

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LANCASTER SCHOOL BOARD
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting
January 18, 2011

The School District of Lancaster School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at George Ross Elementary School, 840 North Queen Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Attendance of the Board was as follows:

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

Officers: Mr. Pedro Rivera, Superintendent
Mr. Matt Przywara, Treasurer
Mrs. Colleen Marshall, Secretary

Legal Counsel: Mr. Robert Frankhouser, Solicitor

Student Board Member: Miss Alvia Urdaneta

1/18/2011: CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Caplan. Roll call was answered by: *Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Absent: Owens – 1.*

Camille Hopkins, Principal of George Ross Elementary School, welcomed everyone in attendance and gave a brief overview of the school and the status of the construction project at the school.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Edna Mae Ressel and Alice Fry as well as the four students of Manheim Central School District who had recently passed away.

President Caplan announced the Board of School Directors met in Executive Session on January 18, 2011 for the purpose of discussing matters involving employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion, or disciplining of specific or prospective officers or employees as well as matters regarding the Educational Excellence Symposium.

1/18/2011: ADDENDUMS AND CORRECTIONS: None

CALL TO ORDER

**ADDENDUMS AND
CORRECTIONS**

1/18/2011: APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Following a motion by Director Rowen and seconded by Director Heath, the agenda was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

1/18/2011: PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS: None.

1/18/2011: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

January is School Director Recognition Month. Each member will receive a certificate, a token of appreciation and their very own piece of artwork from one of our students. Also, on behalf of the Board Members, each school will receive a copy of “City Dog, Country Frog” for their library.

Senator Piccola and Senator Smucker visited our District last week. They toured Washington Elementary and Hand Middle School to see first-hand the great progress being made in our classrooms. Both Senators were impressed with the students and staff as they traveled through our schools.

Several Buchanan 4th grade students had their work selected for display at the Demuth Museum’s “Art in a Box” exhibit for the month of February. The Demuth Museum is located at 120 East King Street.

Martin Elementary School recently raised \$210 for the Clare House by hosting a jeans day. The Clare House serves homeless women and children by providing a temporary home in a caring environment, life skills programs and aftercare support leading to self-sufficiency.

Schools will be closed for students on Monday, January 24 for a scheduled teacher work day. Schools will now be in session on March 11 to make up for our recent snow day.

Capital Improvement Plan Update:

Work continues at each of the four Phase I sites. The administrative team is working closely with contractors to prepare for the upcoming PSSA window beginning in March. The intent is to schedule construction activities that limit disruptions during this time.

We are working with architects and principals of Phase II sites to schedule “charette” and community meetings to develop preliminary design work for the projects. Over the next couple weeks, we will reach out to the community to seek stakeholder input into the process.

1/18/2011: STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

MIDDLE SCHOOLS:

Hand

On January 10, the Lancaster City Police Department presented information to families regarding cyber bullying and “sexting.” The presentation was preceded by a question and answer session with Superintendent Rivera.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
REGARDING AGENDA
ITEMS**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

**STUDENT BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT**

On January 14, students who are in positive academic standing were invited to participate in a Winter Extravaganza! The event included games, food, dancing and social time.

Eighth grade students are gearing up for their transition to the High School Campus. A parent meeting was hosted by the High School Administration followed by a shadowing day at the campus, which highlighted the early stages of high school transition.

Lincoln

Lincoln Middle School held its first marking period Honor Roll Dinner on December 13, 2010. 115 students and their families were honored for their hard work and dedication in making the Honor Roll. County Commissioner Scott Martin was the guest speaker.

Reynolds

The Secret Angel Project at Reynolds Middle School distributed over 150 holiday gift bags to students at Reynolds Middle School. Mrs. Maureen Vogel coordinated donations from Millersville University faculty and students, F & M faculty and students and the students at Lancaster Country Day High School along with Reynolds Middle School teachers and their families to provide these holiday bags to our students. Students with needs were identified by their teachers and then provided a holiday gift bag on December 21.

On Sunday, December 5, 51 members of the Reynolds Middle School Chorus joined the Franklin and Marshall College Chorus and Camber Singers for a Holiday Choral Concert at Barshinger Center for Musical Arts.

Thirty Reynolds 7th and 8th grade students joined Kris' Lit Club and enrolled in the Achieve 3000 Reading program, which is an educational website that integrates technology with the regular classroom curriculum. Kris' Lit Club is a part of the Kris Wilson Foundation. Wilson is a Former Reynolds student and McCaskey graduate who is currently a Tight End for the San Diego Chargers in the National Football League.

Wheatland

The students in the 6th grade dyad of Ms. Delaney and Mr. Brennan raised \$260 for the Heifer.org project, which helps families around the world to obtain livestock, seeds, plants and/or training to enable them to raise their standard of living by becoming self-sufficient. The amount donated by the 6th graders was enough to buy a water buffalo, or a llama and a sheep!

The 8th grade SLC sponsored a "Snowman" contest to raise money for the Salvation Army. B. Bryan Smith, Major – the Corps Commanding Officer – acknowledged the contribution with a thank you letter that included a personal note reading: "Thank you so much for your gift! With great young people such as yourselves we have a great future! Thank you for caring!!"

HIGH SCHOOL:

At the McCaskey High School Campus, the past month was the beginning of mid-terms for all of the students along with 4-site testing. The Seniors at the Campus are continuing with the college application process and there have been several workshops offered to aid in the process along with SAT prep classes.

1/18/2011: CONSENT AGENDA: Director Heath made a motion to approve Items (1) – (4) of the Consent Agenda as follows:

- (1) Approval of Minutes: December 21, 2010 Regular Meeting
- (2) Personnel Recommendations
- (3) Approval of Board Committee and Representative Assignments for 2011
- (4) Educational Excellence Contracts/Agreements:
 1. Temple University – Master Agreement
 2. Urban League of Lancaster – not to exceed \$12,880.00
- (5) Approval of Educational Excellence Symposium Contract

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

President Caplan announced that the Board received five proposals from entities interested in assisting the District in the Educational Excellence Symposium. After review, three of the proposals were eliminated and the Board focused upon the two remaining proposals. The Board would like to hire the District Management Council for the Phase 1 effort involving the initiative not to exceed \$75,000.00.

Director Miller made a motion to approve Item (5), Approval of Educational Excellence Symposium Contract from the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

1/18/2011: EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE:

Director Heath made a motion to approve the following agenda items from the Educational Excellence Committee Report:

- A. Approval of Minutes: January 6, 2011 Meeting

Director Rowen seconded the motion, and it was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen and Simms – 8; Recuse: – 0.*

1/18/2011: FINANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Director Boben made a motion to approve agenda item A, Approval of January 5, 2011 Minutes from the Finance and Operations Management Committee Report:

- A. Approval of Minutes: January 5, 2011 Meeting
- B. Approval of Change Orders for Phase I Projects:
 1. Washington Elementary School – \$33,764.08
 2. Lafayette Elementary School – (\$30,903.43)
 3. Wharton Elementary School – (\$30,314.02)
 4. Ross Elementary School – (\$41,540.22)
- C. Monthly Financial Reports

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes
Personnel Recommendations
Board Committee and
Representative Assignments

Educational Excellence
Contracts/Agreements

Educational Excellence Contract
– District Management Council

**EDUCATIONAL
EXCELLENCE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Minutes

**FINANCE AND
OPERATIONS
MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Minutes
Change Orders

Monthly Financial Reports

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

Director Heath made a motion to approve Item B, Approval of Change Orders for Phase I Projects, from the Finance and Operations Management Report. The motion was seconded by Director Boben and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

Director Heath made a motion to approve Item C, Approval of Monthly Financial Reports, from the Finance and Operations Management Report. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

1/18/2011: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Director Crystle reviewed the minutes of the January 4, 2011 committee meeting.

Following a motion by Director Heath and seconded by Director Miller, the meeting minutes were approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen, and Simms – 8; Nay – 0.*

1/18/2011: DISCUSSION ITEMS: Director Crystle asked, now that we are half way through the year, what the results have been since implementing the Focus Principal positions. Superintendent Rivera stated that we have seen significant improvement at Hand Middle School with student behaviors, teachers maintaining positive relations with parents and there is a positive culture now. At the High School, we started pushing a standard assessment across all grades. We have also seen an improvement with attendance. As a District, we are down 39% with respect to disciplinary actions and attendance District-wide is up half of a percentage point over last year.

Director Rowen stated that The Hour Glass Foundation was pleased with the results of the Educational Crisis Forum on the 12th of January and would like to get as much publicity as possible and maybe do a state-wide initiative.

1/18/2011: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Director Heath made a motion to approve all payments in Item 12 (A) with the exception of the following:

A. Approval of Payments – Invoice #WTFB0110 for Fulton Financial Advisors; #00322143 for County of Lancaster; #00322248 for Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13; and #WSTS1225 for Substitute Teacher Service. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen and Simms – 8; Nay: – 0.*

Director Heath made a motion to approve Invoice #WTFB0110 for Fulton Financial Advisors. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Rowen and Simms – 7; Recuse: Boben – 1.*

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT (cont.)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT REPORT

DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION/ACTION

Payments (Invoice Listings)

Director Caplan made a motion to approve #00322143 for County of Lancaster; #00322248 for Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13; and #WSTS1225 for Substitute Teacher Service. The motion was seconded by Director Miller and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, and Rowen – 7; Recuse: Simms – 1.*

DISCUSSION/ACTION
(cont.)

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

JUDICIARY REPORT

1/18/2011: REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

None.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

1/18/2011: OLD BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS

1/18/2011: NEW BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS

1/18/2011: INFORMATION: President Caplan announced The Friends of JP McCaskey High School Music Department donated \$1,000 toward the upgraded McCaskey Guitar and Keyboard Lab.

INFORMATION

1/18/2011: PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1/18/2011: ADJOURNMENT: President Caplan adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. on a motion by Director Rowen, seconded by Director Marten.

ADJOURNMENT

Attest:

Colleen R. Marshall
Board Secretary