

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LANCASTER SCHOOL BOARD
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting
February 23, 2010

The School District of Lancaster School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at Reynolds Middle School, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Attendance of the Board was as follows:

Mrs. Linda Troublefield-Owens, President
Mr. Richard Caplan, Vice President
Mrs. Barbara Boben – Absent
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

2/23/2010: CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Owens. Roll call was answered by: *Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 9; Absent: Director Boben – 1.* Mr. Mark Simms, Principal of Reynolds Middle School, welcomed everyone in attendance and introduced Assistant Principal Steve Sohonyay. Mr. Simms highlighted programs unique to Reynolds and detailed the success of recent fundraisers for the Leukemia Society and Haiti earthquake relief. In announcing tomorrow night’s winter concert at the school, Mr. Simms invited everyone to look at the student artwork displayed on the auditorium walls. He introduced 6th grade student Bryanna David who led the audience in The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Virginia Eshleman, Steven Cliff, Betty Wilcox, Shana Rae Hernandez, and Cathi Russo Geesey.

2/23/2010: ADDENDUMS AND CORRECTIONS: None

2/23/2010: APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved by unanimous roll call vote on a motion by Director Rowen, which was seconded by Director Marten.

2/23/2010: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:
Superintendent Rivera thanked Bryanna for leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance and announced she will be leading it again at tomorrow night’s winter concert.

CALL TO ORDER

**ADDENDUMS AND
CORRECTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

Under the direction of club advisor Kevin Webster, McCaskey's Mock Trial Team remains undefeated after recently defeating Lancaster Catholic. Senior Nguyen received the "Best Lawyer Award."

McCaskey's Black Student Union is sponsoring *A Celebration of African American Heritage* event on February 25th from 6-8 p.m. at McCaskey East. Mayor Gray will introduce York City's first black mayor, Mayor C. Kim Bracey, who is the keynote speaker. This event is open to the public.

The District was recently awarded an Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) grant in the amount of \$637,600. These funds will be used to create "smart classrooms" which include laptops, slate boards, projectors, digital cameras and interactive whiteboards for 5th grade classrooms at Lafayette, Ross, Wharton and an expansion of the program at Burrowes Elementary. Teachers will also receive extensive professional development to ensure these tools are properly implemented.

As a result of the recent snow days, Thursday, April 1st will be a snow make-up day for students. The other two days will be added to the end of the school year on Friday, June 11 and Monday, June 14. McCaskey graduation will remain on Thursday, June 10.

Capital Improvement Plan Update:

Ross Elementary received a partial occupancy permit. Students and staff will begin using five classrooms this week.

We are in the process of finalizing architect agreements for Phase II projects.

2/23/2010: STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT:

MIDDLE SCHOOLS:

Hand:

Hand Middle School's TSA (Technology Student Association) had seven students win at the Region 2 TSA competition on Friday, February 19, 2010. The quality of their projects qualified them for both state and national level competition. We are proud of their performance!

On Thursday Night, February 25, Hand will present its Black History Month play and will also showcase the students' History Day Projects. Please join us from 5:30 until 8:00 p.m.

Lincoln:

The 7th grade competed in a penny war between homerooms to raise money for Haiti. Ms. Williams' homeroom won. Overall, Lincoln collected over \$500.00 for the relief efforts.

Reynolds:

Ben Stutzman won first place in the *Newspaper in Education Week* Design an Ad Contest.

Six Reynolds students are semi-finalists in the Lancaster County Spelling Bee sponsored by Lancaster Newspapers.

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

**STUDENT BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE'S
REPORT**

Ben Stutzman, Aidan Fife, Seth Deane and Arianna Henderson will compete in the regional MATHCOUNTS competition at Millersville on February 27.

There are eight Reynolds Middle School students preparing for the History Day Regional competition in March. All of them have researched and visited archives and experts on their topics.

Wheatland:

Wheatland students and staff contributed \$650 and 20 full kits of living essentials to the Mennonite Central Committee for the Haitian relief effort.

The Wheatland Music Department will present “*High School Musical, Jr.*” on March 5 and 6 at 7:00 p.m. Over 50 students are involved in the production. The public is cordially invited to both performances.

HIGH SCHOOL:

As Mr. Rivera said, the Black Student Union will hold A Celebration of African American Heritage.

The McCaskey Night of the Arts a Benefit for Haiti is this Friday. The Student Government invites the community to come and see the awesome range of talent. This McCaskey night out will include music, food, and art. All proceeds from this event will be directed to the American Red Cross Haiti Relief fund. The Night of the Arts will be this Friday, February 26 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the McCaskey High School Campus.

The Campus has also had two wonderful accomplishments this month. The Mock Trial team was undefeated, defeating Catholic High. We have already raised \$1,877 for the Haiti relief fund, and we continue to raise money to support Haiti in their time of need.

2/23/2010: PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Before opening the floor for public comments, President Owens reviewed the public comments procedures and further stipulated the following items are inappropriate and will not be tolerated: complaints against individual Board members, individual employees, and individual community members. Private information related to any student will also not be tolerated.

Brian Herson, Atkins Avenue, reminded the Board he had spoken last month on the Lancaster Township park land. It appears the Charles Street property is not for sale, so he expects the Township to come back to the Board for a change in lease terms. He asked the Board to consider several issues in their decisions.

Beverly Richardson, Waterford Court, asked for a copy of the public comments procedures read by President Owens. In response, President Owens noted the information is printed at the top of the agenda. The additional stipulations will be on the public packet next month. Mrs. Richardson continued with a correction to her comments as recorded in last month’s meeting minutes; however, President Owens stopped her when she mentioned an employee by name. At Mrs. Richardson’s notation that she also spoke during new and old business last month but it was not

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

recorded in the minutes, President Owens responded that new and old business is restricted to the business of the Board as dictated by Robert's Rules of Order. The fact that this was permitted previously was an error. Mrs. Richardson concluded by stating the Superintendent has not responded to her previous comments, and you are not holding administrators accountable.

2/23/2010: CONSENT AGENDA: Director Rowen made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Item (6)(4) Education Contract/Agreement for Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13 (Dan Billings) – master agreement. The motion was seconded by Director Marten and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, and Rowen – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

Director Heath made a motion to approve the remaining Consent Agenda as follows:

- (1) Approval of Minutes:
 - January 19, 2010 Regular Meeting
 - February 12, 2010 Special Meeting to Adopt 2010-2011 Preliminary Budget
- (2) Personnel Recommendations
- (3) Approval of 2010-2011 Student Calendar
- (4) Board Policy Adoptions and Revisions (Second Readings):
 - 201 Admission of Students
 - 208 Withdrawal from School
 - 240 Student Awards/Contests/Competitions
 - 250 Student Recruitment
- (5) Deletion of Obsolete Board Policy (Second Reading):
 - 236 Student Awards
- (6) Education Contracts/Agreements:
 - (1) Music in the Schools Program – master agreement
 - (2) Jesenia Montanez – master agreement
 - (3) Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services – master agreement

Director Simms seconded the motion, which was approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

2/23/2010: EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: At President Owens' request, Director Rowen made a motion to approve the Education Committee Report and Recommendations from the agenda as detailed below:

- B. Permission to Accept:
 1. Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) in the amount of \$637,600.00
 2. Learn and Serve Start-Up Grant in the amount of \$3,000.00
 3. Target Field Trip Grants in the amount of \$800.00
- C. Cooperative Agreement with Lancaster County Christian School

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

The remaining Agenda Item 1 for grant updates was for information only:

1. 21st Century Community Learning Centers

PUBLIC COMMENTS
(cont.)

CONSENT AGENDA
Item (6)(4) Education
Contract/Agreement for
IU 13

Minutes

Personnel Recommendations
2010-11 Student Calendar
Board Policy Adoptions
and Revisions

Deletion of Board Policy

Education Contracts/
Agreements

**EDUCATION
COMMITTEE
REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Permission to Accept

Cooperative Agreement
with Lancaster County
Christian School

Grant Updates

2. 21st Century Community Learning Centers
3. Dual Enrollment
4. Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT)
5. Music for Everyone
6. Music Matters Music Education Grant
7. Sprint Character Education Grant
8. Sprint Character Education Grant
9. HIV/STD/Pregnancy Prevention Mini-Grant

**EDUCATION
COMMITTEE (cont.)**
Grant Updates (cont.)

President Owens explained to the public the new process of the School Board to meet in a Committee-of-the-Whole work session on the Tuesday preceding regular monthly meetings in Room B123 at McCaskey East. At that time they will discuss all committee items, so the discussion will already have taken place before the regular meetings.

Director Rowen stated he supports the new structure, which allows discussion about the actions of each different committee and builds trust among the Directors.

2/23/2010: FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Director Caplan's motion to approve the following Finance Committee Report and Recommendations was seconded by Director Heath:

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

- A. Contract/Agreement: Schoolnet, Inc. – not to exceed \$664,401.00
- B. Approval of Bids:
Bid 3015/Project C08 – Furniture and Equipment at Phase I Sites
- C. Approval of Change Orders for Phase 1 Schools:
 1. Washington Elementary School – total of \$48,116.73
 2. Lafayette Elementary School – total of \$32,389.42
 3. Wharton Elementary School – total of \$16,250.00
 4. Ross Elementary School – total of \$17,471.82
- D. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

Contract/Agreement
Approval of Bids
Approval of Change Orders
Monthly Financial Reports

The motion was approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

2/23/2010: EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: President Owens announced the Extra-Curricular Committee did not meet this month. Beginning next month their work will become part of the new Public Engagement Committee.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR
COMMITTEE
REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

2/23/2010: FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Director Rowen's motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2010 Facilities Committee meeting was seconded by Director Marten and approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

**FACILITIES COMMIT-
TEE REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**
Minutes

2/23/2010: DISCUSSION ITEMS:

DISCUSSION

Superintendent Rivera reviewed the dates and times for next month's committee meetings which will convene in the Scheffey Board Room:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Student Achievement Committee | Thursday, February 25 – 6:30 p.m. |
| Community Engagement Committee | Tuesday, March 2 – 6:00 p.m. |
| Finance & Operations Management | Wednesday, March 3 – 5:45 p.m. |

2/23/2010: DISCUSSION/ACTION:

Director Rowen made a motion to approve all payments from the invoice listing except for the following: #00008388, 00316753 and 00316754 for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; #00316426, 00316750, and 00316751 for Lancaster County Career and Technology Center; #00316546 for county of Lancaster; #WSTS0116 and WSTS0130 for Substitute Teacher Service; #00316611 for Franklin & Marshall; and #00316782 for Linda Troublefield-Owens. The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0*

Director Marten's motion to approve payments of #00316611 for Franklin & Marshall and #00316782 for Linda Troublefield-Owens was seconded by Director Rowen. The motion carried as follows: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Owens – 1.*

A motion was made by Director Heath to approve all remaining payments from the invoice listing: #00008388, 00316753 and 00316754 for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; #00316426, 00316750, and 00316751 for Lancaster County Career and Technology Center; #00316546 for county of Lancaster; #WSTS0116 and WSTS0130 for Substitute Teacher Service. Following a second by Director Rowen, approval of the motion was as follows: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, and Rowen – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

Director Caplan made a motion to approve the monthly Judiciary Report. Director Marten seconded the motion, and it was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Miller – 1.*

A motion was made by Director Marten to establish the positions of hearing examiner and alternate hearing examiner as permitted by section 12.8(b) of the regulations of the State Board of Education, for the purpose of conducting expulsion hearings in accordance with those regulations. The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

President Owens made a motion to appoint Ms. Janelle M. Simms as the hearing examiner and Mr. Richard Caplan as the alternate hearing examiner. Following a second by Director Marten, the motion was approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

2/23/2010: REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Director Crystle reported the IU 13 Board of Directors met last week in a make-up meeting from one postponed by snow. The primary topics were the IU and school district budgets and the PSERS crisis.

Director Rowen reported he attended the LCCTC meeting, and their discussions were similar to Director Crystle's comments about the IU 13 Board of Directors. The Joint Operating Committee included in their proposed budget a recommendation for districts to continue to contribute to a capital improvement fund in an amount equal to their contributions to the recently retired debt service. They felt if it was discontinued

DISCUSSION/ACTION

Payments (Invoice Listings)

Judiciary Report

Establish Position of Hearing Examiner and Alternate Hearing Examiner

Appointment of Hearing Examiner and Alternate Hearing Examiner

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

IU 13

LCCTC

it would be difficult to reinstitute it in the future. However, they rejected a proposal to build up reserves for the impending PSERS increases.

The Lancaster Recreation Commission Board's report was given by Director Miller. He noted they celebrated their 100th birthday last year. Recently an ambitious new strategic plan was approved.

Director Crystle noted a meeting held February 22nd to lay groundwork for the public Engagement Committee included community partners. There were good conversations, and he plans to organize more meetings around the District.

2/23/2010: OLD BUSINESS: Director Rowen stated it is 22 months until the PSERS crisis hits. There are a lot of estimates; even the smallest is unacceptable, but the highest is off the charts. In 2012 it could balloon into huge tax increases.

Director Crystle added the place to complain is at your local legislator's office.

Director Heath reiterated school boards have no choice but to pay. The proposed additional tax increase right now is 25%, and that is just for PSERS.

2/23/2010: NEW BUSINESS: None

2/23/2010: INFORMATION:

2/23/2010: ADJOURNMENT: President Owens adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Attest:

Rita Balogh
Board Secretary

**REPRESENTATIVE
REPORTS (cont.)**

Lancaster Recreation
Commission

Other

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

ADJOURNMENT