

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
 BOARD-CONFERENCE ROOM  
 MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2010  
 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 (arrived 7:35pm)	<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
Mr. Ed Tennant	Ms. Jennifer Bialobok	Ms. Leslie Stickels
Mr. Bill Soltys	Mr. Jason Crean	Mr. Bob Sherman
Ms. Therese Nelson	Mr. Kevin Brown	Ms. Katie Smith

**VISITORS PRESENT**

Mr. Phil Palmer                      Mr. Kevin Beese (Doings)

**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. Poalcek moved, seconded by Mr. Shapiro, 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 Mrs. Alderman, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss confidential student matters and pending litigation.

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.

### **OPEN SESSION – COMMUNICATIONS**

Faculty Association President Bob Sherman thanked the Board for the October Institute Day, remarked about the smooth first quarter, and mentioned that he's looking forward to Parent-Teacher conferences. Addressing the 2011-2012 school-year calendar, Mr. Sherman stated that the association will work with the administration to make whatever changes may be forthcoming. The following members of the Math/Science Division then introduced themselves: Dave Stormont, Jason Crean, Amber Beemer, Alyssa Brands, Eric Bjornstad, Brian Keller, Jim Mshar, George Ushela, Leilani Dominguez, Michelle Wrona, Kristin Read, Colleen Gibbons, Bill Lanspeary and Michele Chapman. On behalf of science teacher Michelle Harbin, Ms. Beemer invited the Board to view an organic chem lab class on Friday, Oct. 22, from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in Room 315.

Marilyn Havlik, Director of Illinois' Outstanding Biology Teacher Award from the National Association of Biology Teachers, presented Jason Crean with the Illinois Outstanding Biology Teacher-of-the-Year Award. She noted that Mr. Crean is a creative, innovative instructor who designs his own lessons. Ms. Havlik also presented an award recognizing LT from the National Association of Biology Teachers; Principal Dave Franson accepted the award on behalf of our school.

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

Ms. Bucheleres remarked that the 2010 Homecoming festivities were enjoyed by all, the Blood Drive surpassed its goal by collecting 147 units, and Model UN members will be attending their first conference.

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

Dr. Kilrea presented this month's Vita Plena to science teacher (biology) Jason Crean, who first gained teaching experience at LT as a student teacher in 1996 and then was hired at LT in 2001. Mr. Crean has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Golden Apple Award, Illinois Science Teachers' Association Outstanding Teacher of Science Award, and the National Science Foundation Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science; only two people from Illinois received the Presidential Award. Mr. Crean will also travel to China later this year as part of his selection as American Association for the Advancement of Science Teacher of the Year. Dr. Kilrea added that aside from Mr. Crean's recognitions, he brings his passion for science to his students and is a leader among his

colleagues. Mr. Crean thanked everyone for his award; he praised the staff, especially the biology team for their support.

Dr. Kilrea next congratulated six freshman students for their success at the Illinois-Technology Student Association competition held at Illinois State University. This year was LT's first time participating in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) competition that involved hands-on, problem-solving, engineering-based activities and challenges. Dr. Kilrea also recognized the faculty supervisors, Blake Sauders, Jordan Engelhardt and David Root. The following students received Certificates of Recognition from Mr. Pera for their accomplishments: Jake Bernier and Graham Ellis (1<sup>st</sup> place in engineering design), Jay Cordeiro and Chris Rodriguez (2<sup>nd</sup> place in transportation technology), and Ben Huffman and Grant Younger (2<sup>nd</sup> place in flight endurance).

Last, Dr. Kilrea recognized the Girls Varsity Volleyball Team for sponsoring a benefit to raise funds and awareness of Ewing's Sarcoma cancer. Over \$2,000 was raised for the Sarcoma Alliance for Research and Collaboration to honor the memory of LT alum and volleyball player, Erin Potts. Senior Sara Bres provided additional detailed information about the "Purple for Potts" fundraiser and then introduced members of the volleyball team and coaches Joann Pyritz and George Ushela. Mr. Pera presented the volleyball team with a Certificate of Recognition for their efforts.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Co-Curricular Participation Report**

John Grundke, Division Chair Physical Welfare/Co-Curriculars, and Peter Geddeis, Director of Student Activities, shared with the Board a summary of demographic data of students involved in the 2009-2010 co-curricular programs. After first thanking the Board for their support and top-notch facilities, Mr. Geddeis and Mr. Grundke individually shared highlights from last year along with initiatives for this school year. Mr. Geddeis announced Student Council's year-long plan to support Honor Flight Chicago; if LT can raise \$50,000, we'll be able to sponsor our own flight of veterans to visit the War Memorial in Washington, D.C. in May. Other initiatives include co-mingling activities and athletics and offering incentive programs to engage clubs to work with one another. Mr. Grundke reported that 73.6% of students were involved in at least one co-curricular activity last year. We had 13 athletic teams finish in the top 12 in the state, including first in state for Boys Soccer and Girls Water Polo and second in state for Girls Volleyball and Girls Gymnastics. Additionally, both our Girls Volleyball and Water Polo teams were lauded for best sportsmanship in the state. Mr. Grundke also discussed the correlation of students' academic achievement with involvement in activities. Minority participation in co-curriculars held steady, but involvement in intramurals will be tracked to determine a true level of participation; greater effort will be made to increase minority participation involvement. In response to Mr. Pera's and Mr. Dougherty's questions about raising the level of student participation, Mr. Grundke answered that several strategies are incorporated to attain that goal: Co-Curricular Night, visits to associate schools, information distributed, such as the Co-Curricular Handbook, eighth-grade shadow days, reaching out to individual students to encourage participation (including our minority liaisons working closely with minority students), bulletin boards, and surveys. Mr. Eggerding added that our new Student Information System will allow us to better track students' involvement in co-curriculars.

Mr. Dougherty then asked Mr. Grundke to identify the most significant challenges in co-curriculars and determine ways that the Board can best support efforts to address the challenges.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Curriculum Change Proposals 2011-2012 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Mr. Eggerding presented 30 curriculum change requests, comprising almost every division, for the Board to initially review. Discussion ensued about French V and students desiring to take the AP class their junior year. Division Chair Les Stickels also explained another Fine Arts Division course proposal, Sinfonietta. Because the growth of the symphony program at LT has been astronomical, this new string ensemble course for juniors and seniors would address the growing numbers of interested students; entrance into this course would require an audition process. The Curriculum Change Proposals will again be discussed at the next Curriculum Committee meeting and brought to the Board on November 15, 2010 for a second reading and consideration.

### **2011-2012 School-Term Calendar – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

The Board discussed the draft 2011-2012 calendar options. Of the three proposals, two garnered the most interest: The traditional option would schedule first-semester final exams after winter break, as in the past. In the other option, first-semester exams would be completed prior to winter break. Both calendars would have the first day of school begin on August 22, 2011 and the school year end on June 3, 2012. Mr. Pera wondered about the impact, if any, concerning the unbalanced number of student instruction days per semester and on the holiday music programs. Mr. Eggerding responded that rearranging Institute Days and a non-attendance day may adequately address any issues. Ms. Bucheleres shared with the Board the opinions of many students who are in favor of taking finals before the winter break, saying that although books are often brought home during the two-week vacation period, not much actual studying takes place. Faculty member Jim Mshar added that several years ago, schools that hold finals prior to break were surveyed; in every case, the schools reported that the first year of implementation was a bit challenging, but after that, everyone was happy and wondered why the change wasn't implemented sooner. The Board is scheduled to adopt the 2011-2012 calendar in November.

### **ACTION NO. 3: Approval for Architect to Proceed with Bid Specifications**

Mr. Purcell moved, seconded by Dr. Polacek, to authorize the preparation of bid documents for summer 2011 projects, as presented.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

**ACTION NO. 4: Appointment of Representatives of the Board Secretary to Receive Board of Education Nomination Papers**

Mr. Dougherty moved, seconded by Dr. Sprague, that Joyce Marine be designated as representative of the Secretary of the Lyons Township High School District 204 Board of Education to serve as the Local Election Official and handle responsibilities associated with the April 5, 2011 Consolidated Election. If Joyce Marine is not available to handle the duties of the Local Election official, then Lisa Dombro or Lisa Touloumis is authoriaed to act in that capacity.

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

**ACTION NO. 5: Student #401xxx**

Mrs. Alderman moved, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to hold in abeyance the expulsion hearing of Student #401xxx; should Student #401xxx attempt to re-enroll at Lyons Township High School prior to the start of the 2011-2012 school year, expulsion hearing proceedings will be immediately reinstated.

On roll call:

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

The motion was adopted.

**2010 Summer Program Report**

Mr. Eggerding reported on the Summer 2010 program. Summarizing the academic portion, Mr. Eggerding noted that tuition was increased, 15 seniors completed their LT career as summer school graduates, and the Drivers' Ed summer courses experienced a drop in enrollment because more students completed their course work during the regular school year. The summer portion was a very healthy program that ended up with a surplus of funds; if feasible, a summer physical education course may be added next year.

**School Board Calendar for November 2010**

The Board determined committee meeting dates for November.

**ACTION NO. 6: Approval of Consent Agenda**

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

**LTHS Monthly Financials**

Approval of Lyons Township High School monthly bills in the amount of \$4,985,226.10.

Approval of Lyons Township High School financial statements for the month ending September 30, 2010.

### **LADSE Financials**

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education monthly bills in the amount of \$1,428,155.51.

Approval of LaGrange Area Department of Special Education financial statements for the month ending September 30, 2010.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

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

##### Employment

**Jordan Allodi**, South Campus ParaEducator, effective October 13, 2010.

**Jeffrey Gumm**, North Campus IT System Technician, effective September 30, 2010.

##### FMLA

**Mary Yena**, North Campus Bookstore Clerk, effective September 20, 2010 – October 11, 2010.

##### Resignation

**Michael Corrigan**, South Campus Weekend Security, effective September 21, 2010.

**Michael Crotty**, South Campus Custodian, effective October 1, 2010.

**Jason Pyle**, South Campus Weekend Security, effective October 4, 2010.

#### **LADSE Staff Employment Recommendations**

##### Employment

**Susan Phommarinh** - .5 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 27, 2010.

**Julia Gordon** – 1.0 RN/ED Assistant, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 22, 2010.

**Lauren Spodarek** - .5 ParaEducator, subject to the Local funding program, beginning September 23, 2010.

**Katie Mulcahy** - .13 Speech Language Pathologist (short-term leave replacement), subject to the Local funding program, beginning November 1, 2010.

#### Non-Renewals

**Cheryl Jirkovsky** – 1.0 ParaEducator, effective September 28, 2010.

#### Leave of Absence

**Jolene Lorimer** - .875 RtI Reading Project Coordinator, effective November 24, 2010 through February 3, 2011.

#### **Minutes:**

Regular Meeting – June 21, 2010 – Corrected Minutes

Regular Meeting – Open and Closed Sessions – September 20, 2010

Facilities Committee – October 12, 2010

Curriculum Committee – October 13, 2010

#### **Overnight Student Travel**

1. National Hispanic Institute Student Organization Program, San Antonio, TX – November 2010
2. Astronomy Trip, Arizona – November 2010

#### **Additional LT Community Advisory Council Member**

On roll call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

#### **ACTION NO. 7: Adjournment**

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

By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

President:

Secretary: