

Lehigh Area School District
Lehigh, Pennsylvania
Finance Committee Meeting
Monday June 14, 2016

Agenda

Present

☐ Andrew Yenser	Present 6:10
☐ Richard Beltz	Present
☐ Stacey Duerst	Present
☐ Brian D. Feick	Present
☐ Tina Holmes	
☐ Jonathan Cleaver	

Recording Secretary- Rebecca Ludwig Present

George's Transportation Daily Run Bills for Approval: Handout; Committee approved payment

Authorization for 2016-2017 July 1 bills; Committee approved recommendation of payment of bills for July 1 and Mr. Feick explained they will be included in the July Board bill for review but the checks will be sent out.

PSHIC Performance Review: Handout; Mr. Feick reviewed the handout and explained that the final numbers will not be available until August/September due to the fact that claims will still coming in. Mr. Feick expects a return again this year. Ms. Bowman asked where that money is applied. Mr. Feick responded it goes direct back towards health benefits. Mr. Yenser asked if any other districts or employers had joined Benecon. Mr. Feick stated that not to his knowledge but he has been in discussion with CCTI and other districts. CCTI has stated they are comfortable with their insurance consortium. Mr. Feick explained a recent issue that was brought to the Business Office attention to the attending members in on the merger and that some of the employees were getting responses for procedures that they are not covered under the insurance plan. Mr. Feick explained this is due to the merger between BCNEPA and Highmark Blue shield. The issue has been addressed.

2016-2017 Insurance Policies: Handout; Mr. Feick reviewed with the committee the coverage the district receives and the pricing for the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Feick briefly explained the cost per coverage and the increase for the student accident coverage. Our student accident insurance has increased slightly due to the increase in student claims but not by much. Mr. Feick spoke to the surrounding districts and shared with the committee that the increase the other districts are at a much higher percentage than LASD.

2015-2016 Budget Update: Handout Reviewed the use of fund balance was discussed. Mr. Feick stated that until the state adopts a budget it is best to stay with the previous years numbers and feels that the use of fund balance should be approximately \$900,000 for the current year and may be lowered depending on the monies coming back to the district.

- **2016-2017 Homestead/Farmstead Resolution: Handout;** Mr. Feick spoke to the committee about the decrease in the number of homes approved explaining that the district either have homes sold or the property earners are not taking advantage of this option. The review on the handouts with discussion took place with the explanation of the sterling tax (Philadelphia tax credit decrease possibly happening due to fewer working in Philadelphia or that the Philadelphia tax was lowered. Mr. Feick expressed he believes it to be a mix of both reasons listed.

Building Project's Update: Handout Mr. Feick explained that the two change orders that were approved last night will be followed by one more for the middle school. It is in talks now between Sargent and Quandel our construction management firm. The construction management firm feels the price should be a little lower than proposed and Mr. Feick will keep the committee updated on any information he receives.

Elementary Center Bid Schedule/Construction Services: Handout Mr. Feick reviewed the upcoming important dates for the Elementary Center with the attending board members and committee. Ms. Bowman thanked him for the handout and that it helps ease of reading of when the tentative scheduled items will be taking place. Mr. Feick stated he feels confident that the bids should not be outrageous due to the state's moratorium on plan con and contractors are now finishing up major projects and will be looking to find work. The timing should work out very nice for this project by the way it looks currently.

Open Discussion: Mr. Feick brought to the committees attention in reviewing the minutes for the Athletic Committee meeting held earlier in the morning on Tuesday. The board will be approving a list of positions for Athletics. His concern is with the position "Security" that he believes to be a new position. He explained to the committee that in filling out the necessary paperwork for LASD insurance coverage,

one of the questions on many of the applications is “Does the district provide its own security?” Mr. Feick explained his answer has been no. He explained due to contracting out with the security company, it is saving the district approximately \$10k on insurance costs. If this new position has any dealings with directing traffic or detaining a person, including placing a hand on a person. Mr. Feick stated he will need to inform the insurance and the prices will increase. The liability in having a position that would place employees in the way of physical harm will most definitely increase the insurance costs for the district. The committee and attending board members agreed to ask Mr. Spotts to remove that position for approval ask for more information and discuss what the job description is. It was felt that in the districts best interest this position should be researched and an informed decision should be made by the Board as a whole in the direction to take the new position. Mr. Feick asked if any of the attendees would like to see the track. He explained they had completed the lining of the track. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday July 12th, 2016 6:00 p.m.
BDF/rem