

EASTERN LEBANON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
180 ELCO Drive, Myerstown, PA 17067

Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting
District Board Room
Hybrid (In-person or via Zoom)

November 4, 2024

The Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, David Ziegler at 6:00 p.m.

The Eastern Lebanon County School Board met in a Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Session (hybrid – in-person and via Zoom) with President David Ziegler presiding.

Mr. Ziegler noted the District is audio recording the meeting and the audio recording will be posted to the district website. Mr. Ziegler also inquired if anyone in attendance was recording the meeting; no one indicated audio recording the meeting.

A Moment of Silent Meditation was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ziegler.

Roll Call

Board Secretary, Lori Mosser called the roll. The following members were present: Mrs. Kantner, Mrs. Morrissey, Mrs. Moyer; and Messer's Ferrari, Jr., Kahl, Kramer, Ondrusek, Santos, and Ziegler. Also, in attendance were the following from the administrative team: Mrs. Vicente, Dr. Davis, Mrs. Mathias, Mrs. DeHaven, Ms. Haas, Mr. Treese, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Ressler, Mrs. Houck, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Springborn, Mrs. Shoemaker, Dr. Mecca, Mr. Ludwig, Mr. Boltz, Mr. Dresch, Mr. Mealy; Mrs. Hanichak, Mrs. Mosser; and faculty/staff and community members (in-person and Zoom).

Board President Communications

- Welcome and thank you to everyone attending tonight's meeting.
- An Executive Session was held at 5:00 p.m. prior to the Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education meeting to discuss confidential student matters.

Board Committee & Rep Reports

- Personnel Committee – Mr. Howard Kramer
 - No report.
- Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Joya Morrissey
 - No report.
- General Services Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl
 - The next meeting will be held November 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.
- Finance Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl
 - The next meeting will be held November 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.
- IU13 Rep Report – Mr. Ray Ondrusek
 - The next meeting will be held November 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.
- PSBA Rep Report – Mrs. Bonnie Kantner
 - Mrs. Moyer and I participated in the PSBA Delegate Assembly on November 2, 2024.
 - School Board Candidate Webinar will take place January 15, 2025.
- CTC Rep Report – Mr. JP Santos
 - No report.
- Lebanon Co. Tax Collection Rep Report – Mr. Howard Kramer
 - Documents were distributed to board members from the last meeting.

- ELCO Education Foundation – Mrs. Joya Morrissey
 - The next meeting will be held November 14, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Committee – Mr. Howard Kramer, Chairperson

No items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion from Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Ferrari, Jr., and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Committee Items A – F were approved.

- A. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Ryan Gallagher, School Psychologist, effective December 26, 2024.
- B. Approved the official start date of Donna Bixby, full-time Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to October 28, 2024.
Background: This Paraprofessional was approved October 21, 2024, with a TBD start date with the district.
- C. Approved a non-precedent setting stipend to Amy Shoemaker, Director of Pupil Services, in the amount of \$4000.00 for unanticipated work during the period of August 5, 2024, through October 18, 2024.
Background: The additional work is due to the resignation of the Director of Special Education and concluded on the first workday of the newly hired Director.
- D. Approved the following individuals for the 2024-2025 Winter Sports Season, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.

Girls Wrestling	Varsity Head Coach	Chad Miller
Boys Wrestling	Volunteer Coach	Kenneth Miller
- E. Approved the following individuals for the 2024-2025 Spring Sports Season, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures.

Girls Softball	Varsity Asst. Coach JV Head Coach	Randy Derr, Sr. William Barshinger, III
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- F. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO volunteer listing for the 2024-2025 school year, as listed, (Noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file):

Robert Bird	Olivia Boltz
Ashley Dubble	Samantha Hill
Ashley Lease	Lindsay Patt
Melanie Warnick	

Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Joya Morrissey, Chairperson

No items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion from Mrs. Morrissey, seconded by Mrs. Moyer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Curriculum Committee Items, A-C were approved.

- A. Approved the expulsion hearing waiver agreement with parents and student (24-25-01) that accepts the proposed expulsion of the student for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
- B. Approved a trip and travel request from Jonathan Bickel, High School English teacher, chaperone, and approximately 38 students, to travel and participate in the Veterans History Project to be held in Washington, D.C., on April 25, 2025.
Background: This is an annual trip to present projects to VHP Director and tour the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian, and various war memorials. Costs of the trip are budgeted.
- C. Approved a trip and travel request from Elaine Mathias, Business Manager and Megan Hanichak, Assistant Business Manager, to travel and attend the Business Administrators Professional Development Conference to be held in State College, PA., on November 6-8, 2024.
Background: This is an annual conference that has been budgeted.

Policy Ad Hoc Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chairperson

No items were requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion from Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Mr. Kahl and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Policy Ad Hoc Committee Items A-N were approved.

- A. Approved Policy 220 – Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. A minor language revision was made to remove extracurricular programs from the purpose.
- B. Approved Policy 221 – Dress and Grooming for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.
- C. Approved Policy 222 – Tobacco and Vaping Products for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. Revisions include the removal of references to JUULS as this is a specific brand, revised language for incident reporting to PDE per school code, replaced the term “local police department” with “law enforcement agency” to align with school code.
- D. Approved Policy 223 – Use of Motor Vehicles for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. Minor language changes. Guideline language changed to reflect language in student handbook.
- E. Approved Policy 224 – Care of School Property for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.
- F. Approved Policy 226 – Searches for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.

- G. Approved Policy 227 – Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. The purpose statement was updated with minor language changes including revised language for incident reporting to PDE and replacing the term “local police department” with “law enforcement agency” to align with school code.
- H. Approved Policy 228 – Student Government for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no content revisions, just minor formatting changes.
- I. Approved Policy 229 – Student Fundraising for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. Language was removed addressing organizations outside of the district that are permitted to conduct fundraising. This language will be covered in Policy 913.
- J. Approved Policy 230 – Public Performances by Students for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.
- K. Approved Policy 231 – Social Events and Class Trips for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. A minor revision was made at the end of the policy to include a reference to school code.
- L. Approved Policy 232 – Student Involvement in Decision-Making for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.
- M. Approved Policy 233 – Suspension and Expulsion for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.
- N. Approved Policy 235 – Student Rights and Responsibilities for first reading. (Board Attachment)
Background: Policy reviewed by committee. There are no language revisions; the review date will change.

General Services Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chairperson

On a motion from Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, General Services Committee Item A was approved.

- A. Approved five preventative maintenance proposals from McClure Company for boilers, chillers, and hot water heaters for the 2024-2025 school year in the amount of \$22,372.00. (Board Attachment)
Background: This is a renewal contract for one-year in the amounts listed: Fort Zeller Elementary \$3,888.00, Jackson Elementary \$4,404.00, Intermediate School \$972.00, Middle School \$5,660.00, and High School \$7,448.00. This is under Costars contract #008-E23-1046. Costs have been budgeted.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Committee – Mr. Howard Kramer, Chairperson

- No items for discussion.

Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Joya Morrissey, Chairperson

- No items for discussion.

General Services Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chairperson

- No items for discussion.

Finance Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chairperson

- No items for discussion.

Superintendent's Report

- Principal Reports
 - Mrs. Megan Ressler - Jackson Elementary School
 - Our Veterans Day breakfast will be on Monday, November 11, 2024. We have over 60 veterans that will be attending.
 - Parent-Teacher conferences will be occurring on November 25-26, 2024. This is the first year we are using PTCFast for scheduling, this is used in all buildings and should help coordinate parents scheduled times if they have conferences in different buildings.
 - Mrs. Jodi Houck – Fort Zeller Elementary School
 - Our annual Veterans Day breakfast will be on Monday, November 11, 2024. Between the two elementary buildings we have over 120 people attending.
 - Both elementary buildings are preparing for Parent-Teacher conferences on November 25-26, 2024. We look forward to continuing to build relationships with our families.
 - Dr. Michael Gerhart – ELCO Intermediate School
 - K-5 Title I Family Night was held October 29, 2024. Parents were informed as to the federal guidelines for this program and how they may supplement their child's educational experience at home. Over 50 families attended this event.
 - We will hold our annual Veterans Day lunch on Monday, November 11, 2024. There will be over 100 attendees to this event.
 - Mr. Jonathan Treese – ELCO Middle School
 - We are working towards our strategic plan of creating readiness for college, career, and life with our 8th grade students. They are engaging in interest surveys, experiencing the manufacturing process as part of construction wars, and we have a group of students that will participate in the What's So Cool About Manufacturing competition.
 - Parent-Teacher conferences will be taking place. Over the two-days teachers will meet with families and continue to build strong relationships.
 - Ms. Jennifer Haas – ELCO High School
 - Our High School faculty leadership teams have been implementing their initial activities for the year. The Student Events team has started to offer activities during lunch and our Student Recognition team will be preparing to share the first "Remarkable Raider" letters, which will be mailed home to student families.
 - Our Tri-M Music Honor Society induction and recital will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.
 - Our National Honor Society induction ceremony will be held Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

- Mr. Tommy Mealy - Athletic Director
 - Our Girls Soccer, Girls Field Hockey, and Football teams all made District III playoffs.
 - Jeff Reinhart, LNP Sportswriter interviewed ELCO players Paul Williams and Mitchell Frederick. Their interviews will be printed in LNP either November 6 or November 7.

Mrs. Vicente reported on the following:

- ELCO is the recipient of a 1.5 million dollar grant from DCED. These monies will be used to complete the roof project at the Middle School. I am thankful to Elaine Mathias, Amy Shoemaker, and Megan Hanichak for their work on this grant.
- Barn Update:
 - We have kicked-off initial meetings. Our FFA Officers have a “pitch team” that will be working with Karen Groh from the Chamber of Commerce and Danielle Gundrum, the inaugural pitch winner from the Lebanon County Pitch competition, to assist our FFA pitch team in planning a barn project pitch presentation for the business community.
 - We are also planning to host a community event for all to attend to learn more about the Barn Project and making it a reality for our students.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

November 5, 2024 – 2-Hour Late Start for students K-12

November 5, 2024 – Election Day

November 7, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. – Curriculum Committee Meeting

November 13, 2024 – 5:00 p.m. – General Services Committee Meeting

November 13, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. – Finance Committee Meeting

November 14, 2024 – 5:30 p.m. – Policy Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

November 18, 2024 – 6:00 p.m. – Regular Board of Education Meeting

November 25-26, 2024 – K-12 Parent-Teacher Conferences (NO students K-12)

November 27, 2024 - K-12 In-Service Exchange (NO students K-12)

November 28-29, 2024 – NO School, Closed for Thanksgiving Break

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- No comments were made.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Mr. Santos wanted to acknowledge the Interact Club for the letter thanking him for his service in the military. He also commented on the veteran breakfasts and lunch being offered and how the school district shows their appreciation for the veterans in the community. He thanked Mrs. Mathias, Mrs. Shoemaker, and Mrs. Hanichak for their hard work on the DCED grant.
- Mrs. Moyer commented on her support of our youth sports program with the Mighty Might’s football team winning the championship.

Old Business

- No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

- No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mrs. Morrissey and approved by a Voice vote, all voting Aye, President Ziegler adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Mosser
Board Secretary