

SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

- (1) The Board of School Directors of the Lebanon School District met as a committee-of-the-whole on Monday, February 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the board conference room of the senior high school as advertised in the Daily News on December 5, 2012.
- (2) President Anne Dall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- (3) On roll call, the following board members were present: Mrs. Debra L. Bowman, Dr. Anne V. Dall, Ms. Vanessa A. Fischer, Mrs. Rose Marie R. Kotay, Jr., Mr. Thomas L. Schaffer, Mr. Paul Topping and Mr. Cornell Wilson. Mr. Michael J. Kuhn arrived at 7:07 PM; Mr. Peter N. Pyles was absent. Also present were Dr. Marianne T. Bartley, superintendent; Mrs. Mary A. Harrell, secretary; Mrs. Kelly Herr, assistant business manager.
- (4) Also present were Mr. Chris Danz, assistant to the superintendent for HR and pupil services; Mr. Mike Murphy assistant to the superintendent for assessment and accountability; Mr. Fred Shattls, director of ESL; Mr. Josh Coatsworth, director of special education; Mr. Bill Giovino, principal, Lebanon High School; Mr. Ted Graeff, chief information officer; Mr. Craig Boltz, director of buildings and grounds; Mr. Brian Hartman, assistant director of buildings and grounds; Mr. Gary Zelinske, assistant principal, Lebanon High School; Ms. Yvonne Jones, assistant principal, Lebanon High School; Mr. Karl Liedtka, school counselor; Mr. Robert Nordall, high school teacher; Mr. Charlie Fairchild, Fairchild Services; Mr. Bob Bowman, safety and security; Mrs. Dawn Zatorski and Mrs. Debra Wertz, child accounting; Miss Laura Cramer, student; Mr. George Horn and Mr. John Zatorski, school district residents; and the following media representative: Mr. John Latimer of the Lebanon Daily News and Ms. Laura LeBeau of WLBR.
- (5) Dr. Bartley and Mr. Bill Giovino recognized Laura Cramer with a Certificate of Merit from the National Merit Scholarship Program. Laura has advanced to Finalist standing in the National Merit Scholarship Program by demonstrating through distinguished performance high potential for future academic accomplishment.
- (6) Next, Mr. Fairchild shared an update on the high school renovations. He informed the board that the High School Project is making good progress, however, there are some aspects of the renovation that will not be completed until early summer. For example, the parking lot and driveway cannot be completed before the last day of school. Gym floor completion and final touches also need to be completed in early summer.

Dr. Bartley shared that we are postponing the April 7th, 2013 Open House to a later date at the end of the summer or early fall. We will still be

hosting the IU13 Convention for Superintendents and Board Members from 22 School Districts on April 10, 2013, and we will be very proud to highlight so many parts of the school that have been updated.

- (7) Dr. Bartley noted that the district is recognized statewide for its proactive approach to school security. Mr. Bob Bowman gave a brief update on the district's adoption of the ALICE security protocol. The acronym stands for Alert, Lockdown, Information, Counter and Evacuate. The program is an enhancement of our current Code Red lockdown procedure. Mr. Bowman told the board that he and Steve Collins were recently certified to train the district's staff in the procedure, which will give teachers and others more control in deciding how to react to an armed intruder.

Dr. Bartley informed the board that they also would be required to undergo the training in time for it to be initiated next school year.

Mr. Kuhn thanked Mr. Bowman for his diligence in being proactive with the safety and security of our children. He stated that he feels good knowing Mr. Bowman is in charge of the school that his children attend.

- (8) In updating the board about our budget, Dr. Bartley called the governor's budget a mixed bag. She told the board that the district stands to receive a basic education subsidy increase of between \$350,000 and \$380,000, or about 1.5 percent. The amount equates to more than 3 mills in revenue and will help fill a projected deficit of \$2 million in the district's preliminary budget. Under Corbett's proposal, next year the district would receive an Accountability Block Grant of \$408,000, which is the same as this year.

Dr. Bartley also noted that Governor Corbett included money for pre-kindergarten and the Accountability Block Grant, which goes to districts with large populations of economically disadvantaged students. While the additional state money is welcome, it does not fill the \$450,000 hole in the district's finances created by the state's refusal to reimburse it for previous construction costs.

Another unknown is the status of the \$200 million Passport for Learning Block Grants. That money is dependent on the sale of the state liquor stores and it is not clear if it will be distributed by formula, competitive grants or a combination of both. Dr. Bartley shared that she and about 15 other superintendents were invited to the Governor's Mansion in Harrisburg to discuss the Passport for Learning grants and school safety, which is where some of the money would go.

Dr. Bartley shared with Governor Corbett that she feels money for security purposes should not be distributed via competitive grants. What is most difficult for school districts such as ours is that we don't have staff to handle more competitive grants, and it gets very burdensome. We don't want to see allocations based on a district's ability to write a grant. We want to see

it based on need. Should it come to applying for competitive grants, Bartley said, she felt Lebanon School District was in a good position to receive them because it has gotten the attention of Pennsylvania Department of Education for its innovative academic programming

- (9) In updating the board about Restorative Practices, Dr. Bartley said we have had some success with this program. More success at the secondary level than at the elementary level. In order for this program to work, we must have willing participants. We are continuing to try. We have a great group of volunteers for this program and in order not to lose them, principals have pulled them in to do some mentoring. Vanessa Owens and Mayor Sherry Capello have helped with some high school students. The results have been positive, meaningful and successful. This is one more strategy that helps families and students.
- (10) Dr. Bartley shared that the Pennsylvania Association of School Board Officials (PASBO) recognized our school facilities department for implementing the practices and procedures required to operate our districts facilities at the highest level. This award recognizes that we have built the foundation of a well-run department.
- (11) Mr. Giovino and high school staff proposed and shared information about a new Trimester schedule for the high school. Dr. Bartley shared that the Course Selection Guide would be brought before the board shortly. The Trimester schedule will impact a few of our policies and we will be bringing those changes to the board as well.
- (12) With the high volume of student registrations, the district is looking to contract with SRC Solutions, Inc., as a means of streamlining our registration process. The use of Registration Gateway will make our registration more efficient; giving parents the ability to register on-line. This program communicates with our current Power School. Dr. Bartley shared that our Elementary Principals have recorded a blurb for kindergarten registration with WLBR/WQIC, flyers have been distributed and we have an announcement on our website.
- (13) Mrs. Kotay announced that board members would find in their packet board hearing reports for the following recently conducted disciplinary hearings:
- Case 2012/2013 - #31
 - Case 2012/2013 - #32
 - Case 2012/2013 - #33
 - Case 2012/2013 - #34
 - Case 2012/2013 - #35
 - Case 2012/2013 - #36
 - Case 2012/2013 - #37
 - Case 2012/2013 - #38

- (14) Mrs. Kotay, chairperson of the Board Committee on Suspension and Expulsion of Students, stated a recommendation is included from the committee on suspension and expulsion of students on the hearing reports. A copy of the hearing reports are included with these minutes.
- (15) RESOLUTION #14878 – It was moved by Mrs. Kotay and seconded by Mr. Topping to accept the committee’s recommendations as set forth in the hearing reports. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- (16) Dr. Bartley and the board members discussed the remaining items on the agenda, but no official action was taken.
- (17) The president requested that board members remain for an executive session to discuss personnel matters and a litigation matter following the meeting.
- (18) With no further business to come before the board at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Schaffer and seconded by Mrs. Kotay that the meeting adjourn. All members voiced consent and President Dall declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Harrell
Secretary of the Board