Lehighton Area School District
1000 Union Street
Lehighton, PA 18235
Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:00 PM
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING - MINUTES

1. Opening Exercises

A. Opening Exercises
Opening Exercises included the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

B. Call to Order
Board President, J. Glaush called the Board Meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

C. Roll Call
PR/AB

PR	**Ms. Joy Beers**	**PR**	**Mr. Jeremy Glaush**	**PR**	**Ms. Heather Neff**
AB	**Mr. Richard Beltz**	**PR**	**Mr. Sean Gleaves**	**PR**	**Mrs. Kerry Sittler**
AB	**Ms. Barbara Bowes**	**AB**	**Mr. Zachary Hunter**	**PR**	**Ms. April Walker**

Also Present:
Mr. John W. Corby, Acting Superintendent
Mrs Mary Figura, Assistant to the Superintendent
Ms. Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary

Janice Collins, Amy Herring, Janice Collins, Christina Haupt, Kenny Eck, June Potts, Jennifer Mintean, Jonathan Roselle, Kerry Palumbo, Kristen Cremeens, Nicole Collier-Dick, Fenna Millen, Mary Kay Snyder, Tina Newton, Kasara Weinrich, Megan Rodgers, Bill Howland, Jarrad Hedes, Sandra MIchalik, Gretchen Laviolette, Tiffany Strausberger, Sue Howland, Floyd Brown, Mark McGalla, Steve Ebbert, Carrie Vale, EddieJo Herbst, Carly Vincent, Natalie Blair, Jim Blakeslee, Holly Fasching, Syd Vincent, Karla Gadzecki.

D. Purpose of Special Board Meeting
As per the advertisement in the Times News on Saturday, September 7, 2024:
"The Lehighton Area School District will conduct a Special Board Meeting for regular business items on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Administration Building Board Room at 1000 Union Street, Lehighton, PA 18235..."

E. Public Comment
None at the time.

2. Action Items

A. PTD - Bandwidth
MOTION by H. Neff, SECONDED by S. Gleaves, to approve the increase in District bandwidth to 10 GB from PenTeleData with a cost expected around $1,873.00 per month, plus taxes and fees.

G. Laviolette reported on the need to expand the District's internet bandwidth due to recent upgrades and increased usage. Over the past few months, the District had added cloud-based security cameras, a cloud-based phone system, and various other services, all contributing to higher bandwidth consumption. With the District's current bandwidth at one gigabyte, which had not been increased in at least a decade, and the recent return of 2,000 students, the existing capacity was insufficient. To address this, the best option was to upgrade to 10 gigabytes. She stated the quote for the upgrade was $1,893 per month, with current E-Rate funding covering 90% of internet costs, which reduces the District's payment to $978 per month. However, with the increased cost, the District would now need to cover about $1,000 per month. She said this would be the cost for the remainder of the fiscal year, with hopes that future E-Rate applications would continue to provide substantial subsidies, potentially lowering the cost to 10% of the new amount. J. Glaush supported the need for the upgrade, emphasizing the importance of adequate bandwidth to avoid frustrating slowdowns.

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 0 ABSENT - 3 ABSTENTIONS - 0

B. Box Truck Bid Award
MOTION by S. Gleaves, SECONDED by H. Neff, to award the Box Truck Bid # LASD-2024 to Ryder for a total of $32,709.00 for a 2020 Chevrolet LCF 4500HD including extended warranty.

Sale Price - $30,000.00
Extended Warranty - $2,709.00
Total - $32,709.00

J. Corby emphasized the urgent need to replace the District's current Box Truck, which had been frequently requiring repairs and fabrications. He explained how the old truck was increasingly unreliable, and a new one was necessary. He stated that a bid process was conducted to secure the best price, resulting in a bid from Ryder that included an extended warranty, ensuring better future reliability. J. Glaush praised J. Smith and his crew for maintaining the truck in such good condition for as long as possible, but agreed that a replacement was now essential. J. Corby also commended Stacy Gober, the interim business manager, for her effective management of the bidding process, which resulted in cost savings and the best possible price for the new Box Truck.

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 0 ABSENT - 3 ABSTENTIONS - 0

C. School Enrichment Journey
MOTION by S. Gleaves, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to approve the following School Enrichment Journey requests:

MPI - PA Watersheds (Anna Leigh Conway) - (REVISION from September 19,2024) September 24, 2024 - 7:30 AM-9:30 AM - Mahoning Creek - meaningful watershed experience - Creek Study.

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 0 ABSENT - 3 ABSTENTIONS - 0

3. Communications

A. Public Comment
None at the time.

B. Adjournment
MOTION by H. Neff, SECONDED by K. Sittler, to adjourn the Meeting.

VOTE: YES - 6 NO - 0 ABSENT - 3 ABSTENTIONS - 0

The September 9, 2024 Special Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Karpowicz, Assistant Board Secretary
By Janine Partenio, Recording Secretary