



**LEECHBURG AREA BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
PUBLIC WORK SESSION/AGENDA SETTING MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019 – 7:30 PM – HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The March 13, 2019 Public Work Session Meeting of the Leechburg Area Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:31 PM in the Leechburg High School Library by Mr. Neill Brady, Board President.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison and a Moment of Silence was observed.

Mr. Brady provided the outline for future Public Work Session meetings; only emergency actions will be placed on the Public Work Session Agenda for Board consideration as was previously done. Board action will be taken at the Regular Monthly Board Meetings.

**ROLL CALL:** Mr. Neill Brady, Mrs. Melanie Knight, Mrs. Danielle Lovelace, Mr. Darius Lovelace, Mr. Anthony Shea, Ms. Candi Stewart and Mrs. Roxanne Thompson.

Mr. Joseph Michadick (Illness) and Mrs. Gina Bruno (Vacation) were absent.

Also present were: Mr. David Keibler, K-5 Principal/Curriculum Director/Federal Programs Coordinator; Mr. Douglas Rodgers, 7-12 Principal/Secondary Curriculum Coordinator; Mr. Bradley Walker, Business Manager/Human Resources Director; Attorney Russell Lucas, School District Solicitor and Ms. Patricia Tarr, Board Secretary and Ms. Tiffany Nix, Superintendent.

**REMARKS BY VISITORS:** Visitors are welcome to comment on any agenda items at this time, provided it is understood that all remarks from the floor are subject to the same parliamentary procedure followed by the Board under the direction of the President. Discussion from the floor will not be entertained while action is being taken on Agenda items by the Board. Completed forms (blue forms for agenda items) will be collected for District records and will be used by the President in recognizing each speaker.

Lizzy Buckholt  
133 Main Street  
Leechburg, PA 15656

RE: Competitive Cheer

Provided packets outlining competitive cheer and provided personal cheering and coaching experience. Currently 20 out of 24 girls interested in competitive cheer, 17 middle school cheerleaders interested. Reviewed yearly fees, equipment fees, mat purchases, twisting competitors, mat costs, use of alternate facilities, dead mat floor needed for competition practices, offsetting cost options, competitive expectations/information, cheer judging sheet, proposed letter of support, if needed, and Winter sport ending in January with tryouts in March and practicing during summer. Proposing separately funded sport, recognized PIAA sport and competitions. Cheerleaders may participate in junior high, junior varsity and varsity cheer as well as competitive cheer.

Discussion ensued regarding club formation initially and considered for sport designation in a few years, initial and annual fees, monthly tuition, competition fees, UCA camp, \$6,800 for mat purchase,

\$3,000-\$4,000 competition fees, \$150 uniforms, \$150 UCA camp, shoes/pompoms, coaching fees, liability coverage costs, equal access for all participants, sponsorships, fundraising and cheer costs currently \$200-\$300 per year reduced by fundraising per cheerleader's account. Competitive cheer does not include all participates as in school cheer, proposing 17 cheerleaders for next year. Current Varsity A Team traveling team and Varsity B Team cheers at home games only at same cost. No JV team currently. There were six judges at tryouts and scoring. Competition transportation currently in athletic budget. Camp fee eliminated by holding in-house camp. District purchased uniforms in the past and pompoms last year. Athletic budget funding available for second uniform purchases for Varsity A team.

Board requested actual costs for school cheering, competition cheering and liability costs. Board requires further discussion with Athletic Director.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

- AXIS Architecture, P.C. Renovation Update – Not available this evening.
- Principals' Reports:
  - Competitive Cheer Coaches-Competitive Cheer Program-See above
  - District Cyber Offerings – Seneca programs, not currently available in District curriculum, not counted toward graduation or GPA, courses taken during study halls, cumulative GPA 3.0 prior to offering, graduation requirement fulfillment prior to cyber offerings, \$600 per course funded by District, A/P books and exams funded by students, drop period for reimbursement, graduation planning, assigned teacher during period participation, approximately \$6,000 budget line item and fluid cyber budgeting,
  - Honors' Intro To Engineering – Reopen Program of Studies with Honors' Intro to Engineering included for Board reapproval and meeting criteria for Honors' classes.

Musical this weekend and lobby improvement plan to begin following musical. Lighting improvements completed. Senior citizen and elementary school 10-15 minute production preview of Musical planned. Read Across America, United Way Grant funded, providing three activity stations. Kindergarten screening and registration scheduled May 14<sup>th</sup>. Holding meeting with Head Start to discuss resources available, partnering in community, two guest readers, book fair, approval of Title I Memorandum of Understanding with Armstrong County Head Start, part of federal funds, requesting consideration for approval at Regular Board Meeting. Playground proposed wall in grassy area at \$86,000 cost, funding options and paving back area for parking. K-3 A2i grant meeting today, online assessment, grouping students and teacher instruction and reviewed initial study and results, guided groups, testing monthly or every other week for struggling students. PA Smart Grant and PA Targeting Grant reviewed and technology options, PA Smart Grant to introduced computer engineering in District and event for senior citizens tomorrow evening and Python program in pilot stage.

Ms. Nix congratulated Dr. David Keibler on earning his Doctorate. On March 21, 2018 Chancellor of Penn State toured facilities with group of educators with student displays. Calendar review for 2018-2019, educating longer per day than required and will present updated calendar at Regular Board Meeting for amendment consideration.

Business Manager's Report - Budget presentations will be provided in April and May, first presentation at April Public Work Session and approval consideration at June Public Work Session. Copier proposals, currently with ComDoc, two and one-half years left in agreement, five-year contract

with \$15,000 savings, new copiers and presenting for Board approval at Regular Board Meeting. Bussing contract expires end of this year, contract being reviewed by solicitor, seven-year contract freezing in years one and seven. Special Budget Meetings will be scheduled, if necessary. Mr. Walker requested laptops be available for budget presentations for Board members.

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**PERSONNEL:**

- Cafeteria Resignation-Dishwasher resignation, due to retirement.
- Athletic Director Memorandum of Understanding
- Soccer Boys' Varsity Head Coach Memorandum of Understanding

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE:**

- ARIN IU #28 2019-2020 Proposed General Operating Budget-Cost increase includes IU provided transportation based on use, increasing in 2019-2020.
- AXIS Pay Applications

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**FIELD TRIP REQUESTS:**

- Amy Barley-Physics Class-Physics Olympics, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA-04/05/19
- Rob Reams-Taiko-Leechburg Taiko Outreach, East and West Forest High School, Marienville, PA-04/09/19, 04/10/19 or 04/11/19
- Tricia Shank-Spanish Club-Spanish Concert, Jeannette High School, Jeanette, PA-04/10/19
- Jennifer Turner/Kathy Wilson/Niva Vargo-First Grade Classes-Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA-04/18/19
- Ann Fischer-Science Club-Envirothon Competition, Crooked Creek Environmental Learning Center, Ford City, PA-04/24/19
- Nancy Burger/Kristin Horneman/Bobbi Watson-Third Grade Classes-National Aviary, Pittsburgh, PA-05/09/19
- Rob Reams-Taiko-Leechburg Taiko Outreach, Eisenhower Elementary, Pittsburgh, PA and West Hills Elementary, Kittanning, PA-05/17/19
- Amy Barley-Physics and Select Math Students-Education Days/Physics Day, Kennywood Park, Pittsburgh, PA-05/21/19

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**OVERNIGHT EXCURSION REQUESTS:**

- Logan Orange-Selected Students- State Choir, Pittsburgh Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA-04/03/19-04/06/19 Preliminary and Final Requests
- ~~Michelle Ferretti-Selected Students-Shelter Box, Crossroads Community Presbyterian Church, Leechburg, PA-04/05/19-04/06/19 Preliminary Request~~ Removed from Agenda.

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**FUNDRAISING REQUESTS:**

- Ann Fischer-Science Club-Local Business Coupon Book Sales-03/01/19-03/29/19-Ratify
- Eve Hebrank/Ashley Mondale-Senior Class-Dodgeball Tournament-03/18/19-03/29/19-Ratify
- Shayle Prorok-Art Club-Eat Your Art Out-04/12/19-04/13/19
- Amy Barley-Senior High Student Council-Kings of the Court Volleyball Match-04/29/19-05/20/19
- Jolynn Young-National Honors' Society-Hershey's Fundraiser-ASAP-May 2019
- Jolynn Young-National Honors' Society-Spring Candy Grams-ASAP-April 2019
- Jolynn Young-National Honors' Society-Teachers' Baby Picture Contest-04/01/19-04/30/19

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**USE OF FACILITIES:**

- Valley Points Family YMCA-Dance Recital, High School Auditorium/Stage Sound/Lighting-05/15/19

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE ISSUES:**

- Policy 103.1 Nondiscrimination-Qualified Students With Disabilities-Amendment

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting.

**BOARD RELATED ISSUES:**

- Gilpin Township LERTA Program-ten year programs, with 10% scale, recommending five years, reviewing for additional five years, Gilpin township ordinance for ten year exemption, expiring in 20 years, District sunset clause for five years,

Board recommendation to place action on the March 27, 2019 Regular Monthly Board Meeting for a five-year LERTA program which will sunset in five years for review. Attorney Lucas will prepare ordinance, repeal current Industrial/Commercial Tax Abatement policy and review designation of deteriorated areas,

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:****A. PERSONNEL:**

1. Mrs. Knight made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shea to accept the resignation, due to retirement, of Mr. Pamela Sorisio from the position of Cafeteria Worker effective May 31, 2019.

Clarification that resignation will be effective at the end of school year, due to snow make-up days recently approved.

Voice Vote – All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

Mrs. Bruno and Mr. Michadick were absent.

**OTHER:**

Mr. Shea made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Knight to hire Ms. Carol Wolfe as a substitute nurse effective March 14, 2019 pending receipt of all required clearances.

Voice Vote – All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

Mrs. Bruno and Mr. Michadick were absent.

Ms. Stewart made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Knight to hire Ms. Kenzie Young as a substitute nurse effective March 14, 2019 pending receipt of all required clearances.

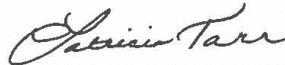
Voice Vote – All Ayes.

Motion Carried.

Mrs. Bruno and Mr. Michadick were absent.

ADJOURNED: On a motion by Ms. Stewart, seconded by Mrs. Knight the March 13, 2019 Public Work Session Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Tarr

Board Secretary