

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
 BOARD-CONFERENCE ROOM  
 MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2007  
 7:00 p.m.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PRESENT**      **ABSENT**

Mr. Mark N. Pera, President	<u>X</u>	—
Mr. James A. Kohlstedt, Vice President (arrived 7:11pm)	<u>X</u>	—
Dr. Arthur W. Sprague, Jr., Secretary	<u>X</u>	—
Mrs. Heather H. Alderman (arrived 7:04pm)	<u>X</u>	—
Dr. John T. Polacek	<u>X</u>	—
Mr. Allen D. Polich	<u>X</u>	—
Mr. William F. Purcell	<u>X</u>	—
Ms. Carolyn Achepohl (arrived 7:30pm)	<u>X</u>	—

**STAFF PRESENT**

Dr. Dennis Kelly	Ms. Joyce Marine	Mr. Scott Eggerding
Mr. David Sellers	Dr. Tim Kilrea	Mr. David Franson
Ms Jennifer Bialobok	Mr. Ed Tennant	Mr. Jeremy Vrtis
Mr. Robert Sherman	Ms. Leslie Stickels	Mr. Robert Fritch

**VISITORS PRESENT**

No one signed in

**CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, & PLEDGE**

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Pera at 7:00 p.m.

**ACTION NO. 1: Agenda Approval/Order of Business**

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the agenda as presented.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

**ACTION NO. 2: Adjournment into Closed Session**

Dr. Sprague moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss a confidential student issue.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Polich, Dr. Polacek, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Pera  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Mrs. Alderman, Mr. Kohlstedt

The motion was adopted, and at 7:00 p.m., Mr. Pera adjourned the meeting into Closed Session.

At 7:30 p.m., the meeting reconvened in Open Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **OPEN SESSION – COMMUNICATIONS**

Jeremy Vrtis, Faculty Association President, welcomed members of the Applied Arts Division: Katie O’Boyle, Danielle Mackovitch, Dawn Beilgard, Jeff Johnson, Gianna Galanti, Patti Larson, and Kris Campbell. He also invited members of the Board to the upcoming play, *Man of La Mancha*.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT**

Student Representative to the Board, Carolyn Achepohl, was hopeful that 200 students would participate in the North Campus Blood Drive. She additionally reported that 2700 students attended the Homecoming dance at the end of September.

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S DISTRICT REPORT**

Dr. Kelly was pleased to report that the majority of LT families provided appropriate information to prove residency in the school district; only eight students (out of 3843) still require proof of residency. If needed, we will continue to utilize the services of National Investigations throughout the year to check on residency issues. Dr. Kelly mentioned that families who claim to be homeless pose an obstacle to the residency process. He thanked Jennifer Bialobok, Therese Nelson and Ed Piotrowski for their efforts regarding residency.

Dr. Kelly told the Board that they will receive the first draft of the 2007-2008 District Goals on October 18; the broad goal of improving student academic performance will be discussed at the next Curriculum Committee meeting.

Dr. Kelly shared LT’s plans to abide by the newly mandated Illinois legislation regarding a moment of silence; students will be asked to remain standing for five to ten seconds immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance in order to observe a moment of silence.

Finalizing his Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Kelly spoke of the facilities tour on Saturday, October 13. The Board, joined by Dr. Kelly, Director of Business Services David Sellers, and Ken Brescia, Director of Buildings and Grounds, toured South Campus and discussed potential facilities projects for summer ’08. The Board discussed creating facilities that would be a source of pride to the community while utilizing the best use of existing space at good prices. Mr. Kohlstedt, Chair of the Facilities Committee, thanked the Board for their interest and asked Board members to forward any suggestions, comments, or

questions concerning facilities to Dr. Kelly, Mr. Sellers, or him before the next Facilities Committee meeting. Mr. Kohlstedt added that by the November Board meeting, plans will be finalized to send to the school district architect.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **ACTION NO. 3: Acceptable Use of E-Mail Policy, Implementing Section 6.21.3 – Revised**

Mr. Polich moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the revised Acceptable Use of E-Mail policy, Implementing Section 6.21.3.

On roll call:

Ayes: Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Polich, Dr. Polacek, Mr. Kohlstedt, Mrs. Alderman,  
Mr. Pera  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

#### **ACTION NO. 4: Procedures for Policy Violation Policy, Implementing Section 6.21.4 – Revised**

Mr. Polich moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to approve the revised Procedures for Policy Violation policy, Implementing Section 6.21.4.

On roll call:

Ayes: Dr. Polacek, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Alderman, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Polich, Mr. Kohlstedt,  
Mr. Pera  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Curriculum Change Proposals 2008-2009 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Mr. Eggerding presented the first reading of the 2008-2009 Curriculum Change Proposals; the 20 proposals will be brought to the Board as a second reading in November along with two additional proposals: changes to the Transition and Driver's Education programs.

**2008-2009 School-Term Calendar – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Two options for the 2008-2009 calendar were presented: Option 1 denotes a school year similar to our current and past years' calendars. Option 2 denotes a school year that starts a week earlier and has first semester finals ending prior to winter break. LT parents, students, and staff along with parents of current eighth graders are being surveyed regarding their views, and the survey results will be shared at the next Curriculum Committee meeting; to date, 2780 people have voted in the calendar survey. Dr. Kelly remarked that the elementary associate school superintendents have already been polled, and although it is unlikely their calendars will be altered, they don't foresee changes in the LT calendar presenting a problem as long as winter/spring breaks and holidays remain the same as the elementary school calendars.

**ACTION NO. 5: Request for Additional Certified F.T.E.**

Dr. Sprague moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to approve the addition of a second Assistant Division Chair position for the Math/Science Division—1.0 F.T.E.—effective with the 2008-2009 school year.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Polich, Dr. Polacek, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Kohlstedt, Mrs. Alderman,  
Mr. Pera  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

This Board action approves a .4 Administrator/.6 teaching position to act as an additional Assistant Division Chair in Math/Science, the largest division; the new position will be in Math, since the current Assistant Division Chair's background is in Science.

**Reallocation of Classified/Non-Contractual Position to Special Education**

Dr. Kilrea recommended reallocating one Administrative Assistant position from Applied Arts to the Special Education Department. This 12-month position will provide administrative support to a department that has greatly increased over the past eight years. The Board determined that formal Board approval was not required to move forward with this recommendation.

**ACTION NO. 6: Construction Change Orders**

Mr. Kohlstedt moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to approve the recommended uses of construction allowances and change orders as presented, totaling \$139,167.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Kohlstedt, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Alderman, Dr. Polacek, Mr. Polich,  
Mr. Pera  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Most of the construction change order costs were attributed to the parking lot paving costs this past summer.

### **2007 AYP Data**

Mr. Eggerding reported that although we did not make AYP under No Child Left Behind (NCLB), we are no longer under federal sanctions because we do not accept Title I funds. We did not make AYP in the Special Education sub-group, “Students with Disabilities”; most of these students, through their IEPs, are not even supposed to take the federal tests, which are not appropriate for their disabilities. Mr. Eggerding remarked that the AYP information can be beneficial, however, in the manner we choose to refocus our efforts to prepare students to perform at their potential.

### **Driver Education Survey/Options**

This curriculum issue will be formally brought to the Board in November to ensure that LT meets the recent legislative changes in Driver Education that stipulate simulator and/or driving range practice no longer count toward the six hours of mandatory behind-the-wheel experience. Mr. Eggerding provided three options that will have significant impact in either FTE, out-of-school driving time, or classroom down time along with a survey completed by many suburban Chicago high schools regarding their Driver Ed programs. Board members asked whether LT should continue some instruction using simulators and range practice even though the hours won’t count toward behind-the-wheel experience. Board Student Representative, Carolyn Achepohl, believed that most students would want to complete behind-the-wheel training during the school day. Driver Ed instructor, Jeff Johnson, added that an additional 2.5 FTE should accommodate simulator, range, and behind-the-wheel practice requirements.

### **Developing Plan for Compiling & Disseminating Student Data**

Dr. Kelly reported that at the last Superintendents’ Council meeting, associate school superintendents were very supportive of sharing student data information, which will be very helpful in curricular areas. Mr. Eggerding acknowledged Julie Brenson’s assistance in providing substantial information in the short time she’s been in her position as Director of Testing and Assessment. Ms. Brenson and Mr. Eggerding shared with the Board a timeline outlining the process to share information with the associate schools. Mr. Polich emphasized that LT is not in the business of providing reports; we need to have a system that is easy to use to generate a report. Discussion ensued regarding individual Board members’ requests for student data. Mr. Pera discussed the necessity of putting a process in place by which information can be requested and then assessed to determine the following: how much information is needed, if that information can be readily provided, how much time it will take to provide the information, and whether

the information will be helpful in improving student achievement. Mr. Kohlstedt added that providing information to the associate schools will help them and LT, and he wanted to know what data is already in our system. Ms. Brenson responded that we are working to make test scores more easily retrievable from our current system, but that the process to sort and organize data takes time. She added that the data we retrieve from our system should be helpful to us and to our associate schools to help ascertain in what areas students may be deficient.

### **School Board Calendar for November 2007**

The Board scheduled upcoming committee meeting dates for the month of November.

### **ACTION NO. 7: Approval of Consent Agenda**

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

#### **LTHS Monthly Financials**

Approval of Lyons Township High School monthly bills in the amount of \$4,195,920.32.

Approval of Lyons Township High School financial statements for the month ending September 30, 2007.

#### **LADSE Financials**

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education monthly bills in the amount of \$1,431,545.26.

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education financial statements for the month ending September 30, 2007.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

#### **LTHS Buildings/Grounds, Classified/Non-Contractual, & ParaEducator Staff Employment Recommendations**

#### **Employment**

**Sean Casserly**, South Campus Transition Program ParaEducator, effective September 24, 2007.;

**Thomas Cozza**, South Campus Temporary Custodian, effective October 15, 2007.

**Sophie Gogola**, South Campus Custodian, effective October 1, 2007.

**John Kiser, Jr.**, Part-time North Campus Student Assistant, effective October 12, 2007.

**Kerry O'Brien**, Re-Entry ParaEducator, effective October 1, 2007.

**Christine Torres**, North Campus Student Assistant, effective October 9, 2007.

Resignation

**Jazmina Baukys**, North Campus Special Education ParaEducator, effective October 16, 2007.

**Marianne Gasaway**, South Campus Special Education ParaEducator, effective October 9, 2007.

**Kate Hecimovich**, South Campus Special Education ParaEducator, effective December 21, 2007, pending position available upon return from Student Teaching. If no position is available, then a resignation will be in effect.

**LTHS Administrative/Certified Employee Recommendations**

Leave of Absence

**Robert Sherman**, Math/Science Division (Science), effective February 4, 2008-May 2, 2008.

Retirement

**Tena Kari Mitchell**, Language Arts (English), effective June 30, 2008

**LADSE**

Employment

**Mary Ostrowski** - 1.0 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 17, 2007.

**Ryan Supeter** - 1.0 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 10, 2007.

**Jennifer Kristin** - 1.0 Physical Therapist, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 10, 2007.

**Tricia Iraci** - .72 Case Services Expeditor, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 10, 2007.

**Susan Malitzke** - 1.0 Teacher (short term leave replacement), subject to the local funding program, beginning September 13, 2007 through November 8, 2007.

**Julie Ow** - 1.0 Teacher, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 24, 2007.

**Mary O'Brien** - 1.0 Occupational Therapist, subject to the Local funding program, beginning October 1, 2007.

**Donna Romstedt** - 1.0 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning October 1, 2007.

**Anne Morley** - .6 Occupational Therapist, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 19, 2007.

**Katherine Rusick** - 1.0 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

**Jennifer Kindelin** - .5 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning October 5, 2007.

#### Resignations

**Paul Magnuson** - 1.0 DHH Interpreter effective 8/25/2007.

**Wendy Frame** - 1.0 Occupational Therapist effective 10/12/2007.

**Jill Natarus-Flinchum** - 1.0 ParaEducator.

**Margaret O'Neil** - 1.0 ParaEducator.

**Sandra Farmer** - 1.0 ParaEducator.

#### Terminations

**Wendy Pelletiere** - 1.0 ParaEducator.

#### **Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – Open and Closed Sessions – September 17, 2007

Special Meeting – 2007-2008 School District Goals – October 1, 2007

Facilities Committee – October 2, 2007

Curriculum Committee – October 10, 2007

Human Resources Committee – October 11, 2007

#### **Donations**

1. \$875 cash donation toward purchase of a string bass to the Music Department, by the Hatch family.
2. *Jay's Journey* to the North Campus Library, by Mr. Jay Johnson.

### **IMRF Benefit Protection Leave Request**

#### **Award of Bids**

1. Dishwasher            Rescor            \$31,790.00

#### **Disposal of Surplus Property**

On roll call:

Ayes:        Mrs. Alderman, Mr. Polich, Dr. Polacek, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Kohlstedt,  
                 Mr. Pera

Nays:        None

Abstain:    None

Absent:     None

The motion was adopted.

#### **ACTION NO. 8: Adjournment into Closed Session**

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss confidential issues regarding student discipline, collective bargaining negotiations, and a personnel matter.

On roll call:

Ayes:        Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Polich, Dr. Polacek, Mrs. Alderman, Mr. Kohlstedt,  
                 Mr. Pera

Nays:        None

Abstain:    None

Absent:     None

The motion was adopted and at 9:23 p.m. Mr. Pera adjourned the meeting into Closed Session.

At 9:35 p.m., the meeting reconvened in Open Session.

#### **ACTION NO. 9: Student #396xxx**

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to expel student #396xxx for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school term, including the 2008 summer session.

On roll call:

Ayes:        Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Polich, Dr. Polacek, Mr. Kohlstedt, Mrs. Alderman,  
                 Mr. Pera

Nays:        None

Abstain:    None

Absent:     None

The motion was adopted.

**ACTION NO. 10: Student #397xxx**

Dr. Sprague moved, seconded by Mr. Kohlstedt, to hold in abeyance the expulsion hearing of Student #397xxx; should Student #397xxx attempt to re-enroll at Lyons Township High School prior to the first day of the 2009-2010 school year, expulsion hearing proceedings will be immediately reinstated.

On roll call:

Ayes: Dr. Polacek, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Alderman, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Polich, Mr. Kohlstedt,  
Mr. Pera

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

**ACTION NO. 11: Adjournment**

Mr. Polich moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to adjourn the meeting.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

President:

Secretary: