

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

Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting
District Board Room
Hybrid

March 7, 2022

The Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, Tom Ferrari at 6:08 p.m. Mr. Ferrari explained the meeting began several minutes late due to technical difficulties.

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 Tom Ferrari presiding.

Mr. Ferrari noted the District is audio recording the meeting and the audio recording will be posted to the district website. Mr. Ferrari also inquired if anyone in attendance was recording the meeting; Laura LeBeau, WLBR, indicated audio recording the meeting.

A Moment of Silent Mediation was observed, which is optional for attendees.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Kantner.

Roll Call

Board Secretary, Gloria Hill called the roll. The following members were present: Mrs. Kantner, Mrs. Moyer, *Mrs. Noll, Ms. Schaeffer; and Messer's Ferrari, *Kahl, Kramer, Ondrusek and Ziegler. Also, in attendance were the following from the administrative team: Mrs. Vicente, Dr. Davis, Ms. Haas, Mr. Deane, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Hower, Mr. Lin, Mr. Breeden, Mrs. Lutz, Mrs. Shoemaker, Mr. Sweigart, Mrs. Himmelreich, Mr. Miller, Mr. Boltz, ~~Mr. Dresch~~; Gloria Hill, Board Secretary; William Zee, Solicitor; and faculty/staff and community members (in-person and Zoom).

*Designates board members and/or administration attending via Zoom.

Board President Communications

- The Board met in an Executive Session March 7, 2022, at 5:30pm, to discuss confidential legal matters.
- The Board will meet immediately following the adjournment of tonight's meeting for the last session of required Board training.

Board Committee & Rep Reports

- Personnel Committee – Mrs. Moyer
 - No meeting is scheduled at this time.
- Curriculum Committee – Mrs. Kantner
 - The next meeting will be held Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 6:00pm.
- Technology Committee – Mrs. Noll
 - No meeting is scheduled at this time.
- General Services Committee – Mr. Ziegler
 - No meeting is scheduled at this time.
- Finance Committee – Mr. Kahl
 - The committee met on February 17, 2022, to discuss the High School renovation project, bond rates, the Governor's budget and impact on the district, and recommendation of tax increase.
 - The next meeting is scheduled to take place on March 16, 2022, at 5:15pm.

- IU13 Rep Report – Mr. Ondrusek
 - The last meeting held in February was a budget workshop. Budgets will be sent to all districts for recommendation and approval.
 - The next meeting will be held on March 9, 2022.
- PSBA Rep Report – Mrs. Moyer
 - Updates given on the following:
 - Assessment results were released
 - Revisions to Chapter 49
 - School Funding trial will wrap up March 10th and be live-streamed
 - Capital hearings
 - Advocacy Day to be held April 25, 2022
- CTC Rep Report – Mr. Ziegler
 - New applications for enrollment are being received. There are currently 64 available openings.
- Lebanon Co. Tax Collection Rep Report – Mr. Kramer
 - No report.
- ELCO Education Foundation – Ms. Schaeffer
 - Highlights shared:
 - Alumni Facebook page
 - Fundraiser being planned
 - Book vending machine at Jackson Elementary School
 - Teacher grants are open and will be awarded in June

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chair

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

On a motion by Mrs. Moyer, seconded by Mrs. Kantner and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel items A – H were approved:

- A. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Ashley Mowrer, full-time 2nd Shift Custodian, effective March 4, 2022.**
- B. Approved the employment of Beverly Graham as a part-time Paraprofessional (subject to assignment), at an hourly rate of \$10.25, 3 hours/day (10-month position), effective on or about March 8, 2022, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures. This position does not include benefits.**
Background: Position filled due to previous administrative transfer.
- C. Approved the employment of Amber Dechert as a full-time Paraprofessional (subject to assignment), at an hourly rate of \$10.76, 7.5 hours/day (10-month position), effective on or about March 8, 2022, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures. Benefits will begin after the 60-day probationary period.**
Background: Position filled due to resignation.
- D. Approved the employment of Chris Null as a full-time 2nd Shift Custodian (subject to assignment), at an hourly rate of \$12.00, 8 hours/day (12-month position), effective on or**

about March 16, 2022, pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures. Benefits will begin after the 60-day probationary period.

Background: Position filled due to resignation.

- E. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Jennifer Lutz, Junior High Field Hockey Coach, effective February 28, 2022.
- F. Approved the following individuals as coaches for the 2022 Spring sports’ season, as listed:

Softball:	Asst. Varsity Coach JV Coach Vol. Coaches	Cory Derr Kim Eshleman Troy Hassler, Aaron Deitz
Track & Field:	Vol. Coach	Kelsey Thorley
- G. Approved the following individual as a new driver, noting all drivers are employed directly through Brightbill Transportation, as listed:
 - 1. Jamie Torres-Navarro
- H. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO Volunteer listing for the 2021-2022 school year, as listed, (noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file):
 - 1. Dean Bozman
 - 2. Ruth Hernandez
 - 3. Michelle Kunder
 - 4. Rebecca Lehman
 - 5. Cassandra Pacura
 - 6. Janelle Archey

General Services Committee – Mr. David Ziegler, Chair

Item C was requested to be separated from the overall vote.

On a motion by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Curriculum Items A – G, with the exception of Item C, were approved:

- A. **Approved a proposal from Webster’s Fitness Products, Inc., for new high school weight room equipment at a cost of \$106,355. (Board Attachment)**
Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #14-059, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget. The equipment was selected specifically to fit in the weight room after the High School renovations.
- B. **Approved a quote from Hondru Ford to purchase a 2022 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle at a cost of \$44,908.14. (Board Attachment)**
Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #13-003, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget.
- C. *Move to approve a quote from Deere & Company (Bomberger’s Store, Inc.) to purchase two plow tractors at a cost of \$41,065.18. (Board Attachment)*
Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #4400020085, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget.
- D. **Approved a quote from Deere & Company (Bomberger’s Store, Inc.) to purchase an electric Gator for use on the new turf field at a cost of \$13,676.40. (Board Attachment)**
Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #4400020085 and will be paid with High School project funds.
- E. **Approved a quote from Max-Ability to purchase five (5) Evacu-Trac Chairs at a cost of \$14,775. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is part of the summer maintenance program budget.

- F. **Approved a quote from LowV Systems, Inc., for Middle School security cameras at a cost of \$51,426. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #040,036, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget.

- G. **Approved a quote from LowV Systems, Inc., for stadium security cameras at a cost of \$27,302. (Board Attachment)**

Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #040-036, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget.

Mr. Ziegler made a motion to Table Item C, seconded by Mr. Ondrusek, and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Item C was Tabled.

- C. *Move to approve a quote from Deere & Company (Bomberger's Store, Inc.) to purchase two plow tractors at a cost of \$41,065.18. (Board Attachment)*

Background: This is a COSTARS contract, #4400020085, and is part of the summer maintenance program budget.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Committee – Mrs. Rachel Moyer, Chair

The Board reviewed and discussed the following item:

- A. Recommend for approval granting Tenure to the following individual, as listed:

Background: Per P.A. School Code 1949 Act 14 – Each board of school directors in all school districts shall hereafter enter into contracts, in writing, with each professional employee initially employed by a school district, on or after June 30, 1996, who has satisfactorily completed three (3) years of service in any school district in the Commonwealth.

1. Jennifer Greene, MS Special Ed/Learning Support teacher

- B. Recommend for approval Melodie Fair as the ELCO+ Coordinator K-12 for the Summer 2022 summer school program, at a stipend of \$4,500.

Background: The ELCO+ Coordinator will oversee the students, teachers, and paraprofessionals in the ELCO+ summer school. This is the second year of the K-5 summer school and the second year of in-person credit recovery support for secondary students.

General Services Committee – Mr. David Ziegler, Chair

The board reviewed and discussed the following item:

- A. Recommend for approval a quotation with Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP, for Jackson Elementary fire panel maintenance at a cost of \$24,710. (Board Attachment)

Background: This Sourcenvell Contract #030421-JHN and is part of the summer maintenance program budget.

Finance Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Chair

The Board reviewed and discussed the following items:

- A. Recommend for approval a fee adjustment from Interstate Tax Service, Inc., for Unemployment Compensation Consulting for an estimated \$75.40 a month, effective July 1, 2022, based on the terms of the original contract dated January 1, 2000. (Board Attachment)

Background: The firm manages unemployment claims and hearings for the District.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Vicente reported on the following items:

- The second meeting of the Core Planning team was held to continue their work on the Comprehensive Plan.
- Three areas discussed:
 - Data review
 - Portrait of a Graduate
 - Goals were reviewed in four areas:
 - Building a firm foundation
 - Developing skills for life-long success
 - Mastering of core subjects
 - Readiness for college and career
- The next meeting will focus on setting measures under each goal.
- Community survey will be included in the next edition of the ELCO Communicator and is intended for residents in the district who do not have children enrolled in our school system.

- Principal Reports

- Ms. Jennifer Haas – ELCO High School
 - Kudos to the High School musical, “The Little Mermaid” being a huge success under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Fair. Thank you to the entire cast, crew, parents, and all volunteers!
 - Congratulations to Lucy Bickel named as 2021-2022 “Jane Blystone PA Student Journalist of the Year.”
 - Artwork by Carissa Bender, Rylan Brown, and Andrea Kline is featured in the 2022 PA Art Education Association’s Youth Art Month virtual exhibit.
 - Congratulations to the Boys’ Basketball team earning a birth in the 1st round of State playoffs against Neumann Goretti!
- Mr. Jason Deane – ELCO Middle School
 - Congratulations to the cast, crew, and directors of the musical!
 - Mrs. DeVore’s current rotation of classes hosted a carnival during lunches to increase participation in the school lunch program and to promote school morale.
 - Mrs. Arnold has invited community members to share a book they are reading or a book that has impacted their life. To date there are over eight participants, which include three board members.
- Dr. Michael Gerhart – ELCO Intermediate School
 - ‘Everyone Can Create’ series – 3-day training for the professional staff took place with training provided by Apple. Our students will benefit from the training received.
- Mrs. Tam Hower – Jackson Elementary School
 - Thanks to Ms. Haas for the invitation allowing our K-2 students a preview of the musical!
 - Approximately 400 guests attended the Math Fiesta held at Jackson. With the help of staff and families, Food Services, and Boy Scout Troop 460, it was a successful night. 340 walking taco meals were served.
 - March Madness will be held during the month with “Battle of the Books.” Students will have the opportunity to participate in activities and be challenged to read eight different books in the brackets, ending with a vote for their favorite book.
- Mr. Steven Lin – Fort Zeller Elementary School
 - Read Across America was celebrated last week with guest readers, which included parents and staff.
 - “Battle of the Books” challenge began today for March Madness, with special spotlight on the works of children’s author, Ryan T. Higgins.
 - Thanks to Ms. Haas and the musical cast and crew! The preview to students was wonderful!

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

March 10, 2022 – 6:00pm, Curriculum Committee Meeting
 March 16, 2022 – 5:15pm, Finance Committee Meeting
 March 18, 2022 – ACT 80 Day (NO students)
 March 21, 2022 – 6:00pm, Regular Board of Education Meeting
 March 28, 2022 – End of the 3rd Marking Period
 March 30, 2022 – 2-hour late start for students only
 April 4, 2022 – 6:00pm, Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting

Attendance Noted – Mr. Kramer left the meeting at 6:49pm.

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- Amber Weaver, 327 W. Texter Mission Rd., Robesonia – commented on the Core Planning team's use of Performance Fact. The investment in this tool is invaluable. She encourages all board members to participate in the sessions being held.
- Laura LeBeau, News Director of WLBR
 - Was not permitted to make comment due to her non-residency in the district, per Policy 903.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Mrs. Noll – commented on her involvement with the Core Planning team. She encourages other board members to participate. Also commented on the musical, 'it was phenomenal.'
- Mr. Ferrari – commented on the Core Planning team, which has been well received and beneficial.
- Mrs. Moyer – Good luck to the Boys' Basketball team in the 1st round of States!
- Mr. Ferrari – Best wishes to the Boys' Basketball team!

Old Business

- No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

- No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria J. Hill
 Board Secretary