

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LANCASTER SCHOOL BOARD
Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Regular Meeting
November 15, 2011

The School District of Lancaster School Board held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at J.P. McCaskey High School, 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
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

11/15/2011: CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Caplan. Roll call was answered by: *Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 9.*

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Virginia G. Stark, Marguerite A. Stoe, Lillian Ethel Cavna Hankle and Linda Light Davish.

11/15/2011: ADDENDUMS AND CORRECTIONS: None

11/15/2011: APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Following a motion by Director Heath and seconded by Director Simms the agenda was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 9.*

11/15/2011: PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS: None.

11/15/2011: SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Congratulations to the following students in the McCaskey Music Department for being selected, after a very difficult audition, to participate in the 2012 PMEA District Chorus Festival to be held in January:

Rebecca Smith – Soprano 2
Tony Dastra – Tenor 1
Javian Sanchez – Tenor 1
Lorenzo Simpson – Tenor 2
Evan Graver – Bass 1
Nathaniel Taylor – Bass 2

Johana Reynoso – Alto 2
Clay Verkouw – Tenor 1
Alexander Gawn – Tenor 2
Ian Sanchez – Tenor 2
William Broaddus – Bass 2

CALL TO ORDER

**ADDENDUMS AND
CORRECTIONS**

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS
REGARDING
AGENDA ITEMS**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

Our recent PVAAS results confirm that the hard work of our teachers in the classrooms and principals in our schools is paying dividends. Our overall results show that 89% of our schools met or exceeded the growth standard in math and 78% in reading. We have also seen significant growth in our three-year trend data.

Enjoy the sounds of the season by attending the McCaskey Music Department's Annual Winter Concert on Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 p.m. in the J.P. McCaskey Auditorium. Featured performances include the Concert Band, String Orchestra, Vocal Ensemble, Gospel Choir, Mixed Chorus, a Guitar Trio and a finale performed by the Combined Choir. This event is sure to get you in the holiday spirit!

During the month of November, long-term school directors are being honored by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for years of service ranging from 8 to 48 years. Both Michael Rowen and President Richard Caplan have been named to the 8 Year Honor Roll of School Board Service for their long-term contributions of energy, talent and values to the guidance of youth and public education in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I am pleased to present a Certificate of Appreciation to these two individuals.

The Superintendent thanked and recognized three Board Members who have collectively served the SDoL community for a total of 16 years. These members have given countless hours of their time to ensure the programs and opportunities that we provide for our students are top-notch. Congratulations to Barbara Boben, Michael Rowen, and Janelle Simms.

As a token of our appreciation for their years of service, we gave parting gifts for the three board members.

The District will be closed on Thursday, November 24 through Monday, November 28 for Thanksgiving break. There will also be no school for elementary and middle school students on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 22 and 23 for parent teacher conferences.

Construction Update:

The sod surrounding Washington Elementary has been laid. The basin work in front of Lafayette Elementary has been completed. Work at Hand Middle School and the Rockland Center continues. The new administrative center is nearing completion and is scheduled to be open to the public in January 2012.

11/15/2011: STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Evans gave the following report for Hand Middle School and Lincoln Middle School as well as McCaskey East High School:

Hand

Hand recently held Science and Literacy night for parents.

Their after school program is up and running. Several programs include a movie club, boy scouts, grub club and step. In addition, after school homework help and tutoring is offered.

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

**STUDENT BOARD
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORTS**

Recently 110 students, 35 parents, and staff members visited Washington D.C . Prior arrangements were made to allow the group to visit the Senate, Capitol and the National Archives.

Lincoln

Lincoln has launched Youth Venture to 7th and 8th grade students. Seventy-eight students are now part of a global movement of young changemakers that create a positive impact within their communities. Students have taken on the issues of homelessness, teen pregnancy, animal rights and self-esteem. Lincoln has partnered with Compass Mark and the United Way of Lancaster to assist students in addressing the many social problems they face by investing time and money into their ideas. Each Youth Venture team has the opportunity to receive up to \$1,000 to launch their ideas to create positive change.

McCaskey East High School

Several students participated in the 41st annual PSBA Conference where students and advisors from all over Pennsylvania participated in a mock school board meeting and listened to motivational speakers such as Herman Boone, the head coach from the award winning movie *Remember the Titans*. The Health Expo was held on November 4th and students were encouraged to attend the different organizations and colleges who set up booths in the gym.

Mr. Kelly gave the following report for Reynolds Middle School and Wheatland Middle School as well as J.P. McCaskey High School:

Reynolds

There was a successful student art exhibit at The Patio Store at Penn Stone. Over 20 pieces of art were displayed for all First Friday Patrons to see. Here is a list of upcoming events for Reynolds Student Art work:

- November 12 through December 31: Pennsylvania Department of Education- 333 Market Street, Harrisburg
- December 4 through 31: Lancaster Museum of Art-135 N. Lime St., Lancaster
- December 4 through 31: Chestnut Hill Cafe- 532 Chestnut St., Lancaster

For the second month in a row Reynolds had over 120 students earn RMS success tickets and join in the monthly celebration of Positive Student Behavior. This month the students were treated to a healthy snack and a chance to win prizes – such as footballs, basketballs, movie tickets and books – while playing Bingo.

As a community service project, our 8th graders sold *Cupcakes for the Cure* in support of Breast Cancer Research. The group raised over \$300, which was donated to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation.

Wheatland

Wheatland is planning their Olweus Anti-Bullying kickoff assemblies for November 18. Every student will sign the anti-bullying pledge and banner and all staff are now trained to facilitate their school-wide anti-bullying program.

Red Ribbon week at Wheatland included a door decorating contest during which every homeroom created slogans, graphic organizers and door designs to support a Drug-Free message.

Wheatland's research class allows each student in the school an opportunity to cross platforms and work in the Apple (MacIntosh) environment. The class is housed next to the PC lab in the media center at Wheatland.

J.P. McCaskey High School

The Varsity Sports Team Banquet was held on November 4th. The 4sight examinations were held on November 11th. The Gospel Choir had their "Sing-Along" event on the 11th. McCaskey's Fall Play, "Mrs. McThing" will be held on Friday, November 18th and Saturday, November 19th. In addition, numerous students were invited to Harrisburg by Senator Smucker for the "Student Senator for a Day" event. The students sponsored, amended and voted on (fake) bills relevant to current issues.

11/15/2011: KUDOS CARD RECOGNITION:

President Caplan presented Kudos Cards to Ty Bair and Shayne Meadows for the establishment of the Exit Lancaster Program.

Exit Lancaster is a program that provides inner city youth with a variety of choices intended to create a "winning life plan." Established by Ty Bair and Shayne Meadows, Exit Lancaster's fundamental principles include: Educational Leadership, Community Service Opportunities, Appreciation of the Arts, Healthy Lifestyles and Small Business Ownership. The name of the program is based on the belief that although students have an opportunity to explore possibilities outside of their immediate community, students should be proud of where they live, and other individuals should get off the Exit to Lancaster and see it for themselves! Approximately 80 Hand students and 18 McCaskey East students participate in the program which includes a tutoring program three days a week at Stevens College. During the month of October, Exit Lancaster raised \$2,500 for the American Cancer Society.

Mr. Bair and Mr. Meadows thanked the School Board, Administration, Hand Middle School staff and families for their support of the program.

11/15/2011: CONSENT AGENDA: Director Owens made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- (1) Approval of Minutes: October 18, 2011 Regular Meeting
- (2) Personnel Recommendations
- (3) Permission for Richard Caplan and Stacey Marten to attend the National School Boards Association Conference in Boston, Massachusetts in April, 2012

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

11/15/2011: EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE:

Director Rowen made a motion to approve all items from the Educational Excellence Committee Report as follows:

- A. Approval of Minutes:
 1. October 20, 2011 Meeting
 2. November 3, 2011 Meeting

Director Heath seconded the motion, and it was approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 9.*

STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS (cont.)

KUDOS CARD RECOGNITION

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes
Personnel
Recommendations
NSBA Conference

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE

11/15/2011: FINANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

REPORT: Director Heath made a motion to approve the Finance and Operations Management Committee Report as follows:

- A. Approval of Minutes: November 2, 2011 Meeting
- B. Approval of PLANCON Part F – Washington, Lafayette, Ross & Wharton Elementary Schools
- C. Resolution: Act 32 Earned Income Tax Resolution
- D. Resolution: High Performance Green Schools Planning Grants for Washington, Lafayette, Ross and Wharton Elementary Schools
- E. Approval of Spring Athletic Bids – \$11,941.22
- F. Approval of Monthly Financial Reports

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

11/15/2011: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: Director Rowen made a motion to approve the following agenda item from the Public Engagement Committee Report:

- A. Approval of Minutes: November 1, 2011 Meeting

The motion was seconded by Director Miller and approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 9.*

11/15/2011: DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

11/15/2011: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Director Owens made a motion to approve all payments in Item 13 (A) with the exception of the following:

A. Approval of Payments – Invoice #00328185 for Thaddeus Stevens School of Technology; #WFFA1028 for Fulton Financial Advisors; #00328038 for Hempfield School District; #00328076 and #WIU13101 for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; #WSTS1021 and #WSTS1104 for Substitute Teacher Service; #00327826 for Lancaster County CTC; #33001078 and #33001080 for County of Lancaster and #OPOS1021 and #ORET1021 for PSERS. The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 9.*

Director Boben made a motion to approve Invoice #00328185 for Thaddeus Stevens School of Technology. The motion was seconded by Director Simms and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens and Simms – 8; Recuse: Rowen – 1.*

Director Rowen made a motion to approve Invoice #WFFA1028 for Fulton Financial Advisors. 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; Recuse: Boben – 1.*

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes

DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION/ACTION

Payments (Invoice Listings)

Director Simms made a motion to approve Invoice #00328038 for Hempfield School District. The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Miller, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 8; Recuse: Marten – 1.*

Director Boben made a motion to approve Invoice #00328076 and #WIU13101 for Lancaster Lebanon IU 13; #WSTS1021 and #WSTS1104 for Substitute Teacher Service; #00327826 for Lancaster County CTC; #33001078 and #33001080 for County of Lancaster and #OPOS1021 and #ORET1021 for PSERS. The motion was seconded by Director Rowen and approved by the following vote: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Miller, Owens and Rowen – 8; Recuse: Simms – 1.*

B. Approval of Judiciary Report – Director Rowen made a motion to approve the Judiciary Report. The motion was seconded by Director Heath and approved as follows: *Aye: Directors Boben, Caplan, Crystle, Heath, Marten, Owens, Rowen and Simms – 8; Recuse: Miller – 1.*

JUDICIARY REPORT

11/15/2011: OLD BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS

A. Structure of Committee Meetings/Board Meetings – President Caplan stated there has been an interest by the Board to re-evaluate over the next month or two the way the Board operates. The Board is exploring the option of having an expert meet with them who specializes in working with school boards and administrators to assist with developing a process on how information is gathered and provided to the Board more efficiently.

11/15/2011: NEW BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS

Director Miller asked if the District is required to have funds in banking institutions or if credit unions can be used. Matthew Przywara, Chief Financial & Operations Officer stated that under Act 72, the monies have to be properly collateralized so he did not believe that a credit union could provide the required collateral.

11/15/2011: INFORMATION: President Caplan reported Wickersham Elementary received a donation of a baby grand piano with an estimated value of between \$500-\$1,500 from Ms. Louise Orzechowski.

INFORMATION

11/15/2011: PUBLIC COMMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Randolph Carney, Sherman Street, asked that as we move forward, we all work together to accomplish what needs to be done. He has heard a common thread by speaking to various individuals in that there is a lack of respect where some people talk down on others. He asked that the Board and the District have a renewed emphasis of respect for everyone.

Joseph Wesolowski, Holtwood, asked that the Board think about how to manage the money the District has and not the money the District didn't get. Students are recycling cans for money because Mr. Wesolowski doesn't have a budget. He questioned certain things such as employees being flown to conventions and seminars as well as spending \$250,000 for the District Management Council.

Superintendent Rivera clarified that stimulus dollars need to be used for certain items, Title I funds are designed for professional development and every school receives an allotment of money and the Principal decides where the money will be invested within their school. The Superintendent asked employees to consult with their Principal regarding budget questions or to call the Administrative Offices for clarification of any items pertaining to budgets.

11/15/2011: ADJOURNMENT: President Caplan adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m. on a motion by Director Simms, seconded by Director Boben.

Attest:

Colleen R. Marshall
Board Secretary

PUBLIC COMMENTS
(cont.)

ADJOURNMENT