

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LANCASTER SCHOOL BOARD
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting
May 19, 2009

The School District of Lancaster School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 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
Mr. Michael Rowen, Vice President
Mrs. Barbara Boben
Mrs. Marta Howell
Mrs. Stacey Marten
Mrs. Jacqueline McCain
Dr. Nenita Faller-Miller
Mrs. Linda Troublefield Owens
Ms. Janelle M. Simms

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

Legal Counsel: Mr. Robert Frankhouser, Solicitor

Student Board Member: Eric Freeman

5/19/2009: CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Snyder. Roll call was answered by: *Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Absent – 0.* Following the Pledge of Allegiance a moment of silence was observed in memory of former employees Frederick Lenhart, Barbara Duncan, and Bette Aument and third-grade student Ciara “CeCe” Savage.

5/19/2009: ADDENDUMS AND CORRECTIONS: Director Rowen made a motion to correct Consent Agenda Item (4). The term for the appointment of Matt Przywara as Board Treasurer should be for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. The motion also included the removal for a separate vote of Consent Item (6) Approval of Slate of IU 13 Board of School Directors on 2009 Election Ballot. Director McCain seconded the motion, and it was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Nay – 0.*

5/19/2009: APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The amended agenda was approved in a unanimous roll call vote on a motion by Director Miller which was seconded by Director Marten.

5/19/2009: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:
As a result of the recent bond refinancing, the District will save \$832,000 in the 2009-2010 budget year.

Congratulations to the following McCaskey students who placed in the Sunday News

CALL TO ORDER

**ADDENDUMS AND
CORRECTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

School Press Awards. Their advisor is McCaskey Communication Arts teacher Brian McDonald.

- 1st Place Cartoon – Alan Nitchman
- 1st Place/Editor’s Pick News Story – Alan Nitchman
- 1st Place News Photo – Drew Hohenwarter
- 2nd Place – Best Overall Newspaper
- 2nd Place – Best Front Page Design

The winners will be featured in the Student Press Awards tab on Sunday, June 7.

Burrowes Elementary students will meet individuals affected by cancer and learn about the services provided by the American Cancer Society by participating in a Relay for Life Celebration on Friday, May 22nd. The afternoon will culminate with staff and students walking around the track at McCaskey to display support for those touched by cancer.

The District will be closed on Monday, May 25 in observance of Memorial Day.

McCaskey’s graduation is scheduled for the last day of school, which is Tuesday, June 9th. The ceremony will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Capital Improvement Plan Update:

Bids were approved for Lafayette, Ross and Wharton at the May 6 Special Board Meeting.

A groundbreaking ceremony for Wharton Elementary will take place at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26. Ross Elementary will celebrate their groundbreaking at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 28.

5/19/2009: STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

MIDDLE SCHOOLS REPORT

Hand

The seventh grade field trip consisted of a trip to Washington, D.C. on May 1.

Hand Latino Leadership Day was held on May 2 in conjunction with Adelanté Con Fuerza.

The spring concert was held on May 12.

NJHS held Spring Planting and Community Clean-Up on May 12 and 14.

Hand Action Team for Community Partnership held Conectaté Night for parents of students dually identified in need of services on May 13. Parents heard Mr. and Mrs. Orlando Vasquez speak and decorated and filled flower pots as families.

Lincoln

Under the direction of Nathan Wingert, the Lincoln Middle School String Quintet performed at the annual Victims’ Rights Candlelight Vigil on Thursday, April 30th at the YWCA in Lancaster. The Quintet featured Julia Crock and Julia Davis on violin; Celeste Garcia on viola; Faith Carranza on cello; and Iriana Cintron on string bass.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT (cont.)**

**STUDENT BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT**

These students were selected through an audition process.

LMS will hold its National Honor Society induction on Thursday, May 21st. This is the first group of students to be inducted into the newly formed National Junior Honor Society at Lincoln. A total of 10 students will be inducted.

Reynolds

On April 2nd Reynolds Middle School Conducted its' National Honor Society Induction where 110 member were inducted into the Society this year.

On April 22, Reynolds held its annual Spring Concert to a near capacity crowd.

On Thursday, April 30 the Reynolds Mixed Spice Dream Girls (Advised by Gerri Shober) and the Franklin and Marshall on the Move Dance group performed at F&M's Roschel Performing Arts Center.

On May 6, The Reynolds Debate Team participated in the final match of the Urban Debate league and won the Curtis Jefferson Award for the best Debate team of the Year and was invited to Baltimore to debate against Baltimore Urban Debaters.

Reynolds Debate Team Winners were:

- 1st place team: Jack Rathmell and Katy Mauer
- 2nd place team: Chrisane Colon and Yulior Machado
- 3rd place team: Jamal Scott and Maddy Thomas

- 1st place speaker: Katy Mauer
- 3rd place speaker Jamal Scott

District painter Vincent Lafferty painted the bathrooms on all 3 floors at Reynolds in the school colors of Burgundy, Gold and Black. The look is aesthetically pleasing and has helped support school pride at Reynolds.

Wheatland

Wheatland held its Spring Concert and Art Show on May 5. In addition to the artwork on display, the chorus (45 members), Vocal Ensemble (18), Orchestra (15), Band (46), and Jazz Band (16) dazzled an audience of 225 folks.

The entire 7th grade team participated in an Environmental Stewardship Day at Lancaster County Park on May 18. The program was the result of a grant proposal written by Matt Fuddy, 7th grade Science teacher, and was sponsored by PPL.

HIGH SCHOOL

Our Awards program recognized many of our students. Twenty students received three to six awards.

Our Senior Honors Banquet will be next Wednesday. This recognizes Seniors for grades, sports, clubs, music, etc. They will be awarded many scholarships and will eat lots of good food.

I would like to congratulate Oliver Harbuck and Karla Verkouw for their successes in pole vault. Both qualified for the PIAA State Track and Field Championships and both broke school records. Miss Karla Verkouw leaped a total of 11 feet 6 inches in

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

women's pole vault, and Oliver Harbuck jumped a total of 14 feet 9 inches in men's pole vault. Our men's 4 x 100 meter relay team qualified for States. This team consists of Ben Montgomery, Robert Dixson, Taylor Schmalhofer, and Andre Henry.

Our Veterans' Memorial Concert will be occurring this weekend at 3:00 p.m. in the J.P. McCaskey Auditorium. I hope you can attend, and I'm sure it will be really great.

The Athletic Banquet will be occurring on June 1.

I would also like to congratulate the students who made the *Vidette*, because I'm on the *Vidette*: Alexander Gawn, Evan Hohenwarter, Gilberto Vega, Dana Getz, Jake Moore, Blaise Glover, Dayna McRoberts, Trevor Hall, Scott Sprunger, and Maddy Scott. We'll look forward to reading their articles in the fall.

I would also like to make a plug for the AFS Day. It will be held on May 30 in front of the J.P. building. The reason it is being held on a weekend is because it allows for more community involvement.

Since this is my last Board meeting, I'd just like to thank all of you for coming to these sessions. It's been great being here. I know this school is great, and there is no other school I would like to do this for. I would also like to ask for you School Board members to visit the school at least once before voting on anything that goes on. There is a lot going on that you miss out on. You should see what is going on in the schools. Thank you.

Patrick Snyder thanked Eric for joining the Board and stated he took the student reports to a new level. On behalf of the Board, he wished Eric well in his senior year.

5/19/2009: PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Anna Smith, Springhouse Rd. – Suggested to the Student Board Representative that he should stay for a full Board meeting if he wants to know what is going on. Her son completed his first year of college but had to drop his math course. The article in the paper showed SLC's at the high school are not doing a great job. We need discipline in the classrooms, because disruptions are a big problem.

Darin Hilliard, Brandon Court – Spoke on conditions at Price Elementary. He has seen a lack of discipline, lack of respect, and lack of leadership at the principal level. He asked the Board to look at Price for the sake of the children and parents who are trying to do what is best for the school.

Tony Marquart, Union Street – Commented on the lack of discipline at the elementary level. He spoke about the LIFE program at Price and expressed disappointment that parents did not receive a response to their questions about the future of the program.

Stacy Altland, West King Street – Stated her son is a victim of bullying at Wheatland Middle School. Her daughter was removed from the District, but her IEP has not been transferred to her new school. She observed a special education student wander out of the high school. She had a mediation conference, but now she has no phone calls or a response from the special education office.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Earl Byerly, North Franklin Street – Addressed the Board to discuss problems with the administration at Wickersham Elementary. Appointments with the principal were cancelled and not rescheduled. He has witnessed unprofessional manner and speech to teachers.

Superintendent Rivera asked Mr. Byerly if the plan of action they discussed at their last meeting has been put into effect. Mr. Byerly responded it has not yet, nor has he heard from Jill Martin.

Kendra Saunders, City Council Member – invited everyone to the City Council meeting on May 26 at 7:30 p.m. at Southern Market where students with the highest GPA's in each SLC at the high school will be recognized.

Betsy Saez, Laurel Street – A parent at Price, she has spoken for several years about issues with the administration at the school, but nothing has changed. Parents are left out of the process.

Beverly Richardson, Waterford Court – Nothing has changed since the incident on April 23, and there was another throwing incident on April 30. A meeting was set on May 11 without consulting her, and she was never contacted to set up another date. When Mr. Nolt was observing the classroom, a student with an I-Pod was just motioned to turn it off. She was insulted when she was told perfect attendance awards would be presented at an ARCH assembly.

Cliff Lewis, West Orange Street – Questioned when a football coach would be announced.

President Snyder responded it is on the personnel agenda for action this evening.

5/19/2009: CONSENT AGENDA: Director Howell made a motion to approve the amended Consent Agenda as follows (*Note corrections to the agenda*):

- (1) Approval of Minutes:
 - April 21, 2009 Regular Meeting
 - May 6, 2009 Special Meeting
- (2) Personnel Recommendations
- (3) Approval of Judiciary Report
- (4) Approve the appointment of Matt Przywara as Board Treasurer for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010
- (5) Approve the appointment of Rita Balogh as Board Secretary for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2013 at an annual stipend of \$5,000
- (7) Approval of School Board Directors to attend conference:
2009 CUBE (Council of Urban Boards of Education) Issues Seminar in Chicago, Illinois – Linda Troublefield Owens and Jacqueline McCain
- (8) Approval of Board Policy Revisions:
 - 142 Migrant Students
 - 206 Assignment Within District
 - 221 Dress and Grooming

PUBLIC COMMENTS
(cont.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

Personnel Recommendations

Judiciary Report

Board Treasurer

Board Secretary

Conference Approval

Board Policy Revisions

Director McCain seconded the motion, which was approved by the following vote:
Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Nay – 0.

Director Rowen seconded Director Howell's motion to approve the remaining Consent Agenda item detailed below:

- (6) Approval of Slate of IU 13 Board of School Directors on 2009 Election Ballot

The motion carried as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Snyder – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

5/19/2009: EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: Director Miller reviewed the May 14, 2009 Education Committee meeting. Director Marten noted La Academia was recognized as one of six or seven charter schools in the nation for best practices. Director Miller's motion to approve the minutes and the proposed new high school course for Spanish Language Arts was seconded by Director Marten. The motion was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Nay – 0.*

5/19/2009: FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS: President Snyder made a motion, which was seconded by Director Howell, to approve the following agenda items under Finance Committee Report and Recommendations:

- A. Approval of Minutes: May 13, 2009 Committee Meeting
- B. Finance Contracts/Agreements:
 - 1. Saf-T-Net, Inc. – master agreement
 - 2. Clark Fire Protection, Inc. – not to exceed \$4,640.00
 - 3. Waste Associates, Inc. – no cost; performance based
 - 4. Ronald J. Miller – master agreement
 - 5. PA Leak Services, Inc. DBA American Leak Detection – master agreement
 - 6. Provident Energy Consulting LLC – no cost; performance based
 - 7. Riddell/All American – not to exceed \$69,000.00
 - 8. Pennsylvania School Boards Association – not to exceed \$12,300.00
- C. Approval of Bids:
 - Bid 2901 IU Custodial Supplies
 - Bid 2902 IU Supplemental Disposables
 - Bid 2903 IU Medical/Trainer/Athletic
 - Bid 2906 IU Copy Paper
 - Bid 2908 CPEC – Fuel Oil/Gasoline
 - Bid 2911 Cafeteria Paper/Plastics Supplies
- D. Approval of Food Services Budget with Provision II
- E. Agreement with Lancaster Recreation Commission to provide summer meals
- F. Approval to submit PlanCon K to Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) for Project Refinancing for 2009 Bond Issue
- H. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

The motion to approve Finance Committee Agenda Items A, B #1-#8, C, D, and E, F, and H was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Nay – 0.*

CONSENT AGENDA (cont.)

IU 13 Board of School Directors

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Minutes

Proposed New Course – Spanish Language Arts

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Minutes

Contracts/Agreements

Approval of Bids

Food Services Budget
Lanc. Rec. Commission
PlanCon K

Monthly Financial Reports

President Snyder made a motion to approve the remaining contract from the Finance Committee agenda:

9. Substitute Teacher Service – not to exceed \$2,674,022.00

Director Marten questioned why this contract was considered a Finance Committee item rather than going through the Education Committee. In response, Superintendent Rivera stated this contract dealt with the cost of the service. A report of the effectiveness of the service could be presented to the Education Committee.

Following Director Rowen's second, the motion carried as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Snyder – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

Matt Przywara, Chief Financial Officer, presented an update on the budget process and the proposed final budget. His review highlighted changes in staffing that will result in a cost increase of 4.5%. Medical benefits are expected to increase 8%, and the district's rate of contributions to PSERS, the state employee retirement system, will increase to 4.78%. Mr. Przywara stated that in the future the contribution rate will increase to 20-25%, but we can't afford to set money aside now like some districts are able to do. Other anticipated increases in expenditures include 3% for special education; 4% for professional development; 30% for electricity; 3% for technology maintenance and services; 3% for transportation; and 2% for tuition, including charter schools. No changes are expected in the costs of books and supplies, gas, equipment, dues and fees, and debt service. His presentation also included an update on stimulus funding, although new information is being announced almost every day. Currently the only definite increases above normal allocations are for Title I, IDEA, and Title IID, although all these funds restrict the spending to new programs. Additional stimulus funding totaling \$6 million previously announced by the Governor's proposed state budget may be slashed through Senate Bill 850. Mr. Przywara concluded with a historical review of budget increases and implications and a timeline for final approval. A budget workshop will be held June 10 following the Finance Committee meeting, and a special Board meeting for adoption of the final budget is scheduled for June 30. Mr. Przywara's recommendation is for an increase of 3.52%, which is below the Act 1 index of 5.8% and which would result in an increase of .79 mills. It is expected the final state budget will not be approved before the June 30 deadline, and by law the district could have ten days to reopen its budget for possible adjustments.

Director Rowen said the State Senate is taking stimulus money earmarked for schools and diverting it to shortfalls in other areas.

President Snyder asked for clarification of when tax bills are mailed, and if the budget is reopened, can we change the tax bills?

Bob Frankhouser, Solicitor, responded that by law taxes are levied on July 1.

Director Owens suggested that with the increased rates for PSERS in the coming years, why wouldn't we have more of a tax increase now to graduate the impact later?

Superintendent Rivera responded that would be our recommendation, but the district

FINANCE COMMITTEE
(cont.)

Adoption of 2009-2010
Proposed Final Budget

wanted to minimize the tax increase because of increases in the city and township and the current economic conditions.

Mr. Frankhouser stated his advice to districts would be that there is no logical reason to increase at a rate below the Act 1 index, but it is a political decision within each district.

Mr. Przywara stated a 5.8% increase to the Act 1 index would result in a \$130 increase to the average district taxpayer.

After Director Howell received clarification that a higher rate up to the Act 1 index could still be approved at the June 30 special meeting, she made a motion to adopt the proposed final budget as presented with a 3.52% tax increase for \$158,148,300 and for the proposed final budget to be put on public display beginning May 31, 2009. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Nay – 0.*

5/19/2009: EXTRA-CURRICULAR COMMITTEE REPORT AND

RECOMMENDATIONS: Director Owens reviewed the May 11, 2009 Extra-Curricular Committee meeting and made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Director Marten. Director Rowen commented on the success of the prom and post-prom. The motion to approve the committee meeting minutes carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

5/19/2009: FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMEN-

DATIONS: Director Rowen reviewed the Facilities Committee meeting of May 6, 2009 and made a motion to approve the minutes and the waiver submissions. Following a second by Director Howell, President Snyder asked that the motion be amended to remove the waiver submission for IU 13 for a separate vote. Director Rowen's amended motion to approve the May 6 Facilities Committee meeting minutes and the following waiver submission for usage fees was again seconded by Director Howell:

1. COBYS Family Services
2. Lancaster Community Safety Coalition
3. Two-v-Two Inc.
5. Jerry Johnson Back 2 Basics Sports Foundation for Summer Basketball Camp
6. Jerry Johnson Back 2 Basics Sports Foundation for Alumni Basketball Game

Approval of the motion was as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 9; Nay – 0.*

Director Rowen's made a motion, which was seconded by Director Howell, to approve the remaining waiver submission:

4. IU 13

The motion was approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Miller, Owens, Rowen, and Snyder – 8; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

Director Miller asked for a clarification on the minutes for the May 6 meeting under

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
(cont.)**

Adoption of 2009-2010
Proposed Final Budget
(cont.)

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR
COMMITTEE
REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Minutes

**FACILITIES
COMMITTEE
REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Minutes

Waiver Submissions for
Usage Fees

New Business – Capital Project Update. The second paragraph stated, “The Board also committed to financing \$70.8 million to begin Phase II of the Capital Improvement Plan.” Director Miller stated there was a “discussion” regarding the funding, but the Board did not “commit” to it. Her motion to correct the wording of the minutes from “committed to” to “discussed” was seconded by Director Marten and approved in a unanimous roll call vote.

5/19/2009: DISCUSSION:

Draft revisions for the following Board Policies were presented for first readings:

- 229 Student Fundraising
- 230 Public Performances and Participation in Competitions by Students
- 237 Electronic Devices
- 710.1 Use of District Cellular Phones

Deletions of the following Board Policies were introduced for first readings:

- 230.1 National Competitions
- 822 Acceptable Use Policy for Cellular Phones

Director Miller asked if Board Policy 229 Student Fundraising should be expanded from collection of money to include other goods and services, such as canned food or clothing drives. Sometimes the requests for donations can become excessive.

Superintendent Rivera suggested those decisions can be addressed by principals at the building level without it being a part of Board Policy.

There were no other questions or comments.

Director Miller left the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

5/19/2009: DISCUSSION/ACTION:

President Snyder made a motion to approve payments of all Invoice Listings except for the following for separate votes: Check 00311864 for Fulton Financial Corp.; Payments 0WFFAA09 and 0WFFADS5 for Fulton Financial Advisors; Check 00311860 for Franklin & Marshall; Checks 00311938 and 00007703 for Lancaster County; Check 00311940 and Payment 0WEHCMAY for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; and Payment 0WSTS055 for Substitute Teacher Service. Director Howell seconded the motion, which was approved by the following vote: *Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 8; Nay – 0.*

President Snyder’s motion to approve Check 00311864 for Fulton Financial Corp. and Payments 0WFFAA09 and 0WFFADS5 for Fulton Financial Advisors was seconded by Director Howell. The motion carried as follows: *Aye: Directors Howell, Marten, McCain, Owens, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Boben – 1.*

A motion to approve Check 00311860 for Franklin & Marshall was made by President Snyder and seconded by Director Rowen. It was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Rowen, Simms, and Snyder – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Owens – 1.*

**FACILITIES
COMMITTEE (cont.)**

DISCUSSION

Revisions to Board
Policies (First Readings)

Deletion of Board Policies
(First Readings)

DISCUSSION/ACTION

Payments (Invoice
Listings)

Following a second by Director Howell, President Snyder's motion to approve Checks 00311938 and 00007703 for Lancaster County; Check 00311940 and Payment 0WEHCMA Y for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; and Payment 0WSTS055 for Substitute Teacher Service was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Howell, Marten, McCain, Owens, Rowen, and Snyder – 7; Nay – 0; Recuse: Director Simms – 1.*

Director Miller returned to the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

5/19/2009: REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Director Howell distributed the most recent newsletter from IU 13. She was unable to attend the May 13 meeting in Lebanon.

Director Rowen reported he attended a dinner/meeting for Michael Curley, the retiring LCCTC Director.

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

5/19/2009: OLD BUSINESS: None

5/19/2009: NEW BUSINESS: Director Owens recognized the Book Challenge for their efforts in designing a new coloring book. Profits from sales will benefit the District.

5/19/2009: INFORMATION: None

5/19/2009: ADJOURNMENT:

Director Owen's motion to adjourn was seconded by Director McCain and approved in a unanimous voice vote. President Snyder adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Attest:

Rita Balogh
Board Secretary

DISCUSSION/ACTION
(cont.)
Payments (Invoice
Listings) (cont.)

**REPRESENTATIVE
REPORTS**
IU 13

LCCTC

Lancaster Recreation
Commission

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

INFORMATION

ADJOURNMENT