

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LANCASTER SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Lancaster, Pennsylvania**

**Regular Meeting**  
**April 20, 2010**

The School District of Lancaster School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Lincoln Middle School, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Attendance of the Board was as follows:

Mrs. Linda Troublefield-Owens, President  
Mr. Richard Caplan, Vice President  
Mrs. Barbara Boben  
Mr. Charlie Crystle, Jr.  
Mr. Todd Heath  
Mrs. Stacey Marten  
Mr. Harvey Miller  
Mr. Michael Rowen  
Ms. Janelle M. Simms  
  
Miss Alvia Urdaneta, Student Representative

Officers: Mr. Pedro Rivera, Superintendent  
Mr. Matt Przywara, Treasurer  
Mrs. Rita Balogh, Secretary

Legal Counsel: Mr. Robert Frankhouser, Solicitor

---

**4/20/2010: CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Owens. Roll call was answered by: *Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 9; Absent: 0.* Mr. Josh Keene, Principal of Lincoln Middle School, welcomed everyone in attendance. He noted the school is home to approximately 570 students and prides itself on having met AYP last year. It is a full-service community school, and Mr. Keene noted their community partnerships with SACA and Compass Mark. He introduced students Ayanda McGill-Jefferson and Jalyssa Jenkins, who led the audience in The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Lester Ressler, Jr. and Patricia Wiley.

**4/20/2010: ADDENDUMS AND CORRECTIONS:** None

**4/20/2010: APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved by unanimous roll call vote on a motion by Director Rowen, which was seconded by Director Marten.

**4/20/2010: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

The math and reading PSSA tests are completed. The writing tests have begun and will be followed by the science tests next week. I have full confidence that the student preparations and support administered by our staff will be reflected in our overall outcome. Individual student results should arrive in June, followed by building level results in August.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ADDENDUMS AND  
CORRECTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S  
REPORT**

Students in the McCaskey Institute of Technology Small Learning Community at McCaskey East recently competed in the regional computer fair held at the IU 13 building. McCaskey East had four second place winners and three third place winners.

Several of our students placed in the National History Day Competition and will move on to the state level competition to be held on May 12-13 at Millersville University. Many of our teachers went above and beyond the call of duty to prepare our students for this high level competition against students from Lancaster, Lebanon, York and Berks Counties.

The first week in May marks Teacher Appreciation Week. Please take the time to thank our many educators in the SDoL for the remarkable job they do each day in our classrooms. They are our 'first line' when it comes to supporting our students!

Cheer on our Varsity Baseball team at Clipper Stadium on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> when they take on Lebanon. Game time is 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the McCaskey Baseball Booster Club.

***Capital Improvement Plan Update:***

The spring weather has been cooperating with our on-going construction projects allowing us to gain progress on schedules impacted by the snow. Four more classrooms at Ross, along with the new Washington addition will be available for occupancy within the next month.

A special thanks to the construction teams for coordinating with school leaders around PSSA testing. Most of the recent construction work has been conducted during evening hours or non-instructional times so the noise does not interfere with testing.

**4/20/2010: STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:**

**MIDDLE SCHOOLS:**

**Hand:**

No report.

**Lincoln:**

Thanh Nguyen, a Lincoln 8<sup>th</sup> grader, won the PA Letters about Literature contest for her age group and won an honors place on the national level. Students were asked to write to an author whose book changed their life in some way.

**Reynolds:**

Three Reynolds gifted students placed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, in the African American Women's Essay Contest sponsored by the Masonic Center's Silvery Moon Chapter #56:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place- Liam Ryan
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place- Thea Buckwalter
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place- Brianna Hurley

Monica Meade, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at Reynolds, won the Lancaster Intelligencer Journal Spelling Bee on March 26. She will be heading to Washington D.C. in June to compete in the Scripts National Spelling Bee.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT (cont.)**

**STUDENT BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVE'S  
REPORT**

Leon Hillard, a retiring teacher at Reynolds Middle School was featured in the Sunday News on March 14 in their "In the Spotlight" section about his roles as teacher, musician, and his life-long passion for music.

**Wheatland:**

Twelve students represented Wheatland at the recent Regional Conference of the Pennsylvania Association of Student Councils held at Northern Lebanon High School.

A spirited group of Wheatland students, parents and staff participated in our annual Spring Clean-up on April 10<sup>th</sup>. The group weeded, planted and mulched the shrubs and flower beds in the front of the school. The event is co-sponsored by the National Junior Honor Society and the PTO.

**HIGH SCHOOL:**

Thirteen hopeful students tried out to be speakers for graduation and the senior honors banquet, and the final six have been selected. Nguyen Nguyen, Angelique Jackson, and Emily De Wet will be speaking at graduation, and Gilberto Vega, Cynthia Thomas, and Vincent Dastro will speak at the banquet. Congratulations to all of them!

Tickets are now on sale for the Class of 2010's prom with the theme of Grecian Gardens. It will be at the Lancaster Host Hotel, and post-prom will be held at J.P. McCaskey. Best Buy will be sponsoring the night.

The girls' soccer team is holding a Seniors Night this Thursday night and a chicken barbecue.

The Music Department at McCaskey had a wonderful time in Florida, and all the performances were extremely successful. The choral groups performed at Epcot, the orchestra at downtown Disney, and the marching band performed in the Magic Kingdom in a parade going up Main Street to the castle before an audience of at least 35,000 people.

The McCaskey Art Department had art on display at the Convention Center last weekend for the City's Art Walk.

The school continues on in finishing the PSSA testing. Everything seems to be going well, and the students are well-motivated. There is a concern with the overall scheduling for this year. Last year the juniors arrived to school at the regular time and did their tests, and other students arrived later. This year the students would be missing two weeks of their second and third period classes, which is right before the IB and AP testing. Altogether, we are missing a lot of class time, which is causing concerns for many teachers. We would ask that for next year's testing that a better schedule will be considered.

Superintendent Rivera responded there is a difference in how the high school attendance is reported to the state since class time is not reported by the day, but by the hours and minutes. Due to the number of snow days we had this winter, we were unable to allow the special schedule that would allow a pushdown of the class hours and the accommodation of students coming in later.

**STUDENT BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVE'S  
REPORT (cont.)**

**4/20/2010: PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Thomas Goodhart, Pearl Street, a 1980 graduate, spoke on behalf of taxpayers to urge the district to stop spending money and to not raise taxes. He distributed a turnip to each Board director, stating that until they can squeeze blood out of it, they shouldn't raise taxes.

Two members of the varsity cheerleading squad at McCaskey spoke against the revised time of tryouts to August, noting they are concerned for the safety of the team and that they would need to practice with students who will not make the team. No other teams in the county have tryouts at that time of year.

Superintendent Rivera responded with his support of the Athletic Director to align the tryouts with PIAA sport schedules, and noted Mr. Mitchell is here this evening and will meet with anyone with concerns.

Beverly Richardson, Waterford Court, stated she is still waiting on a phone call from the Superintendent following a message she left for him two days after the last meeting. She cited a family history of volunteerism, but stated it is hard to volunteer when the fundraisers through the concession stand are so negative and all groups aren't given the same opportunity.

Director Crystle stated concessions will be discussed at the next Public Engagement Committee on May 4 at 4:30 p.m. at Hamilton Elementary School.

Willie Wilhelm, East Walnut Street, referred to her comments at the last meeting regarding the program at Camelot. The program is great for kids, and before transferring kids back to their home schools, you should make sure they want to go back. There is trust and honesty in that building. All the teachers and principal show respect, so the kids give it back. Keep the program and expand it.

Tracy Dettrey, East Walnut Street, stated administrators have no background in cheerleading. You should listen to the students and what they are saying.

**4/20/2010: CONSENT AGENDA:** Director Boben made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- (1) Approval of Minutes: March 16, 2010 Regular Meeting
- (2) Personnel Recommendations
- (3) Board Policy Revision (Second Reading):
  - 200 Enrollment of Resident and Nonresident Students
- (4) Deletion of Obsolete Board Policies (Second Readings):
  - 204.1 Open Enrollment
  - 256 Parent Involvement Policy and Procedures
  - 624 Expenditures
- (5) Approval of Board Committee Restructuring and Assignments
- (6) Student Achievement Contracts/Agreements:
  1. Kevin Nathaniel Hylton – not to exceed \$4,800.00
  2. Fremarjo Enterprises, Inc. – not to exceed \$6,000.00
  3. Boys and Girls Club – not to exceed \$3,400.00
  4. Compass Mark – not to exceed \$2,650.00

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Minutes
- Personnel Recommendations
- Board Policy Revision
  
- Deletion of Board Policies
  
  
- Board Committees
- Student Achievement Contracts/Agreements

(7) Finance and Operations Management Contracts/Agreements:

1. Capraro Associate LLC – not to exceed \$3,294.00
2. Conrad Siegel Actuaries/PA Trust – not to exceed \$7,050.00
3. CoreSource – not to exceed \$24,000.00

Director Crystle seconded the motion, which was approved by the following vote:  
*Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 9; Nay – 0.*

**4/20/2010: STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE:** Director Caplan reiterated the Student Achievement Committee is now the Educational Excellence Committee since the Consent Agenda items were approved. He reviewed the April 1 meeting and called for the presentation by Fran Rodriguez on the Lancaster Latino Education Committee Forum held last October. Ms. Rodriguez was joined by Dr. Elliott Seda, Adrian Garcia, and Norman Bristol Colon as they provided a snapshot of achievements since 2005, highlighted some of the sessions, and announced the upcoming date of the Third Annual Forum on October 23, 2010. Director Crystle asked Mr. Colon and Ms. Rodriguez to meet with him for the Public Engagement Committee.

Following a motion by Director Marten which was seconded by Director Rowen, the minutes of the April 1 committee meeting were approved in a unanimous voice vote.

Director Marten made a motion for an approval to negotiate with Lancaster County Mental Health and Mental Retardation to collaborate and increase funding opportunities for Lancaster Living Apartment Project. Director Rowen seconded the motion, which was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, and Rowen – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

**4/20/2010: FINANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:** Director Rowen's motion to approve the minutes of the April 7 meeting was seconded by Director Boben and approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Director Rowen's motion to approve the following agenda items from the Finance and Operations Management Committee Report was seconded by Director Marten:

- B. Approval of Contracts/Agreements:
1. Sage Technology Solutions – not to exceed \$445,618.00
  2. E4 Exchange, Inc. – not to exceed \$50,000.00
  3. Lancaster Recreation Commission – agreement to provide food services
- C. Approval of Change Orders for Phase 1 Schools:
1. Washington Elementary School – total of \$97,084.70
  2. Lafayette Elementary School – total of \$8,718.72
  3. Wharton Elementary School – total credit of \$(737.00)
- D. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports
- F. Approval of Mandate Waiver Regarding Print Media
- H. Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of Real Estate Known and Numbered as 333 Dauphin Street (Steinman Clubhouse) and 305 Dauphin Street (Fulton Shelter), City of Lancaster
- J. Approval of National School Boards Association (NSBA) Annual Membership Dues
- K. Waiver of Usage Fees for SALSA for Davey Arnold Field

**CONSENT AGENDA  
(cont.)**

Finance & Operations Mgt.  
Contracts/Agreements

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

Lancaster Latino  
Education Committee  
Forum Presentation

Minutes

Lancaster Living  
Apartment Project

**FINANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Minutes

Contracts/Agreements

Approval of Change Orders

Monthly Financial Reports  
Print Media Mandate Waiver  
Purchase of Steinman  
Clubhouse/Fulton Shelter

NSBA Membership Dues

Waiver of Usage Fees

The motion was approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 9; Nay – 0.*

**FINANCE REPORT (cont.)**

Director Rowen made a motion to approve the following agenda items from the Finance and Operations Management Committee Report:

- E. Approval of 2010-2011 Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13 Proposed Budget
- G. Approval of Mandate Waiver Regarding Bulk Fuels
- I. Approval of Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Employees Health Care Cooperative (EHCC) Amended and Restated Agreement

2010-2011 IU Budget  
Bulk Fuels Mandate Waiver  
EHCC Amended Agreement

The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, and Rowen – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

The final agenda item from the Finance and Operations Management Committee was:

- L. Amendment to Resolution for Lancaster Township Fire Station Location

This item was tabled because the Board was not provided with the updated documents.

Amendment to Resolution  
for Lancaster Township Fire  
Station

Director Rowen stated the revised lease was discussed at the Finance meeting. Is there any option available to take action without waiting another month?

Solicitor Bob Frankhouser responded the Board has already given permission to negotiate a revision to the lease with the Township. Unless the Board has changed its mind, Mr. Przywara and Mr. Frankhouser will negotiate those revisions.

Director Caplan stated the safety issues concerning the access road discussed at the work session can be made a contingency in the final agreement.

Director Simms noted there are other issues to be resolved, citing the CFO's concerns and costs both to date and going forward.

Director Caplan suggested a phrase could be added to the agreement to indemnify us for costs arising from a lawsuit if someone is injured in an accident on our property due to the safety issues caused by the access road. We could be held responsible primarily or secondarily. He also suggested the Township may agree to pay the cost of an independent engineer to give a "second opinion" on the access road location and safety.

Mr. Frankhouser reiterated the safety concerns of the Board are clear and can be addressed in the amended lease. You are requiring the Township to come forward with a plan that addresses your safety concerns. The Board need not take any action tonight unless the Board has changed its position on the resolution adopted last October.

Director Miller asked if PennDOT will need to approve the access off Route 999 since it is a state road.

Lancaster Township Manager Bill Laudien noted the safety and site development plans concerns and stated there is a land development process in place. Any plan will be reviewed and must be approved by the local and county planning commissions,

perhaps the zoning hearing board, and Board of Supervisors for the Township. All of them have solicitors, and a system of checks and balances is in place. The Township is not looking for the School Board to get involved in land development issues; they are looking for permission to proceed to develop a plan for the building.

Director Crystle stated from his perspective, as long as the safety issues are addressed, we should support this going forward.

President Owens stated the Township came to us years ago to use this land as a park, and now they are requesting use for the fire department. Volunteerism in the fire department is decreasing; will this service be outsourced in the future?

Director Rowen stated he believes there would still be a need for a facility in that area, no matter who is staffing it.

Action on this item was tabled.

**4/20/2010: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:** Director Caplan made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6 meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

Superintendent Rivera announced the District is now on Facebook.

Director Rowen asked for comment on the recent newspaper article concerning a Manheim Township student's posting of an edited video on You Tube.

Director Crystle opined it was a talented kid who took advantage of the principal's trust, but he doesn't know if the punishment is appropriate. It is a free speech issue the Board should discuss another time.

President Owens stated we need to realize our children think and act differently.

Director Crystle discussed his perception that comments on Lancaster Newspaper's Talkback espousing hatred and bigotry are damaging to the tone of the community and undermine what we are trying to accomplish. He suggested further discussion at the next work session and the possibility of the Board talking to the newspapers.

**4/20/2010: DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Several draft revised Board Policies were presented for first readings:

- 213 Assessment of Student Progress
- 220 Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials
- 222 Tobacco Use
- 232 Student Involvement in Decision Making
- 234 Pregnant Students
- 251 Homeless Students

In addition, these obsolete Board Policies were presented for first readings for deletion:

- 136 Small Group Instruction Program
- 231A Grading of Secondary Student Progress

**FINANCE REPORT (cont.)**

Lancaster Township Fire Station (cont.)

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT REPORT**  
Minutes

**DISCUSSION**

Board Policy Revisions

Obsolete Board Policy Deletions

- 223 Smoke Free/Tobacco Free Environment
- 237 Student Involvement in Policies and Rules Development

**DISCUSSION (cont.)**

In response to a question on the status of Policy 220, Superintendent Rivera asked for comments from the Solicitor. Mr. Frankhouser noted he is also Solicitor for Manheim Township School District. This policy is developed from a basic template that is fairly routine. The framework is from a case from the 1970's where students wore black arm bands in protest of the Viet Nam War. Two current cases have offered different opinions, and the issue may go to the Supreme Court. The question centers on what becomes a matter of disruption in the school.

Superintendent Rivera stated an outdated policy is now in place. Our practices and knowledge can't keep up with the changes in technology, but we can't bury our heads in the sand. We could have consequences in the event of certain incidents.

Mr. Frankhouser cited the importance of applying policy to situations. You can't anticipate every scenario, and this draft revision is based on PSBA framework.

Director Caplan stated members of a discipline committee will hold three meetings starting tomorrow. He suggested referring this subject to that group to see if they can reach consensus, working in conjunction with the Solicitor. Students will also be in attendance, and their feedback may be helpful by working with them collaboratively versus imposing standards on them. Following their review, if changes are recommended, this policy could come back for a first reading.

**4/20/2010: DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

Director Rowen made a motion to approve all payments from the invoice listing except for the following: #00317373 and 00317617 for Lancaster County Information; #00317616 for Lancaster County Career and Technology Center; #00317620 for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; #0STS0320, WSTS0313, and WSTS0403 for Substitute Teacher Service; #00317542 for Franklin & Marshall; and #00317545 for Fulton Financial Advisors. The motion was seconded by Director Marten and approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 9; Nay – 0*

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**  
Payments (Invoice  
Listings)

Director Boben's motion to approve payments of #00317373 and 00317617 for Lancaster County Information; #00317616 for Lancaster County Career and Technology Center; #00317620 for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; and #0STS0320, WSTS0313, and WSTS0403 for Substitute Teacher Service was seconded by Director Heath. The motion carried as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, and Rowen – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

A motion was made by Director Heath to approve Check #00317545 for Fulton Financial Advisors. Following a second by Director Rowen, approval of the motion was as follows: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Boben – 1.*

Director Simms made a motion to approve Check #00317542 for Franklin & Marshall. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and*

*Simms – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Owens – 1.*

Director Heath's motion to approve the monthly Judiciary Report was seconded by Director Caplan. The motion carried by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Miller – 1.*

**4/20/2010: REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:**

Director Crystle reported he did not attend the IU 13 Board of Directors meeting, because it conflicted with a School District of Lancaster function.

Director Rowen stated he attended the LCCTC meeting, but he had nothing to report.

The Lancaster Recreation Commission Board's report was given by Director Miller. He noted they approved a resolution for the Lancaster Township plan for the fire station encouraging it to not interfere with existing athletic fields. They also discussed ways to raise more money and plans to meet with a representative from the New York City Park Foundation.

**4/20/2010: OLD BUSINESS:** None

**4/20/2010: NEW BUSINESS:**

Director Crystle stated the Board will need to revise its ethics policy and recommended a discussion at a work session.

Director Caplan recommended the Board meet in a half-day retreat to agree upon areas for the Board to focus on. The Committee of the Whole needs to manage in a goal-seeking approach to task committees and new entities to bring those goals to resolution. Time is of the essence, and he perceives two focus issues to be academic achievement and fiscal discipline and responsibility.

President Owens suggested the Board meet within the next two to three weeks for a retreat. She distributed newsletters from the recent National School Board Association's annual conference to the Board.

**4/20/2010: INFORMATION:** In response to Director Rowen's reminder that there are only 20 months left before the PSER's pension crisis hits, Director Crystle stated we should start thinking about what we should do as a Board.

**4/20/2010: ADJOURNMENT:** President Owens adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Attest:

Rita Balogh  
Board Secretary

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**  
(cont.)

Judiciary Report

**REPRESENTATIVE**  
**REPORTS**  
IU 13

LCCTC

Lancaster Recreation  
Commission

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**INFORMATION**

**ADJOURNMENT**