

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LANCASTER SCHOOL BOARD
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting
March 17, 2009

The School District of Lancaster School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at J.P. McCaskey High School, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The following members of the Board answered roll call:

Mr. Patrick Snyder, President
Mrs. Barbara Boben
Mrs. Marta Howell
Mrs. Stacey Marten
Mrs. Jacqueline McCain
Dr. Nenita Faller-Miller
Mrs. Linda Troublefield Owens

Mr. Michael Rowen, Vice President – Absent
Ms. Janelle M. Simms – Absent

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

Legal Counsel: Mr. Robert Frankhouser, Solicitor

Student Board Representative: Mr. Eric Freeman

3/17/2009: CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Snyder. Roll call was answered by: *Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, and Snyder – 7; Absent: Directors Rowen and Simms.* The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

3/17/2009: ADDENDUMS AND CORRECTIONS: None

3/17/2009: APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved in a unanimous voice vote on a motion by Director Howell, which was seconded by Director Marten.

3/17/2009: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

PSSA math and reading tests for grades 3–8 and 11 started this week, and will continue through next week. Students have been preparing for the past several months, and now is the time to show what they know!

It is kindergarten registration time in the School District of Lancaster. All children who will be 5 years old by September 1, 2009 should be registered during the month of April. Registration will take place at the Enrollment Center, which is located at the Scheffey Administrative Center. Parents should bring their child’s birth certificate, immunization records, and proof of residence.

The J. P. McCaskey music department is delighted to announce that five of our students were selected to participate in the PMEA Region V State Choral Festival.

CALL TO ORDER

**ADDENDUMS AND
CORRECTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

Those students who were selected after a stringent audition process were: Calli Graver, Jessica Scheck, Shannon Arnold, Cora Broaddus and Kevin Frey. Cora Broaddus was also selected to participate in the PMEA ALL STATE Choral Festival to be held in April. In addition, Calli Graver will travel to Providence, RI to represent Pennsylvania in the MENC ALL Eastern Choral Festival.

On March 5, the McCaskey Campus held their International Evening, which recognizes students who are inducted into the World Language National Honor Society. In order for students to be inducted, they must be in their second year of the foreign language, have an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher, and have at least a 90% in their language of study. A total of 66 students were inducted.

This is a reminder that schools will be closed for students on April 9, 10, and 13. The entire District will be closed on Friday, April 10 and Monday, April 13 for the holiday weekend.

Capital Improvement Plan Update:

Washington Elementary PlanCon F has been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Last week's groundbreaking ceremony at Washington Elementary signified the start of construction on the site.

Wharton and Ross are currently advertised for receipt of bids. The tentative bid opening date is April 14, 2009.

Lafayette bids were opened this afternoon at Scheffey.

Superintendent Rivera introduced Becky Slick, representing the McCaskey Girls' Field Hockey Team which achieved the highest academic honors in the state. Ms. Slick stated she could not be joined by some players because they were working on their homework. Eleven of the team members had the highest GPAs of all schools in the state.

3/17/2009: STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

Middle School Report:

Hand:

Hand Middle School hosted a visit by Senator Smucker on February 18.

Hand Representative Angel Robinson participated in the People to People Leadership Conference in Washington DC February 23-27.

Hand held a Black History Day Assembly and night program on February 26.

Students participated in the PSSA Kickoff Assemblies last week.

The Superintendent visited with parents prior to Math Literacy Night on March 12.

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

**STUDENT BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT**

Lincoln:

Lincoln Middle School held their 2nd annual Students vs. Faculty basketball game on Wednesday, March 11th. The game was closely contested, with the teachers pulling out a 52-47 victory. Julia Crork and Eskyler Carritini led the way for the students, and Mr. Weaver, Mr. Barninger, and Mrs. Szobocsan led the scoring for the teachers.

Reynolds:

The Reynolds Debate team coached by Post-Baccalaureate student Abby Lavery participated in their first practice debate at Wheatland Middle School. The team of Jamal Scott and Maddy Thomas, both 8th graders, came in first place, and another team of Shane Cody-Heister and Javier Mediana came in 4th place.

On February 27th, the Reynolds PTO held a Family Night Out Fundraising Event, "Reynolds Eats Out" at Cocina Mexicana in Downtown Lancaster.

Thirty-seven staff members from Reynolds participated in the Winter Wellness Workout Challenge this year. The Reynolds staff completed 3,328 miles in six weeks. Lisa Barrick-Waltman contributed the most miles for our school with a total of 238. There was a drawing contest as part of the Challenge, and Reynolds PE teacher Greg Henderson's submission won.

Wheatland:

Forty-one students participated in the Wheatland production of the student musical, "Once on This Island, Jr," on March 13 and 14.

On March 6, 18 members of the Wheatland Student Council attended the annual conference of the PA Association of Student Councils, in Halifax, PA.

High School Report:

Next week the musical *Urinetown* will be performed, and I would encourage everyone to attend. Ticket prices are \$4 for students and seniors, and \$6 for adults.

This week the PSSA reading and math tests are being administered, and as a junior, I have been enjoying them. Parents should make certain their juniors are well rested and have a good breakfast every day. There is a free breakfast available at school.

Spring sports are just starting, so there is nothing to report yet on Track, Baseball, Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball.

AP registration and IB testing have begun.

I'd like to take a moment to remember student Damian Tearney, who passed away one year ago. Parents, if you notice signs of stress in your child, please take steps to get them the help they need.

3/17/2009: PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Elizabeth Soto Albrecht, 536 Chesapeake St., parent of students at J.P. McCaskey and Hand, spoke about safety in the schools. She thanked the Superintendent and Board for their safety efforts and complimented Officer Diaz at Hand. She sometimes hears

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

about ongoing fights and wants parents to work together with the schools for the safety of students and the staff.

Anna Smith, 30 Springhouse Rd., congratulated the Field Hockey Team. The Athletic Booster Club will be purchasing gift cards for each of the girls.

Beverly Richardson, 312 Waterford Ct., detailed a situation concerning her 9th grade granddaughter's placement in Spanish I and a pre-arranged Spanish I Honors class. She feels her granddaughter was denied, and she requested a written response within a week from the Superintendent and Board President.

3/17/2009: CONSENT AGENDA: Director Howell made a motion to approve Consent Agenda Items (1) through (5) as follows:

- (1) Approval of Minutes:
 - February 17, 2009 Regular Meeting
 - March 4, 2009 Special Meeting
- (2) Personnel Recommendations
- (3) Approval of Judiciary Report
- (4) Approval of Board Policy Revisions:
 - 203.1 HIV Infection
 - 209.1 Head Lice
 - 210 Use of Medications
 - 210.1 Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers
 - 815 Acceptable Use of Computer Resources
- (5) Deletion of Obsolete Board Policies:
 - 209A AIDS and AIDS-Related Infections
 - 255 Acceptable Use Policy for Computer Resources
 - 255.1 Student Network Acceptable Use Agreement
 - 257 Children's Internet Protection Act
 - 258 Children's Internet Protection Act

Director McCain seconded the motion, which was approved by the following vote:
Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, and Snyder – 7; Nay – 0.

3/17/2009: EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: No meetings were held in March.

3/17/2009: FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: On a motion by President Snyder, seconded by Director Howell, the March 11, 2009 Finance Committee meeting minutes were approved unanimously in a roll call vote.

President Snyder's motion to approve the following items from the Finance agenda was seconded by Director Howell:

- B. Contracts/Agreements:
 1. Advanced Laser Printer Services (ALPS) – master agreement
 2. Moore Engineering – not to exceed \$8,000.00
 3. ARM Group – not to exceed \$68,000.00

PUBLIC COMMENTS
(cont.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

Personnel Recommendations

Judiciary Report

Approval of Board Policy Revisions

Deletion of Obsolete Board Policies

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Minutes

Contracts/Agreements

- C. Approval to Submit PlanCon F Documents for Ross Elementary School to PA Department of Education (PDE)
- D. Approval to Submit PlanCon H Documents for Washington Elementary School to PDE
- F. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

PlanCon F for Ross

PlanCon H for Washington

Monthly Financial Reports

Approval of the motion was by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, and Snyder – 7; Nay – 0.*

A motion to approve the following Resolution for current refunding parameters for the General Obligation Bond 1999 and 2004 Bond Issues was made by President Snyder and seconded by Director Miller:

Current Refunding Parameters Resolution for the GOB 1999 and 2004 Bond Issues

Resolution of the Board Of School Directors of the School District Of Lancaster to authorize and direct the incurring of non-electoral debt through the issuance of a series of general obligation bonds of the School District of Lancaster, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in the aggregate principal amount of seventeen million five hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$17,550,000) for the purpose of providing funds to partially refund the school district's outstanding general obligation bonds, series of 1999, and series of 2004, and to pay the costs of issuing and insuring the bonds; stating the purpose of the refunding; stating that realistic cost estimates have been made for the project, authorizing the payment of other capital projects upon appropriate amendment hereto and stating the estimated project completion date; stating the realistic estimated useful life of the project for which said bonds are issued; describing certain prior projects, ratifying and confirming the originally estimated realistic useful lives thereof and stating the remaining useful lives thereof; directing the proper officers of the governing body to prepare, certify and file the required debt statement and borrowing base certificate; covenanting, subject to statutory restrictions and limitations, that the school district shall include the amount of annual debt service in its budget for each fiscal year; providing for fully registered bonds, date of the bonds, interest payment dates, provisions for redemption and stated principal maturity amounts, fixing the rates of interest on such bonds, and providing for book-entry only bonds; authorizing the proper officers of the school district to contract with a bank or bank and trust company for its services as sinking fund depository, paying agent and registrar and stating a covenant as to payment of principal and interest without deduction for certain taxes; providing for the registration, transfer and exchange of bonds; providing for the execution, delivery and authentication of bonds and the disposition of the proceeds thereof; approving the form of the bonds, paying agent's authentication certificate and assignment and providing for CUSIP numbers to be printed on the bonds; providing for temporary bonds; awarding such bonds at private negotiated sale and stating that such sale is in the best financial interest of the school district; creating a sinking fund and appropriating annual amounts for payment of debt service on the bonds; authorizing and directing the proper officers of the school district to certify and to file with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development certified copies of the necessary proceedings; covenanting that the proceeds of the bonds shall not be used in such a manner as to cause the bonds to be arbitrage bonds under federal tax law provisions, making certain representations and designating the bonds as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" under federal tax law provisions; approving the content and form of a preliminary official statement and authorizing the distribution thereof and authorizing the preparation, execution and delivery of an official statement and the undertaking of certain continuing disclosure; approving the form of, and authorizing and

directing the execution and delivery of a bond redemption agreement and otherwise providing for the partial refunding of the school district's outstanding general obligation bonds, series of 1999, and series of 2004; providing for municipal bond insurance; authorizing and directing the proper officers of the school district to do all things necessary to carry out the resolution; authorizing and directing the proper officers of the school district to pay issuance costs; rescinding all inconsistent resolutions; providing for severability of provisions; and stating the effective date.

Ken Phillips, Managing Director of RBC Capital Markets Corporation distributed a bond purchase agreement to the Board and explained this is for a refinancing of existing bonds and not a new issue, which is similar in principle to the refinancing that was done in 2006. Interest rates are now lower than they were in the years of the original issue, and the paperwork targets a minimum savings of \$200,000 to the District. Approval of the resolution will allow all arrangements and materials to be in place within the next two weeks, allowing the refinancing to proceed any time after the end of March or beginning of April.

President Snyder clarified the \$200,000 savings is a minimum. Mr. Przywara, Chief Financial Officer, will not "pull the trigger" to proceed with refinancing unless or until interest rates offer a greater savings. Refunding costs are included in the savings target, so the \$200,000 would be a minimum net effect.

Bill McCarty, Esq., of Hartman, Underhill and Brubaker added if the Board approves the resolution all the necessary legal notices and state filings can proceed in the meantime in preparation of the refunding.

The motion to approve the current refunding parameters resolution for the GOB 1999 and 2004 bond issues carried by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, and Snyder – 6; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Boben – 1.*

3/17/2009: EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Director Owens made a motion to approve the minutes of the Extra-Curricular Committee meeting of March 9, 2009. Following a second by Director Miller, the motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Director Owens announced the next Extra-Curricular Committee meeting will be held April 8 at 5:00 p.m.

3/17/2009: FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: President Snyder's motion to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2009 Facilities Committee was seconded by Director McCain and approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

3/17/2009: DISCUSSION:

Revisions to the following Board Policies were introduced for first readings:

- 116 Tutoring
- 121 Field Trips
- 122 Extracurricular Activities
- 123 Interscholastic Athletics

FINANCE COMMITTEE (cont.)

Current Refunding Parameters Resolution for the GOB 1999 and 2004 Bond Issues (cont.)

EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Minutes

FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS
Minutes

DISCUSSION
Revisions to Board Policies (First Readings)

There were no questions or discussion of any revisions or deletions. Second readings and Board action are anticipated at the regular April meeting.

3/17/2009: DISCUSSION/ACTION: President Snyder made a motion to remove the following from the payments/invoice listings for separate votes: #00310832 for Commerce Bank; #00310947 for Franklin & Marshall; #00310949 for Fulton Financial Advisors; and #00311178 for T.W. Ponessa. Following Director Marten's second of the motion, it was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, and Snyder – 7; Nay – 0.*

President Snyder's motion to approve all other payments/invoice listings was seconded by Director Howell and approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

On a motion by Director Howell, seconded by Director Miller, payment #00310832 for Commerce Bank/Harrisburg was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, and Owens – 6; Nay – 0; Recuse: President Snyder – 1.*

A motion to approve payment #00310947 for Franklin & Marshall was made by President Snyder and seconded by Director Howell. It was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, and Snyder – 6; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Owens – 1.*

Following a second by Director Boben, President Snyder's motion to approve payments #0031178 for T.W. Ponessa & Assoc. was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens and Snyder – 6; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Howell – 1.*

President Snyder made a motion to approve payment #00310949 for Fulton Financial Advisors. Director McCain seconded the motion, which was approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, and Snyder – 6; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Boben – 1.*

3/17/2009: REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Director Marten reported she attended the most recent IU 13 Board meeting in Director Howell's absence. She announced the IU 13 convention will be held April 15 at Manheim Township High School. Any Board members who are interested in an IU informational meeting on energy conservation should contact Director Marten. The IU will probably also offer courses on the economic stimulus package. Director Marten distributed the most recent IU newsletter.

Director Rowen was not present to report on the LCCTC Joint Operation Committee meeting.

Director Boben had nothing to report for the Lancaster Recreation Commission Board.

3/17/2009: OLD BUSINESS: None

3/17/2009: NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION (cont.)

DISCUSSION/ACTION

Approval of Payments
(Invoice Listings)

**REPRESENTATIVE
REPORTS**

IU 13

LCCTC

Lancaster Recreation
Commission

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

3/17/2009: INFORMATION:

Beverly Richardson spoke about the Cheer Booster Club letter sent to the Board and Superintendent, and detailed an issue with the Sertoma Club. She gave additional clarification and said she is owed an explanation for the cheerleaders being denied the opportunity to perform at Dutch Apple.

Superintendent Rivera stated a response was sent via e-mail, which was followed up with a letter through U.S. Postal. Mrs. Richardson said she had not yet received the response.

Mrs. Richardson also questioned African-American participation in IB Honors, and her granddaughter was denied access to the program. Her transcript was wrong because of the Spanish Honors course.

3/17/2009: ADJOURNMENT: Director Boben's motion to adjourn was seconded by Director Miller. President Snyder adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Attest:

Rita Balogh
Board Secretary

INFORMATION

ADJOURNMENT