



Board of Directors Meeting April 20, 2015 Minutes

Roll Call

Members in attendance were: Jonathan Dahl, Paul Irvin, Rodney Jones, Dina Maio Melissa Readman, Thomas Wentzel, Glenn Yoder, Jennifer Zeiset and Heidi Zimmerman

Non-Voting Members in attendance were: Robert Hollister, Nadine Larkin, Justin W. Johnson and Keith Ramsey

Staff/Public in attendance were: Judge Rodney Hartman, Several citizens of the community, staff members of the District and a Member of the Press.

1. Call to Order

President Yoder opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. He thanked those in the audience for attending the meeting.

2. Moment of Silence/Reflection - Pledge of Allegiance

President Yoder led in a silent meditation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Swearing-In of New Board Member: Dina Maio

Dr. Hollister introduced the Honorable Rodney Hartman who administered the Oath of Office for incoming Board Member, Dina Maio. Dr. Hollister introduced Mrs. Maio to the Board and Audience. President Yoder welcomed Mrs. Maio and thanked the Honorable Rodney Hartman for his service.

4. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda

Requests by board members to remove an item for separate consideration

Mr. Wentzel made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Irvin. **The motion was approved. (9-0)**

5. Student of the Month Presentation

Mr. Sanger introduced and congratulated the March and April Students of the Month for being chosen for their character trait of Positive Attitude and Compassion, respectively.

March – Positive Attitude

Kendra Fitz, New Holland, accompanied by her father, Mr. Richard Fitz
Ian Roggie, Denver, accompanied by his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Roggie.

April - Compassion

Alyssa Waite, Terre Hill, accompanied by her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Addison Waite.
Tyler Lehman, Denver, accompanied by his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Lehman.

Dr. Hollister thanked and congratulated the students for their hard work. He thanked them for their leadership by example and noted that they were being singled out with distinction for a reason and that they should continue to do what they were doing. He indicated that with this award came responsibility. They were a representation of the Garden Spot Community and of the School District.

6. Citizens' Comments

At this time we will invite public comment on any topic that is within the Board's jurisdiction. Please also note that the public is invited to attend our Committee Meetings where much of the discussion and deliberation of agenda topics is conducted. (Committee Meetings are held in the Community Hall at the Garden Spot Complex at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of the month.)

Deborah Kern, New Holland

Mrs. Kern presented her concerns about ability grouping at New Holland Elementary. She informed the Board that both her children were affected by the initiative. Mrs. Kern thanked the Board for their time.

Heather Myers, Terre Hill

Mrs. Myers commented that she felt blessed to be in this district and commended the teachers within. She expressed her concern about new curriculum initiatives being introduced in the new year and asked why parents were not informed of these changes. Mrs. Myers suggested that there needed to be more than just one parent conference event available to parents to speak with students' teachers since with the new initiative students are interacting with more than one teacher.

Rebecca Cali, Narvon

Mrs. Cali thanked the Board for all their hard work and orated a letter to the Board. In her letter she expressed her concern of the new learning initiative, "Hybrid Learning". She proceeded to elaborate on the issues her son experienced during his first encounter with school and with the new learning initiative. Mrs. Cali informed the Board that she felt that they were misinformed about what the initiative was and how it was implemented.

She felt that ability grouping was not working and expressed her concern that parents were not being informed of changes.

President Yoder thanked Mrs. Cali for her comments and requested that she distribute her letter to the Board and the Administration by email, so that they could take the time to consider each of her concerns and then respond accordingly.

Joseph Cali, Narvon

Mr. Cali commented that he loved the District and the Administration and that he and his wife were proud community members. He questioned the Board whether the emotional status of students was considered when new initiative or changes were implemented. He asked what the next step was.

Mr. Yoder commented that the District was always changing to meet the academic challenges of the times and the Board hired the Administration to make those changes that they felt were right for the District.

Dr. Hollister stated that there is continuous improvement occurring in the District and he understood that parents and the Administration may not always agree, but the Administration did listen to the concerns of the parents. He noted that Mrs. Cali had presented a lot of questions that would be considered.

Earl Kreider, East Earl

Mr. Kreider said a prayer.

7. Special Presentation

7.1 High School Student Trip to Vietnam - Lei Williams

Dr. Hollister introduced Lei Williams, ESL teacher at Garden Spot High School. Mrs. Williams and Mr. Leaman, Social Studies teacher at Garden Spot High School are taking 20 students to Vietnam partially funded by the Spartan Foundation for Education. He noted that Mr. Dahl, School Board Director, also sat on the Board for the Spartan Foundation. Dr. Hollister explained to the Board that the Spartan Foundation was in place to foster activities such as these to prepare our students for the global environment to counterbalance the over emphasis on PSSAs and Keystones. He also noted that the students would have the pleasure of stopping over in Quatar for a Middle Eastern experience.

Lei Williams presented a PowerPoint presentation describing the itinerary for the Vietnam trip, explaining that 20 students (12 boys & 8 girls - 3 Freshmen, 1 Sophomore, 13 Juniors, 3 Seniors) would be visiting several remote areas and cities in Vietnam, experiencing new foods and connecting with local businesses, meeting her family, participating in community service projects, and exploring local history sites. She explained that each student would be assigned a topic to share with each other and when they return they would then in turn somehow

expand on that project in their schoolwork to share with other students in the District.

Mrs. Williams introduced John Andress, a freshmen of Garden Spot High School, who will be attending the trip. Mr. Andress informed the Board that he thought Vietnam was very interesting and was looking forward to looking at a new culture and the 34 hour plane ride.

Several Board members noted their excitement with this opportunity for both the students and teachers. They are also looking forward to hearing the impressions of the students when they returned.

Dr. Hollister thanked Mrs. Williams for her presentation and for taking the students and introducing them to this experience.

8. Consent Agenda

Mr. Wentzel made a motion to approve the consent agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Irvin. **The motion was approved. (9-0)**

Items listed under the *Consent Agenda* section of our Board Meeting Agenda are considered to be routine and are acted on by the Board in one motion. There is no Board discussion of these items individually prior to the Board vote unless a member of the Board requests that a specific item be removed from the Consent Agenda. Requests to remove an item from the Consent Agenda will be accepted at agenda section 3. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda. (Requests to remove an item for separate consideration). Items Removed from the Consent Agenda will be moved to agenda section "Action Items."

8.1 Approval of Minutes

8.2 Treasurer's Report

8.3 Bills Paid

8.4 Cafeteria Fund Treasurer's Report

8.5 Investments

8.6 Student Activity Account

8.7 Personnel Report

8.8 Approve Budgetary Transfers

8.9 Action Item - Approval to Enter the PlanCon Part K (Project Refinancing) Approval Letter for the 2014 A and 2015 Notes into the Minutes

PlanCon Part K takes the Permanent Reimbursable Percentage from the Series A of 2010 Bond Issue that was refunded and applies it to the Series A of 2014 Note and the 2015 Note.

8.10 Action Item - Approval of the Trash Removal Contract to Eagle Disposal for a Period of 5 Years Beginning July 1, 2015

A RFP was issued and we had 3 responses. Details of the submitted responses are attached. Total Savings over 5 Years is \$20,984.93

8.11 Action Item - Approval to Renew the Contract with Substitute Teacher Service (STS) and to Authorize the Chief of Finance and Operations to Sign

8.12 Approval of the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit #13 General Operating Budget (GOB) and Instructional Materials Services (IMS) Budget for 2015-16

The Intermediate Unit's General Operating Budget consists of 2 component budgets, as follows:

1. The Core Program of Services budget reflects a 1.9% increase in total expenditures. There is no District assessment for this budget.
2. The Instructional Media Services (IMS) budget reflects a 0% increase in total expenditures and no change in district contributions to the program.

8.13 Action Item - Approval of Affidavits of Guardianship

9. Action Items

9.1 Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Separate Consideration

10. Reports

10.1 Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau

Met on Wednesday, March 18, 2015

The main purpose of the meeting was to review and approved the 2014 Audit Report:

- Received an outstanding audit report
- Collection costs were 1.9% of total collections

Mr. Ramsey informed the Board that the Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau met on Wednesday, March 18, 2015. He noted that the main purpose of the meeting was to review and approve the 2014 Audit Report. Mr. Ramsey indicated that the report results were very good and also reported that the collection costs were at 1.9% He commended the work of the Bureau.

10.2 Lancaster-Lebanon IU 13

Mr. Irvin reported the Lancaster-Lebanon Board met on April 8, 2015. He reported several highlights from the board meeting report: The board approved \$4,712,088.25 in disbursements and service contracts for Business Services, Early Childhood and Special Education Services, Instructional Services and Human Resource Services. There were three (3) resignations, one (1) retirement, two (2) early retirements, one (1) termination, twelve (12) new hires, twenty (20) changes in position or salaries, and five (5) leaves of absences. He also reported that five (5) new policies were presented for their first reading.

Mr. Irvin also announced that the annual IU Convention was held on April 8, 2015 at Donegal High School.

10.3 Lancaster CTC

Mrs. Readman reported that the Lancaster CTC Joint Operating Committee met on March 26th. She reported that the Commercial Art and Photography departments presented a collaboration project with Lands' End that they had done with 20 teams of 3 students. They created an ad agency where each team presented an 8-page layout for the catalog that was judged. She noted that the instructors were very happy with the results and hope to continue and expand the project to other study areas. Mrs. Readman commented that this was a great opportunity for the students for introducing them to careers and possible interviews.

Mrs. Readman also reported that enrollment was up from last year, however the Masonry program would not be running due to low enrollment and the heavy equipment program would not be running due to the lack of equipment. The CTC is hoping that industries will donate equipment and a rotation replacement plan similar to that which was implemented for truck driving was discussed as well.

Mrs. Readman announced the new Assistant Director, Mr. Yohn started his position on March 30, 2015.

10.4 Legislative

Mr. Wentzel reported that discussion over the state budget still continued. He reported that newly presented House Bill 680 differs from the Governor's plan to provide additional support for public schools. Republicans' counter-proposal plans for a dollar for dollar reduction in property tax as well as an increase in income tax from 3.07% to 3.7% and sales tax from 6% to 7%.

He also announced that Representative Glen Grell would be leaving the House to become the next Executive Director of Public School Employees Retirement System. Jeff Clay, the present Executive Director, is to retire May 1st.

Mr. Wentzel presented several bills: House Bill 342 amends the Pennsylvania Election Code regarding the number of signers required for nominating petitions

of candidate at primaries. It now requires 10 signatures for nomination of a Board member. House Bill 423 provides civil immunity to school bus drivers who administer auto-injectors (epi-pens).

He noted that at Senator Ryan Aument's hosted breakfast, the Senator announced that districts should not expect a budget before fall and not to plan on getting the funding promised by the Governor. Mr. Wentzel announced the deadline for the budget as June 30th.

11. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hollister announced to the Board several exciting events happening in the District. He shared with the Board that the New Holland Elementary Chess Team won 1st & 2nd Place in the chess tournament held at IU#13. Dr. Hollister noted that 70 students were involved in the chess club and he congratulated both the students and the club.

He also announced that Mr. Stitzer and students attended a Technology Event at Seven Springs and with 1740 students competing, several student placed. He noted that Tanner Mellinger, 10th grader in Garden Spot High School, placed 1st in Flight Endurance.

Dr. Hollister also congratulated the Boys and Girls Basketball teams for being voted as the best for outstanding sportsmanship and the Rifle Team winning 2nd for Outstanding Team. He congratulated Mr. Reitnouer and the Athletic Department on these achievements.

Dr. Hollister informed the Board that the Administration met with Senator Ryan Aument to discuss the teacher evaluation system and the school evaluation system. He explained that the Senator was looking for help on how to push legislative through PDE to help school districts. Dr. Hollister commended the Senator for his interest and attention to these issues.

He also announced that the District had its first Pre-Kindergarten Night. This event was to help get more information out to the pre-kindergarten student population and parents. 46 families and 67 parents were present. He explained that this session was focused on language arts and early reading and that two additional upcoming sessions would focus on writing and mathematics. The hope of these sessions is to better prepare the incoming students in the fall.

Dr. Hollister also announced that the principals were very excited and proud of the students who were currently working hard at the PSSA tests. He thanked the students for their hard work and taking the extra time. He also thanked parents and teachers for facilitating the tests.

President Yoder commented that it was encouraging to hear of the accomplishments of our students in the District.

12. Announcements

Vice-President Rodney Jones commented that he wanted to recognize the teachers in attendance at the meeting and informed the Board that he had spent a great day at Blue Ball Elementary speaking with teachers and would be visiting the rest of the schools in the District. He stated that he would be reporting back to the Board upon completion.

13. Adjournment

Mr. Wentzel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. with a second by Mr. Irvin. **The motion was approved. (9-0)**

Justin W. Johnson
School Board Secretary
March 16, 2015