

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204
 BOARD OF EDUCATION
 MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
 BOARD-CONFERENCE ROOM
 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2008
 7:15 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

PRESENT **ABSENT**

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

STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Dennis Kelly	Ms. Joyce Marine	Mr. David Franson
Mr. David Sellers	Dr. Tim Kilrea	Mr. Scott Eggerding
Ms. Jennifer Bialobok	Mr. Ed Tennant	Mr. Jeremy Vrtis
Mr. Bob Sherman	Ms. Rebecca Rivan	Ms. Jane Ewing

VISITORS PRESENT

Dr. Jim Surber Mr. Don Leonard

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

President Mark Pera called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

ACTION NO. 1: Agenda Approval/Order of Business

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

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

ACTION NO. 2: Adjournment into Closed Session

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Purcell, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss confidential legal and personnel matters.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted, and at 7:15 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

On behalf of the Faculty Association Executive Board, President Jeremy Vrtis offered any additional assistance, if needed, regarding the superintendent’s search; he then asked the following Exec Board members in attendance to introduce themselves: Bob Sherman, Rebecca Rivan, Dave Stormont, Kelly Swaine, Amy McNamara, Mike Detzner, and Jane Ewing.

Marilyn Kosin, LT Community Advisory Council Co-President along with Joan Rykal, invited the Board to attend this year’s LTCAC meetings, scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on October 15, December 17, February 18, April 15, and May 20.

PUBLIC HEARING – Lyons Township High School District 204 FY 2008-2009 Budget

Mr. Pera opened the public hearing on the Lyons Township High School District 204 FY 2008-2009 budget and requested any comments from the public.

ACTION NO. 3: Close Public Hearing

There being no comments from the public, Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Purcell, to close the public hearing on the Lyons Township High School District 204 FY 2008-2009 budget.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

PUBLIC HEARING – La Grange Area Department of Special Education FY 2008-2009 Budget

Mr. Pera opened the public hearing on the La Grange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE) 2008-2009 budget and asked for remarks.

ACTION NO. 4: Close Public Hearing

There being no comments, Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Purcell, to close the public hearing on the La Grange Department of Special Education FY 2008-2009 budget.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Student Representative to the Board, Kevin McDermott, first thanked the Board for the remodeling work at both campuses, saying that the renovations were very much appreciated by the student body. He next highlighted some upcoming student events. The theme for this year's Homecoming is Mardi Gras Masquerade, and all proceeds from the sale of t-shirts, beads, buttons, and \$1/ticket will go to the Hurricane Katrina relief effort; Mr. McDermott invited the Board to attend the Homecoming events-- October 10th Pep Rally and October 11th parade, football game against Leyden (with Dr. Kelly providing the color highlights for LTTV), and dance in the South Campus Fieldhouse. Other events noted by Mr. McDermott included South Campus Open House on September 18, the Junior-Senior Showcase this coming weekend in the Reber, and the October 2nd-4th play, *The School for Wives*, in the South Campus Performing Arts Center. Additionally, Mr. McDermott noted that LT students observed the seven-year anniversary of September 11 with a moment of silence.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DISTRICT REPORT

Dr. Kelly presented September's Vita Plena award to Buildings and Grounds' employee, Zofia Michniak. At LT since 1990, Ms. Michniak has been a faithful employee who has handled many different jobs—from custodian to maintenance mechanic to district driver (delivering weekly Board packets) to her current position as North Campus Shipping/Receiving. She does whatever is needed to get the job done and has always been a real team player. Ms. Michniak is always on time, goes far beyond her job description, and is one of the first people to volunteer when there is work to be done in another area. Ms. Michniak thanked the Board for her recognition and then introduced her husband and two daughters.

Dr. Kelly reported that student test scores have continued to go up. The school's ACT average score of 24 is the highest score in LT's history. Additionally, 42% of the AP tests taken at LT received a "5"--the highest score possible. Dr. Kelly emphasized that although our students have done well, we should continue to push for an even higher level of performance in the future; three steps being taken to ensure continued success are 1) the opportunity for all juniors to take a practice ACT test on September 24, which will help them to prepare for the statewide ACT test in April; 2) offering an ACT prep class after winter break to juniors in study hall; and 3) continuing to change content areas to better prepare students for college.

Mr. Pera thanked the teachers for their hard work in preparing students for AP tests.

Dr. Kelly also updated the Board on residency issues, saying that 84 students have not yet completed requirements for proving in-district residency; however, that number should significantly decrease by the end of the week as the students continue to provide proof of residency.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ACTION NO. 5: Adoption of LTHS District 204 FY 2008-2009 Budget

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mr. Polich, to adopt the Lyons Township High School District 204 FY 2008-2009 budget.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

Finance Committee Chairperson, John Polacek, noted that the 08-09 budget is balanced. Mr. Sellers added that the 07-08 budget should also end up being balanced. He also said that during the coming year, we'll be monitoring energy costs, property tax appeals, and interest rates and their resultant effects on the 2008-2009 budget.

ACTION NO. 6: Adoption of LADSE FY 2008-2009 Budget

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to adopt the La Grange Area Department of Special Education FY 2008-2009 budget.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

LADSE Business Manager, Don Leonard, stated that there has been no change since the tentative 2008-2009 LADSE \$18.8 million budget was approved in August.

ACTION NO. 7: Agreement for Extension of Pool Warranty

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the Resolution to Accept Terms and Conditions for a Five-Year Warranty Extension of South Campus Swimming Pool Gold and Blue Deck Tile.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

The approved agreement provides an additional five-year warranty to September 2018 for the South Campus pool deck tile in lieu of replacing the tile at this time. It also provides LT with all of the tile needed if in the future, the gold and blue deck tile has to be replaced.

Mr. Purcell remarked that the extended warranty until 2018 is only valid if the company remains in business. He also questioned whether, over the long-term, water will deteriorate the tile on the pool deck. Mr. Sellers noted that the South Campus pool will be back in operation September 19, the replacement deck tile--if ever needed--is in stock, our warranty covers the next ten years, and that any replacement of the deck tile would take minimal time.

Test Scores and AYP

Mr. Eggerding reiterated Dr. Kelly's earlier accolades about LT's commendable test scores on ACT, SAT, and AP tests. He also mentioned that although we did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in some areas, we are not identified for school improvement through the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal act because we do not accept Title I funds. Mr. Eggerding said future initiatives include assessing how many of our alums graduate from college, focusing on minority achievement, and determining why some students take AP classes but choose not to take the corresponding AP exams. Student Representative Kevin McDermott responded that one reason students do not take AP tests is because not all colleges accept AP credits.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Intergovernmental Agreements between Proviso Township High School District 209 & Lyons Township High School District 204 and Hinsdale Township High School District 86 & Lyons Township High School District 204

Dr. Kelly explained that a provision of NCLB requires school districts not in compliance with state and federal requirements to offer students the opportunity to attend a school in a neighboring school district. LT has received requests from Proviso Township High Schools and Hinsdale Township High Schools to allow some of their students to attend LT if they so desire. Previous similar requests have been denied, since allowing students from neighboring school districts to attend LT is not necessarily in the best interest of those students; attending LT would require traveling a greater distance to school and as a result, those students would possibly not be able to participate in school activities. Dr. Kelly suggested that the Board not take action on Hinsdale's and Proviso's requests and that a letter will be sent to both districts explaining our reasons for denial. The Board concurred with Dr. Kelly's assessment.

Waiver of Student Fees Policy – 1st Reading

The first reading of the Waiver of Student Fees policy was presented to the Board. Dr. Kelly explained that we have used a fee waiver form in the past, but have not had a policy in place, as noted by the Regional Office of Education during its April 2008 audit. The Board will be asked to approve this policy when it comes to them as a second reading in October.

ACTION NO. 8: Construction Change Orders

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the change orders for spring/summer 2008 projects totaling \$25,626.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Sellers noted that the percentage of the total expenditures for summer project change orders to the total cost of the projects was very low, which is an indication that contract specs were well produced.

School Board Calendar for October 2008

The Board scheduled upcoming committee meeting dates for the month of October and discussed several options for rescheduling dates on the superintendent search calendar. Mr. Pera shared that to date, 23 candidates have submitted their applications to our search firm for the superintendent position.

ACTION NO. 9: Approval of Consent Agenda

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

LTHS Monthly Financials

Approval of Lyons Township High School monthly bills in the amount of \$4,817,907.54.

Approval of Lyons Township High School financial statement for the month ending August 31, 2008.

LADSE Financials

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education monthly bills in the amount of \$448,831.28.

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education financial statement for the month ending August 31, 2008.

HUMAN RESOURCES
LTHS Buildings and Grounds, Classified/Non-Contractual, and ParaEducator Staff
Employment Recommendations

Employment

Jessica Bennett, Inclusion ParaEducator, effective September 2, 2008.

Matthew Bultas, Functional/Inclusion ParaEducator, effective September 2, 2008.

Karen DalPorto, Inclusion ParaEducator, effective August 28, 2008.

Cara DiNatale, Humanities ParaEducator, effective August 22, 2008.

Christopher Elliott, PSD/Inclusion ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Ofelia Enciso, Temporary Custodian at North Campus, effective August 11, 2008.

Mary Ellen Handler, Math/Science ParaEducator, effective September 10, 2008.

Graydon Jefferson, Inclusion ParaEducator, effective August 25, 2008.

Daniel Kuchta, Transition ParaEducator, effective August 27, 2008.

Carol Lowe, Science ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Bridget Martino, Inclusion ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Arlene Mendlik, Functional ParaEducator, effective September 2, 2008.

Julie Mitchell, Inclusion ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Jeffrey Murray, Functional ParaEducator, effective August 25, 2008.

Gary Raike, Student Assistant, effective August 21, 2008.

Nicholas Roche, Humanities ParaEducator, effective August 22, 2008.

Kristin Sroka, Functional/Inclusion ParaEducator, effective August 26, 2008.

Robert Swynenburg, Alternative Program ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Lawrence Zimny, Science ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Resignation

Sean Casserly, ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Susan Chmura, ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Sandy Dostal, ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Cynthia Lopez, ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Julie Stanley-Jones, ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

Ashley Whirity, ParaEducator, effective August 21, 2008.

LTHS Administrative and Certified Employee Recommendations

Retirement

Deborah Anderson, Social Studies, effective June 2012.

Diane Niedrich, Student Services, effective June 2012.

LADSE Staff Employment Recommendations

Employment

Karyn Bronsan - .5 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Kari Hopkinson - 1.0 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Meghan Kappmeyer - 1.0 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Kimberly Daniello - .8 Occupational Therapist, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Steven Devine - 1.0 DHH Signing Aide, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Nicole Crofton - 1.0 DHH Interpreter, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Jamie Gasca - 1.0 DHH Job Coach, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Brandi Miller - 1.0 Occupational Therapist, subject to the Local funding program, beginning August 18, 2008.

Lila Seeber - .5 Speech Language Pathologist (short term leave replacement) subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 22, 2008.

Resignations

Melinda Jack - 1.0 ParaEducator effective August 18, 2008.

Did Not Return

Jamie Orton - 1.0 Speech Language Pathologist.

Leaves

Loretta Butakis - .6 School Psychologist effective 10/27/08-1/16/09.

Lynn Kerby - 1.0 School Psychologist effective 12/16/08 – 3/30/09.

Jeanne Federico - 1.0 Occupational Therapist effective 8/18/08 – 1/2/09.

Terri Boss - 1.0 Occupational Therapist effective 2/24/09 approximately.

Sarah Sullivan - .8 Occupational Therapist effective 3/19/08 approximately.

Karen Rigoni - .8 SLP effective 9/2/08 emergency for 4-6 weeks.

Virginia Dudzinski - 1.0 OT effective 9/4/08 emergency (length unknown at this time).

Becky Perthel - .4 SLP effective 3/13/08 through end of year.

Minutes:

Facilities Committee – August 13, 2008

Regular Meeting – Open and Closed Sessions – August 18, 2008

Human Resources Committee – September 3, 2008

Curriculum/Technology Committees – September 4, 2008

Curriculum Committee – September 8, 2008

ISBE Application for Recognition of Schools 2008-2009

Lion Trip to NSPA/JEA Fall Convention in St. Louis

Data Consortium Expenses

Orchestra Trip to Orlando, Spring Break 2009

Certified F.T.E. Request for 2008-2009

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

ACTION NO. 10: Adjournment

Mr. Purcell moved, seconded by Mrs. Alderman, to adjourn the meeting.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

President:

Secretary: