

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

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

March 6, 2023

The Committee-of-the-Whole Board of Education Meeting was called to order by President, Tom Ferrari 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 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; no one in attendance indicated audio recording the meeting.

A Moment of Silence was observed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Kramer.

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. Treese~~, Dr. Gerhart, Mrs. Hower, Mrs. Houck, Mr. Breeden, Mrs. Lutz, Mrs. Shoemaker, Mr. Sweigart, ~~Mrs. Himmelreich~~, Mr. Miller, Mr. Boltz, Mr. Dresch, Mr. Mealy; Gloria Hill, Board Secretary; Jeffrey Ouellet, School Solicitor; and faculty/staff and community members (in-person and Zoom).

Board President Communications

- Welcomed everyone attending.
- Spring Sports began today.

Board Committee & Rep Reports

- Personnel Committee – Mr. Kahl
 - No report.
- Curriculum Committee – Ms. Schaeffer
 - No report.
- General Services Committee – Mr. Ziegler
 - No report.
- Finance Committee – Mr. Ondrusek
 - The next scheduled meeting will be held March 22, 2023, at 5:15PM.
- IU13 Rep Report – Mr. Ondrusek
 - The last meeting was held February 8, 2023, and new representatives to the IU Board were introduced. Mr. Ondrusek was asked to serve as Business Services Chair.
 - A clean audit was reported by the auditors.
 - Next meeting will take place March 8, 2023, with the 2nd reading of the budget.
- PSBA Rep Report – Mrs. Moyer

- Advocacy Day will be held April 18, 2023, virtually only.
- Budget address will be given by the Governor March 7, 2023. PSBA will prepare a response and analysis.
- CTC Rep Report – Mr. Ziegler
 - JOC Board approved and announced Andra Groller as the next CTC Administrative Director.
 - Day-to-day operations – enrollment stays strong and is open.
 - Information shared on Forklift Certification Program.
- Lebanon Co. Tax Collection Rep Report – Mr. Kramer
 - Meeting held in February with presentation of strategic finance report, which was shared with the ELCO Business Manager.
- ELCO Education Foundation – Ms. Schaeffer
 - Committee is working on August 12th main event.
 - Next meeting will be held March 8, 2023, at 1:00PM, in the District Board Room.

Public Comments – Items On the Agenda

- No comments were made.

ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Acting Chair

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

On a motion by Mr. Kahl, seconded by Ms. Schaeffer and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Personnel Items A-H, were approved:

- A. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Hannah Crompton, full-time Paraprofessional, effective March 17, 2023.
- B. Accepted a “Letter of Resignation” from Jessica Templin, full-time High School Administrative Assistant, effective March 31, 2023.
- C. Approved Pamela Rittle as an ELCO Virtual Academy teacher for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.
- D. Approved the following individuals in extra-curricular positions for the 2023 Spring Musical, retroactive to November 2022, as listed:

Director – Melodie Fair
 Choreographer – Theresa Fidler
 Set Construction Supervisor – David Fair
 Costume Designer – Beth Faehling
 Stage and Safety Supervisor – Adam Zurick
 Vocal Director – Melodie Fair
 Orchestra Director – David Fair
 Rehearsal Accompanist – Melodie Fair

- E. Approved the following individuals as coaches for the 2023 Spring Sports season, as listed (*pending receipt of all required documentation, clearances, and disclosures):

Track & Field:	Volunteer Coach	Blaine Troutman
Baseball:	Volunteer Coaches	Kyle Knight, Travis Weaver*, Joe Ginder*
		Brian Shutter*, Alisha Hehnly*

- F. Approved a trip/travel request from Amy Weddle, HS FBLA Advisor, Holly Hartman, chaperone, and approximately 20 high school students, to travel and participate in the FBLA State Leadership Conference, April 17-19, 2023, at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA.
Background: Annual trip dependent on students qualifying, with costs budgeted.
- G. Approved a trip/travel request from Melodie Fair and David Fair, HS Choral and Band Directors, and 1 qualifying student to travel and participate in the PMEA State Music Festival to be held April 19-22, 2023, at Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, Pocono Manor, PA.
Background: Annual trip dependent on student qualifying, with costs budgeted.
- H. Approved adding the following individuals to the ELCO Volunteer listing for the 2022-2023 school year, as listed (noting all required documentation, clearances, and trainings are on file):
1. Kathleen Dresely
 2. Kelly Mohn
 3. Joshua Bogner
 4. Jason Whitman
 5. Amber Fry
 6. Angela Hartranft
 7. Nicholas Stauffer
 8. Thais Llitera
 9. Rebecca Heckman
 10. Stephanie Bechtel
 11. Jennifer Hassler
 12. Brittany Price
 13. Jeffrey Ash

Curriculum Committee – Ms. Megan Schaeffer, Chair

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

On a motion by Ms. Schaeffer, seconded by Mr. Ziegler and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Item A was approved:

- A. Approved the purchase of eHallpass from Securely in the amount of \$1,539, prorated for February 10, 2023, through June 30, 2023. (Board Attachment)
Background: The Middle and High Schools have been piloting this software for free over the past month. The software provides a digital sign-in and sign-out pass for students instead of paper lists and paper passes that were used in the past. This purchase would permit us to continue using eHallpass for the remainder of the school year.

Policy Committee – Mr. Howard Kramer, Chair

On a motion by Mr. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Ziegler and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, Item A was approved:

- A. Approved the following new policy, 1st Reading (Board Attachment):
1. Policy #715 - Commercial Advertising, Partnerships, Sponsorships, and Naming Rights

General Services Committee – Mr. David Ziegler, Chair

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

On a motion by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kahl and approved by Voice vote, all voting Aye, General Services Items A-F were approved:

- A. Approved a contract with Brightly Software, Inc., (formerly Dude Solutions) upgrading current software to enhance and provide both facilities use, and the preventative maintenance and work order system. The cost to upgrade is \$8,595.01, for the period of March 17, 2023 to June 30, 2023.
Background: The cost to upgrade will provide both the transfer of existing information from the current system to the new system, 3-months service, and staff training on the use of the system.
- B. Approved contracting with the Lancaster-Lebanon IU13, to provide transportation via Faithful Transportation, for a student attending the Central Education Center in Manheim, PA. The daily rate for transportation is \$175, with a start date for services of March 1, 2023.
Background: Brightbill Transportation is unable to add an additional vehicle to provide transportation to the Central Education Center.
- C. Approved an awarded PEPPM E-Rate Bid proposal to ePlus Technology, Inc., in the amount of \$18,077.52, for network switches, licensing, and accessories. Cost of the equipment has been budgeted. (Board Attachment)
Background: The network switches reside in the network closets and are needed to provide network services to the STEM wing addition at the High School and the Relocatable Modular at the Middle School. Using the E-Rate bid process will make us eligible for a 70% reimbursement of this cost through the federal E-Rate program.
- D. Approved an awarded PEPPM E-Rate Bid proposal to ePlus Technology, Inc., in the amount of \$22,075.92, for wireless access points and licensing. Cost of the equipment has been budgeted. (Board Attachment)
Background: The wireless access points connect from the network closets and reside in classrooms and are needed to provide network services to the STEM wing addition at the High School and the Relocatable Modular at the Middle School. Using the E-Rate bid process will make us eligible for a 70% reimbursement of this cost through the federal E-Rate program.
- E. Approved an awarded PEPPM E-Rate proposal to ePlus Technology, Inc., in the amount of \$3,201.32, for UPS Battery Backup Appliances. Cost of the equipment has been budgeted. (Board Attachment)
Background: The UPS Battery Backup Appliances reside in the network closets and are needed to provide surge protection and power to networking equipment during loss of power. Using the E-Rate bid process will make us eligible for a 70% reimbursement of this cost through the federal E-Rate program.
- F. Approved a proposal with Apple Computer, Inc., through PEPPM contract #535802, at the total cost of \$1,436,449.09, financed over a period of four years. (Board Attachment)
Background: This proposal refreshes current iPads for elementary students, secondary students, and instructional staff. The proposal also includes cases, accessories, device management licensing, and professional development in addition to iPads. The lease includes a 0% interest rate with a \$1 buyout at the end of the term. Revenue streams to assist in offsetting cost will include selling back current fleet of iPads, as well as securing reimbursement through Emergency Connectivity Funds.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Personnel Committee – Mr. Jack Kahl, Acting Chair

- No Items for discussion.

Curriculum Committee – Ms. Megan Schaeffer, Chair

The board reviewed and discussed the following item:

- A. Recommend for approval the ELCO Chapter 339 Plan (K-12 Guidance Plan) as required by Chapter 339 Vocational Education.
Background: The Chapter 339 Plan outlines a comprehensive, sequential program of counseling services for all students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade.

General Services Committee – Mr. David Ziegler, Chair

- No Items for discussion.

Finance Committee – Mr. Ray Ondrusek, Chair

- No Items for discussion.

Superintendent's Report

- Principal Reports
 - Ms. Jennifer Haas – ELCO High School
 - The High School musical was a huge success with sold out performances. Many thanks to the director, Mrs. Fair, the cast and crew, and Mr. Fair and the orchestra pit!
 - The recent Blood Drive held resulted in 141 lives saved. Thanks to the Wellness Committee and the EMT Club for their efforts.
 - Update was given on RaiderTHON Mini-Thon, raising \$7,697.38. The next fundraising event will be the Color Run held at the end of the year.
 - Congratulations to Deacon Shearer who was selected to participate in the PMEA All-State Chorus Festival.
 - Dr. Michael Gerhart – ELCO Intermediate School
 - The recent STEM/Math night had approximately 100 students and parents participating.
 - The PTO will sponsor and host a Glow Party. Approximately 400 are registered to attend this FREE event.
 - Mrs. Tam Hower – Jackson Elementary School
 - Kindergarten Orientation will be held March 9, 2023.
 - March Madness Battle of the Books is underway with students selecting books featuring characters who display the traits of honesty, cooperation, respect, and responsibility.
 - Mrs. Tara Lutz – ELCO Middle School
 - School spirit is alive at the Middle School. Mrs. DeVore's computer classes have created an ELCO clothing sale for their business projects. Students and staff will have the opportunity to purchase t-shirts representing the class of 2027 and the Middle School.
 - March is "What's So Cool About Manufacturing," month. Students were able to visit a local business, Laser Fab, and created presentations about their manufacturing process. Video presentations will be open for public voting from March 13th through March 15th. The group is under the supervision of Mr. Underkoffler, who does a great job with the students involved.
 - Mrs. Jodi Houck – Fort Zeller Elementary School
 - Read Across America occurred at Fort Zeller with students experiencing fun activities throughout the week, including mystery readers and special dress days.
 - Fort Zeller would like to thank the High School for inviting students to preview the musical, Beauty and the Beast. Students from both Fort Zeller and Jackson absolutely loves the scenes performed and were very attentive and respectful.

Mrs. Vicente reported on the following:

- 2023 Feeding School Kids Round Up program by Giant Foods – over the last two years, Giant's program has supported school districts in addressing childhood hunger through the communities it serves. The program continues in 2023 and has awarded the ELCO School District with a donation of \$2,521.43, from the program and the rounding up at the register.
- In Athletics – Several students recognized include, Ashton Kriss who qualified for the PIAA State Wrestling Championship; Ben Moser was named as Section 3 Coach of the Year, along with

recognition to his assistant coaches, David Wunder and Wes Bankus; Indoor Track State Meet winners included, Carissa Bender placing 6th in girls pole vault, Colin Daub placing 20th in the boys shotput, and Jacey Hentz placing 8th in the girls long jump.

- HS Construction Project – update was given, and the project is on schedule.

Upcoming Dates/Announcements:

March 10, 2023 – ACT 80 Day Inservice (NO students)

March 13, 2023 – 7:30am – IU13 Legislative Breakfast, Eden Resort & Suites

March 16, 2023, 6:00pm – Curriculum Committee Meeting

March 20, 2023, 6:00pm – Regular Board of Education Meeting

March 22, 2023, 5:15pm – Finance Committee Meeting

March 29, 2023 – 2-hour Late Start for students K-12

Public Comments – Items On/Off the Agenda

- Keith Miller – thanked the board for their service; commented on the stadium upgrade to turf; commended Adam Zurick for his interim service as Athletic Director; commended the District on the hire of Tommy Mealy as Athletic Director; and asked the board to consider naming the stadium in recognition and service by the former Athletic Director.
 - Mr. Ferrari thanked Mr. Miller for his comments and volunteer service to the District. With the current approval of a 1st Reading of Policy 715, naming rights cannot occur until the policy is presented for 2nd Reading and fully approved.
- Nicole Readinger – expressed concerns with student privacy and facility accommodations.
 - Mr. Ferrari interrupted the comment period of Mrs. Readinger and read a statement on accommodations that are in place and the matters of privacy and protection in question.
- Gary Weaver – thanked the board for their service. Commented on student privacy and accommodations made within the facilities. Requests other accommodations be made for protection and privacy of all concerned.
- Sherry Weaver – also thanked the board for their service to the District. Agrees with other comments made on accommodations made and the privacy and safety for all concerned.
- Dennis Foltz – commented on policies established by the District.

Mr. Ferrari thanked all for their comments and concerns on sensitive topics. An Executive Session was called by Mr. Ferrari and will be held immediately following the adjournment of tonight's meeting.

Mr. Ferrari asked the Solicitor to comment on concerns expressed during the Public Comment period. The school board will take under advisement the matters expressed, and also commented on the respectful manner displayed by residents addressing the school board.

Board Announcements/Comments

- Mr. Kramer – commented on the High School Musical and the great performances given.
- Mr. Kahl – also commented on the musical and the outstanding performances by everyone involved; and reading to 2nd grades by both himself, and Mr. Kramer. He encourages other board members to visit classrooms.
- Ms. Schaeffer – also commented and commended all who were part of the High School musical.
- Mrs. Moyer – expressed concerns on student safety and privacy.
- Mr. Ondrusek – commented on matters expressed by residents addressing the board.

Old Business

- No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

- No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Ziegler, seconded by Mr. Kahl and approved by a Voice vote, all voting Aye, President Ferrari adjourned the meeting at 7:05pm.

Mr. Ferrari reminded board members of the Executive Session to be held immediately following adjournment to discuss matters involving confidential student matters protected by the law.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria J. Hill
Board Secretary