

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting of School Board
Monday, April 15, 2019 at 7:00 PM

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 7:08 p.m.

Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member (left board room at 8:55 p.m., phoned in at 9:03 p.m., disconnected at 9:08 p.m.)	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	☐
Ms. Patricia Denicola, Business Manager	X	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	☐
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor (Atty. Eric Filer)	X	☐
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Secretary	X	☐

*Non-conflicted Board Members met in Executive Session on April 8, 2019, to conduct a name clearing hearing before Hearing Officer Brian Taylor.

Presentations

1. Lions Club KidSight USA - Mr. David León

- I was here before but to reintroduce myself, my name is Dave León. I am a Lion from the Stroudsburg club but I am the district KidSight coordinator for District 14 U which covers Monroe, Pike, Carbon and Schuylkill County. And, my job today is to answer any and all the questions that the Board may have about the KidSight program, it's intent and what it can do. I've had the opportunity to look at the video from the last board meeting in its entirety and wanted to take an opportunity to maybe clear up some misconceptions and misstatements about the KidSight program before I answer any question if it's okay with the Board. We're talking about what's are we supposed to be doing in terms of screening

of the kids and things like that. The mandate by the Pennsylvania Department of Health is public knowledge and anybody can go to their website and find out what other kind of things that the nurses and each one of the schools does and needs to do. And, it falls in six major categories: growth, vision, hearing, dental, scoliosis and TB. But, among all of those only growth and vision are required on a yearly basis. All the other ones are either required on early grades or later grades. So, why do I bring this up? Well, because the guidelines state when the nurses have to take a look at the students. The Lions responsible for running the KidSight program have read these. They also read the, I mean they read this, the listing, they also read the Pennsylvania Department of Health Student Health Program and the mandates. We have read them. We've checked with the Department of Health to find out if our program is appropriate for the screening of kids and we've discussed this with all the school nurses that we have worked with in the past. Even before we we're on board, the Lions were on board with the KidSight program, Center for Vision Loss had been doing these screenings well before us. We've only been on board with this for the last three years. They've been doing this for several years before us. Now, this is a listing of all the school districts that District 14 U Lions have been working with, okay? This is the listing of all the districts, all the school districts that the Center for Vision Loss have been working, and they cover mostly Monroe and Lehigh County. This is a listing of all the states who have met, who have declared, not just that the cameras are adequate but the Lions KidSight program is the method for screening kids of school age. Now, why does this board care? Because the Pennsylvania Health Department cares. The Pennsylvania Health Department, anybody who bothers to call them, realizes that the mandate and the procedures that were written, the procedures for vision screening programs for Pennsylvania school age population are dated August of 2011. They know that they're outdated, that there's new technology out there. So anybody who goes there and asked them, can we use these cameras? Forget about the Lions. Can we use these cameras to do the screening? They will say, every single time, it's up to the district to make that determination. Why? Because they haven't updated the mandates yet and the procedures. So, it's up to the districts to believe that anybody, the state's gonna go after a district who chooses the cameras is totally wrong. Because the state is saying it's your responsibility, you can choose how to do that. Okay? When we do the screenings, when the Lions do the screenings, we have these kids right in front of us for a period of time. This is a current Titmus machine, okay? This is what a school student does right now. They sit down, they look into a machine then they talk to the person who's doing the screening. This is what the Lions do and all the other organizations that have the cameras do. They have these kids standing in front of them for the duration of the test, okay? School board, you can make the determination which gives a person the ability of determining what the whole body, head-to-toe, what's going on with the student. We don't take three seconds. We take a whole lot more than that. If we only took three seconds to do a screening, we would have done the 900 kids at the elementary school in an hour and a half. It took three days to do that. No, we don't spend only three seconds with the kids, we spend whole lot more than that. I wanted to fix some misconceptions about the camera itself. This is the first page of the manual from the camera. This is the third page of the manual the camera. Intended use: the sight vision screener is intended to measure the refractive power of the eye by measuring light reflective from the retina. It also estimates pupil size, pupil distance, eye deviation and it is intended to use for subjects six months of age to adult, to adult. Countering the indications, you always have to know what the counter indications. The spot vision screener has no known counter indication, okay? If you had a (inaudible) look at the camera itself; just be looking at the camera, this is the (inaudible) screen of the camera and you can see on the one side all the age groups. There's ranges of age groups because the camera knows that depending on the age, is a range of acceptability for the vision and it

starts from six months to twelve months and moves on to different ages from up to 20 to 100 years. Now we haven't seen whole lot of 100-year people yet, but. Even the Welch-Allyn project, literature, shows the screening of adults, okay? So, the letter that I sent to the Board, the letter that I sent to the Board on November 9, I'm sorry, on March 9, showing our, the Lions support for whatever decision the Board was gonna bring. I wanted to correct the misquotes from the particular letter. Yes, it is very true that the focus of the Lions Club and KidSight program is kids from six months to six years of age. That's very true. That focus has two reasons and had dropped those reasons were brought the last time I was here. It is an age group that nobody's paying attention to. Remember I said it's not intuitive for a parent to take their one or two-year old to an eye doctor even though they should. So we try, we focus on that age group because nobody else is looking at them. As an adult, you can, you know the difference between seeing and not seeing. And, in the school, they have the school nurses to help with that. So those ages are covered, okay? But there's even more important reasons to look at the young ones and that's why we focus on that. Which is, if found in that age group, things are correctable. Especially anything that has to do with (inaudible) deviation, things leading to lazy eye, the younger you catch them, the faster it is to go through therapies and the therapies become more effective. So that you don't have to go through your later years as a student. At no time, whatsoever, did we say we would not look at that and I stood here and said if you want to look at the whole, if you wanted to screen the whole school, we would support that. So at no time did we say, oh, by the sign or by the service to the community that we would not look at the larger groups, okay? Let's talk about the initial cost and maintenance costs, okay? Actually, I was sort of glad to listen in on the cost of this doing this thing but I was amazed that no one on the Board fell off their chair when it was stated that the cost of the equipment was \$7500 and the yearly maintenance cost was \$5,000. Now, who in their right mind, 'cause I fell off the chair when I saw it, I heard that. Who in their right mind would do that? Nobody, okay? Let's talk some real numbers. The oldest, we have four cameras in our district, the oldest camera is three years old the youngest, the younger cameras are two years old. That's how long we've been working this. This is how much we spent on maintenance costs, okay? This is how much we spent on maintenance costs. Over the weekend, the last weekend of March, I had the pleasure of attending the National School Board Association annual conference. It was held in Philadelphia. And, the reason I was there, is the Lions were invited to make a presentation and demonstrate the cameras at a session called, "If Johnny Can't See, Johnny Can't Read". So, we were there. This presentation was put together by the, one of the school districts in the Buckeye School District in Arizona and the Buckeye Lions Club, okay? And, I had the opportunity to ask them about their cameras. Their camera, their oldest camera is eleven years old. This is how much they spent on maintenance of that camera. It is true that there is a cost for insurance and things like that. But, the Lions has a partnership with Welch Allyn and with Plus Optics. We don't pay a warranty; we don't pay for insurance. That is given to us because we are a charitable organization. So the cost for that is also zero. It is probably that cost for doctors who buy this piece of equipment or other people, but for the Lions it's zero. The bottom line is; why do you care? It's not your piece of equipment. It's the Lions piece of equipment. It's our commitment to keep these cameras up and running for the community. It's our cost. If the cost was other than zero, it's still not something that you need to worry about. It's something we need to worry about. We are nice to the blind, we will keep these cameras up and running, now and in the future. It's one of the most successful programs that our Lions have had, okay? Now, I mentioned that I had a chance to be at the National Association, National School Board Association meeting. One of the key things that I learned from them and one of the key things I learned from all of these school districts that we had, is that the word partnership. It was a partnership between the

school board and the Lions. It was a partnership between every single. The schools that I have worked with personally and the district KidSight program has worked with this. We work hand-in-hand with the nurses. There's a little bit of difference what happened in Lehigh. In Lehigh, the nurses chose not to be present when we did the screening. Every other place we've been to, and I show you the list, every other place that we've been to, the nurses were there working with us the whole time. Not just set-up, not just check-in, not just thank you for the paper and goodbye, the whole time. Every single student that we saw was seen by a nurse too, okay? We need to set up that partnership for Lehigh too. If the Board chooses to do so, okay? There's one quote that I definitely like that I heard from the meeting the other day. We are only here to do what's right for the kids. And, it's up to you folks to decide how you want to do that. Thank you. And, I will now, questions.

Mrs. Spinelli – I have a quick question. We were told that you couldn't come on, you were told not to come at the last meeting. Is that true.

- No. We just didn't know that that was gonna be... No, no, we just didn't know that that was gonna be a topic.

Mr. Bradley – You mentioned that you have very little maintenance. How does it get calibrated and how often?

- Actually, these cameras are like your cellphone. You don't think of terms of calibration on your cellphone, you think in terms of software updates. And, that's exactly what it is. We get software updates for these when they get issued. It's all electronic. The only moving part on these cameras is the on/off button. There are no moving parts on the camera at all. There's no other questions?

Mr. Stern – Thank you for coming back in Dave and talking about it and explaining a little more detail of the program and the partnership. And, I do believe it is a partnership that we have to have to get this effectively.

Mr. Cleaver – I do know at our Wellness meeting we had a discussion and I know we had a brief one, you know, before this too. Is that an option we talked about for Kindergarten registration, you know, if those dates work. Is that still something that we could...

- Yeah, I did, I had heard the dates before and thanks to Gail I got the dates on my, I got the actual dates for that. We would love to do that. That is a great opportunity to catch children before they get into the system. We talk directly to the parents if there's a referral and then we tell them, and then they have the summer to do something about it. Which brings me to a point, I'm glad you mentioned that because of the piece of paper that we get, okay? The normal way that kids are screened in the school system is you go through the Titmus machine, you get a 20/30, 20/40, 20/20 reading and a letter sent to the parents that looks like this, okay? Dear parent, screen on such and such day. This is what you get. This is the result, 20/20, 20/80, and it's pass or fail. One of the interesting things we have which was a very pleasant surprise because we talk about what happens after we give the parents this. One of the things we found is that we changed the letter a little bit and we made it pass and refer, okay? You can't, you don't fail a child because they can't see, okay? It's either pass or refer and instead of giving them a 20/40, we give them this. This is a printout from either says the screen's completed areas fine or you see in color in red at the top it says complete eye exam recommended. So, we asked the nurses and we asked the

parents. If you got this letter versus this letter, which will elicit a reaction from the parents? And we found out that this one, elicited a better response from the parent than this one does. And, by the way, going to the doctor saying my kid came back 20/80 versus going to the doctor and giving them this, helped the doctor pinpoint issues. So, it was beneficial to the doctors and we do have pediatric eye doctors within the Lions too, that told us so. That these pieces of paper helped them to focus in on what they need to do.

Mrs. Maholick – Dave, can you tell me how many children you, they've examined so far with, in District 14 U?

- We're just over 7400.

Mrs. Maholick – Okay. How many of those children had issues that were not associated just with sight but with, did they have any, did you find any kids that had tumors or anything like that?

- Well, yeah, that's a, the whole concept of us getting responses back from the parents directly is an anecdotal, it's all anecdotal data. Because there's no obligation for the parent to come back to us and say, hey, I did or didn't take a student. There are test cases that show that certain conditions lead to more than just acuity testing glasses. One typical case is something called anisocoria. Anisocoria is different sizes of the pupils. It's one of those interesting things because it's not very easy to detect when you're looking. Well, first of all, nurses don't see it unless they're actually looking for it. Because they're, you know, with a Titmus machine you're looking into the machine. The machine is not checking of the eye. They're just checking acuity. But one of the things we found out is that kids that have that, get referred, have issues that are well beyond just eyeglass issues. There's something else in the kid's history that warranted not just the eye doctor, but other cases. The one typical case I heard from as recently as this conference I went to, is that head trauma is one of the ways, one of the things that can cause anisocoria. And, so whenever those come up, those are highlighted to go check. But, it would be all anecdotal in terms of anything more specific than, you know, eyeglasses.

Mr. Bradley – I have a question, sorry.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. – I just want to back track. You said that with lazy eye, you're testing to catch things like that?

- No, what it catches is things that predispose a kid to lazy eye. There's a whole series of things that can cause lazy eye and so the typical things is looked at gaze deviation, where the one eye is looking straight, the other eye is strained. But it catches various slight versions of that too. So that's one thing it catches. The other thing it catches is when the two eyes have different prescriptions. In an adult, two eyes with different prescriptions, an adult brain can handle that. A child's brain cannot handle that. And then that's one of those things that, that's where you see a lot of kids that look like this. But that's one of the things that this will catch, yeah.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. – So what I wanted to do, my son was in Kindergarten, he's in Kindergarten this year. And, the school provided eye exams before he entered into this school. They did find what we noticed and he did have a lazy eye. Not when he looked at you, but when he looked up. And we found out that through their assessment of him that he did in fact have astigmatism that was (inaudible) his eye which caused (inaudible) other eye to wander. Now, if you're saying it's

something that you may not find in your testing (inaudible). I know that now that we addressed it. If it hadn't been found (inaudible).

Audience member speaking.

- We called the state and the state said that it's up to the school districts to make a decision.

Audience member speaking.

- That's what the Board decision, the Board decision can make that decision to replace it if they want to.

Audience member speaking.

- No they have not provided that in writing to us or to any of the other nurses who have called.

Audience member speaking.

- I understand. Sure.

Mr. Bradley – So where inside of the School Code does it give this local board the authority to either use or not use this test as their exam? Do you guys know what part of it?

- The conversation happened with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Specifically, with the student health division. And, so they're the ones who us and all the nurses we have worked with called to find out if this test was appropriate to do, to be the vision screening and that's when they were told us that it's up to the board.

Mr. Bradley – So they also felt that the Board is the one with the authority to make that decision.

- Right, that's what they told us.

Mr. Bradley – To either meet the code or not meet the code.

- Yeah.

Mr. Bradley – Okay.

Mrs. Maholick – Does this test pick things up that the nurses tests miss or/and does that, the nurses test, pick up things that yours miss? Is there any? Does it do exactly the same thing?

- Yeah, no, I don't know that I can answer that. I'm not sure. Like I say the nurses not only look at the Titmus, they're looking at the kid. So, I, all we can say is the numbers which is that we did the screenings at Lehighton and we referred 11% of the kids. The national average is 10-12, so we're in that group. By the way, the parent that was really mad at the Lions because we referred their kid and it turned out that the doctor said the kid was fine. I'll apologize for that. They must be really mad that the nurses refer 21% of the kids which is even more kids being sent. But, I don't think either one of us should apologize for sending a kid to a professional to get checked. No matter which entity did it.

Mr. Stern – Are there districts where you complement each other? Where they're doing, you know, similar assessments with the old, the "legacy" equipment plus new?

- Yeah, none of the groups that we're working with are doubling up on vision screening. They're choosing to do one or the other. We, because our focus is on the young ones, they're choosing for letting us do the younger kids, meaning 1st graders, Kindergarten, 1st graders and then doing the older grades with the regular Titmus machine. That seems to be the common theme. The only other group that we have been focusing on that the nurses can't do, is the non-verbal kids and the special needs kids. The ones that can stand still more than a second to get screened. Without special equipment, nobody can do those.

Mr. Stern – I completely agree with that, thank you.

- Sure.

Mr. Bradley – I've got one more question. Mr. Filer? Do you know where in the School Code it gives us the authority to either count this as a test or not count this as the test?

Atty. Filer – Nope.

Mr. Stern – Autumn?

Autumn Abelovsky – In interest of transparency, as Mr. Bradley brings up a lot, as a parent of children and in the (inaudible), I would really like to hear also from our school nurse they're response to what's been presented tonight.

Mr. Stern – Sure, yeah.

Autumn Abelovsky – Thank you.

Abbie Guardiani – Mrs. Harleman, Mrs. Andrew, and I have returned tonight representing all the district nurses to reinforce our desire to continue to provide what we feel is the best quality healthcare to the students of Lehigh School District. As stated at the last board meeting, our intent is not political or to further divide this board or to dismiss the good that the Lions Club does for this community. But, we do wish to very briefly address a few points. When information was first presented to this board regarding offering supplemental, offering supplemental vision screening, K through 12, by volunteers of the Lions Club, it was done with absolutely no consultation with or input by the school nurses. The vote was taken without our knowledge. A follow up article ran in The Times News on Friday, March 1st, stating that two board members would like to see the current state mandated eye exams, that are performed by the nurses, now replaced with screenings done by volunteers. Collaboration does not begin with attempting to bulldoze a time-tested program of health and wellness. Making false statements to the board and public about being able to provide superior eye exams using the Lions Club's spot-screening device, flies in the face of having any intent of working with district nurses. Unfortunately, if the mission of the Lions Club was to collaborate with the nurses of this district, it was grossly misrepresented by those members of this board that presented that information. We were never included. Collaboration has been torpedoed. The Lions Club literature states over and over again that the main purpose and focus of the Lions vision screening program is on younger children, ages 6 months to 6 years. Page 2 of the Lions Club International KidSight training manual states do not screen adults. I have it in my, if anyone would like to see it, I have it right here. Do not screen adults. I do not believe that there would be any harm that would come to an individual, but

the value of the screening decreases as the age of the person increases. Diseases of the eye change with a person's age. It is meant for early childhood detection and should be at preschools, daycares, and Kindergarten registration. The Lions Club spot-screening device does not record a child's visual acuity as was mentioned as 20/20, 20/30, 20/40, 2200. With the current screening done by school nurses, a child's near and far vision is tested and we compare it to all their past years. That way we know when there's been a large change and a big issue. The Lions device, the Lions Club device also does not screen for color deficiency. Both acuity and color deficiency is a Pennsylvania state mandate. I spoke briefly at the last board meeting about the professionalism and combined 110 years of experience with our team of school nurses and over 56,000 eye exams performed over the years. When one talks about replacing school nurses doing state mandated eye exams, every single person should be asking, what qualifies you to do this? The Lions Club issues a vision screening certification to its volunteers. I would like to share with you now information printed from the Lions KidSight Foundation regarding their certification. Lions KidSight USA Foundation Vision Screening Certification – Lions Club members often seek certifications so they can show they are qualified to perform vision screenings in schools, daycares and preschools. Occasionally, there's a seminar that takes place in your area or state that can help. There are refresher videos on YouTube®. Spend two or more hours reviewing the manual and when you are ready, take the exam. At some point, after taking the exam, you will receive a personalized certificate via email. A 110 years of nursing experience, a class or a YouTube® video? Most importantly, the Lions Club's spot-screening device is not currently on the list of approved testing devices by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. You can spin that any way you want it. It's not approved. There is no guarantee that it will ever be approved. The device that the nurses use currently meets all state mandates and is approved for testing in school-age children. The nurses are respectfully asking that you look at all the information that has been presented and support your team of school nurses in providing all state mandated vision screening for the students of the Lehigh School District. The nurses, in turn, support the use of the Lions spot-vision screening performed by volunteers who meet all state clearances at preschool and Kindergarten registration. We do value what they do. It belongs ages 0-6. Lastly, I personally want to take a moment and thank those board members, administration, faculty, parents and most of all, our kids who support the nurses and value what we do every single day. Thanks for many, many years of support and entrusting us with the health and wellness of all district students. Mrs. Harleman would like to take a moment, please.

Mrs. Harleman – Good evening. I just received information from a local pediatrician's office that does address the use of instrument-based vision screening that I'd just like to share. This pediatrician's office is basing this on the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics. It attests to one in ten children under the age of five years have vision problems. Vision problems are often missed since our youngest children cannot cooperate with the traditional eye charts used for testing. Research tells us when we find these problems before age 4 or 5 years, we can begin corrective treatment earlier which leads to better outcomes. The American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology (inaudible) recommends instrument-based vision screening, which is the Lions spot screener, in children one to three years old or older children unable to cooperate with the standard eye chart testing model. We recommend the screening to be done for all children starting at age 12 months, then yearly until they are able to cooperate with the standard eye chart exam. That's, as I said, a local pediatrician following the American Pediatric, American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines. At our recent Wellness meeting that we had last week I attempted to explain to board member Mrs. Maholick that the board agreed to offer the Lions Club KidSight program to our students in Pre-K through 12. In spite of only being offered, the program was implemented at the Elementary Center in October. I understand that Mrs. Maholick has recently made statements that the district nurses have said that they don't want them, meaning the eye tests, because they are too much work but they, the nurses, do virtually nothing. I would like to

make corrections to Mrs. Maholick's assumptions and remarks. First of all, we did not say that we did want the tests. We said we do not need them because we are already providing this service to all students and it would be redundant to repeat the screening. We also said that David León stated that the KidSight focus of their program is on younger children, ages six months to six years. Children too young to read an eye chart and also that he mentioned the Lions Club spot-vision screening camera is currently not listed as an approved device by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, which are the guidelines we follow. In response to the nurses doing virtually nothing, I would like to inform everyone that to set up this program required a good deal of time and collaboration between the nurses, the principals, and the teachers to determine how best to set up the program in our school. It required many phone calls to Sue Anthony discussing the parental permission we require, determining that volunteers would provide clearances, completing Use of Facilities forms, obtaining permission forms for nearly 1100 students, compiling those for 51 teachers to pass out and emailing teachers to inform them of return deadlines. There were arrangements that needed to be made to find a large enough area with dimmable lighting, outlets for the printers. I need to complete paperwork to have phones installed by the I.T. Department in the designated area and have phone directories that included extension numbers to all classrooms. When over 800 forms were returned, they had to be separated in to individual classrooms. However, the permission forms did not include questions that asks grade or name of teacher. So, you see Mrs. Maholick, the nurses' involvement was imperative and time consuming. I also need to mention there was nowhere on the form to decline the screening test. So, I had parents that simply wrote notes on the form saying things such as, don't need, just got checked in August or opt out. In spite of that, there were many parents who contacted me stating that they did not give permission to have their child screened but it was done anyway. Obviously there were shortcomings to the delivery of this program because of how it needed to be hurriedly implemented on the insistence of Mrs. Maholick. I had mentioned to her that as we requested at our last meeting, and respectfully request again, is that the Lions collaborate with the nurses to perhaps find a way to provide assistance in obtaining vision exams and eyeglasses for our students who fail the screening and do not have the financial means after we've done our job by completing the state mandated screenings with our state approved device. We also ask that you use the device as it was intended, for children ages six months to six years of age. And our suggestion was to use it for Pre-K, Kindergarten registration and Life Skills students. So, yes, we do want to partner with the Lions Club. They are a very valuable asset to our community. We just do not feel that our job need to be replaced. We need the assistance with the finances, not in doing more screening. You know, just consider all these things that we've mentioned over the past two meeting and hopefully we can come to the decision that you will support the nurses to continue providing state mandated vision screenings, as in the past, and agree to allow the Lions Club to come in and offer their valuable screening device to Pre-K, Life Skills students, Kindergarten registration or to take it out in the community to HeadStart, to preschools, daycares, other community venues that they could offer and at that time the parents can read and sign the permission slip and understand and ask questions if need be. Thank you very much for your time.

Mr. Bradley - Excuse me, I have one question please. What was the name of the device that we currently use?

Mrs. Harleman - Titmus, T-i-t-m-u-s.

Mr. Bradley - And, what is the state agency that approved the device? Department of Health?

Mrs. Harleman - Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Mr. Bradley - Yep, okay.

Mrs. Harleman – And, I do have information that I printed out in regards to the costs of the screening devices and the comparison. I didn't just make that up. So, I do have that in case anybody is interested, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, ladies.

Mrs. Guardiani – Can I just, one question, follow up, one more comment?

Mr. Stern – Sure.

Mrs. Guardiani – The sticking point here or what they're asking you to do, they're asking you to look at their device as being approved. We're telling you and Mr. León will tell you, it is not. It is not an approved screening device by the Department of Health. Now, you can call the state, as he said, you can call the state and they will say to you, well, if you want to use it, go ahead, it's not on the list. It's not on the list. I guarantee you that. It's not on the list but if you want to go ahead use it, you go right ahead. You're willing to take that chance on an audit? I'm not. I'm not using. I am not going to take my personal, professional reputation and use a device, not approved, to do state mandated screenings with an unapproved device. No sir, no ma'am, I will not. Is it valuable? One hundred percent valuable, pick'em up early. Most of the diseases of the eye that they are best, absolutely best at picking up early, you need to pick up before age 7 or it's a permanent problem. It's permanent, many times. So, pick'em up early. Go to every daycare. Go to every Kindergarten registration. Go to every preschool. Go to the mall and screen every kid. We want you to. We don't want to have to deal with this later in a child's life and have their vision impaired forever. Pick'em up. But do it early because that's where it belongs. It is not an approved device.

Mrs. Maholick – Dave, do you have anything to add to that?

Mr. León speaking from the audience.

Mr. Bradley – I have another question. So, in, if they're in our preschool, we still have to give them a test or only is it from an age group...what does the mandated tests start, I should ask?

Mr. Cleaver – Kindergarten.

Mr. Bradley – Kindergarten. So, if they're in our Kindergarten we want them to use Dave's device? I mean the Lions device.

Mr. Cleaver – We can use both during that time.

Mr. Bradley – They'll do both?

Mrs. Harleman – Kindergarten registration and the Pre-K Counts.

Mr. Bradley – Do both?

Mrs. Harleman – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – And Preschool, do both?

Mr. Cleaver – Pre-K, yeah, Pre-K.

Mr. Bradley – Pre-K right. Pre-K, Kindergarten and then 1st grade?

Mr. Cleaver – Coming in, I'm sorry, the kids coming into Kindergarten. When they're here and their parents are here. What we would say is that they could be here to talk directly to the parents after doing the screening with them.

Mr. Bradley – Right. But, I mean, we as a district are mandated to do these eye tests from Kindergarten up and your subset, your overlap is anybody for Pre-K, Kindergarten and then stop at like 1st grade?

Mrs. Harleman – No. Pre-K and the children registering for Kindergarten for fall.

Mr. Bradley – And anything after that?

Mrs. Harleman – K-12 are to be held to state eye exams.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And, then....

Mrs. Guardiani – Or special needs children who are unable to read an eye chart.

Mr. Bradley – Right, I can understand that. And, then the only other question from your comment, um, you mentioned that you weren't included in the process and the conversation originally.

Mrs. Guardiani – Correct.

Mrs. Harleman – No, this was voted on back in July and we were not made aware of that.

Mr. Bradley – Okay.

Mrs. Harleman – The vote to offer the program.

Mr. Bradley – Was it on the agenda during that time or was it an added New Business?

Mr. Cleaver – I think it was a presentation they came in.

David León – At that time, if I may? At that time, it was a visitation to come to the Board and talk about the program. It wasn't on the agenda other than my presentation.

Mr. Bradley – It was covered on the top. Okay, I appreciate that, thank you. We definitely want to improve the communications within our district.

Mr. Stern – Yep. Okay, we'll move on to Communications. Mr. Cleaver, Superintendent's Report.

Mrs. Maholick – Thanks Dave for coming.

Mr. Cleaver – Public Comment Agenda?

Mr. Stern – Oh, I'm sorry. Thank you everyone.

Public Comment on Agenda

1. Fred Kemmerer, Jr. – Name Clearing Hearing – Personnel F.

- First of all, I'd like to thank everybody for allowing me to speak. My comments are in to Personnel, Letter F, the Name Clearing Hearing. Last meeting, I was one hundred percent for the Name Clearing Hearing because I know it has gone on way too long. I truly believe that it's something that's a burden to our administration following through with their work and I think that it's something that should be cleared up once and for all and I applaud the School Board in taking this on. However, the whole process I have a question because there was some key witnesses that weren't asked to be a part of this hearing and I think that a part of a hearing is understanding all facts of that matter. So my question is to Mr. Stern. Who aligned the people for the hearing?

Mr. Stern – Eric, you want to answer or Mr. Taylor can answer the question.

Atty. Filer – Each party was responsible for bring whatever witnesses they want so...

- Who are the parties? Was it the School Board?

Atty. Filer – No, the School Board was the adjudicating body. There the ones...

- That we had the School Board, okay.

Atty. Filer – So it would be the administration...

Fred Kemmerer speaking.

Atty. Filer – No, no, it's not the School Board.

- Okay.

Atty. Filer – It's the Administration versus Mr. Hauser, those are the two parties.

- Okay. So as a part of the administration who called the witnesses?

Atty. Filer – I believe Attorney Schwab gathered the witnesses that he wanted for his case and Mr. Hauser gathered the witnesses that he wanted for his case.

- So, as a governing body of our school district, do you think it's smart for us to move forward without all of the facts of the matter being present and/or were the facts of the matter of the witnesses in letter form taken as part of the meeting or part of the hearing? So my correspondence with you, Mr. Stern, were they a part of the proceedings?

Mr. Stern – They weren't invited as either part as far as I was concerned. I didn't call a witness. I was a spectator and a Board Member reviewing the information.

- I just want to use all my time. So, Mr. Stern, do you think it was good for a solicitor to only invite a portion of the people that were involved to get a full accurate?

Mr. Stern – The thing is there's many things that have to be taken in to consideration, Mr. Kemmerer. Would it behoove anyone to have someone as a minor or whatever involved in that situation?

- He wasn't a minor at that point.

Mr. Stern – Okay, I'm not saying who it was.

- Okay. So, my question, the father who was a part of the meeting that was in question as well?

Mr. Stern – The...

Mr. Cleaver – I think, and I know Mr. Taylor's here too who oversaw the hearing. I think the important part to understand is it's still a personnel matter. So, really at this point, until the Board approves anything, nothing is released to the public 'cause it still falls under the guidelines of personnel matter and there's rules and regulation that need to be followed when dealing with school district personnel. And, from that, we take the recommendations from our Solicitor of how to move forward with that process.

- And I accept that one hundred percent. I do believe that Mr. Hauser needs to be cleared. I do believe that this is cumbersome to him and I would hope that it would be done in a conclusive manner. If you, as a Board, feel that it was done in a conclusive manner without key witnesses and you're able to vote on it with that regard, then I'm okay with that. You have my support. Mr. Hauser has my support. The school district has my hundred percent support. I would, however, in the future when we're put in these things where parents can be involved. What happened with Mr. Hauser and my kid could have literally been taken care of in a five-minute meeting. I truly believe this and I think that it was because of the Board and the Solicitor carrying it on and not coming to closure that Mr. Hauser's been drawn through the mud. And, it's not fair to him and it's not fair to what the proceeding, to my son and myself. Because, this shouldn't be going on anymore, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Fred.

2. David Hauser – Item IX-F.

- Sure, I'll comment on a lot of what was just said. First, there's no way it could've been done in a five-minute meeting. Only because it was Mr. Kemmerer and Mr. Bradley themselves who over the course of the last several months have kept this going through various social media posts and things of that nature. As far as who was invited, I don't have to explain what witnesses I wanted to call other than I will say this, this was not hearing about a search of a student. It was well-established last year by Mr. Kemmerer, himself, that his son was searched. I'm not going to get in to specifics of that because that student has educational rights to privacy and I'm going to respect those. However, I find the call for full and accurate information quite ironic considering Mr. Kemmerer, himself, has not given full and accurate information on that. I would like the whole process done as well. I would've liked the whole process never to have happened because the whole time this happens, Mr. Bradley sits there and smiles at the chaos that ensues and Ms. Beers sits there and nods for whatever reason. And, I find this all to be part of the circus that has become our school board meetings over the last years, months and years. That being said, it's been also insinuated over social media and by board

members that I called for this hearing in order to influence an upcoming primary election. This is not the case. I've been dealing with this for almost a year now. I want this done because I'm tired of it. No one can comment on what is cumbersome to my job other than myself, perhaps my immediate supervisors, certainly no one who does not observe my work on a daily basis. I invited people to the hearing that had direct knowledge of Mr. Bradley's actions after the searches occurred. The search itself was not something that was in question. My concern was with Mr. Bradley's assertion that it was a strip search and then there were also subsequent assertions about sexual images shared online. That was the nature of that hearing. His false and stigmatizing categorizations of my behaviors. You're gonna hear tonight, which I have emails to document this, I'll just prep the room. Mrs. Maholick is claiming that she was asked to leave the hearing, that's not the case. Before the hearing started I was over here getting my evidence up and Mrs. Maholick turns to another board member and says, this whole thing is a farce and then said it was politically motivated. So when I object to her as a juror at this hearing, she then says, oh, I can be impartial but yet admits to saying those things. And so, I made a motion to have her removed, that motion was granted. I think that's pretty fair. I also have emails that this is an illegal use of funds. Mrs. Maholick wants me to go back and pay for everything, it's an illegal use of funds. Mr. Bradley has written these emails. Mr. Bradley's claiming he was not formally invited but yet I have emails in here as early as April the 1st where he's asking how do I submit evidence and call witnesses. Then we're not gonna, it shouldn't have been voted upon but yet Mr. Bradley himself wanted to vote upon it but then all of a sudden that went away when he found out he couldn't be prosecutor, witness, judge, and jury all in once. So, let's get some facts here before that item is voted upon later tonight. I will say that I'm not going to allow myself to be questioned by the Board regarding that hearing but if there are inaccuracies that are brought up, on the advice of my attorney I will clear those up as there is debate on that. Thank you very much for your time.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Mr. Hauser. Okay, on to Communications.

Communications

1. Superintendent's Report – *Mr. Cleaver*
 - Okay, Superintendent's Report, PSSA testing began today. The students and the staff that worked to prepare for the state tests and we are anxious to see the results over the next several months. Again, we're hoping they come in early in the summer but it seems every year, you know, they hold back a little bit with that.

Barbara Bowes – I don't mean to interrupt, but I filled out the form.

Mr. Stern – At the end of the meeting.

Mr. Cleaver - Public Comment end at end of meeting.

Barbara Bowes – What's it say under agenda?

Mr. Stern – Yes, Ms. Bowes, you may speak, thank you.

Mr. Cleaver – Sorry about that.

3. **Barbara Bowes – Agenda Items VII. O & P, IX, D.**

- Okay, just a couple of things real quick here. Motion O. under Financial Matter, to authorize the Business Manager to sign a natural gas bases contract, blah, blah, blah. According to a Right-to-Know filed and the Right-to-Know Officer's response, you have no such position as the Business Manager. It's what it states.

Mr. Cleaver – I'm sorry, what is that?

- There is no such position in Lehigh Area School District as the Business Manager. So, you need to re-write that stating that she's the Business Administrator, evidently. It says here request was denied because the Lehigh Area School District does not have a Business Manager position.

Mr. Cleaver – Okay, thank you.

- Okay? Let's see what else. The contract for the extension of All R Services. In the contract itself, page 2 E. 1., mowing times are never to be held during instructional times between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the following locations and it states Franklin Elementary. I think you can get rid of that. You know, just cross it out because there's no education going on at Franklin Elementary between those times.

Mr. Cleaver – I can't say there's no guarantee that we wouldn't take a trip over there if we still had the facilities if we use it for some type of program. If they want to do a nature hike. They have that small nature trail in the back area.

- Oh, okay. I mean it just says instructional times.

Mr. Cleaver – I'm sure 99% of the time won't be an issue but there may be...

- I would certainly hope by the next school year it would be sold.

Mr. Cleaver – We hope so as well.

- Okay, thank you.

Mr. Stern – And, again, I apologize for the oversight.

- PSSA testing began today. The students and staff have worked to prepare the state tests and again, we are anxious to get the results. Hopefully, as I was saying before that, we get them early enough in the summer to where we can really dive into some of the information.
- The district will be highlighted for the summer issue of the Greater Valley Realtors E-Magazine. The article will highlight the Lehigh Area School District, the educational standards and programs that are being afforded to our students. This article will focus on all the positive activities that happen on a daily basis throughout the school district. They're hoping to get the article done in June but they're looking at they'll probably be closer to July when they get it out. They came in and sat down for about two hours and did an interview with us and so, a lot of pictures, a lot of kids. And, again, went over a bunch of the programs. So, if you just search their e-magazine, you'll see they highlighted Bethlehem School District at their previous one. It's about a two-page highlight

they'll have for the district and it's something that they do for all the realtors in the area for Lehigh and Carbon County.

- Reminder, this Thursday is a make-up day and students will be in session for a half a day. The high school and middle school will be dismissed at 12:20 p.m. and the elementary will be dismissed at 1:05 p.m. and that concludes my report. And, I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy spring break.
2. Finance Report – *Ms. Denicola*
 - The financial reports were sent home and also provided in your packet. We are seeking approval of the bills for the month. We are also seeking approval of the natural gas contract and the standard payment to George's Transportation.
 3. Board President's Report – *Mr. Stern*
 - My report will be rather short. The information from all of the three schools are in your packet, including the administration office. One of the things I would like to highlight coming up, I would believe it is next weekend after the holiday, on April 25, 26, & 27, and it's becoming an annual event, the Lehighton Community Carnival sponsored by Lehighton Area Education Athletic Foundation, thank you very much. It's at 9th and Mahoning on the old, at the middle school practice field Thursday, 5-9. On Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. the band will perform. Friday night it's from 5-10 and Saturday it's from 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon till 10:00 p.m. and there is music and entertainment and Nonweiler will provide the amusement. So, thank you very much.
 4. Lehighton Memorial Library Report – *Mrs. Maholick*
 - Mail fund drive forms should be in your mailbox in the next few weeks. I hope that when you receive it in the mail, that everyone donates to help the library with future programs and expenses for the new addition. The board is working on various grant applications to aid the capital campaign. The library director is applying for grants from the Hommer Foundation. She also met with a family which has shown interest in paying for costs for furniture and equipment. The library has received a donation of \$20,000 from the Lehighton Area School District. The board will discuss taking part in Heritage Days in the Lehighton Park to take place on July 6. The library has several programs available for children and adults including a Share Card that includes access to eleven other libraries. Please check the website or stop by for more information. The next board meeting will be held on April 30th.
 5. Legislative Policy Committee of PSBA Report – *Mrs. Spinelli*
 - Mine's also is very short. On April 3, I attend the Spring Legal Round Up and we discussed 18 different cases most of, all of which were decided by case law, not necessarily by any school code issues, as they usually are. There were too many to mention, but some of them are transgender situations, contingent IEP's, failure to train, homelessness and so on and so forth. Also, on the 29th of April, I will be attending Advocacy Day out in Harrisburg. I have a 10 o'clock appointment in the morning on April 29 with John Yudichak and Doyle Heffley to discuss anything that anyone feels I should bring up to them. So, let me know if you have something you want to bring up. I did, in your packet, give you the information if you care to go to Advocacy Day with me or to the meeting, the information is all there. Also, every day PSBA puts out three or four articles on issues affecting public education with their Daily Bulletin. I strongly suggest looking these over as it would take me hours to read them to all of you at a meeting. This is just one of the ways you can educate yourself to issues facing public education at a time convenient for you. And, as I said

before, you do not need to be a member. You can read these things on the PSBA website, psba.org, thank you.

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

- This is the fun part because you get to work with kids. April 11, which was last Thursday, we had Spring Title Night from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in conjunction with the Elementary Art Show and our Book Fair. The focus of the Title Night was student engagement with STEAM activities with the focus on Reading, Math and Science. Students were able to have their faces painted with the help of the National Art Honor Society, visit the Book Fair with Dogman, and I heard they had so many cash registers going that it was overwhelming with the number of books being sold. They visited the photo booth and enjoyed treats from the FCCLA. Parents and students admired the fantastic artwork throughout the entire building. It was covered wall-to-wall. Students could draw in a designated area that was unframed art on chart paper. This event was so huge that we probably calculated about a thousand people who went in and out that night. So, a huge thank you to all who assisted in some way. I had an opportunity to work at one of the stations, the STEAM station, and we did a marble maze. The kids were focused, persistent and the parents were very complimentary to what we were doing at the Center. So, in all, it was a really great night. Mrs. Cordes and I continue to meet to prepare our presentation for the Title I conference which will be held at Seven Springs and that's Monday, May 6th and 7th, not the 5th and 6th. Our presentation will be on transitioning from a target-assisted program to a school-wide and we're having a lot of fun preparing. And our next Title I meeting will be held on Friday, May 17th at quarter to eight and our Parent Advisory Council, Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Stern – I have one question for your, Mrs. Bowman. Since you're on Title for the last several years and now this year in a completely new environment. How does that change the participating and the involvement of the community within Title I?

Gloria Bowman – Well, when you're doing the nights, we have more participating because the facilities condone that, okay? When you had four schools you only had pockets of people going to each of the schools and we had to separate them or at least bring them together at one big meeting. So, this time, the attendance has improved a hundred fold. And, that's what's part of our presentation of going from target-assisted to school-wide and the facilities have enhanced the school-wide opportunities and educational improvement.

Mr. Stern – Okay, thank you.

Mrs. Spinelli – I'd like to make a comment. I also heard from someone the other day that that Elementary Center is busy every single day, in the evening. They have so many more programs than they ever had before. Things happening all the time.

Gloria Bowman – And, I've had kids I had a school at Franklin as the Principal, and they came to me and they have kids now coming to school and they've said the school is beautiful, we can't thank you enough.

7. CCTI Report - *Mr. Yenser*

- CCTI is meeting as we speak, potentially, tonight. So, I will have a report next meeting.

8. CLIU Report – *Mr. Wentz*
 - The same for me. The CLIU 21 is holding their meeting as we speak right now. I'll have a full report next month.
9. Building/Grounds Report – *Mr. Holland*
 - We met on Tuesday, April 9. We discussed the tennis courts. We're not moving along quickly enough as far as I would be concerned but we do have application in for the borough for permits. One we're waiting for is for the storm water variance. We're still waiting for that. I think this is good news for everyone in the district, we're de-winterizing the high school, middle school, elementary center, getting ready for spring and summer. And I want to thank HT Lyons and Automatic Logic for getting the systems up and ready for the spring and summer. Athletic fields, we have the baseball scoreboard. It's not working at this time and we're working on getting it repaired. I want to thank the Borough of Lehigh, which I don't think gets enough recognition from us sometimes, they were here to roll the ball fields and I just think that's fabulous that they can come out every year and do this for us. I want to personally thank them. Equipment, we're looking again, probably for next year, an aerial lift for the Elementary Center and we're, hopefully after tonight, we will have all our summer help hired as far as for the kids. And that would conclude my report.
10. Academic Affairs Committee Report – *Mr. Stern*
 - Academic Affairs did meet on Wednesday, April 3, at 5:45 p.m. There were several presentations. Mainly the A.P. professional staff had reviewed the books that they support for A.P. Psychology, A.P. Biology, A.P. Statistics, Financial Algebra and A.P. Spanish. There was discussion concerning the Social Studies pilot that is gonna be going on at the elementary level. K through 2 would be Citizenship, Neighborhoods, National Symbols, Monuments Celebrating America, Traditions, Goods and Services. Grade 3 is Communities, Cultures, Democracy and Parts of Government. Grade 4 is Regions of the United States, which include Growth, Culture and Conflicts of those regions, Grade 5 would be United States History: Exploring the Native Americans, Native Folks, Exploration and the Birth of the Nation. There will be two teachers at each grade level piloting the program for 19-20 school year. Another interesting presentation was Mr. McCarroll concerning the LEAP program. If many of you don't know what the LEAP program is, I guess, Mr. Cleaver, the best way I can explain it is an intermediary program...

Mr. Cleaver – Transition program.

- ...behavioral, may different types of issues that our students may have. It's a place that we can go that we keep them within our district, within our buildings, on our same curriculum but give them a little bit more privately-focused educational experience to try and steer them back to our classrooms. Similarly, if a child is placed, we bring them back in to that environment prior to bring them back into the classroom to help them transition from a different learning environment back into the district. Which I think is a very valuable experience.
11. LCCC Report – *Mr. Krause*
 - The 2020 budget for LCCC was unanimously approved by all the districts that represent, are representatives as LCCC. They held a job fair April 4th. They had 110 companies registered which maxed us out. And, we had 13 additional companies waitlisted to get in on the job fair. So, I think that speaks volumes of LCCC's community engagement, as well as the strength of the job market right

now. We had a great presentation on LCCC's placement testing from one of our current professors that was on sabbatical as part of a project. And, one of the things she explained was why these exams are so important. They can reduce the time period to graduate. In other words, getting the students in their appropriate levels in the classes. It increases our student retention by challenging students. It provides a more updated assessment since transcripts can be outdated. You get students that leave and come back to LCCC so this gives a more current assessment of that student. And, the exam questions are much more broader, especially for math questions, then tests such as the ACT's and PSSA's. So, what she found in her project was a new system. We, in the past, used Compass. And we're gonna transition to this new system. It's a lower cost and it can easily be customized by our staff which gives us a lot more flexibility to add those questions rather than just multiple choice questions that require more skills like the math questions. And, lastly, I would encourage any of our seniors that are planning to attend LCCC next year to get involved with the student government. We get a lot of presentation from the student government reps at our board meetings and it's amazing to see the poise, the leadership skills in the real world competencies that these students get from being part of the student organizations. So, we've got dozens of them there, outside of the student government as well and that concludes my report, thank you.

12. Policy Committee Report – *Mr. Stern*

- Policy Committee did not meet this month. There are the additional second readings of the last policies from our previous meeting this month with the addendum as suggested by the board. The next meeting of Policy Committee will be on May 1st.

13. Athletic Committee Report – *Mr. Wentz*

- We met last Tuesday, April 9. The weather is again playing havoc with our spring sports with the last three baseball and softball games either postponed or suspended. On a good note, our Girls' Track team is currently undefeated in league play. And, we are pleased to announce some of the Carbon County Senior Games will be held at our middle school field. Lehighton has hosted state playoff games in five different sports so far. Benefiting not only the school but the community, the district, and the parents' clubs. Our next scheduled meeting is set for May 14th. And, on a side note, we are getting record numbers of lifters at our so-called football, you know whatever you want to call it, preseason, so we're up 63 kids I think are lifting weights now. So, that's a great number and we thank our coaches and our administrators for, you know, building up that program.

14. Wellness Committee Report – *Mrs. Maholick*

- The Backpack Buddies program is going strong and has been well-received by the participating families. It will continue at a reduced level during the summer. Committee members reviewed the school menus for May. Lauren noted that approximately 325 elementary students eat breakfast each day which includes about 180 grab-and-go meals. Also, meal counts are up in the middle school and high school. Most of the students eating meals are free and reduced lunch students. Lauren feels that many more families are eligible for free or reduced meals but have not completed an application. There was a discussion on the Lions KidSight program, which provides free vision screenings using spot cameras, to have the Lions provide the screenings at Kindergarten registration this May 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17, during the actual Kindergarten

registration and to provide vision screenings for pre-school and Life Skills student and that concludes my report.

Mr. Bradley – Excuse me, Mr. Stern?

Mr. Stern – Yes, sir.

Mr. Bradley – Is the Wellness Committee a Lehigh School Board committee or is it an outside?

Mr. Cleaver – It's not required.

Mr. Bradley – Right, but it's an LEA so, Learning Educational Association, right? What is LEA stand for?

Mr. Cleaver – It's not an LEA. It can be anyone. There's not a majority of board members that make a recommendation like our policy, or finance, or those type of things. It's volunteers from the school district; school teachers, staff, public as part of that committee.

Mr. Bradley – Who's on the, who's the public that's...

Mr. Cleaver – I wouldn't have that.

Mr. Bradley – Do you have anybody that's from the public that you remember?

Mrs. Maholick – Um, no. It's just me.

Mr. Bradley – Well it's you but then staff members, okay.

Audio did not record for approximately 2 minutes.

Move MOTION by Mr. Stern, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to move Motion F. under
Motion F. Personnel to beginning.

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

Atty. Filer – Start with your question or should I?

Mr. Bradley – So, as a board member, I sent in a list of questions to be reviewed. Did they get reviewed? They're not part of my FYI packet so I'm wondering if the rest of the board saw them.

Atty. Filer – Are you referring to Attachment A. to your letter?

Mr. Bradley – Yes, sir.

Atty. Filer – I mean, I have some answers for it. If you'd like to hear them.

Mr. Bradley – Can we get them in writing instead?

Atty. Filer – The board votes for me to put them in writing, I'll put them in writing.

Mr. Bradley – Did anyone else read these questions or see them? Can we get them in writing?

Mrs. Spinelli – I mean, I saw them.

Mr. Stern – I didn't see the responses.

Mr. Bradley – As a sub-motion, I make a motion that we get the solicitor to physically write...

Mr. Stern – We can do that under New Business, Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – Well, we're in the middle of...if not, I'm gonna have him read them. So, to spare time, let's get them in writing. I make a motion that we get the solicitor to answer the questions that the board asked, or this board member asked, that this board member asked, in writing. Can I get a second on that motion, please?

Audio did not record.

Mr. David Hauser speaking. Audio did not record for approximately 3 minutes.

Answer Questions In Writing Denied MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mr. Stern to have the solicitor, answer in writing, the questions that Mr. Bradley asked.

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 - 3 NO - 6 ABSENT - ABSTENTIONS -

Motion denied.

Name Clearing Report MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to accept name clearing hearing report of Hearing Officer Brian Taylor and make said report available for public review.

Ms. Beers – As was discussed earlier, you know, Mr. Eric Filer was explaining kind of the premise of the hearing and that Mr. Hauser called witnesses and Mr. Bill Schwab also called witnesses and I personally think that Bill Schwab could've done a better job presenting the other side of things by inviting other witnesses as Mr. Kemmerer had eluded to.

Mr. Stern – Thank you. Mr. Bradley?

Mr. Bradley – I'd like to state, on the record, that I was not invited nor was I privy to the time or date of this hearing, at all. It was requested, many times, to find out that information. It was not presented to me even after direct requests. Secondly, I have found out that the witnesses, associated with that hearing, were also not invited by our administration. So, my question is Mr. Hauser called the Board juror. But I believe, in this situation, they're the adjudicative authority, right? So they are part of judge and juror, correct?

Atty. Filer – They're the juror.

Mr. Bradley – They're the juror.

Atty. Filer – Their most equivalent position is the juror.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. So, how does Mr. Taylor write a report for the jurors? Why did Mr. Juror write this report?

Mr. Taylor – It's written as a recommendation. Just by the way, introduction, my name is Brian Taylor. I've been an educational attorney for like 10 years, litigator for the last 30 years. I specialize in (inaudible) arbitration. I was the hearing officer last week. It was conducted as an information hearing. I did not call or choose who the witnesses are. I'm not in charge of the (inaudible). I just proceed over the orderly processing of the hearing. I deal with questions of law, questions of evidence. So, exactly what is your point that's directed at me?

Mr. Bradley – What authority do you have to write the report for the board? Did they ask you to?

Mr. Taylor – I'm the hearing officer. By right, this hearing had to be held. Under the Federal Constitution, under the State Constitution, under the threat of having to pay compensatory damages, nominal damages. This is, this type of hearing is commonly held, the Liberty Interest hearing. It's not an unusual procedure. Your district had no other choice but to call it.

Mr. Bradley – I understand that but so, again, this report was generated by yourself. Who authorized you to write this report? Under what authority did you write this report?

Mr. Taylor – I'm an officer of the court. I'm a hearing officer. I'm authorized to write a summary or recommendation of the hearing.

Mr. Bradley – And who is the authority that gave you that authority? Was it the Board or was it the administration or is it School Code?

Mr. Taylor – I'm the hearing officer. It is my job.

Mr. Bradley – To write this report at the end?

Mr. Taylor – To write a summary.

Mr. Bradley – To write a summary of what happened.

Mr. Taylor – Correct. I didn't have to decide the case. I write a recommendation. It's up for acceptance.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And then, at the same time, you were invited to be this hearing officer, correct?

Mr. Taylor – Correct.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. speaking from the audience regarding the hearing.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. – In your professional path, how many, in your eyes, did any of them every have a parent as part of the deliberation, where almost directly involving a parent or (inaudible).

Mr. Taylor – Some of these cases are so fact specific that there are some cases. In this particular situation we have an administrator as one part, the district as another part. It varies from case to case. I couldn't give you a definite answer.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. speaking from the audience.

Mr. Taylor – That's not my call. I'm a hearing officer.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. speaking from the audience.

Mr. Taylor – I can't. Sometimes yes, sometimes no.

Mr. Hauser – I have commentary on that because there's misunderstanding, again. First of all, I'll address what Ms. Beers has said. Ms. Beers cannot effectively comment on what was done during the hearing because she was sequestered as a (inaudible). She was not able to observe the job Mr. Schwab did with the exception for when she was called to testify. That being said, the parent meeting that Mr. Kemmerer is bringing up, again, is not the matter that was in question at the hearing. Mr. Kemmerer has established that his son was searched, his son was numerous times in public meeting (inaudible) over the course of the last ten months. He had a confluence to that meeting which Mr. Bradley attended and made various inflammatory remarks. Those remarks are not the basis of this hearing. Mr. Kemmerer was not present during the search. However, he and Mr. Bradley subsequently had it in their eyes as a strip search. I would also add that the quote, unquote, evidence from that is a definition of strip search that come from Wikipedia®. And the Wikipedia® page that Mr. Kemmerer posted has over 400 edits by anonymous users on it presently. This was posted on social media for public consumption and this was repeated by Mr. Bradley over the course of the last ten months. My issue is not that the search happened. My issue is not the parent/principal conference that happened. My issue was Mr. Bradley's actions after all of that occurred. He provided evaluation of my job performance. He provided ways that I could improve including (inaudible) an emotional (inaudible) test. And then he entered into various forms of public record; meetings such as this, board minutes, committee meetings, emails to my superiors, emails to board members and most recently over the last week, emails asking questions about this process to the press which should cause every employee in this district to have cause for alarm. He actually (inaudible) a public record. So, he identifies (inaudible) he doesn't agree with. He involves himself in ways he thinks needs to be changed and then creates a record of that. That was my concern. In my opinion, and this is why I did not call Mr. Kemmerer or his son as witnesses, that part was not connected to Mr. Bradley's subsequent evaluation of that work. That's what's the misunderstanding. I'm not debating you in a public meeting, sir.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. speaking from the audience.

Mr. Hauser – I was talking to Mr. Bradley, Mr. Kemmerer.

Fred Kemmerer, Jr. speaking from the audience.

Mr. Taylor – I understand. I can't go into what witnesses said in the proceedings. That's privileged. I'm here to suggest about the procedure that occurred. The content of the hearing, I'm not allowed to go in to (inaudible).

Mr. Hauser – Here's my question (inaudible) I didn't want to put your son up for questioning. I don't think that's appropriate either. You, Mr. Kemmerer, have made comments, publically, social media, when you're out and about and here at board meetings, about this whole thing but yet the entire story has never really come out. Legal definitions of strip searches are available. Why have those definitions never been applied? I brought a few up. So, tell, why don't you explain what happened in that search or are you just going to on Wikipedia® and type in strip search to Google® and (inaudible) the first (inaudible) that comes up. I call that due diligence in research because that is what you did. You want this to go away...

Mr. Cleaver – Alright, let's, again, let's get the other questions here, I know Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Bradley – Yeah, I have a question. One question. So...

Mr. Cleaver – 'Cause I don't want to...he's here to answer questions on process, procedure and everything that takes the place. So, I want to make sure all those questions are answered.

Mr. Bradley – The ones that are on my list, you're saying or not?

Mr. Cleaver – That's not what I said.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, no problem. I'd like to get those answered, but. So, the question I have is, this hearing then was about my actions in relationship to Mr. Hauser. Is that correct?

Mr. Taylor – Your actions? There's so many accusations made. Yes, we did review those.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. So...

Mr. Taylor – (Inaudible). So, yes, this was a name-clearing, which he's entitled to have (inaudible). He was given that form to do so. You, (inaudible) witness and this whole concept that you weren't invited is completely disingenuous. Because you and I went back and forth with a whole bunch of emails (inaudible) before this. To the extent you asked me about lawyers, about evidence you needed to submit. So for you to claim that you were unaware, unprepared, is completely disingenuous to everyone in this room.

Mr. Bradley – I want to make sure...that's fine. Not unprepared, unaware. And, the reality was, we were never invited to the meeting, Mr. Kemmerer, his child, or myself. But, here's the question I have to ask.

Mr. Taylor – I'm the hearing officer. I'm not responsible for service of notices. Mr. Bradley, you were aware of the hearing.

Mr. Bradley – Not at all.

Mr. Taylor – You were aware.

Mr. Bradley – Thank you. We were not invited and the service, hold on, the service of the hearing should be documented and...

Mr. Taylor – You're free to do that.

Mr. Bradley – ...and, we did since then and we found out that it was not, I was excluded from the meeting notice. We only found out because Rita said she wasn't gonna make it at which point people were, then became aware that the meeting was even happening because the service that was provided, not to myself at all, but to other board members was not to their official address. So, there was some unique ways that this...

Mr. Taylor – You know what...

Mr. Bradley – That's fine, I'm not gonna argue that. I have a question.

Mr. Taylor – You were publically noticed of a hearing where you could have attended.

Mr. Bradley – I was not; I was not noticed by...

Mr. Taylor – (Inaudible) notice of a hearing.

Mr. Bradley – I was not notified of the hearing, thank you.

Mr. Taylor – You responded to my emails about it. I wrote you a letter about it.

Mr. Bradley – In advance of a hearing to be placed. We were never told the date.

Mr. Taylor – I'm not gonna argue with you.

Mr. Bradley – Never told the date or the time. I agree. But, here's the question I have. The Pennsylvania School Code confers no authority upon an individual school board member to act unilaterally under the guise of carrying out responsibilities of a board as a whole. The law's clear. So, what he's describing is an action of an individual in an individual capacity. So, why would this board incur the costs to adjudicate his concern that an individual citizen was critiquing his behavior.

Mr. Taylor – I'm not gonna go in to. I'm not so certain that all your actions were done as an individual citizen.

Mr. Bradley – Is there any way that my actions could be construed as an action of the board?

Mr. Taylor – You and I aren't gonna debate.

Mr. Bradley – I'm not debating. I'm asking, is, as a lawyer, as the officer...

Mr. Taylor – I'm not your lawyer. I'm here to speak to...

Mr. Bradley – You are a lawyer.

Mr. Taylor – No, I’m here as a hearing officer.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, so as a hearing officer...

Mr. Taylor – I’m not here to give legal advice. I’m here as a hearing officer.

Mr. Bradley – Is there any method to which an individual board member can take the action of the board?

Mr. Taylor – That’s too allusive to answer. I’m here as a hearing officer.

Mr. Bradley – I appreciate that. Can we get that answer, Mr. Filer, please?

Mr. Cleaver – I just would like to comment about that comment is. On many occasions you were here at policy committees, and different committee meetings as a board member, ‘cause you are part of those committees, where you’re making recommendations to move something to the full board and you had comments regarding Mr. Hauser made to the point of where I even believe you had a video posted to where you turned your own camera to focus him during one of those committee meetings. So, absolutely, you are here as a board member.

Mr. Bradley – I don’t have that authority, sir, at all. And, Mr. Filer, can you please explain that under Bangor Area Schools vs. (inaudible).

Mr. Cleaver – We’re not questioning whether or not you have the authority. We’re questioning that you are acting in part of a board member because you’re on that committee at a public board meeting.

Mr. Bradley – That’s your opinion but let’s get the one that’s official.

Mr. Cleaver – I know because you hide behind the camera when you’re sitting at these meetings and film other people, but it’s still you there as a committee member and a member of the school board.

Atty. Filer – Mr. Bradley, the fact that you sit there with a name tag that says Citizen Dave Bradley does not mean you’re not in fact a member of the board. And, when you take actions against the employee, it comes back negatively to the board. So, the fact that you don’t have the authority to do it should be telling you that you shouldn’t have been doing it in the first place. You did that anyway.

Mr. Bradley – But, once again, as a citizen, I have every right, every right, to review the actions of my government...

Atty. Filer – And as a board member you have a contractual obligation not to violate the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Bradley – I am not a board member.

Mr. Stern – Yes, you are.

Mr. Bradley – One more time. There is not authority placed upon me as the board.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

Mrs. Spinelli – Can we call the question, please?

Mr. Stern – Thank you Ms. Spinelli. Request a roll call vote on the approval of the, to accept the name clearing hearing report of Hearing Officer Brian Taylor and makes it public, available, make the report available for public review, thank you, Motion F.

Roll Call Vote:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
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. Wagner started roll call with Mr. Yenser answering yes and Ms. Beers answering no but was interrupted by Atty. Filer.

Atty. Filer – For the record, if, I’m sorry to interrupt this, I would advise anybody who was a witness or did not participate to abstain. Again, that would be my advice. You have no obligation to follow it.

Mrs. Wagner – You want me to start over?

Atty. Filer – Please do. I’m sorry for interrupting.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Mr. Filer.

Mr. Bradley – I do not condone the illegal use of educational funds on illegal activities taken by a majority of this board. I won’t be a part of it. So, I vote no.

Mrs. Maholick was absent from the board room at the time of the vote.

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 1 ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - 2

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to approve the Minutes of the March 25, 2019, regular meeting.

Mr. Stern – Questions on the approval of the minutes?

Mr. Bradley – I have one question. On page 90, I just want to confirm that on page 94, the motion for the hearing, the vote taken was 5 to 4 against if we choose someone other than King Spry. Is that correct? Is that what everybody remembers?

Mr. Stern – Yes.

Mr. Bradley – Okay. And then, once King Spry was allowed to be the officer, it went to 8 to 1 and the only difference between the motions was the addition of King Spry?

Mr. Stern – As far as I recall, sir, yes.

Mr. Bradley – Okay, thank you.

Mr. Stern – And it wasn't an 8 to 1, it was 8, 0, 1, I believe.

Mr. Bradley – Correct, thank you.

Mr. Stern – And, I don't know what page it was one, but I want to confirm that you at one point said you are the judge and jury?

Audience member – Page 87.

Mr. Stern – Thank you. Is that correct?

Mr. Bradley – Most definitely, thank you.

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

Financial Matter

Activities Funds MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the Lehigh Area High School and Lehigh Area Middle School Activities Fund for March 2019.

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

Payment of Bills MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the Payment of Bills for March 2019:

General Fund	\$ 890,249.66
--Benefits	\$ 497,295.97
--Payroll	\$ 2,101,597.44
--Debit Card	\$ 2,232.25
Food Service Fund	\$ 1,619.67
	\$ 3,492,994.99

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

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

Treasurer's Reports MOTION by Mr. Holland, 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 - You choose the payment of the bills for William Schwab to be \$4,000...

Mr. Stern - That was for the previous motion.

Mr. Bradley - Under blue?

Mr. Stern - We're on green.

Mr. Bradley - Thank you.

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

Per Capita/ Occ. Tax Ex. MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve exemptions from Per Capita and/or Occupational Tax per the attached list.

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

Ms. Beers was absent from the board room at the time of the vote.

Summer Programs MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the following summer programs:

Band Orchestra - Grades 5 & 6 - 85 Hours
Band Orchestra - Grades 7 & 8 - 85 Hours
Band Camp - Senior High - 100 Hours
Summer Physical Education Class - 45 Hours
High School Summer School - 60 Hours
Middle School Summer School - 45 Hours

Mr. Stern - I'll make a comment. I do like how they have the summer physical education class to get those out of the way for folks trying to scheduling more rigor and taking care of that over the summer.

Mr. Cleaver - It allows some space in their schedule especially when it comes to the number of A.P. courses we now offer and the other level courses.

Mr. Stern - And it keeps them busy in the summer.

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

Motion carried.

Ms. Beers was absent from the board room at the time of the vote.

Summer Reading Program MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Bradley to approve the proposed Summer Reading program and posting for the position. This program will be for students in grades 1-5. The program will be held on Wednesdays, June 19-August 14, 2019, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The program will be held in the Elementary Center at a cost not to exceed \$1,250.00. Funding provided through the 2018-2019 Curriculum Budget.

Mr. Stern - Is that correct?

Mr. Cleaver - Mm-hmm.

Mr. Stern - Last year's budget?

Mr. Cleaver - We're still 18-19.

Mr. Stern - But this will be into...

Mr. Cleaver - Yep, even though...

Mr. Stern - ...it'll be 19-20?

Mrs. Maholick - Do you know how many students this will accommodate?

Mr. Stern – Pardon?

Mrs. Maholick – How many students will this accommodate?

Mr. Cleaver – I believe in the past...we need to make a motion, I'm sorry.

Mrs. Maholick – Okay.

Mr. Cleaver – In the past, we've had Shull-David in the summertime for the program. Several hundred students took advantage of it. We also did it at Franklin at one time too to try and divide it up a little bit. So, there several hundred students who will come through in the summertime.

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

Motion carried.

Title I Summer Programs MOTION by Mr. Bradley, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to approve the Title I Summer Reading and Math programs for Lehighton Area School District to be held at the Elementary Center. Tentative dates are July 8-18, 2019, for the Math Program and July 22-August 15, 2019, for the Reading Program. Camps will be paid using the Title I Funds 2018-2019.

Mrs. Maholick – I have a question. Is this only for Title I or can any students attend?

Mr. Cleaver – This is for Title I.

Mrs. Maholick – Just Title I, okay.

Gloria Bowman speaking from the audience regarding camps.

Mr. Cleaver – And the recommendations will come from the teachers, too. The teachers reach out to parents and we recommend that your child attend the program. For this one? We set it up for the Title I, usually we set up to 20 to 25.

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

Motion carried.

Mr. Bradley left the board room at 8:55 p.m.

Summer Training MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve employees #204, #1333, #1434, #1413, and #1393 to attend the Project Lead the way Summer Training Institute at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of Maryland and an online course on July 8-11, 2019, July 29-August 2, 2019, August 29-December 19, 2019, at a cost not to exceed \$10,500.00. Funding through the Project Lead the Way Grant.

Mr. Stern – Since Mr. Tkach's not here, you want to just give a little bit of...

Mr. Cleaver – I just wanted to first of all thank the staff members, I don't want to say their names because their numbers are there for a reason, who are taking the time to attend the program and also Mr. Tkach, Mrs. Volcskai for applying for the funding and getting the grant through Project

Lead the Way. We currently have it at the middle school as well and we're looking to move it forward to the high school and then even to the lower level if the funding becomes available for it. It's a great program. But, again, you can see there's a lot of training that is involved and it does, you know, tie into a lot of commitment on the teachers' part. So, I just wanted to thank them for making that possible for our students.

Mr. Stern – Thank you, Mr. Cleaver.

Mrs. Maholick – Is there some way that they could make a presentation when they come back?

Mr. Cleaver – We absolutely can, yep.

Mrs. Maholick – Okay, great.

Mr. Cleaver – We will do that.

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

Summer Wellness Camp MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the hiring of the following 2019 Summer Wellness Camp positions, at the current contracted hourly rate of pay.

1. **Rachel Quinn** - Teacher
2. **Brandi Lees** – Teacher
3. **Kali Andrew** - Nurse

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

Donation from Lehigh Fire Co. #1 MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Beltz to accept the donation to the general fund of **\$11,500.00** from the Lehigh Fire Co. #1, Inc., to be used for Jacob's Kits and other safety equipment district-wide.

Mr. Holland – I'd like to say thank you to the fire company. That's a fabulous amount.

Mr. Yenser – Can we get a review of what those kits are? I know we talked about it but...

Mr. Cleaver – We've talked and Tanner is here too. Tanner brought this opportunity to us two, three months ago, I believe.

Tanner Eckman speaking from the audience.

Mr. Cleaver – So, these kits are, we're looking to purchase upwards of almost 250 kits. They're kits that'll be in every classroom. And, there's also in addition to the kits, we're looking at mass trauma, I'll call them bags, larger ones, five, which there would be three housed at the schools, also

one at the field house and one here at the administration office. It comes with the Stop the Bleed Kits, it's Jacob's. If you search it, you'll be able to see the bags are small, red pouch that comes in there has different types of emergency supplies there, as well. Again, they came to us and said we want to do something for the district. They took the plan back to the fire company and we're awarded the full amount, I believe, that they requested from them and we'll be soon purchasing once the money is approved, purchasing this kits. Once we get the kits and the bags, we would like to have them and have a bigger presentation here so everyone could actually see what the kits would look like. So, it's all them, I have to be, you know, it's all them, absolutely.

Mr. Beltz – Just one question, is there gonna be training on how to use those in the bag?

Mr. Cleaver – That's part of the, yep, that's part of it too. We're also gonna be talking with the kids and there's a Stop the Bleed program through Geisinger that we're also, that we had discussion and they will actually out and do small presentations for us, as well, to show the kids how to us and the staff as well.

Mr. Stern – Stevie, did you have another comment there?

Mr. Holland – I just wanted to say I really appreciate that the fire company does for the school district. I think it's fabulous that the community is working with the school district and we're working with them.

Mr. Stern – And I'd just like to add, may they never be used.

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

Donation MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to accept the donation to the
Mahoning general fund of \$250.00 from the Mahoning Area Lions Club to be used for the G2
Lions Club (Girls Group) program at Apollo Farms in Palmerton, PA.

Mr. Cleaver – This is the therapeutic farm that the social workers have gone out and inquired about the program and we we're able to get some additional funding to take students to that therapeutic farm. So, again, great work by the staff bringing that option to our students.

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

Donation MOTION by Mr. Beltz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to accept the donation to the
Leighton general fund of \$100.00 from the Leighton Area Lioness Lions to be used for the G2
Lioness/ (Girls Group) program at Apollo Farms in Palmerton, PA.
Lions

Mr. Stern – And, again, it's a further donation from a different Lions Club which is supporting the same program for our students. So thank you to both of those clubs.

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

Donation New York Life MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to accept the donation to the general fund of \$500.00 from New York Life for the Grief-Sensitive School's Initiative at the Lehigh Area Elementary Center.

Mr. Cleaver – Just another program with our guidance counselors and social workers able to offer, again, another opportunity for our kids at the elementary center.

Mr. Stern answered the board room phone at 9:03 p.m.

Mr. Bradley – Hey this is David Bradley, I apologize, I had a family emergency.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

Mr. Bradley – I'll be listening in on my cellphone, thank you.

Mr. Stern – Okay. Could you mute that Dave, we're getting some...thank you. Just to follow up on Motion M., all in favor signify by saying "aye".

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

Title I Conference MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve employee #633 and the District School Board Representative to attend the Title I Conference at Seven Springs Resort, Champion, PA on May 6-7, 2019, at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00. Funding through the 2018-2019 Title I Grant.

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

Natural Gas Basis Contract MOTION by Mr. Beltz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to authorize the Business Manager Administrator to sign a natural gas basis contract on May 7, 2019, to lock in pricing effective July 1, 2019.

Mr. Stern – Any questions from the floor? Just for generalities, what it is, we lock in a rate on the natural gas to support our buildings. It's similar to electric where, with PPL Electric, of course, not with our borough electric, where you're paying a transportation fee and then an actual fee for the goods. So, this is more for the fees of the goods. UGI we still have to pay the transportation fee.

Mr. Stern – I got you as a yes, Dave. Okay?

Mr. Bradley – Yeah, that's a yes.

Mr. Stern – Thank you.

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

All R Services MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the Lawn Mowing Service Contract Extension with **All R Services, LLC**, for the 2019 season.

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

Personnel

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

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

Athletic/ Ex. Curr. MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the **Athletic/Extra-Curricular** hires for the **2019-2020** school year (per attachment).

Mr. Stern – Glad to see some of the past players returning to help our youth, at least in the field hockey situation, that's good news.

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

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

1. **Sydney Schafer** – May 13-August 4, 2019/Reading Specialist Internship
2. **Trevor Miller** – July 15-August 1, 2019/Using Assessment to Guide Instructions
3. **Patricia Ebbert** – April 6, 2019/Pennsylvania Educator Effectiveness
4. **Patricia Ebbert** – May 11, 2019/Special Needs Students
5. **Kevin Kotch** – May 4-31, 2019/Preventing Bullying and Cyberbullying

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

Summer Hires MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve the recommendation to hire the following summer workers, pending clearances:

1. **Logan Lichtenwalner** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
2. **Dylan Ahner** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
3. **Colin Krause** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
4. **Ryan Nametko** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
5. **Kayla Smith** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
6. **Brett Gasker** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
7. **Lucas Sangiuliano** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**
8. **Benjamin Schatz** – Summer Utility Helper – at a rate of **\$ 7.25 per hour**

9. **Virginia Fairchild** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
10. **Mary Ebanks** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
11. **David Kasperski** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
12. **Alicia Moyer** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
13. **Richard Everett, Sr.** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
14. **Kelly Fadden** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
15. **Joseph Beck** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
16. **Richard Armbruster** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
17. **Warren Malick** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
18. **Sandra Sterling** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
19. **Amy Rutan** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
20. **Dolores Serfas** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
21. **Michele Stoffey** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement
22. **Mary Dennis** – Summer Cleaner – as per CBA Agreement

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

Phone call with Mr. Bradley disconnected at 9:08 p.m.

Mr. Stern – Oh, he dropped now, okay. He dropped, okay? If he calls back, I'll bring him back in.

Mrs. Wagner – I'll list it as 8-1.

Mr. Stern – Yep. E., he might have dropped at D., whatever D.

Mrs. Wagner – Okay.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

FMLA MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to acknowledge FMLA leaves for the following employees, not to exceed 12 weeks:

1. **Employee #543** – effective March 15, 2019
2. **Employee #331** – effective March 20, 2019
3. **Employee #787** – effective April 9, 2019

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

MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to accept name clearing hearing report of Hearing Officer Brian Taylor and make said report available for public review.

(This motion moved to beginning of board agenda.)

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

Miscellaneous

- Enrichment Journeys** MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to approve the following School Enrichment Journey requests:
1. **Pre-K Counts (S. Maloney)** – May 8, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. – to travel to Lehigh Memorial Library (No cost)
 2. **LAMS Jazz Ensemble (T. Weidner)** – May 9, 2019 – 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. – to travel to Cypress Lanes for End-of-Year Bowling Party (Student Cost)
 3. **LAMS Jazz Ensemble (T. Weidner)** – May 13, 2019 – 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. – to travel to Cypress Lanes for End-of-Year Bowling Party (Student Cost)
 4. **9th Grade STEAM (G. Potts)** – May 31, 2019 – 7:45 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – to travel to Pocono Raceway for STEAM Activities (Student Cost)
 5. **LAHS FBLA (T. Miller)** – May 31, 2019 – 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. – to travel to Knoebels for FBLA End-of Year Trip (Activities Fund)

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

- Auditors Reports** MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to accept the June 30, 2018 Audited Financial Statements and Auditors Reports as prepared by Maillie, LLP.

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

- Homebound** MOTION by Mr. Wentz, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve homebound instruction for the following student:

1. **Student #59192**

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

- Climate Study** MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser that the Lehigh Area School District conduct a climate study to include students, parents/guardians, and school personnel.

Mr. Cleaver – This is a comprehensive school climate study. There's several of them out there, that are out there, but some of them only include district personnel. We want to try and reach out to as many people as possible. I am waiting for additional information to come back because I asked do they have the flexibility to do it online or a paper copy. As soon as I get that information, I will share it to the board.

Mrs. Spinelli – I'd also like to say that this is something that I recommended several months ago and we looked into a couple different kinds. This one is at no expense to us. Am I correct, Mr. Cleaver?

Mr. Cleaver – I'm not 100 percent from what I understand it is.

Mrs. Spinelli – It is? Okay. And, the other one...

Mr. Cleaver – If it is, I'll bring that back.

Mrs. Spinelli – Alright, thank you. The other one we looked at with PDE and that was not taken for the simple reason that they do not calculate the results and I felt it would be better if a third party did all of the calculation rather than anyone in the district. So, that's why we're going with this one, thank you.

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

Copyright Logo MOTION by Mr. Holland, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz that the solicitor is directed to send a letter to the individual that has used the District's copyrighted logo on an unauthorized mailing to cease and desist from further unauthorized use.

Audience Member – How does one use that?

Mr. Cleaver – Just for clarification they need to get approval from us, it's copyrighted, so they need to get approval from us. Many of our PTO's and different things have you. Actually, if you look, the copyright of our Indianhead is actually copyrighted looking to the right and looking to the left. So, it's copyrighted both ways and the "L" with the logo. So, they need to get approval from us. So, that's really how the process works. I'd recommend going through Kyle Spotts, that's who's done it in the past. They've gone through Kyle. Kyle Spotts.

Tom Wertman – Which logo are we actually representing? Are we representing the spearhead or are we also representing the Indian Chief?

Mr. Cleaver – There's three logos. There's the "L" that has the spear going through it is copyrighted. We don't have to do both ways because an "L" is an "L". Goes the other way, it's not an "L" anymore. But with the Indianhead, we have it so whether the Indianhead is looking to the right or whether the Indianhead is looking to the left. So both of those are copyrighted by the district. Yes, so there's three logos. 'Cause there is other things you see around town but those three are the only ones that the district has copyrighted privileges to.

Barbara Bowes – Can I ask a question? So that would mean that, I assume, it was Kyle that's given permission to whoever's using it for political fundraiser or any of that?

Mr. Cleaver – Kyle would have to give permission, yes, to anyone.

Barbara Bowes – Okay.

Mr. Cleaver – And, realistically, when you ask us what is it being used for, if it's to promote education, to promote if it's a PTO that's using it or what have you, we just have to go through Kyle, yep. Kyle's the one that has the copyright information.

Audience member speaking.

Mr. Cleaver – Yeah, you could come to the board, I would imagine. I don't know that we've ever denied anyone that's asked at this point. I can't guarantee, that I want to speak, but I'm not aware of that happening.

Ms. Beers – I would like to comment that I just think it's a little bit of a slippery slope. I think a lot of folks in town feel, you know, a patriotic sense about the school and a lot of folks use the school colors. A lot of folks use the Indian. And, I think if we point out one person and target a person who, you know, I'm not gonna debate how this person used the Indianhead, but I just, I think that if we single out a person here then it might lead to a lot of tit for tat and a person saying, that person used the Indianhead, did they call Kyle? You know, and I just, I just really feel like we shouldn't block anyone from using the mascot.

Mr. Stern – I kind of disagree because you don't want it to be used for any purpose at all. I mean, it could be used, if you think about it, Joy, there's good purposes and bad purposes, right?

Ms. Beers – Right.

Mr. Stern – So, I think if the school had to copyright it, they make take control of the use of the logo, that's part of the responsibility of having a copyright.

Ms. Beers – So then, Larry, I would counter that a person might debate about what is a good purpose and what is a bad purpose.

Mr. Stern – It depends on how it's published and how it's used.

Ms. Beers – Correct. So then why not make a motion to bar any person not associated directly with the school to use the... Hold on, let me finish. Cannot use the logo then that way when you see the Indianhead, then you know it has something to do with the school. Otherwise if you're, you know, granting rights to other people then, you know, someone might be using it, I think in the case of this person. And, then people mistakenly think maybe that that information came from the district when it didn't. So then if we're gonna make a motion like this, then it should say not this one person can't use the logo.

Mr. Stern – All it says is without permission, unauthorized use.

Ms. Beers – Okay.

Mr. Stern – So all it is, is somebody has to get authorized use. That's my interpretation. Any further discussion?

VOTE: YES - 7 NO - 1 (J.B.) ABSENT - 1 (D.B.) ABSTENTIONS - _____
Motion carried.

Additional Bus Drivers MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Mrs. Spinelli to approve George's Transportation Company, Inc. list of additional school bus drivers for the school year 2018-2019.

Mr. Yenser - Can we add with all clearances?

Mr. Cleaver - Yeah, before they're on, they have all their clearances.

Mr. Stern - I think it's on the enclosure. Isn't it on the enclosure?

Mr. Cleaver - Yeah and we have copies.

Mrs. Wagner - No but we have copies.

Mr. Cleaver - We have copies of all their clearances on file here too. License, clearances, all their certifications.

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

Programs

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

1. **Strawbridge Studios (Sabrina Felder)** - September 18, 2019 - 7:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Make-ups: 11/13/19 from 10:00 am.-2:00 p.m.) - LAHS Auditorium (Stage) - Grades 9-11 & Staff Photos
2. **LAEC PTO (Mary Lichtenwalner)** - June 7, 2019 - 3:30 pm.-9:30 p.m. - LAEC Gym and Outside Fields - Mother/Son Event
3. **Strawbridge Studios (Sabrina Felder)** - August 7, 8, 9, 2019 - 7:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. (Make-ups: 11/5/19 from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) - LAHS Auditorium (Stage) - Senior Photos
4. **Lehighton Volleyball (Timothy O'Connor)** - Wednesdays, May 29-August 7, 2019 - LAHS Gymnasium - Summer Volleyball League
5. **Lehighton Volleyball (Timothy O'Connor)** - Tuesdays & Thursdays, May 15-August 8, 2019 - 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. - LAHS Gymnasium - Volleyball Practices and Open Gyms
6. **Pale Moon Players (Laurel Zimmerman)** - July 29, 30, August 1, 2, 3, 9, 10 - 5:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. - LAMS Auditorium & Classrooms - Children's Theatre Dress Rehearsals and Performances
7. **Franklin Township Athletic Association (Michael Birnbaum)** - April 16-June 1, 2019 - 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. - Franklin Elementary Outside Fields - Coach Pitch Baseball Practice
8. **LAMS Music Express (Laura Welkey)** - April 15, 24, May 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 2019 - 2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. - LAMS Auditorium - Rehearsals
9. **LAMS Spring Intramurals (Rachel Quinn)** - Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, April 16-June 1, 2019 - 2:25 p.m.-3:30 p.m. - LAMS Gymnasium - Spring Intramurals

10. **LAHS National Honor Society (Melissa Clark)** – April 23, 2019 – 1:45 p.m.-2:20 p.m. – LAHS Auditorium – L.E.A.F. Volunteer Meeting
11. **Pale Moon Players (Laurel Zimmerman)** – May 11 & 14, 2019 – 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – LAEC Classroom (LGI) – Auditions for Summer Children’s Show
12. **LAEC Drama Club (Laurel Zimmerman)** – May 23, 2019 – 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. – LAEC Classroom – Informational Meeting for Drama Club
13. **Franklin Township Athletic Association (Michael Birnbaum)** – April 16-June 30, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. – LAHS Outside Fields – Baseball Practice
14. **LETRS Training (Timothy Tkach)** – June 18, 17, and July 9, 2019 – 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. – LAEC Classrooms – Training
15. **SAT Prep (Michelle Rohrbach)** – April 23, 25, 30, May 2, 2019 – 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. – LAHS Classroom – SAT Prep
16. **Book Swap Committee (Colleen Hoppes)** – May 7, 2019 – 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. – LAEC Gymnasium & Cafeteria – Book Swap
17. **Coding Club (Martha Cox)** – May 15, 22, 29, & June 5, 2019 – 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. – LAEC Computer Lab – Coding Club

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

- 2nd Reading Policies** MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Yenser to approve the 2nd Readings and Adoption of the following Lehigh Area School District Policies:
1. **#103** – Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices
 2. **#104** – Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices
 3. **#222** – Tobacco Use (Pupils)
 4. **#323** – Tobacco Use (Employees)
 5. **#707** – Use of School Facilities

Mr. Stern – And I did notice that, I believe it was, 222 had the addendum. I think it was concerning consult a parent or guardian prior to completing this document.

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

Old Business for Discussion

1. Sale of Franklin and Shull-David

Mr. Cleaver – At this point, we have no more further information on the sale of Franklin or Shull-David. These listings have been posted now for approximately six or seven month maybe now, and we have not had any proposals for these buildings at this time. A lot of people requesting and we’re still showing it. Probably just as recently as about two weeks ago we did show the building, again, to another individual. But, we have had some realtors contact us and again I’ve sent them all the information that we have for the buildings. So, we continue to do that process.

Barbara Bowes – It's been advertised but not advertised because there's not set price or whatever. It might be a consideration to get rid of them prior to this winter.

Mr. Stern – Absolutely.

Barbara Bowes – Maybe do a second appraisal and then put them with a realtor.

Walter Zlomsowitch – You know they're not searchable.

Mr. Cleaver – What's that?

Walter Zlomsowitch – The properties for sale. They are not searchable. You cannot physically find them.

Mr. Cleaver – On LoopNet?

Walter Zlomsowitch – Yes.

Mr. Stern – Did it expire?

Mr. Cleaver – I'm wondering if there, if it was expired. I'm not sure.

Audience members speaking.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

Mr. Cleaver – I'll double-check.

Walter Zlomsowitch – I have another question with Franklin. Was anybody in that lately?

Mr. Cleaver – In the building? We do building checks.

Walter Zlomsowitch – Is there issues with the roof over there?

Mr. Cleaver – There was earlier. We have not had any recently. We did, last time we had an issue, Tremco was out. I can't tell you for sure what they did but since then we haven't, and that was with all this rain and everything. But, we do have individuals who are still doing building checks just to make sure everything.

Walter Zlomsowitch speaking.

Mr. Cleaver – Okay, I did not. I will double-check.

Mr. Stern – And the roof warranty's still through Tremco for several years yet I believe?

Mr. Cleaver – Well, until we don't have it.

Mr. Stern – Okay.

New Business for Discussion

Mr. Cleaver – I just wanted to ask the board if from our discussions today, I'm asking the board for permission to request the Lions Club to be present at our Kindergarten Registration and our Pre-K Registration for the upcoming school year. We'll send, I'd like to send a formal letter. They have the dates but I'd like to send a formal letter, you know, from the district requesting their attendance, you know, at those if the board is okay with that after the discussions we've heard.

Mr. Yenser – I'll make that motion.

Ms. Beers – I'll second that.

Mr. Cleaver – For Kindergarten Registration and also for students who are non-verbal.

Mr. Stern – Any comment from the floor on that?

Coleen Harleman speaking from the audience.

Mr. Cleaver – The motion in July is what your questioning?

Coleen Harleman – Correct.

Ms. Beers – This isn't a replacement of that, correct?

Mr. Stern – No.

Ms. Beers – Okay.

Mr. Cleaver – Well, the motion in July was, I don't have it in front of me.

Mrs. Spinelli – It was to offer. It was just to offer it.

Coleen Harleman read the motion from the audience.

Mrs. Spinelli – And, didn't we discuss at the last meeting offering a day or two a year of bringing it in similar to a blood drive for any student or parent of that student who wishes to come. The Lions would be responsible for permission slips, the whole deal. So we will offer it to everyone but the nurses would still do what they are doing now. They way they're doing it now without any work on their part.

Mrs. Maholick – I think the eye exams are completed for this year, aren't they?

Mr. Cleaver – By the nurses they are.

Mrs. Maholick – Yes. The nurses have completed everything by now.

Mr. Cleaver – The nurses have, yes.

Mrs. Maholick – So it's kind of a moot point at this time. School's almost over.

Mr. Stern – I think we want to get support to get things a little lined up for next year similar to the way blood drives are as Ms. Spinelli explained that we can start figuring out how that can get done.

Mrs. Maholick – I think we ought to change that motion when we've talked to the lions and see how they want to handle it.

Mr. Cleaver – So you want to...

Mrs. Maholick – Let's just leave it.

Mr. Cleaver – Where we're at? And, start over and this is it?

Mrs. Maholick – This is it for now.

Mr. Stern – Okay, great. That's fine.

Mr. Cleaver – So we would have to have a motion...

Mr. Stern – Do we have what it is?

Mrs. Maholick – What's that?

Mrs. Wagner – We're making this motion first for the Pre-K? You want to do that?

Mrs. Maholick – Let's just have a, you know, a discussion on it. Let's have a discussion on it so we get it straight with everybody and let the nurses in on it so we can sit down and have a discussion.

Mr. Cleaver – Probably the easy thing to do is we'll just rescind the motion from July board meeting, so we would need that as a motion.

Mrs. Wagner – Do you want to add that to this?

Mrs. Maholick – No. I would rather not rescind that motion at this point. I mean it's a moot point at this point.

Mr. Cleaver – Yeah, but it's still a motion and I would need to rescind to make the board's okay with moving forward.

Mrs. Maholick – Well you didn't have a problem not going through with it, so what's the difference.

Mr. Cleaver – I know.

Board members speaking.

Mrs. Maholick – What was the atmosphere in July? In July we had an atmosphere of cooperation and everybody wanted to go forward with it.

Mr. Stern – Well, I think what we have to do is, is we do have to, yeah, Mrs. Harleman's probably, we do have to put an item of collaboration on how we're gonna do this.

Mrs. Maholick – I think we need to sit down and discuss how we're gonna do it.

Mr. Stern – I mean, and that's fine.

Mrs. Maholick – And keep them informed and let them have some say 'cause they did say they were not part of it last time.

Mr. Stern – So it should be a part of maybe the next or...

Mrs. Maholick – We were just so enthusiastic and we got together on it and we wanted to work together as nine people and the board wanted to do it and...

Mr. Stern – Next wellness meeting or was it discussed at the past wellness meeting?

Mrs. Maholick – Well maybe we could have Mr. Leon come to the wellness meeting and talk directly with the nurses and we can sit down and do it.

Coleen Harleman speaking from the audience.

Mr. Stern – So, Mrs. Harleman, so everything that Mr. Cleaver pretty much stated from our non-verbal students or our other Life Skills students or as recommended by their IEP's and those types of things to have this supplemental testing for non-communicative students? Can we do that?

Coleen Harleman – Yes. So take away the July Pre-K to 12. Make a new motion to go forward with offering it to Pre-K...

Mr. Stern – Any student that's non-communicative, non-verbal.

Mrs. Howland speaking from the audience.

Mr. Stern – Well, they have the dates. They said they would be here. Okay, so let's get that one done first.

Mrs. Wagner – You don't want to add to rescind and do this?

Ms. Beers – Don't we have a motion on the floor?

Atty. Filer – Let's do the first motion for Pre-K and then we'll worry about the July one because I think nobody knows what we're talking about right now.

Ms. Beers – I supported the motion, so I don't want them changing it.

MOTION by Mr. Yenser, SECONDED by Ms. Beers to send a letter requesting for the Lions Club to do the Pre-K and Kindergarten Registration and non-verbal students for the 19-20 school year.

Byron Schnell – Why isn't the machine approved?

Mr. Stern – That's the states call Byron, not ours.

Mrs. Maholick – Byron, I can answer that. Because it's so new technology they haven't accepted it as of yet.

Byron Schnell – How many years is this being done? How many years has it been done in schools?

Mrs. Maholick – In other states, this is the only eye testing that's being done but Pennsylvania's behind the times. So, that's why it's not included yet.

Ms. Beers – Byron, I recall Dave Leon saying that, I think in Arizona, that they were doing it for 11 years. I'm no expert. I just remember him saying that.

Mrs. Maholick – In Oregon, they did 280,000 eye exams for children in Oregon. So it is the standard in other states.

Coleen Harleman speaking from the audience.

Mrs. Maholick – I was just answering his question.

Mr. Stern – Thank you.

Mrs. Maholick – But, I'm getting a lot of feedback back there.

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

Ms. Beers – May I make a motion at this time, Larry? Are we still under New Business?

Mr. Stern – Yeah, we're still under New Business.

Ms. Beers – Okay, thank you. I would like to make a motion to approve CCTI's annual budget for this past year.

Mrs. Maholick – I'll second it.

Ms. Beers – My comment on that would be that in previous years I noticed that we have approved their budget already and we had a presentation from them and I'm comfortable with where they're at.

Mr. Cleaver – I did email Dave today to let him know that it was not on our agenda. I know Patty, I believe I cc'd Patty on that email as well. Would like to get her view of it too. Especially that was the first meeting when she was here to hear their presentation. So, at this point, I would not recommend it but have discussion at the May finance meeting once we've had an opportunity for her to take a look at it because she does have an extensive knowledge of healthcare too. And, that was one of the big questions we had is why there's 2.5 million dollars in a health trust but yet our districts are still being billed for the full yearly amount. So, I know there's some questions that we still would like to get answered. So, I would recommend that we let Patty, with her knowledge of the healthcare field, look at that and get some, you know, some questions from her. Again, but being that it was just, you know, just starting her first day that's why it's not there but we would bring that back for discussion once we get some more answers from the finance. But, that is just my recommendation at this time to take no action.

Mr. Yenser – I agree with that. I'd like a set of I'll call them, fresh eyes, taking a look at it. And, at the end of the day Patty may agree with what Mr. Feick had previously seen. Maybe he doesn't. But at least we get a set of fresh eyes on it. A professional set of eyes, again, part of the administration. I think it's a healthy thing to do to get those fresh eyes on it and I'd appreciate her input. So, I'd like to see that.

Ms. Beers – I heard the concerns at the previous meeting and we also heard from CCTI and they explained a lot of things to us and their fee to us has remained the same per student and I'm comfortable with it.

Mr. Stern – Anybody from the audience?

Mr. Cleaver – Any comments from the audience on the motion for CCTI?

Walter Zlomsowitch – Trades are tough today. There's a lot of kids going there.

Mr. Yenser – I'll speak to CCTI and Lehighton's support of CCTI. I've represented Lehighton at CCTI for gosh at least 6 probably 8 years now. There is nothing that Lehighton has not supported at that school. Including the addition, including all the money. Again, this comes down to more of a, you know, accounting practice in the bookkeeping end of what's happening at the school. From my standpoint, we'll always continue to be more than supportive of all the activities at that school. Voting record will absolutely prove that. You can pull all the voting records from the last 8 years. It will prove that this has nothing to do with our support of that school. I mean, you're absolutely right. The trades are more in demand now than ever. We supported the full-time students up there. We've supported our students by offering full-time and part-time at that school. Anything we could do to get those kids up at the school. In fact, from guidance working, I don't know if you want to jump in Ms. Howland. Working with guidance back and forth. We are doing everything we possibly can to get kids up there.

Walter Zlomsowitch speaking from the audience.

Mr. Yenser – Yep, we absolutely do that.

Walter Zlomsowitch – They make more money going to a trade school and not have that student loan at the end of the day.

Mr. Yenser – Absolutely. Absolutely. There's some kids that have come out of that school that have done absolutely amazing things. It's quite remarkable.

Mrs. Spinelli – So your recommendation then, Mr. Cleaver, is to wait until we discuss this at the May finance meeting because there are accounting concerns or concerns about balances or whatever you call it.

Mr. Cleaver – Just, again, like I said just with Patty being new and her in depth knowledge of the healthcare field, there may be options for, you know, for her to offer recommendations to them looking at the process and what have you. I just would like to have someone, you know, else looking at it to double-check even our questions that we had as well and to go from there because, again, there's been a large discussion on the amount of fund balance they have up there and also a large discussion on the amount of money in that health trust that's in addition to the fund balance that they represent. So, that's the only recommendation I have.

CCTI Budget MOTION by Ms. Beers, SECONDED by Mrs. Maholick to approve CCTI's annual
Denied budget for this 19-20 school year.

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 - 2 NO - 4 ABSENT - 1 ABSTENTIONS - 2

Motion denied.

Mr. Stern – And, it is not any inclination of our support for CCTI.

Mr. Yenser – Correct and I don't know that this will have any bearing on our final vote on that budget as it comes forward again.

Mr. Stern – And as a final point, it not being on the agenda. You did communicate with Mr. Reinbold.

Mr. Cleaver – And I did email him today as well. I know with his meeting and our meeting on the same day, just so he was aware that that was not on the agenda and the reason I was not having at this point was to have, you know, Patty review it.

Mr. Stern – Is there anymore New Business?

Mr. Wentz – Larry, my wife and I had the pleasure of attending the drama club play at the high school and I have to tell you, we had some talented, great kids. Hannah Smith is like out-of-this-world. If anybody got to attend it, you saw a great, great show. I just wanted to let everybody know that.

Directors' Concerns - NONE

Courtesy of the floor / Public Comment

Mr. Stern – Mrs. Bowman?

Gloria Bowman – Withdraw.

Mr. Stern – Mr. Hauser?

David Hauser – I've had my time, withdrawn.

Mr. Stern – Barb? Pass. Fred?

1. Fred Kemmerer, Jr. – End of Meeting

- Once again, I, this is the first time I've talked twice so I appreciate that. With regards to the conclusion of the Bradley/Hauser issue. I'm asking that the members of the committee who decides on what our policies are read through it and make sure that our policies are in lock-step with what the conclusion is and what the five members agreed to the conclusion for. And, if there are any deficiencies just fix them so that we can move forward.

Mr. Stern – I think you've brought up valid points before and I believe that the document was included in the policies or in the handbook. The document was added.

- It's a work in progress. I understand that. I just wanted to make sure that we, the committee just reviews it just to make sure that everything's in lock-step.

Mr. Stern – And, you know, as part of orientation and those things that they should know this is how the whole situation will work should that be needed.

- Yep, very important.

2. David Krause – End of Meeting

- Thank you for the opportunity. I just would like to say it's been nice to hear some civil discourse here. I think we get a lot more done. As a taxpayer, I'd like to hear more about our academic programs, how they're aligned with our strategic plan. Is our assessment data support our program and any changes? What the impact of PDE's targeted subgroups, which Lehigh was included? What are the opportunities there for us? Have we utilized any flexible instruction day? And, what are we doing for professional development to keep up with the changes and the mandates and instruction side of things to stay up with best management practices. The last thing is what's the update on the bullying incident. I know that's still a hot topic right now and what is our report. What are the statistics of the reporting, bullying?

Mr. Stern – Of the report that was in the Times News was challenged or?

- Yes.

Mr. Stern – The Safe2Say?

- Safe2Say, that's what it was.

Mr. Cleaver – It's a state program. We are currently at about 30 plus reports. They've all been, you know, addressed. All the, you know, as what required to do. Some of them did require assistance from the local police force. And, I will tell you that they have been fantastic to work with. When they get their information as well, sharing the information. And, our counselors, I

mean they're busy, you know, there's a lot coming through but as far as any type of you know false reports, I wouldn't necessarily call them, reports that were definitely unfounded when we, you know, questioned them.

- Sure. Well I just think it's good to talk about that and get it out. The more we communicate that. We've spent two meetings and nearly two hours on one issue which has really little to do with curriculum, it's about semantics. And also we continually hear false reporting on our finances. Here's a fact. For tax increases have steadily reduced to zero during the last 14 years and have remained at zero for the last five budget cycles due to well thought out facilities improvement plans and strategic financing that occurred during that period. Improvements at our CCTI also occurred during those same time period. Which has those timely decisions have really protected the taxpayers of this district while making Lehighton the pride of the county. And, if you want, for you visual learners, those are the percent tax increases the last 14 years and you see it's flattened out. Didn't happen overnight. It was due to this board working together. They didn't always agree but we didn't spend hours rambling on about legal issues. So, I commend you for moving forward with all the things that we have, thank you.

Mrs. Howland - I just want to say Cara Palumbo qualified for Nationals for FBLA last week and it just came in kind of after the fact. She'll be representing Lehighton High School at the FBLA National Conference.

Mr. Stern - Thank you, Ms. Howland.

Adjournment

Next regular scheduled meeting is Monday, May 20, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Holland to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia J. Denicola

Patricia J. Denicola
Board Secretary

(Minutes of April 15, 2019, includes Pages 1 through 50.)