# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS MT. LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### December 8, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, December 8, 2014, in the Jefferson Middle School Library.

Mr. Lebowitz called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Howe 5<sup>th</sup> grade Student Council members Jackson Vlcek, Jayden Holsworth, Allison Hyland, Sophia Bovino, Elizabeth Kubancek, and Angelina Eger. The students reported on the activities that make Howe Elementary a special school including the Student Council, the Howe Morning Show, Fun Friday theme days, community service projects, the Green Team, and Camp Linsley.

ROLL CALL Present: Mrs. Mary Birks, Mrs. Elaine Cappucci, Mr. William Cooper, Mr.

Scott Goldman, Mr. Edward Kubit, Mr. William Moorhead, Mr.

Daniel Remely, Mr. Michael Riemer, Mr. Larry Lebowitz

Absent: None

ATTENDING: Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent

Mr. Thomas Peterson, Solicitor

Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Dr. Ronald Davis, Dr. Marybeth Irvin, Ms. Janice Klein, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Mr. Stephen Scheurer, Mr. Christopher Stengel, Dr. Michelle Murray

### **MINUTES**

It was moved by Birks and seconded by Riemer that the Board approves the minutes of the Discussion Meeting held on November 10, 2014, and the Regular Meeting held on November 17, 2014.

#### MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

# STUDENT COUNCIL REPORTS

Jefferson Middle School Student Council members Emily Dougherty and Madison Jones presented a report on the events at Jefferson Middle School. Students held numerous activities to celebrate Red Ribbon Week. A Halloween costume contest netted \$310 which was donated to the Foundation for a Drug Free World. Jefferson MS students attended the PASC State Conference in Altoona, and returned from the conference with renewed enthusiasm. The December activity is "The Hunger Games" food drive to replenish the food bank's stores after the holidays since most charity is focused on preparing for the holiday season.

High School Student Body Co Vice Presidents Ryan Caste and Evan Cohen reported on the activities at the high school. Throughout the month of November, students, administrators, faculty and staff members donated non-perishable food items that were then donated to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. The members of the Carpe Diem club made 20 blankets for the patients at Pittsburgh's VA hospital, and they were also ringers for the Salvation Army. The club joined forces with the Future Business Leaders of America club and made 100 lunches for the homeless in downtown Pittsburgh. The National Honor Society members are organizing the annual "Toys for Tots and Teens. Each homeroom plans on purchasing the gift requests of

teenagers and young adults who are in treatment with FamilyLinks. The annual Holiday Show will be held on December 11 with proceeds going to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Kyle Nguyen, The Bernard Mevs Hospital Wound Care Clinic, which is supervised by Dr. John Macdonald, Class of 1954, and the Georgia Pogue scholarships.

#### **BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Lebowitz thanked the members of the Board for their confidence in electing him to serve as the Board President, and personally thanked Elaine Cappucci for her service as president for the past two years. The board president presented Mrs. Cappucci with a gavel as a token of the Board's appreciation.

On November 18<sup>th</sup> the District celebrated the opening of the newly renovated high school with a ribbon cutting ceremony prior to the high school Chorus Concert. Mr. Lebowitz invited members of the community to visit the auditorium and attend one of the many exceptional fine arts performances this year.

Mr. Lebowitz congratulated the high school Model UN Team for their first-place win at the Model European Union competition sponsored by the Center for European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. The team won the overall first-place team award as well as three first-place individual awards given by each committee. Congratulations to the team and their coaches, George Savarese, Pete DiNardo and Adam Lumish on this and other accomplishments, and continued success in the new year.

The board president reported on a few initiatives he would like to put in place for 2015.

- He will personally visit each of the ten schools in the District over the course of the coming year.
- He will continue to have monthly reports by different departments/groups at the monthly meetings. These will include reports from the various academic departments as well as fine arts and athletics.
- He has asked the Superintendent to facilitate tours of the soon to be completed high school.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer thanked Elaine Cappucci for her service as Board president for the past two years.

The superintendent congratulated Mt. Lebanon High School dance teacher, Cece Kapron, as one of thirteen regional finalists for the Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year Award for 2015. Mrs. Kapron has, and continues to have a distinguished career at the high school. She started the dance program in the 1970's and due to her leadership, has grown the program into the premiere high school dance program in the state.

Mt. Lebanon High School students took first place in the Robert Morris University School of Engineering Science and Mathematics Science Bowl. Congratulations to the following team members: Seniors Charles Yuan and Yizhou Liu; Juniors Rida Merchant, Jerry Ming and Nancy Lu; Sophomore Jenny Yu; Freshmen Hannah Ishizaki and Otis Smith; and their coach, high school science teacher Pamela Harris.

Dr. Steinhauer congratulated Junior Kelsey Potts for her 8<sup>th</sup> place finish in the Footlocker Northeast Regional Championship. Kelsey qualifies for the Footlocker National Championship on December 13 in San Diego.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

It was moved by Cappucci and seconded by Birks that the Board approves, ratifies, and accepts the following financial reports: (Copy in official minutes)

- a. Treasurer's Report dated November 30, 2014,
- b. Monthly List of Bills dated November 26, 2014 and December 3, 2014,
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated November 30, 2014, and
- d. List of Unusable Equipment for sale dated December 1, 2014.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Moorhead,

Remely (abstained from item c), Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION APPROVED

It was moved by Riemer and seconded by Remely that the Board approves preparation of a Preliminary Budget for 2015-2016 for public view in December of 2014 and announces its intent to approve such budget at its January 19, 2015 Board meeting with such revisions as it deems necessary.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Moorhead,

Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Kubit and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the December 4, 2014, list of personnel changes, as revised December 8, 2014. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Moorhead,

Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Goldman and seconded by Remely that the Board approves the 2015-2016 school calendar as presented by the administration. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Moorhead,

Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Cappucci that authorization be given for attendance and appropriate expenditures of Board members at national, state, and local conferences and workshops for 2015. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Moorhead,

Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Birks that the Board approves the following list of change orders for the High School Renovation Project:

a. GC-108-257 to Nello for \$13,219 for door, ceiling and wall changes,

- b. EL-72-258 to Farfield for \$14,153 for power, lighting and safety items,
- c. PL-35-259 to Vrabel for \$7,372 for pumps, turrets and piping,
- d. ME-29-260 to McKamish for \$14,567 for sump pan and ductwork,
- e. EL-73-261 to Farfield for \$10,577 to add power and data for a teacher's station and display boards in center court, and
- **f.** EL-37-133 to Farfield *REVISED* from \$28,907 to \$28,097.

ROLL CALL: For: Birks, Cappucci, Cooper, Goldman, Kubit, Moorhead,

Remely, Riemer, Lebowitz

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

# **COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS**

Four residents spoke before the Board about the following:

Rifle range Revised change order Railing on pool balcony

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Cappucci to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary Board of School Directors