

LYONS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 204
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM NC103 – VIRTUAL MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2020 – 7:00 PM

Due to COVID-19, the Board meeting was held virtually via GoToMeeting. Information to join the meeting was made public to staff and community members.
--

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Thomas W. Cushing, President
George R. Dougherty, Vice President
Barbara J. Rosinsky, Secretary
Molly Murphy Bruton
Kari Dillon
Alison Kelly
Jessica McLean

PRESENT

X
X
X
X
X
X
X

ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Timothy Kilrea, Supt.	Julia Gawron	Katherine Smith	Charles Witt
Jennifer Bialobok	Joseph Maffey	Brian Stachacz	
Lisa Dombro	Edward Piotrowski	Ed Tennant	
Scott Eggerding	Karen Raino	Brian Waterman	

VISITORS PRESENT

Ellie Ambuehl	Nancy Bramson	Tina Happel	Ricardo Martinez
Jim Bachinski	Laurie Braun	Nancy Heil	Margaret Meehan
Mike Bash	Jill Daniels	Marian Honel-Wilson	Michael Thomas
Jackie Bogan	Peter Daniels	Becky Lorentzen	Collin Voigt

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Cushing at 7:02 p.m.

ACTION NO. 1: Agenda Approval/Order of Business

Mr. Dougherty moved, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, to approve the agenda as presented. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted.

ACTION NO. 2: Adjournment into Closed Session

Mr. Dougherty moved, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, to adjourn the meeting into Closed Session to discuss pending or probable litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the public body; collective negotiating matters or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the public body.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Dillon, Dougherty, Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted, and at 7:03 p.m., Mr. Cushing adjourned the meeting into Closed Session.

At 7:36 p.m., the meeting reconvened in Open Session with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPEN SESSION – COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Cushing addressed the protocol for submitting public comments that is being observed during the COVID-19 pandemic and noted a change was made from acknowledging emails, as was done last month, to reading all emails into the record. Today, 49 emails were received from community members regarding the achievement gap at LT. Mr. Cushing stated many were received outside the timeframe posted on our website but noted all emails would be read. Mr. Cushing also provided the opportunity for anyone attending virtually to read their email into the record, and the following community members chose to do so: Jill Daniels, Mike Bash, Marian Honel-Wilson, Laura Braun, Peter Daniels, Becky Lorentzen, and Nancy Heil. Emails from the following community members were read into the record by Mr. Cushing: Desa Bolger, Maria Drobny, Angelina Godinez, Allison O'Brien, Nancy Kranz, Kevin Pugliese, Samuel Morales, Angelica Amador, Kathleen Witowski, Regina McClinton, Alyssa Rivera, Harper Daniels, Andrea Bozic, Sarah Heffron, Cathy Pierson, Lisa Thomas, Mary Ann Quinlan, Krista Grimm, Sam Linares, Laura Ownby, Gael Olvera, Tricia Amonson, Dayle Holmquist, Lisa Gibbons, Rebecca Ramana, Missy Slattery, Megan Callaghan-Gillespie, Janessa Mosqueda, Christine Deck, Jeff Philips, Patricia Brown, Katherine Slauson-Ross, Matt and Jamie Rosenbaum, Julie Farrell, Mitzi Lorentzen, Lena Walent, Jill Gaskell, Jeff Ownby, Robin Favor, Sarah Zavala, Christel Hadley, and Kelsey Gamblin. Included among the comments were personal experiences, references to an independent report provided to the District, and a call to make addressing the achievement gap a priority.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Cushing thanked everyone who took the time to write in and express their concerns and also those who took the time to login to tonight's meeting. Mr. Cushing stated at last week's Curriculum Committee meeting, it was announced the Board of Education will hold a special meeting in July to deal specifically with equity in education, which covers many facets in terms of minority student issues, including the achievement gap. The scheduled date in July will be posted on the District's website. Mr. Cushing invited Board members to share any comments. Mrs. Kelly thanked everyone for taking time to write during this crucial time in the world, the nation and our community. Mrs. McLean thanked everyone for sharing their thoughts and concerns and noted that although we have been working on this issue, there is more work to be done. Ms. Dillon expressed gratitude to the community members who shared their personal stories and offered suggestions and looks forward to a productive, open and transparent meeting in July.

SUPERINTENDENT'S DISTRICT REPORT

Dr. Kilrea echoed the comments made by Board members and thanked everyone for taking time to communicate their concerns during public comment. We look forward to continuing the dialogue on the achievement gap at the special Board meeting in July and beyond.

Dr. Kilrea stated summer capital projects are well underway as we were able to get an earlier start due to the school closures. South Campus work includes roof replacement over the A wing, unit ventilators in 12 classrooms in the B wing, and replacement of the marquee, which will take place closer to September due to a materials delay. At North Campus, work includes renovation of a science lab, ceiling work and air handler replacement in the upper north gym, and new carpet in the main office. All work should be completed before students and staff return. Aside for some additional asbestos

work for which the Board will receive a change order, there have been no surprises. The architects have stated projects are on schedule and on budget.

The fall opening of school is on the forefront of all of our minds. We follow the guidance of the CDC, IDPH and the Illinois State Board of Education, and information is changing on a daily basis. Since the picture is not completely clear, we do not have a definitive answer and are developing contingency plans that could include a complete return to school as normal or a combination of remote learning and having the building open for some services. The administration is looking at all aspects of reopening and awaits firm guidance as Illinois moves into Phase IV of reopening, which could happen as soon as June 26. We will continue to monitor and keep everyone updated as we get into July.

Dr. Kilrea introduced the 2020-2021 Student Representative to the Board of Education, Margaret Meehan. Margaret is an incoming senior and was selected after a very competitive interview process. Dr. Kilrea stated the interview team was impressed with Margaret and noted she will be a great fit in this role. Margaret is very involved in swimming, volunteers with Relay for Life and was selected as a Young Community Changemaker, a student philanthropy group organized in partnership with the Community Memorial Foundation. Margaret thanked the Board of Education and Dr. Kilrea for the opportunity to be the Student Representative and is very excited to take on this role.

Dr. Kilrea reported one FOIA request was received since the last meeting.

Dr. Kilrea noted the horrible events of the past few weeks have led to peaceful protests in our area. We are proud of our LT students who organized some of these protests. The turnout was amazing and it was inspiring to watch our students speak out on these critical issues and exercise their civic duty to support a cause and call for change.

A small parade was held in the parking lot at South Campus this past Saturday. The parade was hosted by Make-A-Wish and the guest of honor was LT student Ece Bali, whose wish was for an adaptive bicycle. Many thanks to Make-A-Wish and we hope Ece enjoys her new bike.

Dr. Kilrea recapped the May celebrations of the Class of 2020 that included over 900 personal flag deliveries, drive-through diploma distributions with photos in caps and gowns, and a final send-off with a virtual graduation ceremony. Congratulations to the Class of 2020, who were flexible and made the best of an unfortunate situation. Dr. Kilrea recognized all who helped make these celebrations possible, including many LT staff members, especially the work of Bill Allan and David Karaffa of LTTV that enabled us to maintain some LT traditions virtually; Board members; parents throughout our communities; the Village of LaGrange and LaGrange Police Department; and leaders of the LT Boosters, Parent-Teacher Council and Parent Community Network.

Concluding his report, Dr. Kilrea noted we will schedule a Special Board Meeting in July to discuss the achievement gap. Dr. Kilrea wished everyone a relaxing and restful summer.

Before continuing to new business, Mr. Cushing offered an explanation of a comment made at last month's virtual Board meeting that provided an opportunity for attendees to leave the meeting before proceeding with business. When we gather in person, we often have attendees who are there for the communications portion of the meeting only, such as students being recognized or community members addressing the Board. Historically, we pause to give those attendees an opportunity to leave

before proceeding with business. Mr. Cushing noted this is not necessary during a virtual meeting as attendees are free to leave the meeting at any time.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION NO. 3: Tentative LaGrange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE) Budget for Fiscal Year 2021

Ms. Dillon moved, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to approve the Tentative LaGrange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE) Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Dougherty, Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Dillon, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

LADSE's Director of Business Services, Jackie Bogan, presented the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2021, noting the total budget of \$26,669,605 was approved by the LADSE Directing Board on May 13, 2020. This reflects a 5.64% increase from the FY20 budget. In addition to salary and health benefit increases, two significant changes that impacted the budget are the addition of a Communication Development (CD) classroom and the creation of a high school Emotional Disabilities (ED) program. Ms. Bogan noted there are no changes to the budget since presented to the Directing Board in May. Dr. Ambuehl provided additional information regarding the 3% salary increase for collective bargaining unit (CBU) members, noting this is year 2 of the 5-year agreement negotiated last year. Additional items discussed included non-CBU salary increases, a decrease in IMRF contributions, an increase in FTE, the location of the new CD classroom, and an overview of the new ED program.

ACTION NO. 4: District Policy 5-Year Review/Policy Updates (PRESS Issue 103) – 1st Reading

Mr. Dougherty moved, seconded by Ms. Rosinsky, to waive the second reading. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted. Mrs. McLean moved, seconded by Ms. Rosinsky, to adopt the policies under 5-year review (4:50, 7:130, 7:325, 8:10 and 8:80) and revised/updated policies 2:160, 5:280, 6:135 and 6:280 as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Dillon, Dougherty, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Piotrowski noted there are no changes to the five policies under 5-year review, and the revisions to the additional four policies include updates to legal references and responses to recent legislation and should not affect how the policies are interpreted. Mr. Piotrowski stated that due to the minor nature of the changes to these policies, the Board could choose to waive the second reading.

ACTION NO. 5: FY21 Education Fund and O&M Fund Capital Outlay Requests

Mrs. McLean moved, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to approve the FY21 Education Fund and O&M Capital Outlay requests as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Dillon, Dougherty, Kelly, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz stated that these final recommendations are estimated at \$54,351 and include only those items that are replacing existing equipment that is either failing or has completely failed. Mr. Stachacz noted additional items originally recommended in May are being deferred until further development of the FY21 budget. The total estimated cost of all capital outlay requests for FY21, including the items approved in April, is \$179,721.

ACTION NO. 6: NES-Asbestos Removal Change Order #1

Mrs. McLean moved, seconded by Mrs. Kelly, to approve the NES asbestos removal change order in the amount of \$16,914 as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Rosinsky, Bruton, Dillon, Dougherty, Kelly, McLean, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz noted this work includes asbestos removal in the upper north gym at North Campus and piping serving the unit-vents at South Campus that was not visible until the work began. Mr. Stachacz stated we were recently informed of additional asbestos that will need to be removed and another change order will be presented at the next Facilities Committee meeting.

ACTION NO. 7: FY19 Township Treasurer Invoice

Mr. Dougherty moved, seconded by Ms. Rosinsky, to approve payment of the Township Treasurer's Office FY19 invoice in the amount of \$202,854.37.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Bruton, Dillon, Dougherty, Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Stachacz stated that the recommended payment to the TTO adjusts the original invoice of \$324,941.14 for the District's pro rata share for FY19 to exclude payment for legal fees related to District 204 litigation and charges for financial software which the District does not utilize. These adjustments are consistent with how the District has paid the invoice in prior years.

ACTION NO. 8: Summer Workshop Addition: Technology Tools – 1st Reading

Ms. Rosinsky moved, seconded by Mr. Dougherty, to waive the second reading. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted. Mrs. McLean moved, seconded by Ms. Dillon, to approve the Technology Tools summer workshops as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Dillon, Dougherty, Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Eggerding noted two technology-related workshops are proposed, one for TEC coaches to develop training to help improve remote learning and the use of technology tools and one for teachers who will be part of the year-long 1:1 pilot program. These workshops will be paid for with grant funds. Mr. Eggerding stated that as no new District funds will be spent, the Board could choose to waive the second reading.

ACTION NO. 9: Approval of School Tech Team Engagement for Phase II of Technology Plan

Mrs. McLean moved, seconded by Ms. Rosinsky, to approve the engagement of School Tech Team for \$18,000 per month to design the infrastructure needed for the infrastructure upgrades necessary to open the 2021-2022 school year at South Campus with all students issued a Chromebook as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Dougherty, Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Dillon, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Eggerding stated as discussed at the Technology Committee meeting we have begun our engagement with School Tech Team for the pilot. The Phase II proposal is for upgrading the infrastructure at South Campus to prepare for the addition of 2,000 laptops in the fall of 2021. The proposal includes configuration, deployment, testing and validation of areas identified in the audit conducted last fall. This is a very meaningful step forward in moving to 1:1. Mr. Eggerding provided information regarding School Tech Team's fee structure. Mr. Cushing thanked Mr. Eggerding for presenting this information. Discussion ensued regarding the timing of the request to take action at tonight's meeting. Mr. Eggerding noted that with the new budget starting July 1, we can begin purchasing to ensure we have as much lead time as possible to get the necessary equipment.

Before proceeding to the information portion of the meeting, Mr. Cushing invited LTEA Board President Joseph Maffey to speak. Mr. Maffey noted the pandemic has changed our commonplace interactions, such as students turning to share ideas with a classmate, staying after school for support or gathering at large-scale events. Mr. Maffey acknowledged remote learning cannot replace the efficacy of in-person instruction and the importance of creating social-emotional connections between students and teachers, but he noted we must be prudent in our efforts to return to some degree of normality. Mr. Maffey stated this pandemic, along with recent events, has created an opportunity to look at a school

not just as a way to meet curricular standards but also as an equalizer for social justice. As the collaboration to reopening begins, Mr. Maffey looks forward to seeing students and adults demonstrate creativity and resiliency. Mr. Maffey concluded it is a complicated time in our history but also one that allows us to come out on the other side better than before.

2019-2020 End-of-Year Summary

Dr. Waterman provided a summary of student accomplishments for 2019-2020. Despite the challenges presented by the pandemic and the unique end to the school year, students excelled in academics, student activities and interscholastic athletics. Dr. Waterman concluded with congratulations to the Class of 2020 on an amazing year.

Annual Review of “Ethics and Gift Ban” and “Ethics and Conduct” Policies

Mr. Stachacz reviewed Policies 2:10 and 5:120 that require Board members and all District employees to always be mindful of maintaining high standards, acting professional, demonstrating integrity and honesty, avoiding any conflicts of interest and not accepting gifts valued over \$100 from prohibited sources.

2019-2020 School Term Calendar Update

Mr. Eggerding provided a summary of changes to the 2019-2020 school year calendar, noting the final amended calendar includes modifications to reflect actual attendance days during remote learning in accordance with statutory requirements.

Summer Reading List Update

In order to provide opportunities for students to learn more about the Black Lives Matter movement and better understand race and equity, five non-fiction books have been added to the summer reading list. Mr. Eggerding stated following last week’s Curriculum Committee meeting, the recommended book titles were posted on the website. Mr. Eggerding noted we are excited to include these selections and hopes to give students an opportunity to discuss these books in the fall.

School Board Calendar for July/August 2020

The Board scheduled a Special Board Meeting in July on equity in education. Discussion ensued regarding agenda development, presenters, and materials to be made available prior to the meeting to ensure a common starting point to the conversation. Mr. Dougherty acknowledged the work that has been done for a number of years on this issue at both the Board and administrative levels. The Board also scheduled committee meeting dates for August.

ACTION NO. 10: Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Dougherty moved, seconded by Mrs. Bruton, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

On roll call:

Ayes: Members Kelly, McLean, Rosinsky, Bruton, Dillon, Dougherty, Cushing

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

The motion was adopted.

Payment of Bills and Financial Statements

Approval of Lyons Township High School monthly bills in the amount of \$13,800,962.86

Approval of Lyons Township High School financial statements for the month ending May 31, 2020

Approval of LADSE monthly bills in the amount of \$2,091,104.88

Approval of LADSE financial statements for the month ending May 31, 2020

Human Resources

LTHS Administrative and Certified Staff Employment Recommendations

Employment

Amanda Buchanan, Physical Welfare, 0.4 FTE, effective August 13, 2020, MA30 Step 1

Stephen Krofl, Science Teacher (Biology), 0.5 FTE, effective August 13, 2020, BA Step 1

Collin Voigt, Math/Science Division Chair, effective August 1, 2020, annual salary \$117,000

Reassignment

Allison Doyle, from Special Education Program Coordinator to Special Education Assistant Division Chair, effective August 13, 2020

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

Leave of Absence

Lino Davella, Groundskeeper, effective April 1, 2020 through August 1, 2020

Resignation

Ian Martinek, ParaEducator, effective July 31, 2020

LADSE Staff Employment Recommendations

Employment

Maggie Lehr, 1.0 Special Education Teacher, effective 08/01/2020; annual rate \$41,876.00

Isabella Korsgard, 1.0 Speech Language Pathologist, effective 08/01/2020; annual rate \$49,526.00

Jeanette Lindsey-Strong, 1.0 School Social Worker, effective 08/01/2020; annual rate \$65,831.00

Employment Change in FTE

Rosemary Gahl, 1.0 Speech Language Pathologist to 0.8, effective 08/01/2020

Lisa Everette, 0.3 Speech Language Pathologist to 0.4, effective 08/01/2020

Employment Change in Position

Esmeralda Sopena, 1.0 Paraprofessional to Substitute Paraprofessional, effective 08/01/2020

Acceptance of Leave

Anna Rus, 1.0 Paraprofessional, effective approximately 09/04/2020

Regina Ortiz Anderson, 0.4 Occupational Therapist, effective approximately 09/24/2020

Lauren Tesmond, 0.5 Occupational Therapist, effective approximately 11/04/2020

Richard Daniels, 1.0 School Psychologist, effective approximately 01/04/2021

Classified/Non-Contractual Handbooks

Minutes

Regular Meeting – May 18, 2020 – Open and Closed Sessions

Facilities Committee – June 9, 2020

Finance Committee – June 9, 2020

Curriculum Committee – June 11, 2020

Human Resources Committee – June 11, 2020

Policy Committee – June 11, 2020

Technology Committee – June 12, 2020

2020-2021 Salaries for Administrators, Classified/Non-Contractual Supervisors and Classified/Non-Contractual Employees

Overall 1.9% increase for each group

Renewal of School Resource Officer Services Agreement

Donations

Automotive Supplies to Applied Technology Department

Monetary Donation in Honor of Class of 2020

2020-2021 Annual Dues

Illinois Association of School Boards

National School Boards Association

ACTION NO. 11: Adjournment

Ms. Rosinsky moved, seconded by Mrs. McLean, to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the motion was adopted and the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

President:

Secretary: