager. So we can just say that we're gonna use the proceeds of all asset sales to allow the business manager to pay down the debt. And then you make the decision/recommendation when you come back. Hey, you wanted me to pay down the debt, here's how I'm gonna do it and you can approve it at every month just like you do now.

Mr. Beltz – I'm fine with doing it at a finance meeting.

Mr. Stern – I make a motion to table and have it brought to Finance Committee.

Mrs. Spinelli – Second.

Atty. Schwab – Well you gotta take a vote.

Mr. Bradley – No, you can't take a vote yet. Motion and a second, you need to give them an opportunity of whether or not tabling it makes sense. Right, Mr. Schwab.

Atty. Schwab – I thought he asked.

Mr. Bradley – He did not.

Mr. Stern – I asked them first.

Audience members speaking to table it.

Audience member – There's a problem here. There's still a motion and a second on the table. That has to be dealt with first.

Atty. Schwab – No it doesn't. Not when you have a table. It's tabling his motion.

Audience member – They have to agree to it.

Atty. Schwab – No they do not. That's not. You can table any motion that's a motion and second. The board can say we don't want to consider this at this time and pull it off the table till a later time. You have a motion and a second and you should have a vote on that.

Mr. Stern – Okay. Anybody else?

Barbara Bowes – Is this comment on the tabling? I think it's a good idea and get the wording correct.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Ms. Bowes. Any further comment? Okay you want to do a roll call vote on the table, Ms. Wagner.

Pay Down Debt Tabled MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to table the paying down of debt with asset sales motion and bring it to Finance Committee for correct wording.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	☐	X	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

Mrs. Maholick was absent from the Board Room at the time of the vote.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - ABSENT - 1 (G.M.) ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Ms. Beers – Larry, may I make a motion before we leave new business?

Mr. Stern – Sure.

Ms. Beers – Thank you. I'd like to make a motion that at the next board meeting we have a presentation from a representative of a group called Growing Leaders that enhances educational programs within the district.

Mr. Bradley – I'll second that.

Mrs. Spinelli – We will be dealing with that in Academic Affairs on Wednesday. Anybody's welcome to come if they'd like to see it.

Ms. Beers – People regularly attend this meeting and have regularly asked to hear about educational advance in this meeting.

Mrs. Wagner asked Ms. Beers to repeat the motion.

Growing Leaders MOTION by Ms. Beers, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley at the next board meeting we have a presentation from a representative of a group called Growing Leaders that enhances educational programs within the district.

Mr. Tkach – Why aren't they going through the committees like we had been before?

Mr. Stern – We are. They are gonna be at Academic Affairs.

Mr. Tkach – Thank you.

Mr. Stern – Okay. And Mr. Cleaver has already set the appointment up for Wednesday.
Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____

Motion carried.

Directors' Concerns

Climate Study MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to have the Board consider doing a climate study of the District to assess the current level of satisfaction among staff and students.

Mrs. Spinelli – I'd like to comment on that. I'm the one who put this on the Directors' Concern. I'm also the one who emailed everyone back in November that I was going to do it and Mr. Bradley you said you thought it was a great idea. Now tonight you told us you can't find it in the School Code. This is just an assessment procedure. You keep telling us how unhappy our staff is. Mr. Zlomsowitch thinks they're all leaving because they're unhappy. I would like to know are they or are they not happy. I would like to know what the students and parent feel. Not just the few that you speak to, but all of them. That's why I suggested this. So, we can do it anyway you want. We can make up the questions. We can have a service do it. I understand they did one a few years ago. I don't care about the procedure. Whatever you're gonna live by. But what I want is some definite data as to how the staff and students, parents feel in this district. Not your say so.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent. And, I do completely agree that this get done. I couldn't find the climate study. I was wondering if in School Code, other than the idea that we have to ask them for information, that we're now finally doing it. Was there anything within the code that dictates how it is asked or when it's asked? So we're gonna create our own study?

Mrs. Spinelli – We can do that or we can hire someone, correct, Mr., aren't there...

Mr. Cleaver – There is organizations out there that do climate studies. Also, PDE, if you go on their website, they have an example of a climate study where they can do something. It's basically surveys for community, parents, students to complete.

Mr. Bradley – And where is this information going to be collected?

Mr. Cleaver – It would be collected in their database. Whoever's doing the, if someone outside the district is doing it. They would collect the information and do it. We have different programs right now we do through for example drug and alcohol type programs that, all the PAYS surveys, so it's collected, they put it together and then they present it to us.

Mr. Bradley – And that presentation's coming directly from the survey company or is it being edited by our district?

Mr. Cleaver – If it's an outside agency, we don't see it.

Mr. Bradley – So as long as the entire board gets a raw copy of the data, I'm in complete support of this, thank you.

Walter Zlomsowitch – I have to totally deny what you just said. That wasn't my point but since our Board President and our Superintendent wanted to rudely interrupt me. My whole point was how many teachers in the last 12 months, how many teachers in the last 12 months resigned, not retired, resigned?

Mr. Cleaver – No, I think your question was about turnover ratio and I don't know. But that direct...

Walter Zlomsowitch – I was trying to point out is there a reason for that?

Mr. Cleaver – The lunch-aides, part-time positions there's turnover. Those positions, there's a lot of turnover, yes.

Walter Zlomsowitch – Well let me finish. Then my next question was, and you didn't want to listen to me, how many teachers resigned in the last 12 months?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't know that, I can't speak for sure, but off the top of my head I can't think of any that have resigned.

Walter Zlomsowitch – That was my point. That was my point.

Mr. Bradley – And Rita, you're putting words in my mouth if you think most of the statements that come from me come from a district stakeholder...

Mr. Stern – Can we have some order, please?

Mr. Bradley – ...so for instance, your KingSpry resolution that mentioned about strip searching, your KingSpry resolution that mentioned about all these things. They came from constituents. I just passed them forward because I listen to them, thank you.

Mr. Cleaver – Again, can we please move forward, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ____ ABSENT - ____ ABSTENTIONS - ____
Motion carried.

Redaction Software Denied MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mrs. Maholick to purchase a redaction software license for our Right To Know officer and to provide her with the necessary training to use such software to help her make accurate decisions regarding right-to-know requests for the district. This motion would also authorize a monthly payment if necessary to use the software.

Mr. Holland – Did anybody ask our business department if they felt this was needed?

Mr. Cleaver – I am not aware of that going through the business department but I don't want to speak for Mr. Feick.

Mr. Feick – I think over the last 6 months we been presenting, what would I call it, software programs that we can pull everything into electronic format. I think I've had 4 different proposals so far I took to Finance. But right now I don't have them in the budget. Redaction software's cheap but you still don't have everything electronically. We have a lot of paper and if we want to go to a file saving system, we're talking \$30,000 to \$50,000 of software is needed to be able to use this type of stuff.

Mr. Holland – Second question, it says this suggestion was provided by an industry professional. Can I ask who the professional was? I don't want people just coming out and say I'm a professional. Who is it? It could be the janitor signing a piece of paper saying, yeah, I'm a professional. I'm just asking for a little more background as to who this person was.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Holland...

Mr. Holland – Go ahead.

Mr. Bradley – ...I did not bring this motion on.

Mr. Holland – I didn't think you did.

Mr. Bradley – I understand that. However, I did provide to the board 2 performance audits by Eugene DePasquale, the Auditor General, that discusses exactly this. I actually brought them for other motions on this agenda. But it fits perfectly within in this agenda as well. You were given both of those. They expressly discuss the incredible savings a district would have by even if it got the software to do half or a third of the redactions to protect our privacy of our teachers and our students from the human error of making a mistake. The professional that I would use, regardless of whoever wrote this motion, would be the Auditor General on two audits. I have one from Susquehanna and I have one from Fairfield Area where they talk about the extensive milking of a district's finances by their solicitor for not having this software, thank you.

Mr. Cleaver – Did you get an answer for your professional?

Mr. Holland – I really did not.

Mr. Bradley – Eugene DePasquale, the Auditor General, the State of Pennsylvania, recommends buying software to do redactions, thank you.

Mr. Cleaver – But I believe you mentioned that you didn't put the motion on. I think his question was directed towards the individual who made the motion.

Mr. Bradley – He just wants a recommendation or who makes a recommendation. I found one. Obviously he didn't look or didn't read the information but we do have one. It's the State Auditor General. Yes, in writing, twice. Probably more if you want.

Mr. Yenser – We just have an open checkbook so if it's \$50,000 for the software, Mr. Feick just goes for it?

Mr. Bradley – I would say yes, very much so, it's part of the law, it's recommended by the State Auditor General to save districts money from unneeded expenses by their solicitor for using the Right-to-Know Law for their benefit, thank you.

Mr. Stern – I'm sure it says to use redaction; it doesn't say what it used though right?

Mr. Bradley – We agree and once you decide to buy it, he picks it. We recommend that it gets done. He brings it to the board before we spend money. And he says I want to use this one. And he can use these auditor reports to find out which ones best. He can ask the state. He can ask PDE.

Mr. Yenser – So are we asking Mr. Feick to give us a recommendation on what to purchase for redaction software or are we just saying go buy it and...

Mr. Bradley – You're telling him to go get it but he can't spend money without an authorization. This motion, one more time, this...

Audience Member – This says to purchase.

Mr. Bradley – Correct and spend the money as needed if necessary. Don't you trust him?

Mr. Yenser – Absolutely. I like to know what I spend money on. Don't you?

Mr. Bradley – Redaction software recommended by Eugene DePasquale to save the district money.

Mr. Stern – You keep throwing that out. He says to use it but he doesn't say what brand, what flavor, what's this, what's that. How should we do it?

Mr. Bradley – That's his job.

Mr. Stern – That's your job now Brian. Did you know that? Did you know that? That's your job to figure out how to use it, which one to use, which flavor to use, what we need for storage requirements, what are our obligations later on once we've done it.

Mrs. Maholick – Can't our I.T. department help with any of this?

Mr. Stern – Well maybe if it would come through the right way and to say investigate the use of redaction software and bring it back to the board with a recommendation. Not that it's just a carte blanche go buy something. Maybe that would be the way to introduce this to the board and then they could see how it actually works. And people would be educated on it.

Mrs. Maholick – I think we're getting there with what you just heard.

Mr. Stern – You just don't come in and say go buy it.

Mr. Bradley – For decades you had the opportunity of saving money and making this district transparent. Here's your opportunity.

Mr. Stern – Prove it. Prove it.

Mr. Cleaver – Well, just for clarification with this motion there was an attachment with it. Within that attachment there is something listed. So, approving this motion would require to go purchase.

Mr. Bradley – No, I don't think a director's allowed to, it's just a reference. I don't think a director can actually specify which one to buy. You're not allowed. He has to do that.

Mr. Cleaver – So you're changing the motion then?

Mr. Bradley – No you're not. Not at all.

Mr. Cleaver – It has an attachment with the recommendation from the school board.

Mr. Bradley – It doesn't, no, that doesn't matter, Mr. Cleaver. Come on, don't just stall the thing. Listen to me carefully. I want to make sure you understand this.

Mr. Stern – I don't want to stall this thing. I want to make sure we're doing the right thing, Mr. Bradley. You're not gonna rush into buying software that we don't even know what it is or don't even know what the name of it is.

Mr. Bradley – It's redaction software. He chooses it.

Mr. Stern – It's redaction software. Is it made by the guys in China? Is it made by the guys in Russia? Or, is it made by the guys in the US?

Mr. Cleaver – Mr. Bradley, this says, this motion...

Mr. Stern – It's not so simple.

Mr. Cleaver – Yes, just for clarification, the attachment says this motion would authorize a monthly payment if necessary to use the software. I believe that Adobe Acrobat has such software for \$180 and \$14.99 a month which would substantially reduce costs to Right-to-Know requests. So, the attachment within that motion has it listed.

Mr. Bradley – But, Mr. Cleaver, you have to go with the motion on the agenda sir. You can't change the motion. The motion does not say that. Read the motion.

Mr. Cleaver – But it references it in the attachment.

Mr. Bradley – Read the motion.

Mr. Stern – If anybody else would've brought this motion forward, you would've hammered it.

Mr. Cleaver – Mr. Bradley...

Mr. Bradley – Read the motion.

Mr. Cleaver – I just read the attachment.

Mr. Bradley – What was the cost per month?

Mr. Stern – Call the question.

Mr. Bradley – What was the cost per month?

Mrs. Spinelli – Call the question, please.

Mr. Cleaver – You could read the email. You have it in your attachments.

Mr. Bradley – What was the cost per month?

Mrs. Maholick – Why don't we put it on the agenda for next month and we'll have it...

Mr. Stern – No, no. You don't put it on the agenda for next month. You have to have someone investigate what the software is, what's the offering, how it works, how it gonna affect the district. What's the workflow? What about what our Right-to-Know Officer does if she gets into a gray area? How does transfer it over to Mr. Schwab?

Mr. Bradley – What did Mr. Cleaver just read? He said how much was it a month?

Mrs. Maholick – Don't we have I.T. people who can guide us?

Mr. Stern – Exactly. But you need to get them to look at it before you tell them to do it and tell us to come back with a recommendation.

Mr. Bradley – I think she just said it was \$15.00 a month, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern – That's not what your motion, doesn't say to investigate, it says to buy. It says to purchase.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Cleaver, what is the rates of the one that's on the white copy, please?

Mrs. Maholick – I'll withdraw my motion.

Mr. Cleaver – It's in your packet.

Mr. Bradley – I know. What is it?

Mr. Cleaver – It's in your packet.

Mr. Bradley – I know. What is it? Well you just read it. It's \$15.00 a month?

Mr. Cleaver – I'll have to go through and find it again.

Mr. Bradley – You can't find it. You just read it. \$15.00 a month? You're obstructing this, Mr.?

Mr. Cleaver – Yes, you're right.

Mr. Bradley – Try some respect.

Board members speaking.

Mr. Stern – Can I have order please? Can I have order please? Please? Please? Please? All I know Mr. Bradley is if someone other than someone that you know would've put this items on the agenda for something like this, you would be all over it with the biggest stick in the world. So right now, all we're asking is to refine it, say to have the Business Office, have the I.T. Department come up with a recommendation to implement redaction software for our Right-to-Know Officer and bring it to the board. That's as simple as it is. It's not to go out and purchase something carte blanche without bringing it to us say what does it do; how does it do it; and what's the benefit for us.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. So it's a difference of opinion. Let's resolve that. Gail what was the amount per month?

Mr. Stern - It doesn't matter.

Mrs. Maholick - It was \$180. \$14.99 a month and \$180 to purchase it.

Mr. Bradley - So \$200 and what was the \$189, less than \$200 and how much per month?

Mrs. Maholick - \$14.99.

Mr. Bradley - \$14.99 a month. So we're talking about an expenditure that you're gonna run through a committee for less than a couple of hundred of dollars that's gonna save. I have Schwab's bills here that are tens of thousands of dollars.

Mr. Stern - Okay, call the question.

Mr. Yenser - \$14.99 for software that lets you black something out on a piece of paper.

Mr. Bradley - No sir, no sir.

Mrs. Maholick - That's exactly what you need.

Mr. Bradley - It's from Adobe@...

Mr. Stern - And it's smart enough to read and redact?

Mr. Bradley - Correct.

Mrs. Spinelli - Can we call the question please?

Mr. Stern - Yes, please.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	☐	X	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	☐	X	☐	☐

Mr. Bradley - Yes, I believe in transparency.

Mr. Stern - No, I believe in implementing a solution, not causing more problems for the district, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 2 NO - 7 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -
Motion denied.

Mrs. Maholick - I have a question, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern – Yes, ma'am.

Mrs. Maholick – Can we at least start looking at it?

Mr. Stern – Absolutely. That's what we wanted to do.

Mrs. Maholick – That's what I said. Modify the motion or whatever. But let's get started on it.

Mr. Bradley – Make the motion.

Mrs. Maholick – I'd like to make a motion that we can at least get started on redaction software and the necessary investigation.

Mr. Stern – Investigate the use and implementation of redaction software within the district by the I.T. Department.

Mrs. Maholick – Exactly what he said.

Mr. Bradley – And wait, put a timeline on it. Have it implemented by...

Mrs. Maholick – Six months.

Mr. Bradley – No, give them like 30 days. Pick one.

Mr. Stern – Forget it. Just forget it. If it's gonna be joke than just forget it. Everything's a joke, Mr. Bradley. Everything's a joke. Sir, everything is a joke.

Mr. Bradley – It's not a joke to protect them with redaction software.

Mr. Stern – You flail your hands. Throw papers and bang your desk. Okay? If you would be constructive in the way you talk to people, maybe we'd get a little further, possibly.

Mr. Bradley – If you'd open your mind and recognize that you're protecting the privacy of these people...

Mr. Stern – I am protecting the privacy of the district and it's employees and it's students. As foremost in our minds is what we should do.

Mr. Bradley – I'll help. I'd like to make a motion that the district purchases.

Mr. Stern – Now we're gonna purchase again.

Mr. Bradley – Let me finish.

Mr. Yenser – Gail already made a motion.

Mr. Bradley – Do I have the floor? Show some respect.

Mr. Yenser – Gail made a motion.

Mr. Bradley – No one seconded it.

Mr. Yenser – No one had an opportunity to make second it. Gail, can you repeat your motion, please?

Mrs. Maholick – I don't even know if I can.

Mr. Bradley – I'll try for you.

Board member and audience members speaking.

Mr. Cleaver – Again, can we please have order so we can continue to move the meeting forward.

Mrs. Maholick – We didn't pick a timeline.

Mr. Yenser – Missy, can you read that?

Mrs. Maholick – How long should it take to do something like that? I mean, 90 days? Can we do 90 days?

Mr. Stern – To come back with a recommendation within 90 days I think that is...

Mr. Yenser – I'll second that motion.

Mrs. Maholick – I mean it takes time to look at this stuff and know what you want to look at.

Mr. Stern – Exactly it does. And then to figure out how it's gonna fit in your workforce.

Mr. Yenser – I'll second that motion, Gail.

Investigate MOTION by Mrs. Maholick, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to investigate the use and
Redaction implementation of redaction software for the district within 90 days.
Software

Mrs. Maholick – At least we'll come back with a recommendation.

Mr. Yenser – Perfect.

Mr. Stern – Do we need roll call?

Mrs. Wagner – We need to ask for comments.

Mr. Stern – Any comment, please from the floor? I'm sure you're glad we're just moving on. No comment, thank you.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Consider Clearances For Board Members MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to propose that the board ~~agree~~ consider to getting the same clearances that all other school volunteers have to acquire.

Atty. Schwab – You can't have this motion. You're adding a qualification to a school director that is not in the Code. You can't add additional requirements. The best you can do on something like this is recommend that they get it, but you can't require it. You can't make anybody agree 'cause the School Code doesn't require it of school board members.

Mrs. Spinelli – I made the motion and that's why I said propose that the board agree. I didn't say it had to be. I said propose.

Atty. Schwab – Well, when I see agree is what.

Mr. Stern – Okay. So we're gonna make a recommendation but you don't have to is what you're saying?

Atty. Schwab – Right.

Mr. Stern – That's okay with that language?

Atty. Schwab – Yeah.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

Mrs. Spinelli – Consider?

Atty. Schwab – Consider or recommend to the board to get it is fine.

Mrs. Spinelli – Okay.

Mr. Bradley – Can you repeat the new motion? I'm sorry.

Mrs. Wagner – Consider instead of agree?

Mrs. Spinelli – Yes, consider getting the same clearances that all other volunteers have. And, I made this because I can't believe it's not a qualification to work in a school but I will gladly do it. I am going to pay for my own. I would like if you feel that you could do the same thing. I just think it would be best for everyone.

Mrs. Maholick – Here are mine.

Mr. Bradley – Rita, it's free for every elected official in the state of Pennsylvania to have this done, if you'd like. Don't have to pay for it.

Mr. Stern – Okay, so the motion was by Rita, I will second. Unless there was somebody who second already.

Mrs. Wagner – Mr. Wentz made the motion but then we changed it to consider getting. So, and Mr. Wentz was okay with that then Mr. Stern you're seconding it.

Mr. Bradley – So can you read that once. The board is gonna consider getting the, say this again?

Mrs. Wagner – The clearances that all the other school volunteers have to acquire.

Mrs. Spinelli – Not mandatory. Just think about it.

Mr. Bradley – So this then apply to candidates as well?

Mr. Stern – Once their elected, maybe it does.

Mr. Cleaver – It's not mandatory.

Mr. Stern – You can't.

Atty. Schwab – You can't make it mandatory.

Mr. Cleaver – You can't make it mandatory. There's no law there but...

Mr. Stern – I didn't say mandatory.

Mr. Bradley – I understand that. I just want to make sure that you understand what you're asking. Are we gonna add the 48 hour notice thing as well? To prevent people from getting this once. Are we doing it once a year? What are you doing?

Mr. Cleaver – Even with the clearances, there's nothing we could do whether there is a finding or anything like that.

Atty. Schwab – The only way to remove a board member is through impeachment.

Mr. Bradley – We understand that. That's the whole point.

Atty. Schwab – Unless you do a criminal act then certain criminal actions you're automatically removed.

Mr. Bradley – But you're authorizing to do something with no consequence to it.

Atty. Schwab – Yeah.

Mrs. Spinelli – It's transparency, Mr. Bradley. That's all I'm asking for.

Mr. Bradley – I mean, when I coached or when I taught, you had to have it. It's a requirement. But here, if you're making it a barrier...bear with me...

Mr. Stern – We're asking you to get them.

Mr. Bradley – I know but you're not putting any teeth behind it, Mr. Stern. That's the problem. So...

Mrs. Spinelli – You can't.

Mr. Stern – You know what, you can elect not to do it and not to share your results. That's all you can do.

Mr. Bradley – Relax, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern – No, everything has to be big and blown up. It's not a big deal.

Mr. Bradley – No, you just have to make...

Mr. Stern – Hey, we all had them before. What's the big deal of getting it again and sharing it if you want to? If you don't, that's fine too.

Mr. Bradley – I know. But what you don't understand is are you doing this every year for this person or every. Are you gonna also...

Mr. Stern – If it's free, what does it matter.

Mr. Bradley – And can you add the 48 hours in Mr. Schwab or not?

Atty. Schwab – No, you can't have a sanction to it. You're a board member. You're an elected official. Nothing. This board can't remove another board member unless they don't show up at meetings.

Mr. Stern – Any comments?

Mr. Bradley – Or neglect to do their business.

Atty. Schwab – Well...

Ron Snell – I'd make a suggestion that the motion get changed to propose that individual board members agree to get the same. That way you're not locking the whole board into it. It's up to each individual board member if they want to get that, those clearances. By the way, those clearances are good...

Mrs. Spinelli – It doesn't say it has to be all. It just says propose that the board consider to get the same clearances. Each one of them gets it.

Ron Snell – But you're saying the board in that...

Mr. Stern – Well, that each member is considering.

Ron Snell – You need to specify. I would suggest.

Mr. Stern – Alright. Thanks for your suggestion.

Ron Snell – And just so you know, those clearances are good for 5 years and I think, as Mr. Bradley said, they are free for.

Mrs. Wagner – Fingerprinting is not free.

Audience Member – And they’re only free for volunteers, not public servants or the police.

Mrs. Wagner – But they don’t get paid. They’re volunteers.

Audience Member – But the FBI fingerprinting is not free.

Mrs. Wagner – Correct. The FBI is not free. The other two are free.

Mr. Cleaver – Under the volunteer guidelines according to this motion. Under the motion it says other school volunteers. So they would fall under our school volunteer guidelines.

Mr. Stern – Okay. So I have a motion and a second.

Mr. Wertman – Mr. Stern, I’d like to ask a question.

Mr. Stern – Yes, Mr. Wertman.

Mr. Wertman – I’d like to ask a question to the fact that all the, being on the school board. Directly or indirectly, you are all involved with students or with children. Why would it not be proper or right, since everybody else has to have clearance, that you don’t have a clearance? I think everyone on the school board should have a clearance because they’re dealing either directly or indirectly with children. And, why would requirement for a person to even receive, to have a job that does involve working with children. So I think everyone of you should have a clearance, on the school board, knowing that you do directly or indirectly work with children.

Mr. Stern – Thank you. Any other comments?

Ron Snell – I’m not sure how your Superintendent’s contract reads but most contracts that Superintendent’s read that any board member that wants to go into the school has to first contact the Superintendent and let them know. And, normally, a board member would, wanted to go through the school, would be accompanied by somebody else. I mean they would not be going in the vicinity of children without an accompanied member from the district office or the high school or the elementary.

Mr. Bradley – And as adjudicated agency for the policy, we’re not supposed to be getting involved in any of those things as a board until it comes to us. Just so you know. It shouldn’t be until it comes to us as an adjudicated agency. Otherwise...I understand.

Mr. Wertman speaking.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

Mr. Wertman speaking.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Mr. Wertman.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Mr. Yenser speaking. Mrs. Wagner asked him to turn on his microphone.

Mr. Yenser – Sorry, Missy. I'd like to move that Motions D. through M. that we take those as a consent agenda item. Numerous items within these are unnecessary. Is followed by policy currently. Many others lack specifics associated with costs. Difficult to understand. Also have numerous grammatical errors with them.

Mr. Cleaver – So you're recommending that we strike them from here.

Mr. Yenser – Yes. I'm sorry. No, let's take them as one consent. One vote, all motions.

Mr. Stern – You're making a motion to move Items D. through M. as one single consent?

Mr. Yenser – As one. Correct.

Mr. Wentz – I'll second that.

Mr. Stern – Okay. Motion made by Andy, second by Wayne to move D. through M. as a consent agenda item.

Atty. Schwab – To strike them.

Mr. Stern – To strike them?

Mr. Yenser – As a consent.

Mr. Stern – He wants it consent.

Atty. Schwab – Well it is stricken by consent.

Mr. Yenser – Take them all and put them behind us.

Mr. Stern – Yes, Mr. Bradley?

Mr. Bradley – Since audience members have already commented on these motions, I think that they should not be stricken. And since Mr. Yenser is trying to silence board members that have Directors' Concerns, that the people should have a right to speak as well.

Mr. Yenser – You misunderstood. I said we'd take them as a consent. We will be voting on all of them. Just as one instead of individual.

Mr. Bradley – Without a deliberation, Mr. Yenser?

Mr. Yenser – Deliberate. That's what you're doing.

Mr. Bradley – Oh. Deliberate on all of them.

Mr. Yenser – Go for it.

Mr. Bradley – Okay.

Mr. Yenser – Get it out of your system.

Mr. Bradley – That's fine. But still you gotta ask those persons whether it's a good idea.

Mr. Stern – Any comments from the floor?

Mr. Hauser – As someone who spoke, I think it's a great idea.

Mr. Bradley – So, if we're doing them all as consent. We can deliberate on all of them at this point. Is that what you're saying? Get it out of my system as you called, Mr. Yenser.

Mr. Stern – I agree.

Mr. Yenser – Help yourself.

Board members speaking.

Mr. Stern – Okay. It's recommended we move Items D. through M. as a consent agenda item. Discussion.

Mr. Bradley – I don't think you should do that because the five members of this board are gonna attempt to block the opportunity to individually review motions by directors. And, it just shows the stubbornness to review it.

Mr. Stern – And you can spin it however you like. I spin it the other way as Mr. Yenser had stated. They are undocumented, unneeded items for discussion.

Mr. Bradley – Hold on a second. Each one of them has. Whoa, whoa, whoa. You said undocumented.

Mr. Stern – Alright. Forget it.

Mrs. Spinelli – I have something to say.

Mr. Bradley – So, they are documented. Each one of them has an enclosure associated with them.

Mr. Stern – Yeah, but a 10 million dollar price tag?

Mr. Bradley – Every one of them. Yeah, you're saving 10 million dollars.

Mr. Stern – Ten million dollars. One year? Ten years? A hundred years? A thousand years?

Mr. Bradley – Per year. Per year.

Mr. Stern – Per year?

Mr. Bradley – Yes, sir. So the question is, each of them do have, your statement that they don't have enclosures if false, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern – And you have backup documents to show your return on investment of ten million dollars and that the respective earnings for an employee or student, sorry, student who leaves

early, their potential earning is three million dollars more for their lifetime by getting out of school one year early? Yeah?

Mr. Bradley – Enclosure white, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern – No, that's great. That's awesome.

Mrs. Spinelli – I'd like to say something, Mr. Bradley. First of all, I have heard all of your issues over the last year. There's a couple things you need to know. First of all, I never met Mr. Stern, Mr. Holland, Mr. Wentz, Mr. Yenser, Mr. Cleaver or Mr. Feick until we all appeared before Judge Nanovic. I don't know these people. I knew of them; I don't know them. I am not associated with them in any way. I am in agreement with their philosophy. I agree with the philosophy that we spend our money on the school district, not on frivolous lawsuits and not on someone else's state agenda or state plan. You have some sort of cause that you're after. It's not my cause. It's not the district's cause. It's yours and we don't have to pay for it. So, second of all, there's an election coming up and whoever wins, doesn't win, the most important thing this community can do is vote. Because it's a matter of philosophy. It's a matter of do they want the district to continue moving forward or do they want it stopped by all of your nonsense. I know you're not running but there are going to be people who follow you and will, and that's fine. But this district, this community needs to make that decision. And, for anyone out in the audience that's thinking of running for this seat, just remember, that the issues you fight for in those seats will be the issues you deal with in these seats. So, stop putting me as one of the five. Stop calling me a rubberstamper and everything else. Because I make my own decisions. I've been doing that since I could talk and I'm not gonna change it. Because my philosophy agrees with four other people and you can't take that. Sorry about that. Better luck next time.

Mr. Bradley – Ms. Spinelli, I have to go with facts. You are associated with the other members because we're all on the board together. You have differences of opinions, as the PSBA says, and it's our job, our job, to listen to the stakeholders and deliberate to define those opinions, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Okay, we have a motion and a second moving these as consent agenda items. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

Mr. Bradley – Can we do roll call?

Mr. Stern – Nay? 2? 3?

Atty. Schwab – You better do a roll call.

Mr. Stern – Let's do a roll call.

Mrs. Wagner – And this is for the consent?

Mr. Stern – The whole thing. Moving the whole thing D. to M.

Mrs. Wagner – Moving the whole thing. Okay.

**D.-M.
through
Consent**

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to move that Motions D. M. that we take those as a consent agenda item.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	X	☐	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	☐	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 4 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -

Motion carried.

Mr. Bradley – You said you were gonna give us a chance to deliberate these, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern speaking.

Mr. Bradley – No you didn't. You didn't deliberate a single one. You said you're gonna have a chance to do them as a consent item.

Mr. Stern – Yeah, we just voted on it. You were supposed to speak up.

Mr. Bradley – You voted on the consent motion sir.

Atty. Schwab – He's right.

Mr. Stern – Oh, okay.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

Atty. Schwab – Now you have to vote on all.

Mr. Stern – Okay. Alright. Very good.

Mr. Bradley – And now prior to that vote, we're gonna have a slight discussion. You guys can make it as much as you want after that. But the process is simple. You already made a motion to...

Mr. Stern – I'm good. Go ahead, Dave.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

Atty. Schwab – You don't have a motion till either...

Mr. Bradley – I move that we that we approve all of them as a consent item.

Atty. Schwab – Now you need a second.

Mr. Bradley – Yep, and now we need a second for that.

Mr. Yenser – I second the motion.

Mr. Bradley – Excellent. So you voted to second that Mr. Yenser?

Mr. Yenser – That I did.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, no problem. Do you want to explain that to him? I'll take care of it. No problem.

Mr. Stern – There's no implications of approving the second of a...

Mr. Bradley – I love that he seconded it.

Mr. Stern – What do you think that that means that everybody's gonna say yes or no. No, it just says let's move on with it.

Mr. Bradley – You got it. Robert's Rules has an order. Okay, so, we talked to the Heery family and as an educator, he saw great opportunity in the benefits of LCCC, as Ms. Howland had mentioned. And, the ability of a student, an ambitious student to move forward with their career, whether it is military, additional education through the secondary education system or to a career employment though like a tech school. And, as such, when the conversation came up that we were realizing that our district has added 33% more responsibility to put their butts in these seats, rather than their career seats, whether it's military, college or a job or career. That he thought to save them money and earn them an opportunity because they're ambitious, that we put a plaque up honoring their achievement which gives them a benefit educationally and saves the district millions of dollars per year. Most other districts, not just one or two, have the same PSBA language that makes senior year optional. They still get the right to go to the prom. They still get the right to walk down the graduation aisle with their peers. But as an ambitious student, they can move onto their career earlier. The three motions are broken up specifically to meet those requirements within our policy and within our code to allow these individuals with ambitious goals to meet the state high school rigorous standards for the high school diploma which has been increasing, and give them the opportunity to graduate early. The diploma that you earn in Lehighton is the same as a diploma or the recognition is the same across the state. Just like a state drivers' license. There's no need for us to raise the bar, requiring our students to get closer to the curb to get their license or to be forced to take the drivers' license test in a four by four extended cab pick-up with a long bed. They get to make that choice. The parents get to make that choice and I'm giving the educational opportunity for our district to not only allow them to make that choice, but ambitiously motivate them to do so. There is a lot of seniors we currently have that are bored. We could actually add to their motivation as Ms. Howland had mentioned.

Mrs. Howland – I never said they were bored.

Mr. Bradley – No, no I said that you can add to their education. They can go to...

Stacey Duerst – How do you know they're bored? How do you know?

Mr. Bradley – Okay. We'll add that to the climate study to prove what I've been told.

Mr. Stern – Let him speak his piece.

Mr. Bradley – We'll add that to the climate study.

Stacey Duerst – So you can't make that statement.

Mr. Bradley – I can because I talked to them but...

Mr. Stern – Ms. Duerst, please.

Stacey Duerst – Sorry, I apologize.

Mr. Stern – Thank you.

Mr. Bradley – Rigorous Pennsylvania high school requirements. Yours went up to Item F. or G. Mr. Yenser?

Mr. Stern – It went to M.

Mr. Bradley – M.?

Mr. Stern – All of them.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. No problem. Thank you for the time. I motioned to have Mr. Schwab attend the February 12th docket and concur with my position that the director's petition to remove this order and be vacated because it is moot. We removed it after I was threatened with the KingSpry motivation there. Right? The next letter H., is I would like to obligate the district government, all members of the district government, to accept all correspondences from all constituents so to prevent a First Amendment violation being charged against the director and the I.T. staff of the District, Mr. Who did you have? You mentioned in the meeting. You had Marcus. You had Marcus, you had Marcus implicated, you implicated Marcus in doing that. So, what's that? Yeah, you implicated Marcus that had you help block constituents' emails from coming to a director. That's a violation of the First Amendment. We should prevent that to prevent further litigation.

Mrs. Spinelli – It's not. I don't need to have an email to be a board director. So, if I choose to not talk to certain people, that's fine. Because, Mr. Bradley, you are not my constituent. My constituent are people who believe in public education and furthering it. You do not. You are a board member. I have to talk to you here but I don't have to talk to you anywhere else and I certainly don't have to listen to your harassment. Please call the question.

Mr. Bradley – No, don't call the question. We're still discussing. I only got to G.

Mrs. Spinelli – That's what I'm calling.

Mr. Bradley – I hope they don't run out of tape over there. I'll leave it go. What you just said is very destructive to the transparency of the district and I would like to take a second and ask Mr. Schwab. Mr. Schwab, is she allowed to do such a thing?

Mr. Cleaver – Just for clarification, she called the question.

Mr. Bradley – Not call the question. Can she block an email?

Atty. Schwab – She certainly can. We...

Mr. Stern – How many are blocked?

Atty. Schwab – One.

Mr. Stern – One. One. It's not constituents. It's constituent. Not even a constituent.

Atty. Schwab – She has every right.

Audience Member speaking.

Mr. Stern – Not of hers.

Mrs. Spinelli speaking.

Mr. Cleaver – And, Ms. Spinelli, just correct. You called the question?

Mrs. Spinelli – Yes, I did. I called the question.

Audience members speaking.

Atty. Schwab – The whole idea is you can't filibuster.

Ms. Beers – The Code of Conduct says you need to represent all of the residents.

Mrs. Spinelli – Oh well. All but one.

Mr. Cleaver – I have a motion to call the question.

Mrs. Spinelli – Sue me. You're good at that.

Mr. Bradley – Hold on. I'm not finished, sir.

Mr. Cleaver – There's a call the question.

Mr. Bradley – Do not, do not violate the floor.

Atty. Schwab – You can't filibuster.

Mr. Bradley – I'm not filibustering. I'm going through the motions we have.

Atty. Schwab – But once the question is called, the board has to vote on the...

Mr. Bradley – You’re gonna silence us from talking about the Right-to-Know that it covered the missing documents, Mr. Schwab, that you asked for that they couldn’t find? You’re gonna silence these people from hearing about the affidavits that somebody wrote and they didn’t even read them when they signed them?

Atty. Schwab – You’re distorted things as you do half the time.

Mr. Bradley – Why don’t we use the evidence? Hold on, hold on, whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa. If you’d like to have no distortion, we have copies of the affidavits. We have copies of your resolution.

Mr. Stern – Mrs. Spinelli, you would like a roll call vote on...

Mr. Bradley – Who seconded it?

Mrs. Spinelli – Yes, please.

Mrs. Maholick – I want to hear him.

Mr. Bradley – Who seconded that silencing of myself?

Mrs. Maholick – I want to hear him.

Mr. Stern – Mr. Yenser.

Mrs. Spinelli – Mr. Yenser.

Mrs. Maholick – How about me? I want to hear him.

Audience members speaking.

Mr. Bradley – Hold on a second.

Mrs. Maholick – No.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Yenser voted on this motion. Did you vote on it?

Mr. Yenser – No.

Mr. Stern – He seconded it.

Mr. Bradley – He seconded it.

Mr. Stern – Yeah.

Atty. Schwab – That doesn’t mean he has to vote that way.

Audience Member – Rescind it, rescind it Andy. You better.

Atty. Schwab – He doesn’t have to.

Mr. Bradley – Take Duane, what's your name again?

Audience member speaking.

Mr. Bradley – Otherwise you can't do it. He's right.

Audience member – You can't vote no.

Mr. Bradley – No.

Mr. Stern – Yes you can.

Atty. Schwab – Yes he can, based on the discussion. The person that makes the motion can't.

Mr. Bradley – He has to rescind it if he wants to vote against it.

Mr. Stern – No he does not.

Atty. Schwab – He does not.

Mr. Bradley – I know. You guys play by your own rules, not Roberts' Rules. I get it.

Mr. Stern – I'll take Mr. Schwab's word of yours, Mr.

Mr. Bradley – So one of the, the only question. I'll make a deal with you since you're trying to move on. You tell me what School Code was used to pass this resolution to spend money. The resolution is the KingSpry resolution.

Atty. Schwab – The Local Agency Act.

Mr. Bradley – The Local Agency Act? What?

Atty. Schwab – The Local Agency Act.

Mr. Bradley speaking.

Atty. Schwab – Mr. Bradley...

Mr. Stern – Sit down.

Atty. Schwab – We are a...

Mr. Stern – Sit down.

Atty. Schwab – Mr. Bradley, we are a municipality...

Mr. Stern – We're done.

Atty. Schwab – Under the sovereignty...

Mr. Stern – I’m gonna call the meeting if you don’t sit down.

Atty. Schwab – There’s more than just the School Code governing us. We have the local. It’s the Local Agency Act.

Mr. Stern – Order. Yeah, I’ll bang the gavel. How’s that? You can put that on your videotape. Could you please sit down?

Mr. Bradley speaking.

Mr. Stern – No you’re not. Sit down. You can pass it anyway you like. Sit down. Sit down. You don’t understand anything.

Mrs. Spinelli – You’re not an adult.

Mr. Stern – Okay. There’s a call to question. There’s a call to question. We’re gonna do a roll call vote.

Mrs. Spinelli – Yes.

Mrs. Wagner reread the motion.

Mr. Stern – Yes, and remember it’s to approve all of them.

Mrs. Wagner – Approve all.

Approve D.- MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve all motions D.-M.
M. Denied

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	☐	X	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	☐	X	☐	☐

Mr. Bradley – Reread that motion, please?

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – No. Reread that motion, please? I’m allowed to ask to have it reread. What wrong with you. Please reread that motion, Melissa?

Mrs. Wagner reread the motion.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

Mr. Yenser – As a clarification, my motion was to approve all of them as voting as a consent agenda item. Just want to be clear.

Mr. Bradley – No, no, you voted to approve them all.

Mrs. Spinelli – No he didn't.

Mr. Yenser – Don't put words in my mouth.

Mrs. Spinelli – He second it.

Mr. Yenser – Don't put words in my mouth.

Mr. Bradley – Please...

VOTE: YES - 3 NO - 6 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion denied.

Mr. Stern – Okay. Courtesy of the floor...

Mr. Bradley – No, wait, hold on. Mr. Stern...

Mr. Stern – Courtesy of the floor.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Stern. Mr. Stern. I have a right to. Hold on, I have right.

Mr. Stern – No, we're done.

Mr. Bradley – No you're not. You do not have that right. I have a right, as a board member...

Mr. Stern – We voted on the item, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – I understand that. I have a right. Hold on.

Mr. Stern – Courtesy of the Floor. Mr. Bradley, you're out of order.

Mr. Bradley – I am not. I have a right.

Mr. Stern – You're out of order.

Mr. Bradley – You do not have the right to silence me, Mr. Stern. You do not have right to silence me.

Mr. Stern – I sure do. I'm the President.

Mr. Bradley – You do not. I make a motion that we request. Hold on. I will make a motion that we request Mr. Schwab, our Solicitor...

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley - ...to identify, hold on, to identify under Section 610, which funds were used for the KingSpry resolution. Can I get a second for that motion, please?

Mr. Stern - No.

Mrs. Maholick - I'll second it.

Mr. Bradley - So we have a motion and a second on the floor, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern - You don't run the meeting, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley - Mr. Stern, I'm a board member. I can make a motion at any time during the meeting. It's my right. I'm using my rights. You do not have the right to push it around. I asked the question that all's we want to do is ask Mr. Schwab...

Mr. Stern - What can we do?

Mr. Bradley - ...Mr. Schwab, ask him?

Mr. Stern - No.

Mr. Bradley - Why not?

Mr. Stern - No.

Mr. Bradley - You don't want to know what, where this monies coming from or which code?

Mr. Stern - I know where the monies coming from.

Mr. Bradley - It seems illegal, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern - I know who caused it. I know who caused the \$28,000 or \$33,000 by looking at it.

Mr. Bradley - You did by defending it.

Mr. Stern - No, I didn't do it. You could've been the man and said you know what, I'm gonna drop the case, let's move on and let's just be civil about.

Mr. Bradley - I did exactly that, Mr. Stern.

Mr. Stern - No you did not.

Mr. Bradley - Thank you for acknowledging it.

Mr. Stern - After you lost you did.

Mr. Bradley - I know. I did exactly that. The question is, we have a motion and a second. We're looking for which, hold on, which, hold on. No, Mr. Schwab, which School Code was used to authorize the KingSpry resolution?

Atty. Schwab – Mr. Bradley, you’ve already been told the code that was used to pay for it. That’s not my job. That’s Mr. Feick. You were told the number.

Mr. Bradley – What School Code was it Mr. Schwab, Mr. Feick, to use the KingSpry resolution funds.

Atty. Schwab – It’s not just the School Code. Why do you think we’re just limited to the School Code?

Mr. Bradley – Because the School Code says, very specifically, the Board of Directors in every school district shall have the right to use, and pay out in the manner herein provided, any funds of the district for any and all of the purposes therein...

Mr. Stern – Sorry to everybody sitting...

Mr. Bradley - ...provided, provided subject to all provisions of this act, the use of payment of any public school funds of any school district in any matter for any purpose not provided within this act shall be illegal.

Atty. Schwab – And your Local Agency Law changes that. The Local Agency Law under the Pennsylvania Constitution allows a political subdivision to sue and be sued. It allows them to hire counsel. Now, you may not want to read the Local Agency Law or the Pennsylvania Constitution, but that goes before 70, it was adopted after the 70 year old act.

Mr. Stern – Okay. Mrs. Bowman

- D. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to honor the ambitious students that meet the PA State’s high and rigorous standards early earning a High School Diploma, the diploma be issued and their names added to a plaque honoring their achievement.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- E. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to give ALL the Lehigh Area School District students that meet the Pennsylvania State’s high and rigorous standards a High School Diploma and the opportunity to graduate Lehigh High School early, with full honors.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- F. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to immediately add the language necessary to give ambitious students the opportunity to graduate early provided they meet all high and rigorous PA State High School Diploma requirements.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- G. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to have the LASD district government order Solicitor William G. Schwab Associates to attend the hearing scheduled for February 12 regarding docket 18-3748, and concur with my position that the district's petition for review be vacated and an order issued by the court requiring the OOR to dismiss its final determination as moot. These directions to be given to Solicitor William G. Schwab for 18-3584 the OOR appeals brought forth by the district as I have withdrawn my RTK requests and motioned the courts to have the cases dismissed as moot.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- H. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to obligate the district government, all members of the district government to accept all correspondences from all constituents so to prevent a first amendment violation begin charged against district directors, and the IT staff of the district that have admitted to blocking said correspondences.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- I. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ our district government be more transparent and obligate the district administration to release ALL the emails that were previously granted by the State Office of Open records for this district board to review.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- J. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ given the Auditor General findings in Fairfield School District and Susquehanna School District's audit reports as to the finding that significant waste was perpetrated upon the district stakeholders by the district extensive use of Solicitor services pertaining to RTK requests that we our stop the Solicitor from invoicing this district to perform redaction services for RTK requests.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- K. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ given the results of the citizen's RTK requests that uncovered missing financial documents we form a task force of Joy Beers, Gail Maholick and David Bradley to uncover the missing transaction details pertaining to the rushed sale of the buildings.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- L. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ with the plain reading of Section 610 of the PA School Code, the risks of directors being surcharged for improper and illegal use of educational funds, a letter immediately rescinding the November King Spry Resolution be installed, and the fees already consumed be tallied and evenly divided so the district can be reimbursement from personal funds by the five that voted for this illegal use of district funds.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

- M. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to have the affidavits of Rita Spinelli, Wayne Wentz, Larry Stern, Stephen Holland and Andrew Yenser be reviewed and errors corrected so the competency of our district is not questioned any more than necessary.

VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

Courtesy of the floor / Public Comment

1. Gloria Bowman

➤ Okay, thank you.

Mr. Bradley - We have a motion and a second, aren't we gonna vote on that or not? Your leaving that motion and a second hang?

Mr. Stern - Sure. Do a roll call, please? I'm sorry Mrs. Wagner this is just getting pathetic.

Mr. Bradley - Thank you, Mr. Stern.

Mrs. Wagner - I don't know where I put my roll calls. Here they are.

School Code MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mrs. Maholick requesting Mr. Schwab to **For KingSpry** provide the Section 610 of the School Code what funds were used on the KingSpry **Resolution** resolution.

Denied

Mr. Cleaver - Did we already do that?

Mr. Stern – Yeah, I think you already did. Didn't you?

Atty. Schwab – Mr. Feick did. I can't tell you. I don't deal the finances of the district.

Mr. Stern – Roll call please, Mrs. Wagner.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Vice President	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Andrew Yenser, Treasurer	☐	X	☐	☐
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	☐	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	X	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	☐	X	☐	☐

VOTE: YES - 2 NO - 7 ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion denied.

Mr. Stern – On to Courtesy of the Floor. Mrs. Bowman, thank you very much.

- Alright. No problem, no problem. First I want to thank everybody for their service as a school director. As you know it's not an easy job but we're here for the good of the students and our community. It has been one year since three new board members took their seat. One should question in the name of transparency, what have you contributed to student achievement this year? The definition of transparency is being honest, open, and sharing information with citizens barring any confidential information regarding personnel, HIPPA laws and FERPA requirements. However, for some reason, this debate still continues. I don't know why. My Right-to-Know request regarding Mr. Bradley's many Right-to-Know requests showed that 40% of the requests made by him from June of 2018 to the end of November 2018 costs us, the taxpayers, \$10,000. And, if you heard tonight there was another \$33,000 on top of it. I know that that lawsuit dollar has increased. His loss of the 7,700 emails, which were protected by HIPPA and FERPA, of course, failed due to lack of specificity. And although he attempted to dismiss this email lawsuit, the judge denied it. So we must still pay the bills. And I still do not understand what specific transparency information he is seeking. Maybe he doesn't know either. So I'm gonna continue with transparency. Let me reference that in November, Ms. Beers and Mrs. Maholick voted to pay themselves for reimbursements from the school board conference from October for mileage and meals. Voting to pay oneself is a conflict of interest and is unethical. Please do your homework regarding voting for things that you should abstain from. And, by the way, no other board members who attended a school board conference, many, many years, ever asked for reimbursement from the taxpayers.

Mrs. Maholick – Twenty-seven dollars.

- Doesn't matter. Doesn't matter. I'm at Courtesy of the Floor, thank you. As a board member, many hours are spent on volunteering for committees. Please do not volunteer your time if you can't make the meetings for some reason, Ms. Beers. If you do, please

communicate you can't attend. Let's step aside from transparency and talk about public participation.

Mr. Bradley – Mr. Stern. Before, one second? Is she allowed to call out individual board members?

Mr. Stern – You're, no.

Mr. Bradley – She's allowed to call out individual board members?

Mr. Stern – No.

Mr. Bradley – Is she allowed?

Mr. Stern – She can say anything she wants.

Mr. Bradley – I agree with you but I just want to make sure. So, we're removing school policy that allows people to....

- I must give credit where credit is due...

Mr. Stern – It's a board member that can't do that.

- ...for providing documents for the public at board meetings. I think we should have a TV monitor and projector in this board room so that we can see them being visualized. I also applaud the board for providing plenty of opportunity for the public to speak. With that said, I will always advocate for respectful and systematic process during meetings so we can engage in successful and meaningful participation. I would hope that the board members feel likewise. Although many in the community were convinced the previous board silenced them over the years, one cannot conduct business in an environment of chaos and hostility which has happened and solved nothing. But commitment by the whole board to show respect to our students and staff and the public must be everything. So I ask the board members to reflect upon your votes where you supported students. I know, Mr. Bradley, two months ago you didn't approve substitutes. Ms. Beers didn't approve the FOSS curriculum. Today she changed her votes bringing in academics. I'm glad to see that. To wrap up my thoughts, no one is arguing that information shouldn't be shared or people get to voice their ideas. The last I knew we could still catch more flies with honey than vinegar to accomplish things. We should stay focused on the positives in our district where there is room for growth, not the constant negatives. No board member should be micromanaging this district. All members should do their best to work collaboratively as a whole, not pushing their own agendas. So I encourage this board and community to move on from the lawsuits and to tone down the adversarial confrontations. And, some ideas you may wish to entertain, follow process and procedures. Especially with questions and concerns. Attempt to establish some common ground. Maybe bring back a student representative on the board. Maybe some student and staff presentations. Maybe a workshop on specific topics quarterly or an ad hoc committee with objective community members to address needs of the district. And my last suggestion, any public document that we can have, put on the district website. Maybe then, the Right-to-Know requests would be dismissed. Thank you.

2. David Hauser

- I'm gonna keep this very brief because I'd like to sleep before it's tomorrow. Again, just some things that bother me. First thing that bothers me tonight, it's Mrs. Howland, not Mrs. Holland or any way others pronounce. There's no one in this district that works harder than she does and she deserves the same, I mean the basic respect of pronouncing her name properly. So, I just ask that everyone do that simple thing. Just a couple things again that bother me. This district, and I say this as a parent, should be about improving kids and getting them a good education. I heard tonight, from a board member, don't raise the bar. Okay, I heard that, that a Lehighton diploma is of the same merit as any diploma in the state. Well, when you go on college interviews or job interview, they're gonna ask about your experience and your training and your background. When you have to apply for something they're gonna wanna know who and what you are. We require more than the minimum. You can't maximize results by requiring the minimum. We had a board member at the last policy meeting actually say and I was shocked at this but I didn't understand a lot at that meeting. There was a lot of confusion from this board member. Say that our students time, I want the teachers to hear this specifically, our students time would be better served dropping out of school and getting a GED than sitting in our classrooms. This was said. And, for the life of me I can't. Ms. Beers, you can laugh all you want (inaudible) as a parent and taxpayer in the district.

Mr. Bradley – It's not what was said (inaudible). Think whatever you want.

Mr. Stern – Can you be quiet?

Mr. Bradley – Say whatever you want.

Mr. Stern – Can you be quiet?

- Do not interrupt me. I have two children in this district. I pay my taxes, unlike some others in this room, and I would very much like my children to graduate with a Lehighton diploma. Because when I looked to buy a home and settle in this district the first thing I looked at was how good is the school. This was the best one in Carbon County. I want to see it remain the best one in Carbon County. We got the teachers to do it and we need a board that supports it. You don't get there by minimizing what requirements are. Make this place, keep this place competitive and of the highest bar, not the lowest bar. That suggestion, I have to believe, is all about money and not about results. They're gonna put out there you're gonna save 10 million dollars. Ask the questions, where's it coming from? Who's getting fired? I want to know that. Who's getting furloughed? Where's it coming from.

Mr. Cleaver – Just to kind of confirm some of the things Mr. Hauser just spoke of. As recently as today, we had two phone calls requesting that their students attend Lehighton School District and that they'd be willing to pay tuition to come to this district. So you're absolutely right, Mr. Hauser, about we are the best district in Carbon County. So thank you for reiterating that.

Mr. Bradley – What is the cost for tuition?

Mr. Cleaver – We do not accept tuition payments.

Mr. Bradley – What is the cost per student to educate within out district?

Mr. Cleaver – I don't have that information in front of me either.

3. Kerry Sittler

- Hi. I have a question. A couple months ago I brought up about the bus situation for the Lehigh Elementary Center. And we were supposed to do a work study on that. So what happened with that work study? Dr. McGalla did say they were looking into using the Bus Boss app and he also did discuss possibly getting another bus. At that point, the kids were getting home probably 15 minutes earlier and it started to slowly get later and later. Now don't get me wrong, you know the holidays between Thanksgiving and Christmas everything starts to get skewed. So, you're just like whatever it's the holidays, you know. But, the holidays are over and then the kids starting coming back on their normal schedules and now they're getting home after 4 o'clock. Now, recently they started the after-school tutoring program. So now, like that lady said, there's 86 students who are involved with that. The buses are getting home earlier than normal but there's 86 students missing. So what are we doing? Where are we at with this?

Mr. Cleaver – The 86 students are for an after school program.

- Right, so they're not on the bus. So they're just going right past those houses. The buses are getting home earlier.

Mr. Cleaver – I wouldn't be able to say that for sure.

- But it's not a, it's not, I just was discussing someone who was at of my kid's bus route. They're not home that much earlier and there's a lot of kids that I know of on my child's bus route that aren't getting, they're not coming home on that bus 'cause they're at the tutoring program. So...

Mr. Cleaver – I would have to; I wouldn't be able to...

- But my thing is we were supposed to have a work study. So, where are we at?

Mr. Cleaver – Well, I know talking with the bus company and I know we made adjustments. I'm looking to Patti for the Elementary Center to do that. So we did have a study that was done and we changed some of the bus routes around. There were additional routes and I believe you mentioned some were 15 minutes early but that's not the case anymore.

- No, it's back to where it was. I mean even in the morning they moved the kids up. They were, like my child normally gets on the bus around 8:05 when we started the year but then they moved it up to like 5 of 8 because they were getting to the Elementary Center so late. But now they're back to 8:05. So do you see where I'm saying we're going back to, we're going backwards, we're not going forward.

Mr. Cleaver – I will have to check on, I'm not aware, it's the first I've heard of that. I knew we'd improved. I was told we improved greatly.

- Yeah, yeah we did. We did, I was very pleased.

Mr. Cleaver - But I have to double-check and see why we're back to, I don't have an answer for you. And, I will check and maybe the after school program and the buses have something to do with that but I'm not 100, I don't want to say that for sure.

Mr. Bradley - Did you expect that to be a workshop where parents were invited or internally?

Kerry Sittler - I expected some kind of feedback. Now I know Dr. McGalla had given me some kind of feedback. And, like I said at that time, everything had improved.

Mr. Bradley - Yeah, I was under impression it was supposed to be a public workshop.

Kerry Sittler - But, like I said with the holidays, everybody knows with early dismissals, this, that, the other thing, everything gets skewed between November and December. It's just to be expected but now we're back on track. But now they're back to where they were in the beginning.

Mr. Cleaver - But I will check.

Mr. Bradley - Are they gonna have a public workshop, Mr. Cleaver, or not?

Mr. Cleaver - No we did not. We met, we had the, and we said we were able to improve the travel time by about 15 minutes. I did not know we were going back.

Kerry Sittler - Yeah, it started back, thank you.

Mr. Cleaver - I will check though and I will, I will get back to you too.

4. Barbara Bowes

- I was looking over the financial, you know the payment of bills, and I have a couple of questions. We are paying three separate I.U.'s and I just don't know why.

Mr. Cleaver - There is separate I.U.'s that we pay for example we use CSIU, CSIU may be one of them that you see, that is actually a software package that we purchased through them. The Intermediate Unit here for Carbon and Lehigh, we use for school programs. But there are some programs that they don't offer that we have to supply and Berks County I.U. I know we have Schuylkill I.U. So depending on where those programs are through the I.U., if they're I.U. run programs, the payment goes to those. But the CSIU, I believe the only payment is for the application. I don't believe we have any students.

- And, I know it was specifically Bucks County and Schuylkill County that I saw.

Mr. Feick - Bucks County I think it's called Woods Services. It's special services that we can't supply here.

- Okay, so we don't supply them here and that's why.

Mr. Feick - A lot of the I.U.'s specialize in certain, certain areas.

- Okay. The other question was on the Lehigh Valley Law Enforcement. I saw a couple of payments to them for one was like \$1700.

Mr. Cleaver - We use, we use them for our sports activities for security. It could be parking detail for larger events and depending on the size of the event would depend on, you know, what we use them for. So at basketball games you'll see them here, wrestling matches.

- Okay. I didn't know if we were using our own School Police for those events.

Mr. Cleaver - We do depending on the size, depending on the size of the event. For example, if we have Homecoming or we have an activity at night, we'll also have our School Police Officers. But we also do Lehigh Law Enforcement to help with parking and...

➤ Okay, so it's more than just the two.

Mr. Cleaver - Oh yes, yes.

➤ Okay. Okay.

Mr. Cleaver - Depending on the event. It depends on the number. Bigger game, Jim Thorpe, those type of games, we have, you know, we have probably 6 to 8 of them here at a time. And plus also the Lehigh Borough Police also service us.

➤ Geez, that's a lot of coverage.

Mr. Cleaver - Hate to do this to the school board but I ask that if we could exit the room pretty rapidly, I would like to call a brief Exec. Session to discuss a personnel matter this evening that is of importance.

Mrs. Wagner - And then we'll have to come back to adjourn, correct?

Mr. Cleaver - No.

Mr. Stern - No. We can have the Exec. Session afterwards.

Adjournment

Next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, February 25, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 p.m.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Feick
Board Secretary

(Minutes of January 28, 2019, includes Pages 1 through 108)