

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD-CONFERENCE ROOM  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2011  
7:15 p.m.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**PRESENT**      **ABSENT**

Mr. Mark N. Pera, President	<u>X</u>	—
Dr. John T. Polacek, Vice President	<u>X</u>	—
Dr. Arthur W. Sprague, Jr., Secretary	<u>X</u>	—
Mrs. Heather H. Alderman	<u>X</u>	—
Mr. George R. Dougherty	<u>X</u>	—
Mr. William F. Purcell	<u>X</u>	—
Mr. Todd M. Shapiro	<u>X</u>	—
Ms. Haley Bucheleres (arrived 7:30pm)	<u>X</u>	—

**STAFF PRESENT**

Dr. Timothy Kilrea	Ms. Joyce Marine	Mr. Scott Eggerding
Mr. David Sellers	Mr. David Franson	Mr. Edward Piotrowski
Ms. Jennifer Bialobok	Mr. Ed Tennant	Ms. Katherine Smith
Ms. Laurie Jolicoeur	Mr. Patrick Page	Ms. Leslie Stickels
Mr. Brian Murray	Mr. Bob Sherman	Mr. Bill Soltys
Ms. Therese Nelson		

**VISITORS PRESENT**

Ms. Catherine Strubing

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Pera at 7:15 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. Polacek moved, seconded by Mrs. Alderman, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss a confidential personnel matter.

On roll call:

Ayes: Mrs. Alderman, Mr. Dougherty, Dr. Polacek, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mr. Shapiro,  
Mr. Pera

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

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.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – Appraisal System Rating Waiver Request – 2011-2012**

Mr. Pera opened the Public Hearing regarding the request for an appraisal system rating waiver and asked for comments from the audience.

### **ACTION NO. 3: Close Public Hearing**

There being no comments from the public, Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Mrs. Alderman, to close the Public Hearing.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

### **OPEN SESSION – COMMUNICATIONS**

Faculty Association President Bob Sherman said that he is looking forward to another new semester.

Co-President of the ParaEducators' Association Bill Soltys wished the Board a Happy New Year, mentioned that the ParaEducators' negotiated agreement is up for renewal, and complimented automotive teacher Jordan Engelhardt on doing a great job.

Parent Catherine Strubing addressed the Board with general comments, suggestions and concerns regarding grade point averages, weighted grades, class rank and class level changes; she additionally shared her observation that some parents appear more focused on grade point and class rank versus education. Mr. Pera responded that about ten years ago, it was the Board's initiative to allow parents to have input regarding student level placement and to eliminate that input would upset parents.

### **STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT**

Ms. Bucheleres reported that students are very pleased with next year's calendar change. She also informed the Board of Friday's blackout game against Hinsdale Central and the All-School Assembly and Pack the Place the last weekend in January.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S DISTRICT REPORT**

Dr. Kilrea first mentioned that, as last year, Student Council would like to meet over breakfast with the Board, probably the first or second week in March; the Board will be polled for availability and a date will be selected.

Next, Dr. Kilrea reminded the Board about Barbara Coloroso's upcoming visit to LT. Ms. Coloroso, an international expert on bullying and social-emotional issues, will meet with faculty/staff from LT and associate schools during the day on January 24, with parents/community members that night in the Reber, and with students—in assemblies at both campuses and in small groups—on January 25.

Third, Dr. Kilrea discussed District 181's petition to withdraw from LADSE. As part of the withdrawal process, representatives from District 181 must attend a Board meeting of each LADSE Cook County member district to present and/or answer any questions regarding their withdrawal request. A representative from District 181, along with LADSE Executive Director Jim Surber and LADSE Business Manager Don Leonard, will be attending LT's February Board meeting, at which time the Board will take action on 181's petition to withdraw from LADSE. Dr. Kilrea added that District 181's exit from LADSE will financially impact the Special Education cooperative.

Fourth, Dr. Kilrea suggested to the Board that it is time to update our policy manual. The Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) provides a service to ensure that our District's policies are in compliance with ever-changing federal- and state-mandated laws; once the manual is updated, we can then post it on our website. The Board agreed to have Dr. Kilrea move forward to solicit a cost proposal from IASB to update the manual; the proposal will be presented to the Board next month.

Completing his Superintendent's Report, Dr. Kilrea introduced LT Community Advisory Council Co-Chair, Todd Combs, who provided member feedback from the December LTCAC meeting.

### **December 15, 2010 Lyons Township Community Advisory Council Meeting Consensus**

Mr. Combs provided the Board with consensus from the previous LTCAC meeting, which addressed the financial health of the district (presented by David Sellers). Mr. Combs presented member feedback regarding areas of financial strength and vulnerability, topics for in-depth study to maintain the District's financial health, and expenditures/investments to fund top-priority programs.

Dr. Kilrea noted that at the February LTCAC meeting, Ed Tennant will be presenting on the parent portal of Infinite Campus, the new student information system.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **ACTION NO. 4: 2011-2012 School-Year Calendar - Revised**

Mrs. Alderman moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to approve the revised 2011-2012 School-Year Calendar.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Mr. Eggerding explained that some dates had to be adjusted to the previously-approved 2011-12 calendar, such as adding late start dates and early dismissal dates and eliminating the April Institute Day.

**ACTION NO. 5: District Improvement Plan**

Mrs. Alderman moved, seconded by Mr. Purcell, to approve the District Improvement Plan.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Mr. Eggerding noted that the District Improvement Plan is an analysis of where our students stand and is designed to improve student achievement. The Plan, which includes our District's goals, deals with academic, social and emotional needs of students who are not making adequate progress.

Mr. Pera remarked that minority achievement is an area that needs additional focus; some initiatives to address this issue will be discussed at a future Curriculum Committee meeting.

**Infinite Campus Update**

Ed Tennant updated the Board on the progress of converting our student information system (SIS) from CIMS to Infinite Campus. The new system is user friendly and will provide easy access for parents to view their students' information, such as the student schedule, attendance and health information. Dr. Kilrea mentioned that the possibility of online training for parents (via our website) on the new SIS has been discussed.

**Decision Ed Update**

Katie Smith presented a brief update regarding Decision Ed, a system providing educational reporting that will allow us to identify students who are "off-track" and subsequently intervene on their behalf to improve their educational progress and opportunities. Ms. Smith said that we are right on target with our timeline; she thanked the Board for their investment in Decision Ed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ACTION NO. 6: Appraisal System Rating Waiver Request 2011-2012**

Mrs. Alderman moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to approve the submission of a waiver request of the Illinois School code to modify the ratings of a teacher's performance from "excellent," "satisfactory," and/or "unsatisfactory" to "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations" for 2011-2012.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

We are asking that this waiver be approved for two years, at which time all appraisal systems will move to a four-tiered model.

**2011-2012 Textbook/Instructional Material Change Requests – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Mr. Eggerding asked the Board to review the textbook/instructional material change requests, which will be on display for 30 days and brought back for a second reading in February, along with the associated costs and expenditures. Many of the change requests involve world languages and math materials.

**“Pride in LT’s History” Project**

Dave Franson introduced world languages teacher, Laurie Jolicoeur, and art teacher, Patrick Page, who presented on the Parthenon Friezes, a replica of one of the four Parthenon walls (the east wall), located in the hallway across from the Reber Center. Ms. Jolicoeur and Mr. Page discussed the historical aspects of the friezes as well as how best to incorporate this unique replica into teachers’ lessons to create learning experiences, with the goal being to teach our students about and have them appreciate the history of LT.

**School Board Calendar for February 2011**

The Board determined committee meeting dates for the month of February.

Prior to the Consent Agenda vote, Mr. Pera noted Mrs. Alderman’s request to abstain from voting only on Consent Agenda item XI-D-3.

**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 \$5,086,102.45

Approval of Lyons Township High School financial statements for the month ending December 31, 2010.

**LADSE Financials**

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education monthly bills in the amount of \$2,104,374.88.

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education financial statements for the month ending December 31, 2010.

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

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

Employment

**Jon Beutjer**, South Campus ParaEducator, effective January 17, 2011.

**Robert Marik**, South Campus Student Assistant, effective December 13, 2010.

Reassignment

**Martha Wright**, from North Campus Library ParaEducator to South Campus Library Circulation Manager, which is a Classified, Non-Contractual position, effective January 17, 2011.

Family Medical Leave

**Antonette Ponziano**, South Campus ParaEducator, effective March 29, 2011 through June 2, 2011.

Resignation

**Melinda Meyer**, South Campus ParaEducator, effective January 14, 2011.

**Catherine Tomasek**, North Campus ParaEducator, effective January 14, 2011.

**LTHS Administrative and Certified Staff Employment Recommendations**

Leave of Absence

**Patrick O'Neil**, Language Arts, April 4, 2011 – June 3, 2011.

Resignation

**Sophia Petrakos**, World Languages, effective June 3, 2011.

**LADSE Staff Employment Recommendations**

Employment

**Jessica Yborra**- .5 Teacher, subject to the Local funding program, beginning January 3, 2011.

**Michelle Hersh** - 1.0 Speech Language Pathologist, subject to the Local funding program, beginning January 4, 2011.

Resignation

**Dana Reindl** - 1.0 DHH Signing Aide, last day worked January 14, 2011.

**Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – December 13, 2010  
Curriculum Committee – January 12, 2011  
Technology Committee – January 12, 2011  
Human Resources Committee – January 12, 2011

**Student Overnight Travel**

1. **Poms: Jam Fest Super Dance Nationals, Cincinnati – February 2011**
2. **Orchestra Trip, Milwaukee – April 2011**
3. **WLTL Trip to IBS Conference, NY – March 2011 – Amended**
4. **Steppers Illinois Drill Team Association Competition, Champaign-Urbana – March 2011**

**Additional LT Community Advisory Council Member**

On roll call:

Ayes: Mr. Shapiro, Dr. Sprague, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Alderman, Mr. Purcell, Dr. Polacek,  
Mr. Pera  
Nays: None  
Abstain: Mrs. Alderman (only on agenda item XI-D-3)  
Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

**ACTION NO. 8: Adjournment**

Dr. Polacek moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, to adjourn the meeting.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

President:

Secretary: