

**MINUTES**  
**LASALLE-PERU TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #120**  
**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2025, 5:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Sally Taliani, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:05p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Sally Taliani, Committee Chair, Mr. Scott Pescetto, and Mrs. Carol Alcorn

**ABSENT:**

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Dr. Steven Wroblewski, Superintendent, Mrs. Ingrid Cushing, Principal, and Mrs. Jennifer Riva, Board Secretary

**REVIEW AND APPROVE OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 9, 2024, MEETING**

**MOTION** by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to approve the minutes from December 9, 2024, meeting as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Pescetto, and Mrs. Taliani. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried.**

**S.M.A.R.T. GOALS UPDATE**

Dr. Wroblewski shared the data of our 2024-2025 S.M.A.R.T. Goals and updated the committee on the 2025-2026 S.M.A.R.T. Goals.

**2024-2025:**

1. **Chronic Absenteeism:** The goal was to reduce chronic absenteeism from 26% to 16%. We ended the year at 21%, achieving a 10% decline from 2022.
2. **Graduation Rate:** The goal was to raise the graduation rate from 84.6% to 90%. We finished the year at 90.72%, reflecting a 10% increase from 2022.

**2025-2026:**

1. **Chronic Absenteeism:** Reduce to 15%
2. **Graduation Rate:** Increase to 92%
3. **Exceed Standards on ACT:** Increase the number of students meeting standards in ACT subcategories by 10%. Dr. Wroblewski added that systems are in place to boost ACT scores, supported by a framework with clear indicators to guide preparation.

**ACCEPT TO RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVE THE 2025-2026 S.M.A.R.T. GOALS AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION** by Mr. Pescetto, seconded by Alcorn, to accept to recommend the Board of Education to approve the 2025-2026 S.M.A.R.T. Goals, as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, and Mrs. Taliani. Lynch. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried**

**ACCADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM**

Mrs. Cushing explained that the program aims to boost student learning by providing targeted support during the school day to help students complete work and understand content. It applies only to summative assignments and follows four steps: Remediation, Academic Detention, Academic Success Academy, and Finalizing the Grade. She clarified that these steps are not part of classroom or schoolwide discipline, but an intervention plan to promote academic success. Mr. Cherveny, who used a similar program while teaching at Plainfield East, played a key role in developing this process during PLC meetings.

**ACCEPT TO RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVE THE ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM AS PRESENTED**

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to accept to recommend the Board of Education to approve the Academic Success Program, as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Pescetto, and Mrs. Taliani. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried.**

#### ACADEMIC APPROACH BENCHMARKING

Mr. Cushing explained that L-P previously used Renaissance STAR 360 for benchmarking, but it lacked a strong ACT connection. The new Academic Approach platform benchmarks progress and guides instruction for ACT preparation. It provides three full-length practice exams each year (August, December, March) over three days for grades 9, 10 and 11, with immediate, detailed results by student and skill. Teachers can adjust instruction based on this data, and students showing growth can earn prizes. This targeted, repeated exposure to ACT content is expected to improve student performance and scores.

#### CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL UPDATE

Dr. Wroblewski shared that the CLI approach will be integrated with the Understanding by Design curriculum development framework to realign our curriculum to the ACT.

Mrs. Cushing and Ms. Lance are developing a framework using vertical and horizontal alignment, standards, and backwards design, which will be shared with staff. Implementation will begin in the second semester with various groups and divisions

#### CONNECTED CAMPUS UPDATE

Dr. Wroblewski updated the committee on efforts to ensure all students feel a strong sense of belonging through trauma-informed practices. The goal is to help every student feel connected to the school community. Administration will review the tools and strategies Ms. Sarah Schwartz presented for building relationships and determine which can meet established standards. Successful initiatives like Huddles, CavalCare, and student celebrations foster connection and inclusion, supporting improved learning outcomes.

#### ART COURSE MODIFICATIONS

Mrs. Cushing updated the committee on recommended changes to the Arts Foundation program. The current yearlong freshman course would be split into two semester courses, Arts Foundations: Drawing and Painting, and Arts Foundations: Printmaking and Mixed Media. A new prerequisite would require students to complete the General Education Sequence before the Honors Sequence, ensuring those in the Honors track are committed to art as a potential career path.

#### ACCEPT TO RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVE THE ART COURSE MODIFICATIONS AS PRESENTED

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Pescetto, to accept to recommend the Board of Education to approve the Art Course Modifications, as presented. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Pescetto, and Mrs. Taliani. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried.**

#### OTHER

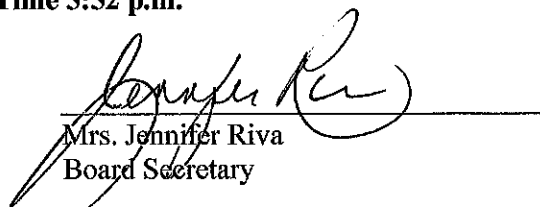
None

#### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Pescetto, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn, to adjourn. Voting Aye: Mr. Pescetto, Mrs. Alcorn, and Mrs. Taliani. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried. Time 5:52 p.m.**



Mrs. Sally Taliani  
Committee Chair



Mrs. Jennifer Riva  
Board Secretary