

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

Hybrid  
Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting  
Board Room – ELCO High School

January 5, 2021

The Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, Jack Kahl 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 for board members and administrators, and virtual via Zoom for the public) with President Jack Kahl presiding and Mrs. Weaver leading the Opening Exercises.

Roll Call

Board Secretary, Gloria Hill called the roll. The following members were present Mrs. Gray Hayes, Mrs. Noll, \*Dr. Smith, Ms. Stettler, Mrs. Thomas, and Mrs. Weaver; and Messer's Kahl, Kramer and Ondrusek. Also, in attendance were the following from the administrative team: Mrs. Vicente, Mrs. Davis, Ms. Haas, Mr. Entrekin, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Hower, Mr. Lin, Mr. Soden, Mrs. Shoemaker, Mr. Sweigart, Mrs. Himmelreich, Mr. Miller, Mr. Boltz, Mr. Dresch; Gloria Hill, Board Secretary; and \*David Walker, Solicitor; and \*faculty and community residents. (\*Individuals attending via Zoom.)

Mr. Kahl announced the District is recording the meeting using District equipment. All recordings are posted on the District website. Mr. Kahl also inquired if anyone in attendance was recording the meeting; it is noted no one indicated recording the meeting.

Board President Communications

- Mr. Kahl wished a Happy New Year to everyone.
- The General Services Committee met tonight at 5:00 PM, to discuss the next phase of the High School project. Additional information will be shared in the coming weeks.

Students of the Month

December:

- Fort Zeller, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Jagger Houtz (Mrs. Lucky's class) & Stella Krall (Mrs. Eshleman's class)
- Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade – Makena Lester (Mrs. Altland's class) & Kyli Peters (Mrs. Kleinfelter's class)
- Intermediate School – Sasha Hicks & Jude Livinghouse (Mrs. Hibbsman's class)
- Middle School – Eva Putt & Chad Keller
- High School – Grace Ginder, Jacob Sky, & Andrea Radu (CTC – Dental)

Mr. Kahl congratulated the students recognized by their respective principal, noting how proud they make their parents. He also extended thanks to teachers, parents, and other individuals who have contributed to the student's education.

Board Committee & Rep Reports

- Personnel Committee – Mrs. Thomas
  - No meeting scheduled at this time.
- Curriculum Committee – Dr. Smith, Chair
  - The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 1/21/2021 at 6:00 pm.
- Policy Committee – Ms. Stettler
  - The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 1/19/2021 at 6:00 pm.
- Technology Committee – Mrs. Noll
  - The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 1/20/2021 at 5:15 pm.
- General Services Committee – Mr. Kahl
  - Continued discussion took place at tonight's committee meeting on the next phase of the renovation project and updates on the conversion to public utilities.
- Finance Committee – Mrs. Gray Hayes
  - The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 1/13/2021 at 6:00 pm.
- IU13 Rep Report – Mr. Ondrusek
  - The last meeting was held on 12/9/2020, with the next meeting to take place on 1/13/2021.
- PSBA Rep Report – Dr. Smith
  - No report at this time.
- CTC Rep Report – Mrs. Weaver

- The last meeting was held on 12/15/2020 with reorganization. Recognition was given to Carol Zerbe for her 27-1/2 years of service, who retired as Admin. Assistant to the Executive Director. The next meeting will take place on 1/19/2021.
- HACC Rep Report – Ms. Stettler
  - The committee has been dissolved.
- Lebanon Co. Tax Collection Rep Report – Ms. Stettler
  - The next meeting will take place on 2/17/2021; collections have been up slightly over last year.
- ELCO Education Foundation – Mrs. Weaver
  - The next meeting is scheduled this month. Mrs. Weaver announced the local business who contributed to the Foundation during 2020, as follows:
    - Fulton Bank - \$6,000
    - BB&T Bank - \$2,000
    - Waste Management - \$2,000
    - Ephrata National Bank - \$3,000
    - Brightbill Body Works, Inc. - \$5,000
    - First Citizens Community Bank - \$5,000

#### Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No comments were made.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### Personnel Committee – Mrs. Denise Thomas, Chair

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

On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Gray Hayes and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Items A-I were approved:

- A. Approved a “Letter of Resignation” from Michelle Wolf, full-time IS Specialized Paraprofessional effective and retroactive to December 14, 2020.**
- B. Approved a change in the employment status of Hannah Kercher *from* part-time Specialized Paraprofessional, 5.75 hours/day *to* full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, 7.5 hours/day, with no change in hourly rate, effective and retroactive to December 14, 2020. The initial 60-day probationary period will be waived due to satisfactory employment with the district since August 2020.**  
*Background: Position filled due to a resignation.*
- C. Approved Elisabeth Putt (current substitute) on a “Letter of Temporary Employment” as a short-term substitute Special Education teacher at ELCO High School, retroactive to December 18, 2020, for a period of approximately six weeks, at the daily substitute rate of \$125, with no applicable benefits.**  
*Background: Position filled due to permanent teacher on leave.*
- D. Approved the employment of Joelle Wysong on a “Letter of Temporary Employment” as a long-term substitute Phys. Ed. teacher at the ELCO Middle School, effective and retroactive to January 4, 2021 through the last teacher day of the 2020-2021 school year, at a salary of Bachelor’s – Step 1 (\$48,569, prorated for the remainder of the year). All required documentation is on file.**  
*Background: Position filled due to permanent teacher on leave.*
- E. Approved Greg Underkoffler as the mentor for Joelle Wysong for the 2020-2021 school year, prorated to the number of days worked.**  
*Background: Mr. Underkoffler is continuing to be a mentor for this long-term sub position. This motion reflects a change in the name of the mentee.*
- F. Approved Joelle Wysong as a Middle School Café monitor for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.**
- G. Approved the request of Deb Hlatky, IS 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, for a full year sabbatical for the 2021-2022 school year.**
- H. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO sub listing for the 2020-2021 school year, as listed (pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances and disclosures):**

1. Alexis Thomas – Elem. K-4, Special Ed. K-8 (Act 86 of 2016 Prospective Teacher Sub); and Paraprofessional
  2. Sarah Warren – IU sub, all areas
- I. Approved the following individuals as new bus drivers, noting drivers are directly employed by Brightbill Transportation Company, as listed:
1. Heather Bobola
  2. Michael Potocny

**Technology Committee – Mrs. Dotty Noll, Chair**

On a motion by Mrs. Noll, seconded by Mr. Ondrusek and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Item A was approved:

- A. **Approved a service contract with the Lancaster-Lebanon IU13 for \$5,750.00 for the installation of replacement servers, establish replication services as well as back-up disaster and recovery. Cost has been budgeted. (Board Attachment)**

*Background: In budget this year the district upgraded aging servers. The new replacement servers will require some additional expertise in order to set up the server array to assure adequate replication of services, backup, and disaster recovery solutions.*

**NON-ACTION ITEMS**

**Personnel Committee – Mrs. Denise Thomas, Chair**

*The Board reviewed and discussed the following item:*

- A. Recommend for approval adding the following individual to the ELCO Volunteer listing for the 2020-2021 school year, as listed, (noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file):
1. Stefanie Sanders

**Finance Committee – Mrs. Tracy Gray Hayes, Chair**

*The Board reviewed and discussed the following item:*

- A. Recommend for approval Tax Collector's Rate of Compensation covering four-year term through December 2025, per the attached schedule. (Board Attachment)
- Background: There is no change from the prior four-year term. This is a requirement to approve every four years prior to February 15.*

**Superintendent's Report**

- A. Principal's Reports
- High School – Ms. Haas
    - Collaboration with Samaritan Counseling Center for Mental Health is ongoing at the High School screening students, and the positive outcomes seen.
  - Middle School – Mr. Entrekin
    - The Middle School held December activities to spread cheer prior to the holiday break. Students had the opportunity to participate in fun activities via Schoology, including out-of-school activities. Plans for the Talent Show are underway, with submissions being accepted now. This event will be held virtually.
  - Intermediate School – Dr. Gerhart
    - Dr. Gerhart highlighted the Intermediate School's School Counselor, Nichole McCullough, and her work with meeting student needs despite the pandemic. Lessons and activities provided included: coping skills; friendship; and career lessons providing support to help students when looking at future plans, which will culminate with the students taking a virtual tour of the CTC later this year.
  - Jackson Elementary – Mrs. Hower
    - Prior to the holiday break, students were treated to an assembly held virtually, by Mr. Jesse Rothacker of Forgotten Friends Reptile Sanctuary. Special thanks to Jackson PTO for sponsoring this assembly.
  - Fort Zeller Elementary – Mr. Lin
    - The PTO continued the annual tradition of the Gingerbread Shoppe for Fort Zeller students. This event was held outdoors on the grounds of the school, keeping within the

guidelines of our health and safety plan. Thanks also to the Millcreek Lutheran Church for use of their facilities during the event.

Mrs. Vicente reported on the following:

- Thankfulness for the partnership of community, admin and staff this year.
- The Winter edition of the ELCO Communicator is due to be published soon.
- Received good news the district will be receiving additional funds through Title I in the approximate amount of 1.5 million dollars.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – 6:00 pm, Finance Committee Meeting  
 Monday, January 18, 2021 – School in Session (snow makeup day from December 17, 2020)  
 Tuesday, January 19, 2021 – 6:00 pm, Policy Committee Meeting  
 Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – 6:00 pm, Regular Board of Education Meeting  
 Thursday, January 21, 2021 – 6:00 pm, Curriculum Committee Meeting  
 Monday, January 25, 2021 – Act 80 Day (NO students)  
 Tuesday, January 26, 2021 – End of 1<sup>st</sup> Marking Period

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- No comments were made.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Ms. Stettler – shared comments received from residents who wanted to express how thankful they are ELCO has remained open.
- Mrs. Gray Hayes – updating of the ELCO website to reflect the current spectator guidelines for sporting events; Thank You to the Middle School staff for their efforts in organizing the holiday fun activities for students.
- Mr. Ondrusek – expressed appreciation to the scientists for developing the COVID vaccine.

Old Business

- No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

A. Discussion – Board Meeting Calendar Dates for 2021

Handouts were distributed to board members showing current dates approved and a draft of revised dates. Revised dates were established/drafted changing meeting dates to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, unless otherwise noted. Discussion took place with explanation that new dates presented are in order to accommodate conflicts that were discussed previously, and to stay consistent in scheduled days.

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mr. Ondrusek and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the 2021 Board Calendar Meeting Dates will be revised to reflect new meeting dates as the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, unless otherwise noted.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Noll, seconded by Mrs. Weaver and approved by a Voice vote, all voting Aye, President Kahl adjourned the meeting at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria J. Hill  
 Board Secretary