

Lehigh Area School District

Lehigh, Pennsylvania

School Board Meeting
Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 PM

****Executive Session @ 6:15 PM for Contract Negotiations and Personnel.**

Board Meeting Agenda



I. **Pledge of Allegiance**

II. **Call to Order**

III. **Roll Call**

	Present	Absent
Ms. Joy Beers, Member	☐	☐
Mr. Richard R. Beltz, Member	☐	☐
Mr. David F. Bradley, Sr., Member	☐	☐
Mr. Nathan Foeller, Vice President	☐	☐
Mr. Stephen Holland, Member	☐	☐
Mrs. Gail Maholick, Member	☐	☐
Mrs. Rita Spinelli, Treasurer	☐	☐
Mr. Wayne Wentz, Member	☐	☐
Mr. Larry Stern, President	☐	☐
Mr. Edward Rarick, Business Administrator	☐	☐
Mr. Jonathan Cleaver, Superintendent	☐	☐
Attorney Eric Filer, Solicitor	☐	☐
Ms. Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary	☐	☐

*** Notice of Executive Session*

IV. **Presentations/Recognition**

V. **Public Comment on Agenda**

VI. Communications

- A. Superintendent Report - *Mr. Cleaver*

VII. Approval of Minutes

- A. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2020, Board Meeting. (Enc. 1)

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

- B. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Minutes of the December 2, 2020, Reorganization Meeting. (Enc. 2)

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

- C. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2020, Special Board Meeting. (Enc. 3)

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

VIII. Financial Matter

- A. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Lehigh Area High School and Lehigh Area Middle School Activities Fund for November and December 2020. (Enc. 4)

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

- B. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Act 1 resolution certifying that the 2021-2022 school year tax increase will be less than or equal to the 4.2% index calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. (Enc. 5)

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

- C. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the acceptance of the terms of payment for the open invoices for Palmerton School District. The payment scale will be the following (payment request made July of each year listed):

School Year Amount	
21-22	\$57,340
22-23	\$57,340
23-24	\$57,340
24-25	\$57,340
25-26	\$57,340
26-27	\$57,340
27-28	\$57,340
28-29	\$57,340
29-30	\$57,340
30-31	\$57,341.79
Total	\$573,401.79

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

- D. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Payment of Bills for December 2020 (November 24 - December 31, 2020) and January 2021 (January 1-25, 2021):

December 2020

(Enc. 6A)

General Fund:

--Manual Checks	\$ 13,088.65
--Regular Checks	\$ 771,589.88
--Credit Card	\$ 0.00

Debit Card: \$ 0.00

Payroll (November): \$ 1,222,423.69

Food Service Fund: \$ 0.00

\$ 2,007,102.22

January 2021

(Enc. 6B)

General Fund:

--Manual Checks	\$ 7,347.44
--Regular Checks	\$ 2,131,582.06
--Credit Card	\$ 5,116.96

Debit Card: \$ 0.00

Payroll (December): \$ 1,811,830.20

Food Service Fund: \$ 134,019.77

\$ 4,089,896.43

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

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

- E. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to make the following transfers from the General Fund to the Food Service Fund as per the Reimbursements from the Commonwealth: \$86,281.43 for November 2020.

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

- F. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to make the following transfers from the High School Multi-Handicapped Support Function Code (1270), \$5000.00 to the Psychological Services Function Code (2140), \$1500.00 to the Elementary Center Life Skills Support Function Code (1211), \$5000.00 to the Learning Support Function Code (1241).

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

- G. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the following reports:

1. Expenditure Report
2. Expenditure by Object Report
3. Revenue Summary
4. Expenditure Comparison Report
5. Revenue Comparison Report

(Enc. 7)

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

- H. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve exemptions from Per Capita and/or Occupational Tax per the attached lists. (Enc. 8)

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

- I. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to refund the following:

1. Occupational Tax for year 2020 in the amount of \$122.50 to Susan Dietz;
2. Occupational Tax for year 2019 in the amount of \$122.50 to Mary Beth Goldberg;
3. Occupational Tax for year 2020 in the amount of \$125.00 to Alan Sienkiewicz;
4. Occupational Tax for year 2020 in the amount of \$125.00 to Cheryl Sienkiewicz.

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

- J. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the closure of the following accounts XXXXX6259 balance \$1.35 (ACE Grant), XXXXX1170 balance is \$0.00 (Athletic Project), XXXXX3429 balance \$5418.34 (Health Benefits), XXXXX0661 balance\$ 8001.67 (Security Deposit). Balances to be transferred to the General Fund Account.

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

- K. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____, to approve and accept the Special Education COVID-19 Impact Mitigation Grant Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Lehigh Area School District for the 2020-2021 school year. Total Grant Award \$19,619.00. (Enc. 9)

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

- L. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve and accept the Continuity of Education For Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (A-TSI) Schools Grant Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Lehigh Area School District for the 2020-2021 school year. Total Grant Award \$55,050.00. (Enc. 10)

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

- M. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve and accept the Continuity of Education Equity GEER Grant agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Lehigh Area School District for the 2020-2021 school year. Total Grant Award \$39,000.00. (Enc. 11)

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

- N. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to accept the donation to the general funds of \$2500.00 from the Bowmanstown Rod & Gun Club, Inc.

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

- O. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to accept the donation of \$1000.00 from the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley, Inc. To be used for the G2 (Girls Group) program.

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

- P. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Agreement between PenTeleData Services and the Lehigh Area School District, for the eRate services and discounts for the school years 2021-2026. (Enc. 12)

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

- Q. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to appoint the following delegates to the Carbon County Tax Collection Committee:
1. **Edward Rarick**, Delegate
2. **Melanie Windhorn**, Alternate Delegate
- VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
- R. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Lehigh Area High School to offer a Winter Credit Recovery program for students, at a cost not to exceed \$150 per class, using the ELearn 21 system. There will be no cost to the District.
- VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
- S. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to authorize the distribution of Surplus funds from the Public School Health Insurance Cooperative to be refunded by check to the Lehigh Area School District.
- VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
- T. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Tax Collector Compensation Resolution for the term January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2025
(Enc. 13)
- VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
- U. MOTION BY, _____ SECONDED BY, _____ to approve the "Cyber School" agreement and terms between the Lehigh Area School District and Vision Quest National, LTD. ("Vision Quest"). The cost of the program will be recovered by billing the appropriate school districts of participating students.
(Enc. 14)
- VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____
- V. MOTION BY, _____ SECONDED BY, _____ to approve a new affiliation agreement between the Lehigh Area School District and Lincoln Technical Institute (Name Change of the Program) for the purpose of providing experiential learning for Education students for the 2020-2021 School Year.
(Enc. 15)
- VOTE: YES - _____ NO - _____ ABSENT - _____ ABSTENTIONS - _____

IX. Personnel

- A. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the **Athletic** hires as recommended by the Athletic Committee and **Extra-Curricular** hires for the **2020-2021** school year. (Enc. 16)

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

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

1. **Employee # 1393** - February 2 - March 1, 2021/History of Pennsylvania (\$270.00)
2. **Employee # 1439** - February 2 - March 1, 2021/Classroom Instruction that Works/The Psychology of Learning (\$540.00)

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

- C. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to acknowledge FMLA leaves for the following employees, not to exceed 12 weeks:

1. **Employee # 740** - effective November 25, 2020
2. **Employee # 413** - effective November 16, 2020
3. **Employee #1102** - effective January 18, 2021

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

- D. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to accept the intent to retire for the following professional employees, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year (unless otherwise noted) under terms of their respective contract with eligibility of all retirement benefits:

1. **Beth Cressley** - Elementary Teacher - Hired August 10, 1987 - 34 Years of Service
2. **Melanie Dillman** - Elementary Teacher - Hired February 6, 1985 - 35 Years of Service

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

- E. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the recommendation to hire the following employees in accordance with the respective contracts:
1. **Amanda Citro**, as a 12-Month High School Secretary, **Step 2, at an annual salary of \$27,705.00**, prorated for the 2020-21 school year.
 2. **Rachel Atwood**, as a Full-Time Title I Paraprofessional, **Step 2, at an annual salary of \$16,589.00**, prorated for the 2020-21 school year.
 3. **Donald Steigerwalt**, as a Full-Time Utility Custodian, **Step 1, at an annual salary of \$28,555.00**, prorated for the 2020-21 school year.
 4. **Tina Klotz**, as a 12-Month District Secretary, pending receipt of clearances, **Step 1, at an annual salary of \$26,418.00** prorated for the 2020-21 school year.
 5. **Melissa Hunsicker** as a 10-Month Elementary Secretary, pending receipt of clearances, **Step 1, at an annual salary of \$17,527.00** prorated for the 2020-21 school year.

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

- F. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve Ashley Lichtenwalner as the ELA Department Chair for the 2020-2021 School Year, effective December 1, 2020, with a stipend as per contractual rate.

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

- G. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to accept the resignation of the following employees:
1. **Lisa Failla** - Spanish Teacher - effective March 19, 2021.
 2. **Amielia Barhold** - Part-Time Paraprofessional- effective January 29, 2021.
 3. **Brianna Pisauro** - Assistant Cheerleading Coach - effective December 3, 2020
 4. **Rachel Atwood** - Part-Time Paraprofessional - upon approval of Full-Time Paraprofessional position (IX-E-2).

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

X. Miscellaneous

- A. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve Edward Rarick to the appointment of Board Secretary effective January 26, 2021.

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

- B. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the revised Committee Meeting Dates. (Enc. 17)

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

XI. Programs

- A. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve Use of School Property for:
1. **LASD (Suzanne Howland)** – February 26, 2021 – 6:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – LAHS Auditorium – Senior Photo Make-ups
 2. **LASD (Suzanne Howland)** – April 29, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. – LAHS Auditorium – Awards Program
 3. **LASD (Suzanne Howland)** – February 9, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. – LAHS Auditorium – Senior Meeting
 4. **LASD (Suzanne Howland)** – May 10, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. – LAHS Auditorium & Cafeteria – Top 10% Banquet
 5. **Lehighton Ambulance (Keith Heckman)** – January 30, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. – LAMS South Parking Lot – EMS Driver Training

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

- B. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to approve the Second Reading and Final Approval of the following Lehighton Area School District Policies:
1. [Policy #122 – Extracurricular Activities](#)
 2. [Policy #123 – Interscholastic Athletics](#)
 3. [Policy #805 – Emergency Preparedness and Response](#)
 4. [Policy #805.1 – Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies](#)

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

XIII. Old Business for Discussion

XIV. New Business for Discussion

XV. Directors' Concerns

XVI. Courtesy of the Floor / Public Comment

XVII. Adjournment

Next regular scheduled meeting is on Monday, February 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

- A. MOTION by _____, SECONDED by _____ to adjourn the meeting.

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

TIME: _____