

## SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES

- (1) The Board of School Directors of the Lebanon School District met as a committee-of-the-whole on Monday, April 9, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the board conference room of the senior high school as advertised in the Daily News on December 15, 2011.
- (2) President Tom Schaffer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- (3) On roll call by the secretary, the following board members were present: Mrs. Debra L. Bowman, Dr. Anne V. Dall, Mrs. Rose Marie R. Kotay, Mr. Michael J. Kuhn, Mr. Richard Mase, Sr., Mrs. Eveira Prados, Mr. Thomas L. Schaffer, Mr. John P. Shott and Mr. Cornell Wilson. Also present were Dr. Marianne T. Bartley, superintendent of schools; Mrs. Mary A. Harrell, board secretary; and Mr. Curtis O. Richards, business manager and treasurer.
- (4) Also present were Dr. Barbara Heckard, assistant superintendent for C & I and assessment and accountability; Mr. Tom Jordan, assistant to the superintendent for HR; Mrs. Kelly Herr, assistant business manager; Mr. Chris Danz, principal, LHS; Mr. Ted Graeff, director of information management and technology; Mr. Bill Giovino, assistant principal, WSA; Mr. Fred Shattls, director of ESOL; Mr. Craig Boltz, director of buildings and grounds; Mr. Brian Hartman, assistant director of buildings and grounds; Mr. George Horn, school district resident; and the following media representative: Mr. John Latimer of the Lebanon Daily News and Mrs. Laura LeBeau of WLBR.
- (5) President Schaffer welcomed Mrs. Prados to the Board. On behalf of the Lebanon School District Board, President Schaffer thanked everyone who applied to be a Board Member.
- (6) Dr. Bartley praised the efforts of Craig Boltz, Brian Hartman, Tom Jordan and the entire team who handled the WSA fire incident while she was away. Also, Kelly Herr for meeting with the insurance people. Students should be back at WSA next Monday.
- (7) Dr. Bartley shared that the IU Budget is on the agenda for approval. They show a minimal increase of 1.7%.
- (8) Dr. Bartley stated that the Board would see two IU Special Education Contracts on the agenda for approval next week. We are waiting to receive them from the IU.
- (9) In updating the Board about the budget, Dr. Bartley stated that each Board Member has a budget book at their seat tonight. The budget memo is missing and we will make sure everyone gets that next week. All the detail for the budget is a part of the book. The final budget will be adopted at the board meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2012.

Dr. Bartley stated that we are hopeful that the tax increase for the proposed \$56 million 2012-2013 budget will be lower than first projected. How much lower will be determined by the state Legislature as it continues to negotiate its own spending plan.

The preliminary budget that the board approved in January was based on a level funding from the state and included a 5.6 percent property tax increase of 6.72 mills to cover a revenue shortfall. Governor Corbett's revised budget has increased basic education funding by about 1 percent. Spending adjustments made by the district, including eliminating the German-language program and not filling an assistant high school principal have all helped to reduce the budget to a 4.5 percent real estate tax increase or 5.43 mills.

Dr. Bartley explained that the district is forced to raise property taxes annually to keep up with the consistently shrinking property tax base. The Accountability Block Grant is so important to school district's like Lebanon, where 80 percent of students qualify for free or reduced lunches. Last year Governor Corbett eliminated the ABG and then legislators restored the grant at the last minute. We are hoping that happens again this year because it will mean an additional \$409,000 for us.

Dr. Bartley has spoken with the state legislators about the importance of the ABG to our district. She feels they are very aware of the importance and will assist in doing what they can to see that it is restored.

Another factor in the budget is the amount the state reimburses for its Social Security expenses. The original calculation was based on the 2010-2011 payroll but if the calculation is revised and based on the current payroll, the district could lose about \$270,000. Dr. Bartley shared a Power Point, which is a part of these minutes.

(10) Dr. Bartley informed the Board that she asked Charlie Fairchild to attend the meeting next week to update us on the renovation timeline. We need Mr. Fairchild to let us know if enough classrooms would be ready for the 2012-2013 school year.

(11) Mr. Boltz stated that we have the permits for the blasting. Mr. Richards said that we would give the green light when the insurance is satisfied.

(12) Mrs. Kotay announced that board members would find in their packet hearing reports for the following recently conducted disciplinary hearings:

- Case 2011/2012 - #44
- Case 2011/2012 - #45
- Case 2011/2012 - #46
- Case 2011/2012 - #47
- Case 2011/2012 - #49
- Case 2011/2012 - #52
- Case 2011/2012 - #54

(13) 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. Mr. Cornell Wilson and Mr. Richard Mase were also present for these hearings. Copies of the hearing reports are included with these minutes.

- (14) RESOLUTION #14671 - It was moved by Mrs. Kotay and seconded by Mrs. Becker to accept the committee's recommendations as set forth in the hearing reports. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- (15) Dr. Bartley and the board members discussed the remaining items on the agenda, but no official action was taken.
- (16) The president requested that board members remain to continue the executive session to discuss personnel matters and negotiation items following the meeting.
- (17) With no further business to come before the board at this time, a motion was made by Mr. Mase and seconded by Mrs. Kotay that the meeting adjourn. All members voiced consent and President Schaffer declared the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Harrell  
Secretary of the Board