

Lehigh Area School District
Lehigh, Pennsylvania
Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday October 11, 2016

Agenda

Present

☐ Andrew Yenser	Present
☐ Richard Beltz	Present
☐ Stacey Duerst	Present
☐ Brian D. Feick	Present
☐ Gloria Bowman	Present
☐ Tina Champ	
☐ Jonathan Cleaver	

Recording Secretary- Rebecca Ludwig Present
Pledge Allegiance

George's Transportation Daily Run Bills for Approval (enclosure): Handout Review of transportation bill. Mr. Yenser: Yes, Mrs. Duerst: Yes, Mr. Beltz: Yes and Ms. Bowman: Yes. George's Daily Run has been approved for payment.

Panther Valley Transportation Bill for Approval (enclosure): Handout; Mr. Feick explained to the committee and attending members that an unusual circumstance arose this year with the closing of Our Lady of Angels parochial school. One family chose to enroll at St. Jerome's in Tamaqua. They had a special request for their current circumstance. Mr. Feick and Mrs. Champ devised a plan with Panther Valley SD that they will bill us for the transportation cost for the pickup and delivery of our family that was in need. Mr. Feick stated that this is only an agreement and it was made very clear that if any other Lehigh students enroll at St. Jerome's then the family will become responsible for the payment to Panther Valley for transporting their children as we are only responsible to transport from their home to school and back to their home. The committee and all attending members thanked the Business Office for finding a solution that works best for all involved and accommodating the family in their time of need while saving the district money.

QZAB resolution (enclosure): Handout; Mr. Feick explained this handout will be placed on the Board Agenda for October so that if decided to accept and close the QZAB. We

will have the opportunity to go back 60 days to reimburse accounts for the payments made from the last two Board Meetings (August & September). All in attendance agreed to have this placed on the October agenda.

Building Project's Update: Handout; Mr. Feick reviewed the handout in the packet. A short discussion on what is still needed occurred. Mr. Feick stated he was just made aware that 120 stools will be needed for the Middle School lab room. The student chairs originally thought to work will not due to height of the lab tables.

Open Discussion: Mr. Feick explained to the Committee that Mrs. Champ had been working on the transportation contract when he was first hired. He relayed to the committee and attending members that Tina had the forethought to include a fuel de-escalation clause and the result of that has returned at least \$50,000 back to the district.

This revenue is something that the majority of districts did not think to include and Mr. Feick wanted the attending members to know that Mrs. Champ is totally responsible for our district benefiting with revenue that was not accounted for in budget.

The committee members were very grateful to Mrs. Champ's negotiation strategies and that she thought ahead to see how to save the district money. Kudo's were given.

Ms. Bowman asked about Budget. Mr. Feick explained that 2017-2018 budgeting is underway. Emails are now out to complete the budget worksheet by October 31 and to set up a meeting with Mr. Feick to discuss the needs. After that occurs, he will sit down with Mr. Cleaver and they will review portions of the budget that needs to be increased or decreased. Curriculum for example will need to look at book purchases. Mr. Feick explained that he will bring the budget to Finance then and discuss with the committee members/board members on the direction they wish to go. The attending members asked Mr. Feick what he feels the district needs to do for improvements and he stated that technology needs to be looked into. A discussion on the need for technology, implementing a plan of action, setting deadlines and training staff members all resulted from this discussion. The committee requested that conversations with districts that have completed the one to one vision in technology and how the plan worked, how many bumps or issues happened, if there were specific points that needed more attention. The attending members stated that this is the future; they would like to see this happen sooner than later. This is an item that will be discussed in the near future with the Academic or Curriculum Meetings.

The request for Mr. Feick to find out what our insurance would increase to if we hired our own staff to provide security at planned events. What would the deductible increase

(any and all information) on the cost for this. Mr. Feick stated he will gather the information.

Mr. Feick wanted to inform the committee that the other insurance brokers have not returned any information to him and his belief is that they could not beat the current cost. Claims are claims and he would love to see a statewide consortium as he had stated in the paper but this is highly unlikely to occur.

Mr. Feick at this time asked if the committee would be willing to move the November meeting to the Monday November 14th due to the 8th being election day. Mr. Willard from PFM will be presenting an updated 5 year projection. The committee agreed to move the November Finance Meeting to the 14th. This will be advertised after the board meeting to include any other meetings that need to move.

Next Meeting moved to November 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Board Room

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday November 8, 2016 6:00 p.m.
BDF/rem