

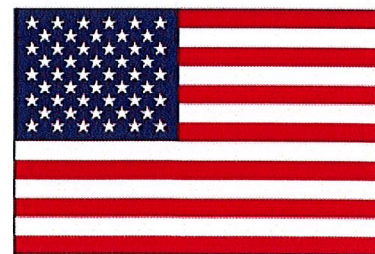
# Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

Special Board Meeting (Virtual)

Monday, June 29, 2020

7:00 PM



Minutes

## Pledge of Allegiance

**Call to Order** - A virtual special board 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 7:04 p.m.

## Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nathan Foeller, Treasurer	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Vice President	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Patricia Denicola, Business Administrator	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney William Schwab, Solicitor ( <b>Atty. Eric Filer</b> )	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Melissa Wagner, Recording Secretary	X	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Public Comment on Agenda

1. **David Bradley**
  - Requested several times today to review the budget. It shows it was printed at 4:00 p.m. today.
  - As per PA School Code, Section 687, it shall be available for review at least 20 days prior to the adoption.
  - Reducing student services by 80%, giving teacher raises.
  - Sinking revenues and raising taxes.
  - Created a budget to present and the board is ignoring it.

2. **Barbara Bowes**

- There's a lot of issues here with the overspending the last 5 years.
- Unmandated educational benefits, special education costs could eat up costs.
- Disappointed that sports were added in and not transportation.
- District is not adhering to the 5% fund balance.
- Need to start following law and policy.
- Input from stakeholders and participants.

**Financial Matter**

**Postpone** MOTION by Mr. Bradley, **SECONDED** by Mrs. Maholick to postpone the adoption  
**Denied** of the budget prior to board and community review of it in official form.

Board members discussed the motion.

Audience members commented on the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nathan Foeller, Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Larry Stern, President	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: YES - 4 NO - 5 ABSENT - \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTENTIONS - \_\_\_\_\_

Motion denied.

2020-21 MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Foeller to adopt the 2020-21 General  
 GF Budget Fund Final Budget.

Board members discussed the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

	Yes	No	Absent	Abstention
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Vice President	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nathan Foeller, Treasurer	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VOTE: YES - 5 NO - 4 ABSENT - \_\_\_\_\_ ABSTENTIONS - \_\_\_\_\_

Motion carried.

**Courtesy of the floor / Public Comment**

1. **Kerry Sittler**

- What happens if there is snowstorm coming and the kids are in school with no buses?
- Where do the kids go? We are a Title I district. We gave students free meals over the pandemic. If parents can't afford lunch or breakfast how do you expect them to get students to and from school?
- When the children were homeschooled, there was no supervision. Not handing in quality work, not held to standards.

2. **Barbara Bowes**

- I'm very disappointed that the board did not look at the budget in detail. Dave's budget should be looked at.
- Nothing against any of you personally, but asking for your resignations.

3. **Thomas Litchauer**

- Not sure the level of detail to the budget, but books were taped together last year. Will students get new books?

4. **Dache Zelrick**

- What changes have occurred from the proposed budget to the final budget?
- Need to all work together and be adults.

5. **Brian Shaner**

- Agree with Ms. Zelrick. Absolutely out of control.
- Mr. Bradley is an elected official and can speak.

6. **Michael Warkala**

- What are you going to do with a snow emergency?
- Not giving transportation.
- Why are we canceling music/instrumental lessons if sports is occurring?

7. **Will Griffiths**

- Transportation has been cut out of the program. How can parents afford to transport their children to school and pay for the tax increase at the same time if they're not able to work?
- Getting kids to and from school is important.
- Paying more taxes for less services.

8. **Laura Moyer**

- Single parent who works a full-time job with three children in the district.
- No way to get them to school without busing. Too far to walk to school.
- Need better options than what are being provided.

**Adjournment**

Next regular scheduled meeting is on Monday, July 27, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION by Mrs. Spinelli, SECONDED by Mr. Wentz to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nathan Foeller, Treasurer	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Vice President	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Larry Stern, President	X	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Patricia J. Denicola*

Patricia J. Denicola  
Board Secretary

(Minutes of June 29, 2020, includes Pages 1 through 4.)