

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

Regular Board of Education Meeting
District Board Room
Hybrid

March 15, 2021

The Regular Board of Education Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Tracy Hayes 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 Vice President Hayes presiding and Mrs. Noll leading the Opening Exercises.

Roll Call

Board Secretary, Gloria Hill, called the roll. The following members were present: Mrs. Hayes, Mrs. Noll, Ms. Stettler, Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Weaver; and Mr. Kramer. Absent from the meeting were: Dr. Smith, Mr. Kahl and Mr. 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; *David Walker, School Solicitor and *faculty and community residents. (*Individuals attending via Zoom.)

Vice President Hayes announced the District is recording the meeting using District equipment. All recordings are posted on the District website. Mrs. Hayes also inquired if anyone in attendance was recording the meeting; it is noted Mrs. Amber Weaver, board member, indicated recording the meeting.

Board President Communications

Mrs. Hayes announced there was an Executive Session held at 5:15PM, March 15, 2021, for the purpose of discussing confidential HR matters.

Student Council Report – Abby Zurick, Student Council Treasurer

Highlights reported included: Spring Musical held March 5 & 6, was a success; and RaiderThon was successful with a designated day as ‘triple donation day’, which raised over \$2,000.

Students of the Month

- Fort Zeller, 2nd grade – Zacharyah Grier (Mrs. Eshleman’s class) & Chloe Sites (Mrs. Kane’s class)
- Jackson, 2nd grade – Marie Kreiser (Mrs. Rodriguez’s class) & Brayden Carpenter (Mrs. Pfautz’s class)
- Intermediate School – Mallorie Bossler & Isabella Yiengst-Weidman (Mrs. Gettle’s class)
Chloey Pacine & Jonathan Plasterer (Mrs. Reichard’s class)
- Middle School – Shawna Donough & Chase Rohrer
- High School – Madison Blakeslee, Jeremy Eck, Kayla Morris (CTC – Health Careers)

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

On behalf of the School Board, Mrs. Hayes congratulated the students on their achievements. She also thanked everyone who had a part in supporting these students, with special thanks to the parents and teachers. Congratulations to the seniors recognized tonight!

Presentation

- Spring Athletics Update – Ms. Haas and Mr. Bohannon
 - Information will be shared with all coaches and teams and posted on the district website.
 - Procedures and protocols maybe subject to change per guidelines issued by the State and CDC, etc.
 - Reviewed expectations for student athletes and coaches
 - Face covering guidelines were reviewed
 - Spectator guidelines were reviewed
 - Concession stand will be open during events with only pre-packaged items for sale
 - Weight room guidelines were reviewed; limited use per guidelines are in place
 - Streaming of events is not available due to logistics

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

No comments were made.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mrs. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Weaver and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Minutes of 02-16-2021 and 03-01-2021 were approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report

On a motion by Mrs. Noll, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, the Treasurer's Report of 02-28-2021 was approved.

CONSENT ITEMS (items discussed on 03-01-2021)

On a motion by Mrs. Hayes, seconded by Mrs. Thomas 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. Heidi Daniels

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. Weaver and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Items A-R were approved:

- A. Approved Joshua Larson, High School short-term Art substitute teacher, as a High School Cafeteria Monitor effective and retroactive to March 8, 2021 through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.**
Background: Position filled due to permanent teacher out on leave.
- B. Approved the following individuals as Middle School Cafeteria Monitors effective March 22, 2021 through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year:**
Background: Additional monitors needed due to Reopening Plan.
1. Julie DeVore
 2. Julie Smeltzer
- C. Approved a "Letter of Resignation" from Samantha Gelsinger, full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to March 10, 2021.**
- D. Approved a "Letter of Resignation" from Corey Leedom, full-time 2nd shift custodian, effective and retroactive to March 12, 2021.**
- E. Approved a "Letter of Resignation" from Candace Good, part-time Paraprofessional, effective and retroactive to March 12, 2021.**
- F. Approved a "Letter of Resignation" from Kathleen Marko, full-time Paraprofessional, effective March 19, 2021.**
- G. Approved a "Letter of Resignation" from Jason Heberling, full-time Maintenance/HVAC employee, effective March 26, 2021.**
- H. Approved a "Letter of Retirement" from Donald Keppley, full-time 2nd shift custodian, effective May 31, 2021.**

- I. **Approved a change in the employment status of Tracy Wesley from part-time Specialized Paraprofessional to full-time Specialized Paraprofessional, 7.5 hours per day (no change in hourly rate), 10-month position, effective and retroactive to March 11, 2021. (Note: Probationary period for benefits has been waived due to satisfactory continued employment.)**
Background: Position filled due to resignation.
- J. **Approved a change in the employment status of Tawny Fithian from day-to-day cafeteria substitute to part-time cafeteria employee, 4.75 hours/day (10-month position), effective March 29, 2021. (Note: there is no change in hourly rate or benefits.)**
- K. **Approved Daniela Anthony, as a short-term substitute Half-time Kindergarten/Half-time Learning Support teacher on a "Letter of Temporary Employment" effective and retroactive to March 15, 2021, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year, at a daily rate of \$125, with no applicable benefits. (NOTE: Individual is currently a substitute for the ELCO School District.)**
Background: Position filled due to permanent teacher on leave.
- L. **Approved a change in the employment status of Ashley Stauffer from substitute Paraprofessional to full-time Paraprofessional, at the rate of \$10.69 per hour, 7.5 hours/day (10-month position, subject to assignment), effective March 16, 2021. Benefits will begin after the 60-day probationary period.**
Background: Position filled due to resignation.
- M. **Approved the following teachers to provide classroom-based Extended School Year (ESY) services at a rate of \$125/day, during the period of June 28, 2021 to July 29, 2021.**
Background: For the summer of 2021, the district is planning to operate classroom-based programming, instead of sending students to IU13-operated programs.
1. Tiffany Yeiser
 2. Jennifer Lutz
 3. Megan Worley
- N. **Approved the following specialized paraprofessionals to provide support in classroom-based Extended School Year (ESY) programs at their respective hourly rate, during the period of June 28, 2021 to July 29, 2021.**
Background: Paraprofessional staff are needed to support district-operated, classroom-based ESY programs during the summer of 2021.
1. Dawn Fitting
 2. Justine Bewley
 3. Robyn Wentzel
 4. Kelly Stephenson
 5. Maria Fisher
 6. Hannah Kercher
- O. **Approved the following teachers to provide individual Extended School Year (ESY) services at a rate of \$32/hour, during the period of June 14, 2021 to August 5, 2021.**
Background: These teachers will be providing 1:1 instruction to students that have qualified for ESY services as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP).
1. Shanon Martin
 2. Ashley Titler
 3. Jennifer Greene
 4. Michele Angstadt
 5. Emily Ziegler
 6. Scott Easteadt
- P. **Approved the following individuals as new driver/aide, noting drivers and aides are directly employed by Brightbill Transportation Company.**
1. Ashley Martin – new driver
 2. Rosemary Riselvato – new driver/aide
- Q. **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. Heidi Zimmerman – Music K-12
 2. Sheila Carpenter - custodial substitute, effective June 9, 2021

- R. **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. **Jennifer Robert**

Policy Committee – Ms. Erin Stettler, Chair

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

- A. **Approved new policies and revisions to the following Board policies, 2nd Reading, as listed: (Board Attachment)**

1. **#247 – Hazing (revised)**
2. **#249 – Bullying/Cyberbullying (revised)**
3. **#252 – Dating Violence (revised)**
4. **#317.1 – Educator Misconduct (revised)**
5. **#334 – Sick Leave (revised)**
6. **#829 – Electronic Signatures (new)**

Finance Committee – Mrs. Tracy Hayes, Chair

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

On a motion by Mrs. Hayes, seconded by Mrs. Thomas 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 March 15, 2021 Board Agenda, for payments made in the amounts indicated: (Board Attachment)**

General Fund payments in the amount of	\$1,786,532.97
Cafeteria Fund payments in the amount of	\$84,741.28
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	\$349,764.83
Student Activity payments in the amount of	\$0.00

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

- C. **Approved a quote from River Valley Recreation for Jackson Elementary playground improvements at a cost of \$216,397. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #014-116, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget. The playset includes ADA accessible ramps and structures.

- D. **Approved a quote from Tanner Furniture for 4 Middle School mobile screen/room dividers at a cost of \$7,932.52. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is a COSTARS contract #035-025. The dividers are necessary for the ELCO Reopening Plan for temporary classroom space at the Middle School. Costs will be paid out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

- E. **Approved a quote from Tanner Furniture for 3 Middle School mobile marker boards at a cost of \$6,160.90. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is a COSTARS contract #035-025. The boards are necessary for the ELCO Reopening Plan for temporary classroom space at the Middle School. Costs will be paid out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

- F. **Approved a quote from Tanner Furniture for 145 High School/Middle School convertible bench tables at a cost of \$89,386.98. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is a COSTARS contract #035-025. The tables are necessary for the ELCO Reopening Plan for increased social distanced lunch capacity at the Middle School and High School. The tables will replace the current end-of-life tables at the Middle School when the Pandemic ends. Costs will be paid out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

- G. **Approved a quote from Builders Specialty Service, Inc., for High School gym floor protection covers at a cost of \$9,994. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is COSTARS contract #008-215. The covers are necessary for the ELCO Reopening Plan for increased social distanced lunch capacity at the High School. Costs will be paid out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

Superintendent's Report

A. Update – PSSA Testing

- Mrs. Davis gave an update on the PSSA testing schedule and the flexibility available. The tests will be given this year and will take place as follows:
 - Intermediate School – April – May
 - Middle School – May 4 – 20
- There are no opt outs for online or synchronous learners; the only opt out available is if an individual has religious reasons, which must be submitted in writing by the parent.

B. Update – Renovation project

- Meetings are now being held to discuss the next phase of the renovation project. Input from several groups is being considered.

C. Social Media

- Our facilities department started a Custodian of the Month announcement, which is featured/highlighted and shared on social media announcing the staff member chosen.

D. Principal's Reports

- Fort Zeller, Mr. Lin
 - This week Fort Zeller will hold Kindergarten Orientation via Zoom. Several groups and individuals will be part of this event providing information to incoming parents of Kindergartners. Future screening of students will be held in May and be in-person.
- Jackson, Mrs. Hower
 - Jackson Elementary held their 1st virtual Kindergarten Orientation last week. Mr. Boltz highlighted the new online registration process for enrollment; the nurse was available to answer questions; and encouragement was given to parents to review letter sounds, numbers, etc., with the incoming Kindergarten students. The incoming class is the graduating Class of 2034!
- Intermediate School, Dr. Gerhart
 - Showcased the remote learner program at the Intermediate School, highlighting the efforts of the three classrooms taught by Mrs. Hlatky, Mr. Wright, and Mrs. Reichard. The focus of these classes is to provide continuity to the education experience.
- Mr. Entekin, Middle School/Ms. Haas, High School
 - The two principals gave an update to the reopening plan, bringing students back to in-person learning.
 - Faculty/staff meetings have been held providing opportunities to share concerns, ask questions, and give input.
 - Kudos to the faculty and staff and their efforts in this process.
 - Planning has been ongoing to prepare for the reopening with the purchase of additional equipment needed; parent pickup and drop-off procedures put in place; traffic flow for lunch periods, etc., were reviewed and established; end-of-year learning commitment surveys went out and returned.
 - Students choosing to be in-person will begin and take place over several weeks, with all in-person students back on April 6.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

March 18, 2021, 6:00 PM – Curriculum Committee Meeting
 March 19, 2021 – ACT 80 Day (NO students)
 March 24, 2021 – 2 hr. Late Start for students only
 March 31, 2021 – End of 3rd Marking Period
 April 1, 2021 – School is in session (snow make-up day)
 April 2 – 5, 2021 – School is closed for Spring Break
 April 6, 2021 – School is in session (snow make-up day)
 April 6, 2021, 6:00 PM – Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting (note this is a Tuesday)

Mrs. Vicente thanked everyone and the board for coming together with a plan to bring our students back to in-person learning. Vaccinations are moving forward with special thanks to the IU13 for the well-organized clinics held at designated locations.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Mrs. Thomas – Thank you to Ms. Haas and Mr. Bohannon, providing the update of guidelines put in place as our Spring season of athletics and athletes return this year!
- Mr. Kramer – Thank you to everyone involved in the High School Musical! The ability to view online, at home, was wonderful! This provided everyone the opportunity to view the musical.
- Mrs. Hayes – The musical was fantastic with special thanks to the Music Department and the invitation to board members to attend the dress rehearsal. The experience and ability given to our students allowing them to perform was excellent.
- Mrs. Thomas – Commented on the musical and the ability to view with family via technology. Thank you!
- Mrs. Hayes – announced the Lebanon Daily News was on campus for the opening of Spring Sports, showcasing our athletic program and athletes.

Old Business

- NO Old Business was reported.

New Business

- NO New Business was reported.

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- NO comments were made.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Noll, seconded by Mrs. Thomas and approved by a Voice vote, all voting Aye, Vice President Hayes adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria J. Hill
Board Secretary