

Lehigh Area School District
1000 Union Street
Lehigh, PA 18235
Monday, July 25, 2022 at 7:00 PM
BOARD MEETING - MINUTES



1. Opening Exercises

A. Opening Exercises

Opening exercises included the Pledge of Allegiance and observed a moment of silence.

B. Call to Order

Board President, J. Beers called the Board Meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

C. Meeting Announcements

An Executive Session was held on June 27, 2022 at 6:00 PM for personnel and legal discussions. A Board Meeting was held on June 27, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

A Workshop Meeting was held on July 11, 2022 at 6:00 PM

A Special Board Meeting was held on July 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM to discuss a Board Vacancy.

An Executive Session was held on July 18, 2022 beginning at 7:45 PM and ending at 8:15 PM for personnel discussions.

An Executive Session was held prior to this Meeting at 6:00 PM for personnel, legal discussions and the review of the Safety and Security Report for the 2021-2022 School Year.

The next Workshop Meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

D. Roll Call

PR/AB

PR	Ms. Joy Beers	PR	Mr. Nathan Foeller	PR	Mrs. Kerry Sittler
PR	Mr. Richard R. Beltz	PR	Mr. Jeremy Glaush	PR	Ms. April Walker
PR	Ms. Barbara Bowes	PR	Mr. Brian Shaner		Vacancy

Also Present:

Mr. John W. Corby, Acting Superintendent

Mr. Edward Rarick, Business Administrator

Ms. Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary

Christina Fish, Dache Zelrick, Janice Collins, Jim Blakeslee, Aaron Sebelin, Heather Neff, Janice Bowman, Fred Kemmerer, Jarrad Hedes, Suzanne Howland, Stephen Ebbert, Amanda Citro, Samantha Kistler, Michele Dobrowski

E. Presentations/Recognition

None at the time

F. Public Comment

D. Zelrick questioned the lines for paving. E. rarick said they would work on it. D. Zelrick reviewed her concerns in the handbooks such as energy drinks in the Middle School handbook and others such as immunizations. She also mentioned that buy-outs to attend would violate a 501 C3. S. Ebbert stated that immunizations were listed in the MS handbook because they are required to take place in 7th grade as per state guidelines. B. Bowes questioned if the state required it for Kindergarten. D. Zelrick said yes but not in Pre-K. A. Sebelin said he would discuss that with the nurse.

J. Collins recommended roll call votes to take place in order for a reference of votes. She mentioned how data collected was not correct. She explained that 50% of students were underperforming and health information has no right in the school. She said she did not believe that the CDC, WHO and the two hospitals belong in the schools. She mentioned how the federal lunch money received was requiring schools to have transgender bathrooms. She wanted to know who was seeing the stipulations. B. Bowes said they have not seen the stipulations yet but were working on it. J. Collins was concerned about the Pre-K handbook and not allowing students to bring in cookies, chips or soda into the school. She said she was being taxed by the District without representation because it was not being locally run. She asked who handled the grants. J. Beers said T. Tkach right now. J. Glaush said they just spoke with Mr. Tkach in an Executive Session for more information on Grants. J. Collins asked the admin to dig deep.

J. Bowman asked to have a roll call vote for the Title I, Pre-K Handbook, the Health and Safety Plan, Pathstone and the Independent Evaluation. J. Beers explained that anyone voting no could be added to the minutes for clarification. The Board agreed.

G. Board Vacancy

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by A. Walker, to appoint Heather Neff as a Board Member for the term of July 25, 2022 until the Reorganization Meeting following the municipal election in 2023.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

A Citro, Notary, performed the oath of office for the swearing in of Heather Neff. H. Neff took a seat at the Board table.

H. Reports

Superintendent

J. Corby gave the following report:

"First, a very special "thank you to the entire staff that is working so very hard throughout the summer. Many times people think that since school is not in session, there's really nothing to do around here. That's simply not true.

Getting buildings and grounds cleaned and ready for the new-year is a monumental task. Manning offices, phones, new-year communication going out to our homes and staff, is an all day, every day job. Administrators interviewing new teachers and staff takes hundreds of hours. The list goes on and on and I wish I could point out the many tasks each and every 12 month employee is faced with not only throughout the summer, but the entire year, but I know I would miss someone or something. Look, this is not complaining, what this is meant to be is for me and the Board to recognize these efforts and to express our sincere appreciation for all you do, your efforts and dedication do not go unnoticed and they are sincerely appreciated....thank you!

One of Lehigh's own, Matthew Kuznicki, who is a Precision Machining Student at CCTI recently captured a Gold Medal at the Skills USA National Competition in Atlanta. A big, sincere congratulations to Matthew, his parents and the great staff at CCTI."

J. Corby stated that N. Foeller and S. Howland attended the CCTI event. S. Howland said that M. Kuznicki was recognized at a surprise ceremony and received multiple citations from local representatives. She said he is an exceptional student and part of the cooperative program. She said Bill Marks spoke about him and how he will continue his education at Thaddeus Stevens. N. Foeller stated how it was a fantastic ceremony and M. Kuznicki was one of many students that placed. He felt it was nice that students could be showcased by employers.

Business Administrator

E. Rarick gave the following report:

"The business office is pleased to report the PJM Demand response program has been a success. Since there was no event that took place in the power grid, the test event held on June 23rd was utilized to establish the district's ability to curtail power and confirm compliance with the program. The only building currently enrolled in the program is the Elementary Center, and our year one goal was to curtail usage by 25%. The resulting curtailment action generated a \$1,225 reimbursement from PJM. If there is no resulting winter event and we should be able to double that return. With the action the board took last month to approve new meters for our High School and Middle School, we expect all 3 buildings to be enrolled in the program for next summer, increasing the benefits reaped by participating in the Demand Response offering."

I. Minutes

MOTION by N. Foeller, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve the Minutes of the June 27, 2022 Board Meeting, July 11, 2022 Workshop Meeting and the July 18, 2022 Special Board Meeting.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

2. Financial Matters

A. * Donations

* MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to accept the following donations:

1. \$1,000.00 from the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Inc., to be used for the attendance program.
2. \$3,500.00 from Lehigh Fire Co. #1, Inc., to be used for the Elementary Center: Storyworks, Storywork3, Generation Genius, and Mystery Science.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

B. * Assessment Appeal

* MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to authorize Fox Rothschild LLP to enter into an agreement for the property located at 877 Interchange Road in Franklin Township and further identified as Tax Parcel No. 70-12-A8.08,15 setting the assessment of the property at \$1,450,800 for tax year 2022 and for each subsequent tax year until a change in the property's assessment pursuant to applicable law.

Summary: This matter involves a 2022 annual assessment appeal initiated by the taxpayer. Following a hearing on the appeal, the Board of Assessment left the property's assessment unchanged at \$1,716,738, and the taxpayer appealed the Board of Assessment's decision to the Carbon County Court of Common Pleas. The School District intervened in the appeal. The matter is currently pending before the Carbon County Court of Common Pleas. The property is improved with a 78-room Hampton Inn.

Property address: 877 Interchange Road in Franklin Township

Tax Parcel No.: 70-12-A8.08,15

Assessment / approximate implied fair market value: For tax year 2022, assessment of \$1,716,738 and implied fair market value of \$5,722,460 (or \$73,365 per room) based on 30% common level ratio

Taxpayer's value: A value of \$3,900,000 (\$50,000/room)

Settlement: A value of \$4,836,000 (\$62,000/room) and assessment of \$1,450,800 for tax year 2022 based on the 30% common level ratio.

The above proposal equates to a value of \$62,000/room for the 78-room hotel and represents the approximate middle point between your requested value of \$50,000/per room and the current value of \$73,365/room based on the property's current implied fair market value.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Vice President	X	0	0	0
Ms. Barbara Bowes, Treasurer	X	0	0	0
Mr. Nathan Foeller, Member	X	0	0	0
Mr. Jeremy Glaush, Member	X	0	0	0
Mr. Brian Shaner, Member	0	X	0	0
Mrs. Kerry Sittler, Member	X	0	0	0
Ms. April Walker, Member	X	0	0	0
Ms. Heather Neff, Member	X	0	0	0
Ms. Joy Beers, President	X	0	0	0

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 1 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

C. * George's Transportation Agreement

* MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by J. Glaush, to approve the agreement with George's Transportation for student transportation for the 2022-2023 School year, as well as the field and athletic trip rates.

B. Shaner questioned why the district was pre-paying for services. E. Rarick said with the beginning of the school year beginning a month before billing, it was common practice. N. Foeller confirmed that the bills would come up at Finance Meetings in the past and then the payment would not be ratified until Board Meetings. B. Shaner asked if the District negotiated fuel prices. E. Rarick said there was no discussion for altering the rate for fuel. B. Shaner questioned why it was not discussed. E. Rarick said he could have that discussion if the Board wishes to do so. B. Bowes stated that with COVID, there were a lot of items that Mr. George did not change for the District in the past. She believed that Mr. George genuinely cares for the community and the students and thought it was a fair contract. She said she would like to review fuel rates but should have enough budgeted. N. Foeller felt Mr. George was always very reasonable and generous with the District and felt he would have to raise other costs to then accommodate for the fuel rates. B. Bowes asked for the previous contract to review. N. Foeller felt the contract was competitive. B. Shaner believed his job as a Board member was to represent the taxpayers and did not agree to the fuel rates.

VOTE: YES - 8 NO - 1 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

Consent Agenda utilized for items D-E

D. * KRE Security

* Approval of the agreement with KRE Security for security related professional services for the 2022-2023 school year.

B. Bowes mentioned that she was happy with the KRE Agreement. J. Glaush asked for the District to be more diligent with communication to KRE. J. Corby stated the request had been delivered.

E. * BHA Agreement

* Approval of the agreement between Behavioral Health Associates (BHA) and the Lehigh Area School District effective for the 2022-2023 school year for general education or special education services as requested by Lehigh Area School District.

MOTION by B. Shaner, SECONDED by N. Foeller.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

F. * School Lunch Prices

* MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to approve the following school lunch and breakfast prices: Prices remain the same from the 2019-2020 school year (Pre-COVID)

Breakfast:

Elementary Center - \$1.00
Middle/High School - \$1.30
Adult - \$1.90

Lunch:

Elementary Center - \$2.50
Middle/High School - \$2.80
Adult - \$4.00

J. Glaush mentioned that he was pleased that the cost did not increase. B. Bowes stated the government would be giving more to the District. E. Rarick said \$0.40 and \$0.15 more.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

G. PFM - QZAB

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to approve the PFM to Invest QZAB sinking fund payments to reduce overall debt service for remaining years of the Series 2014 bond.

E. Rarick explained that the 2014 bond was more unique that it went to a fund before it matures. He explained how it was previously invested and reviewed the schedule for the previous investments for 2016, 2017 and 2018. He said it was a savings of roughly \$40,000. B. Bowes asked what the risk was. E. Rarick said there was no risk because it was from the treasury. N. Foeller asked if it was for funds already in there. E. Rarick said yes and it needed to be approved annually. B. Shaner questioned the current yield. E. Rarick said 2.967% and it was slightly higher than two weeks ago.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

H. Revised Tax Collector Resolution

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to approve the Revised Tax Collector Resolution retroactively for January 2022 until December 2025..

B. Shaner asked what had changed. E. Rarick explained that in item 2 the written dollar amount did not match the numerical value. He said it was a typo that was being corrected.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

Consent Agenda utilized for items I-K

I. Food Service Transfers

Make the following transfer from the General Fund to the Food Service Fund as per the Reimbursements from the Commonwealth:

June State Reimbursement \$1,372.58
June Federal Reimbursement \$44,726.79

J. Activities Funds

Approval of the Lehigh Area High School and Lehigh Area Middle School Activities Funds for June 2022

K. Reports

Approval of the following Reports:

Reports are separated due to the beginning of a new School Year (Fiscal Year)

June 2022

1. Condensed Board Summary
2. Expenditure Report
3. Revenue Report
4. Treasurer's Report

July 2022

1. Condensed Board Summary
2. Expenditure Report
3. Revenue Report

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by A. Walker.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

L. Payment of Bills

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to approve the following Payment of Bills for June and July 2022:

Bills are separated due to the beginning of a new School Year (Fiscal Year)

June 2022:

General Fund:

--Non-Negotiable \$ 0.00
--Regular Checks \$ 56,183.83
--Credit Card \$ 0.00

Debit Card: \$ 113.30

Total: \$ 56,297.13

July 2022:

General Fund:

--Non-Negotiable \$ 10,134.34
--Regular Checks \$1,914,001.44
--Credit Card \$ 0.00

Debit Card: \$ 963.55

Payroll (June): \$1,406,901.51

Food Service Fund: \$ 40,641.77

Total: \$3,372,642.61

B. Bowes asked when the Board would see the final accounting for the 2020-2021 school year. E. Rarick said at the end of August they will close up their books, finalize the grants and close out reconciliation with cyber schools. B. Bowes asked if there was still revenue owed for the last year and if the District would see it and how much it would be. E. Rarick explained that all of the state funds should be in, unless it is grant related and that would be assigned to last year.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

3. Personnel

A. * Resignations for Retirement

* MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by J. Glaush to accept, with appreciation, the following resignations for retirement:

Robert Rehnert - Utility Custodian after 35 years of service to the District, effective January 13, 2023.

B. Bowes thanked R. Rehnert for his service to the District.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

B. * Resignations

* MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to accept with regret, the resignation of the following employees:

***Trevor Miller** - High School Business, Computer, and Information Technology Teacher effective August 23, 2022.

***Laura Schiffer** - High School Social Studies Teacher effective June 29, 2022.

***Grace Sterling** - Summer Cleaner effective June 27, 2022.

Jessica Habas - Middle School Emotional Support Teacher effective September 16, 2022.

B. Shaner mentioned that the date for J. Habas was strange. S. Kistler explained that the District can hold an educational professional for 60 days, in order to bring someone else in more smoothly.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

C. * Substitute Rates

* MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve the following rates of pay for Substitute Teachers:

Rates of Pay for Substitutes:

Teacher: \$110.00 per day for up to 20 days. 21 or more cumulative days for one teacher will be increased to \$120.00 per day and will continue at that rate for any year thereafter.

PSERS Retirees \$130.00 per day.

N. Foeller asked for clarification of the 20 days. J. Corby explained they were cumulative and after the 20 days were completed, the sub would always remain at the \$120.00 daily rate. He explained that this was for regular subs and the \$130.00 per day were for retired teachers since the District did not have to pay for PSERS. J. Glaush asked what other school districts were paying. J. Corby said they were much higher than Lehigh. B. Bowes felt it made the District more competitive.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

D. Superintendent Start Date

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to approve the starting date for Mrs. Christina Fish, Superintendent of Schools, as August 1, 2022 and for her to receive health benefits and all other provisions as outlined in the Superintendent Contract beginning on that date.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

E. Acting Assistant to the Superintendent

MOTION by B. Shaner, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve John W. Corby to start on August 1, 2022 and end no later than October 31, 2022 as the Acting Assistant to the Superintendent at a daily rate of \$600.00 per day.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

F. Compliance Officer/Title IX Coordinator

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to approve the Superintendent, Mrs. Christina Fish to serve in both capacities of Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator as of August 1, 2022

B. Bowes mentioned that at some point this title would move to someone else. J. Corby agreed, saying once a new Assistant to the Superintendent is hired.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

Consent Agenda utilized for items G-H

G. Candidates for Employment

Approval of the following candidates for employment in accordance with the respective contracts:

Justin Smith - Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds - Date effective August 1, 2022 at an annual salary of \$61,500.00

Tyler Harris - High School Social Studies Teacher - Date effective September 1, 2022, pending any necessary paperwork, at a Bachelor's degree Step III with an annual salary of \$45,000.00 with **Simon Tkach** as his mentor

Melissa Armbruster - 12-Month Secretary - Date effective July 11, 2022, at an annual Salary of \$28,028.00.

Michele Dobrowski - 10-Month Secretary - Date effective August 15, 2022, pending any necessary paperwork, at an annual salary of \$24,489.00

Diane Brownmiller - Title 1 Reading Summer Program Teacher at \$31.00 per hour

Jennifer Lorenz - Title 1 Reading Summer Program Teacher at \$31.00 per hour

Candace Gandy - Title 1 Reading Summer Program Teacher at \$31.00 per hour

H. Candidates for the Substitute List

Approval of the following list of requested candidates for the 2022-2023 Substitute List, pending any necessary paperwork:

Melanie DeVore - Substitute Teacher

Tammy Steele - Substitute Cleaner/Paraprofessional/Secretary

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by K. Sittler,

B. Bowes asked why a new addition was added so late. A. Sebelin explained that the need was based on student numbers and they needed an additional teacher.

S. Ebbert introduced and gave a bio on M. Dobrowski as the new 10-month secretary at the Middle School.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

I. Moravian University Clinical Experience Agreement

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to approve the Clinical Experience Placement Agreement with Moravian University for a term of three (3) years.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

J. Student Teacher Placement

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Shaner, to approve the clinical placement of Moravian student, Madison Russ, for the Spring of 2023.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

K. Pre-Approval of Employee Continuing Education Courses

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve the following requests for pre-approval of courses/Programs of Study for employee continuing education:

1. **Employee #1712** – August 29 - December 17, 2022/LLT-545 Problem Based learning through Instructional Technology (\$300.00)
2. **Employee #1712** – August 29 - December 17, 2022/LLT-530 Makerspaces and Technology Enhanced Programming(\$300.00)

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

4. Programs

A. * First Reading of Policies

* MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by J. Glaush, to move the following policies for First Reading for Public Review and Comment:

- 621 - Local Taxpayer Bill of Rights (New Policy)
- 800 - Records Management
- 800.1 - Records Retention/Destruction
- 810.3 - School Vehicle Drivers (New Policy)

B. Bowes questioned Policy 621 saying it did mention Occupational Taxes but not property taxes. She said if there was no control over these taxes, she did not know how this policy affected the District. She said they cannot appeal the rate. E. Rarick explained that they would be able to appeal the tax itself and then direct to the county for an occupational rate. B. Bowes wanted it explained better regarding the ones that the District does not control. J. Corby recommended going to PSBA with the question.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

B. * Second Reading and Final Approval of Policies

* MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to approve the following policies for Second Reading and Final Approval:

- 217 - Graduation Requirements
- 237 - Electronic Devices
- 220 - Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials (This new policy is to replace the current policy 220, due to the change of the policy name)
- 913 - Nonschool Organizations/Groups/Individuals

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

C. * ATSI Plan

* MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by B. Shaner, to approve the ATSI non-designated -non-Title I school plan.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

D. * Student/Parent Handbook - Pre-K Counts

* MOTION by B. Shaner, SECONDED by N. Foeller, to approve the Lehighton Pre-K Counts Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year.

MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by H. Neff, to table the Pre-K Counts Student/Parent Handbook.

A. Walker was uncomfortable with the restriction of bringing in treats. A. Sebelin explained that Pre-K is two hours and they are given a meal and encourage parents to promote healthy snacks. S. Howland explained that Policy 246 has examples of what should or should not be brought into school. J. Collins felt the District had no right to tell parents what to give their children. J. Bowman said there are grants attached to this program and no one stops it. J. Blakeslee mentioned that Pre-K does have a grant and there are specific requirements to follow. J. Collins asked if the District needed the grants. B. Bowes said no, but then taxes would increase. F. Kemmerer asked if it was a requirement or a recommendation. A. Sebelin said they would have to look at it and see how it was written. J. Beers recommended revisiting it at the Workshop Meeting. B. Bowes asked if the monetary value of a late fee was listed last year. A. Sebelin said yes. B. Shaner asked where it was going. A. Sebelin said to the Curriculum office because he did not send out a bill. B. Shaner wanted an update on the billing for late fees. J. Beers mentioned how the Board would like more time to vet the handbooks. S. Ebbert stated how it took time trying to make them consistent across the buildings and that the new policies were being added that were just being approved. The Board discussed energy drinks as a topic. S. Ebbert stated that energy drinks are not meant for anyone under 18 and are dangerous for children as recommended by the nurses.

To Table:

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

E. * Student/Parent Handbook - Elementary Center

* MOTION by N. Foeller, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve the Lehighton Area Elementary Center Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year.

J. Glaush said he would like to table pending issues he had. He said there were cosmetic changes such as the intermediate being listed first and then the primary school, in the welcome letter and with the grading system. He and the Board agreed to move forward with the vote pending the cosmetic changes.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

F. * Student/Parent Handbook - Middle School

* MOTION by J. Glaush, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to approve the Lehigh Area Middle School Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year.

K. Sittler asked for some clarification of some of the Middle School stipulations such as end of year activities with suspensions and detentions and dress code. S. Ebbert explained that students would need 10 incidents and they were looking at more serious infractions that led to out of school suspensions, not just lunch detentions. He also explained how the school nurse would look at the dress code violations and they would allow them to change in private. He said he did not believe they had any dress shoe (heels) violations last year. He said stilettos are dangerous to wear while walking on stairs.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

G. * Student/Parent Handbook - High School

* MOTION by N. Foeller, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve the Lehigh Area High School Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year.

S. Howland said this was edited as suggested today and would like to discuss caps and gowns and colors. She recommended going to one color in order to maintain uniformity and inclusivity. J. Corby recommended the discussion happen earlier this year.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

H. * Student/Parent Handbook - LAVA

* MOTION by B. Shaner, SECONDED by J. Glaush, to approve the ELearn21 Lehigh Area Virtual Academy (LAVA) Student Handbook for the 2022-2023 school year with the addition of B. Bowes reviewing and approving the edits.

B. Bowes was concerned about how the handbook discusses mandated testing for PSSA and Keystone but did not tell parents that they may opt out and how to do so. J. Bowman thanked B. Bowes for bringing that up. C. Fish mentioned that parents would have to look at the test and review questions for anything that may violate their religion. E. Ebbert mentioned that Mr. Brown sent out an alert last year regarding the testing and opt-outs. B. Bowes would like to add it to the handbook. B. Shaner asked who would make the determination. J. Corby said the administration approves the parent request for religious exemption. N. Foeller asked if there was any negative impact to the District for the opt out. C. Fish said it would affect the District's numbers. J. Corby said he would work on the edits and send it to B. Bowes for review and approval prior to posting it.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

I. Health & Safety Plan

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by B. Shaner, to approve the 2022-2023 Health and Safety Plan for Lehigh Area School District with changes as discussed.

N. Foeller had an issue with the District following the guidelines and recommendations of the CDC. He would like to remove guidelines. B. Shaner questioned sections F & G. J. Beers explained that it was a template that comes from the state and did not have the leeway to alter it. J. Glaush recommended removing the two hospitals and just adding contact local provider. The Board agreed. J. Collins asked if the tests were no good then why was the District reporting them. B. Bowes said the District must report positive cases to the state.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

J. Pathstone

MOTION by B. Shaner, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to approve the Public PreSchool Letter of Understanding, Memorandum of Understanding and Protection of Personally, Identifiable Information and Appendix B with Pathstone.

J. Glaush asked for more information about Pathstone. S. Kistler said this was for a Pre-K Program. J. Corby said this was a normal contract we have had with protections. He said the protection of personally identifiable information was to protect parent and student information.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

K. Independent Evaluation

MOTION by N. Foeller, SECONDED by J. Glaush, to approve the agreement with Dr. Steven P. Kachmar for the completion of an independent educational evaluation for a District student.

J. Corby mentioned this was an educational evaluation for a student and was confidential.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

L. Use of School Property

MOTION by B. Bowes, SECONDED by J. Glaush, to approve Use of School Property for the following requests:

1. **LAHS (Suzanne Howland)** – August 30, 2022 – 6:00 - 8:00 PM – High School Auditorium/Building – 9th Grade/New Student & Parent Orientation.
2. **Barksdale School Portraits (Tami Cunfer)** – September 21, 2022 -6:00 AM -2:30 PM - Middle School Old Cafe - Picture Day
3. **Barksdale School Portraits (Tami Cunfer)** – November 1, 2022 -6:00 AM -2:30 PM - Middle School Old Cafe - Picture Make-up Day
4. **Dance with Kim (Kim Semmel)** - May 13, 2023 at 8:30 AM-4:30 PM and May 14, 2023 at 10:00 AM-6:00 PM - Middle School Auditorium and Classrooms - 36th Annual Student Showcase
5. **LAEC Library (Diane Brownmiller)** - October 28-November 8, 2022 and March 17-March 31, 2023 All Day - Elementary Center Gym/Library/Lobbies - Bookfairs
6. **LAEC Library (Diane Brownmiller)** - November 2, 2022 5:00-9:00 PM and March 22, 2023 3:00-9:00 PM - Elementary Center Gym/Library/Lobbies - Bookfairs & Family Nights
7. **LABBA (Karen Shaffer)** - August 4, September 8, October 6, November 3, December 7, 2022 and January 5, February 2, March 9, April 13, May 4, June 8, 2023 - 7:00-9:00 PM - Elementary Center Band Room - LABBA Monthly Meetings
8. **LABBA (Karen Shaffer)** - November 18, 2022 6:00-8:00 PM - November 19, 2022 (November 20, 2022 Snow date) 1:00-9:00 PM - Elementary Center Cafeteria/Classroom/Stage - Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
9. **Leighton Baseball Parents Club (Ed Rarick)** - October 22, 2022 - 7:00 AM-5:00 PM - Stadium Away Concession Stand & Admin Parking Lot - Chicken BBQ Fundraiser
10. **LAEC (Aaron Sebelin)** - September 1, 2022 - 4:30-6:30 PM - Elementary Center - Kindergarten Orientation
11. **LAEC PTO (Christina Haupt)** - September 13, October 11, November 8, December 13, 2022 and January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, 2023 - 6:30-8:30 PM - Elementary Center Cafeteria - PTO Monthly Meetings
12. **Leighton Booster Club (Floyd Brown/Zack Kemmerer)** - August 13, 2022 - 9:00 AM-3:00 PM - High School Gym & Wrestling Room - Wrestling Clinic

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

5. Miscellaneous

None at the time

6. Old Business

None at the time

7. New Business for Discussion

A. Board Transparency

J. Beers explained how an item on last weeks' Special Board Meeting was misinterpreted by the solicitor. She said the solicitor thought the District was asking if it was required to list the names of Board Member Candidates and when the issue was clarified by the solicitor, the names were then added to the Agenda. She discussed the limits of transparency discussions with the solicitor. B. Bowes stated how confidentiality keeps some information from being discussed. J. Glaush felt the District suffered many years with no transparency and that this current Board was not like that and they wanted to share as much information as they could. J. Beers mentioned how part of that was with the shift from Committees to Workshop Meetings in order to keep all of the Board informed of all items. J. Glaush stated he cared what the community had to say.

8. Communications

A. Directors' Concerns

B. Bowes asked about Old Business. She mentioned how she felt it was being addressed in Workshop Meetings. B. Shaner mentioned that any Old Business should be added to the Agenda by a Board Member.

B. Public Comment

J. Collins felt this was a good, productive meeting and it was well appreciated.

J. Bowman said she sends the Board a lot of emails and that they should use them as references. She said she appreciated the meeting tonight.

J. Blakeslee said he was the President at the Public Library and mentioned how they were aggressively fundraising. He said they appreciated the District's support and there would be a library meeting tomorrow. B. Bowes asked about putting the millage in the property taxes for the library. J. Blakeslee said that would be discussed in the future. J. Corby mentioned that J. Blakeslee could contact Whitehall regarding the situation, since they had gone through it.

J. Glaush thanked the District for putting the Chromebooks together for the Board.

C. Adjournment

MOTION by K. Sittler, SECONDED by B. Bowes, to adjourn the Meeting.

VOTE: YES - 9 NO - 0 ABSENT - 0 ABSTENTIONS - 0

The July 25, 2022 Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Rarick, Board Secretary
By Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary

* Denotes item was vetted in a Workshop Meeting