

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting  
District Board Room  
Hybrid

January 20, 2021

The Regular Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, Jack Kahl at 6:04 p.m.

The Eastern Lebanon County School Board met in a Regular Board of Education Session (hybrid – in-person and via Zoom) with President 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 Mr. Kahl, Mr. Kramer and Mr. Ondrusek. Also, in attendance were the following from the administrative team: Mrs. Vicente, ~~Mrs. Davis~~, Ms. Haas, Mr. Entekin, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Hower, Mr. Lin, Mr. Soden, Mrs. Shoemaker, Mr. Sweigart, ~~Mrs. Himmelmreich~~, Mr. Miller, Mr. Boltz, ~~Mr. Dresch~~, Gloria Hill, Board Secretary; \*William Zee, School Solicitor and \*faculty and community residents. (\*Individuals attending via Zoom.)

President 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 announced the Technology Committee met at 5:15 pm, tonight.

The month of January is set aside to recognize members of the School Board for their service and commitment. Mr. Kahl thanked the board members for their service and dedication to the school district and the families we serve.

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mr. Ondrusek and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the following motion was approved:

- Approved the adoption of PSBA's Principles for Governance and Leadership. (Board Attachment)

Student Council Report – Amanda Smith, Student Council President

Highlights reported included: successful food drive; events held and future plans to hold a virtual auction by the National Art Honor Society; and the recent FBLA competition.

Students of the Month

- Fort Zeller, K – Abraham Galindo-Esquivel (Mrs. Stuart's AM class) & Abigail Grube (Mrs. Yocum's PM class)
- Jackson, K – Ava Livering (Mrs. Marquette's AM class) & Jordyn Farnack (Mrs. Gray's PM class)
- Intermediate School – Kayla Ebris & Cru Frederick (Mr. Longenecker's class)
- Middle School – Joanna Horst & Jack Zeigenfuse
- High School – Trevor Bonser, Brigitte Heck (CTC – Medical), and Kayla McAllister

Students were introduced by their respective principal, highlighting the student's favorite things, attributes, goals, most memorable school experience, and future aspirations.

Mr. Kahl enjoys the information shared on each of the students and the entire board miss having them attend the meeting in-person to extend their congratulations. The School Board, administration, teachers and parents are very proud of the achievements seen by each of the students recognized.

Presentation

- 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget – Mr. Michael Miller, Business Manager

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- Alison Wenger, 410 S. Race St., Myerstown – addressed the School Board on the proposal of the High School project and spoke of the benefits and opportunities both our students and community will receive.

Mr. Kahl thanked Mrs. Wenger for her positive comments regarding the proposal.

#### Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mrs. Gray Hayes and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Minutes of 12-01-2020 and 01-05-2021 were approved.

#### Approval of Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mrs. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Treasurer's Reports of 11-30-2020 and 12-31-2020 were approved.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS** (items discussed on 01-05-2021)

On a motion by Mrs. Gray Hayes, seconded by Dr. Smith and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, all Consent Items were approved:

#### Personnel Committee

- A. Approved 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

- A. Approved 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.*

#### **NON-CONSENT 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-D were approved:

- A. Approved the change in employment status of Vanessa Henson *from* day-to-day substitute Paraprofessional to part-time Specialized Paraprofessional, at the rate of \$13.51/per hour, 5.75 hours/day (10-month position), effective January 26, 2021. (Note: this position does not include benefits.)**  
*Background: Position filled due to resignation.*
- B. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO sub listing for the 2020-2021 school year (pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances and disclosures), as listed:**
  - 1. Kristen Nelson - Paraprofessional
  - 2. Rachel Hubbs – IU sub, all areas
  - 3. Terry Lewis – IU sub, all areas
- C. Approved Alberta Snyder as a new driver, noting drivers and aides are directly employed by Brightbill Transportation Company.**
- D. Approved the following individuals to the ELCO Volunteer listing for the 2020-2021 school year, as listed, noting all required documentation, clearances, disclosures and training are on file:**
  - 1. Danielle Gingrich
  - 2. Holly Krall-Heft
  - 3. Lori Ruth
  - 4. Jamie Gerhart

**General Services Committee** – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chair

All Items were separated.

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mrs. Noll and approved by Voice vote, 7 Ayes and 2 NO votes by Mr. Ondrusek and Ms. Stettler, Item A was approved:

- A. Approved the preliminary project plans to renovate the ELCO High School and direct the Architect and Administration to proceed with the Design Phase of the High School building project.**

*Background: The project is estimated to cost \$30M and will include scopes impacting the programming, athletics, and infrastructure of the High School building.*

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mrs. Gray Hayes and approved by Voice vote, 7 Ayes and 2 NO votes by Mr. Ondrusek and Ms. Stettler, Item B was approved:

- B. Approved an agreement from AEM Architects, Inc., and to direct AEM Architects, Inc., to begin the Design Phase of the High School building project. (Board Attachment)**

*Background: This Phase is 30% of the total contract cost. It will use an estimated construction cost as the basis for the contract until the bidding phase.*

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Item C was approved:

- C. Approved the purchase of a Cleveland Convection Steamer from Singer Equipment Company at a cost of \$16,044.10. (Board attachment)**

*Background: The quote is under COSTARS Contract #4400019499. This is to replace equipment that is not safe to use or repair. It will be paid out of Capital Reserve.*

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

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

On a motion by Mrs. Gray Hayes, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Finance Items A-G were approved:

- A. Approved payment of bills as found listed and attached to the January 20, 2021 Board Agenda, for payments made November 2020, in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)**

General Fund payments in the amount of	\$2,014,523.67
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	\$105,682.84
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of	\$115,373.50
Debt Service payments in the amount of	\$0.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	\$575,344.15
Student Activity payments in the amount of	\$2,068.00

- B. Approved payment of bills as found listed and attached to the January 20, 2021 Board Agenda, for payments made December 2020, in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)**

General Fund payments in the amount of	\$2,532,016.01
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	\$19,901.45
Capital Reserve Fund payments in the amount of	\$0.00
Debt Service payments in the amount of	\$0.00
Construction Fund payments in the amount of	\$0.00
Student Activity payments in the amount of	\$6,225.58

- C. Approved Budget Transfers. (Board Attachment)**

- D. Approved Resolution #01-20-2021-I, of the Board of School Directors of the Eastern Lebanon County School District electing to not increase its tax rate above the Act 1 Index of 3.6% for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. (Board Attachment)**

- E. Approved Resolution #01-20-2021-II, allowing reimbursement from the proceeds of tax-exempt bonds for previous capital expenditures. (Board Attachment)**

*Background: This allows for reimbursement of project expenses incurred before the issuance of the first project bond issue.*

- F. Approved a contract with Kenmar, Inc., for backdrops for the High School musical in the amount of \$2,858. (Board Attachment)**

- G. **Approved the administration to enter into a two-year agreement between (supplier TBD) (School District Energy) and Eastern Lebanon County School District for Jackson ES natural gas supply between July 2021 and June 2023 meter read dates, when prices reach appropriate target levels. (Board Attachment)**

*Background: This motion will instruct School District Energy to lock in prices when they are at or below the quotes discussed in Finance Committee on January 13, 2021. The supplier will be determined when the prices are locked in.*

#### Superintendent's Report

##### A. Board Recognition – Mrs. Vicente

Mrs. Vicente recognized the ELCO School Board and presented each member with a gift thanking each of them for their service to our district and students. The gift was made by a group of students in Mrs. Toni Mehaffey's class at the ELCO Middle School.

##### B. Principal's Reports

- High School, Ms. Haas – highlighted the English Department lead by Mrs. Templeton, and the continuation of providing students with opportunities and strategies for learning. The Poetry Out Loud competition is one example and was recently held. After judging the competition winner is Rowan Faehling. Rowan will have the opportunity to compete in the next level of competition.
- Middle School, Mr. Entrekin – Opportunities are ongoing at the Middle School to increase student connectiveness. Much thanks was expressed to the teachers for their creativeness.
- Intermediate School, Dr. Gerhart – An assembly featuring Forgotten Friends, a reptile program, was recently held at the IS and was sponsored by the PTO. The assembly was held school-wide virtually with students able to view no matter where they were (in the classroom or at home).
- Jackson, Mrs. Hower – Students continue to work on and receive guidance on character traits. The most recent trait is tolerance. Student ambassadors are working with Mrs. Brosius on a "Rainbow of Hearts" with a visual display being created showing how we are all beautiful, but different.
- Fort Zeller, Mr. Lin – February 4 will be the next Title I family night with the Reading team spearheading the event with the help of community partners from the Richland Community Library and Middle Creek Wildlife Management. The event will feature hands-on opportunities, and Aaron's Books from Lititz is providing books.

#### Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

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> Semester

Monday, February 1, 2021 – 6:00 pm, Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting

#### Board Announcements/Comments

- Mrs. Thomas – Thank you for the gift of recognition.
- Mrs. Gray Hayes – she has been involved in the various PTO groups throughout the years and is very thankful for the start of the Parent Advisory Council at the Middle School.
- Mrs. Kramer – commented on the camera in the gym live-streaming events. The efforts have been amazing and is very thankful for all involved, especially the ELCO graduates who provide technical support and live commentary.
- Dr. Smith – noted the PSBA opportunities for board directors held twice a month. Information has been shared, including links to the sessions.
- Ms. Stettler – residents have shared positive comments and appreciation for the live-streaming of athletic competitions and would like to see the continuation after spectators are allowed to once again attend sporting events.

#### Old Business

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

- A. Approved revising the February 2021 Regular Board of Education meeting date *from* Monday, February 15, 2021 *to* Tuesday, February 16, 2021. (Board Attachment)

*Background: Revised 2021 Calendar of Board Meetings approved at the January 5, 2021 meeting included the date for the Regular Board of Education February meeting to be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, which is on a day the district is closed.*

#### New Business

- NO New Business was reported.

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- NO comments were made.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Kramer and approved by a Voice vote, all voting Aye, President Kahl adjourned the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria J. Hill  
Board Secretary