

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

May 22, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors was held at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 22, 2017, in Room D205, Mt. Lebanon High School.

Mrs. Birks called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Foster Elementary students Charlie Mistretta, Leah Bailey, Jack Nichols, Eirene Paliouras, and Emerson Driscoll. The students reported on the community service activities and the donations made to several local organizations.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Mr. Hugh Beal, Mr. William Cooper, Mr. William Moorhead, Ms. Sara Olbrich, Mr. Daniel Remely, Mr. Michael Riemer, Dr. Stephen Strotmeyer, Mrs. Mary Birks  
Absent: Mr. Lawrence Lebowitz

ATTENDING:

Dr. Timothy Steinhauer, Superintendent  
Fred Wolfe, School Solicitor's Office  
Administrative Staff: Ms. Cissy Bowman, Mr. Kenneth Cross, Dr. Ronald Davis, Ms. Janice Klein, Mr. Richard Marciniak, Mr. Christopher Stengel, Mr. Jason Ramsey, Mr. Christopher Wolfson

MINUTES

It was moved by Strotmeyer and seconded by Riemer that the Board approves the minutes of the Policy Committee held on April 3, 2017, the Discussion Meeting held on April 3, 2017, and the Regular Meeting held on April 18, 2017.

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORTS

Jefferson Middle School Executive Board member for the JMS Student Council, Jack Horrigan, reported on the activities at JMS. In celebration of Teacher Appreciation Week, teachers were presented with peppermint patties to show how much teachers "mint" to them, and a breakfast cart as wheeled from classroom to classroom to show their expressions of gratitude. Student Council advisors sponsored a trip for Student Council members to PNC Park to see a Pirate game for Student Council Day.

Events to close out the year include the Tape the Teacher fundraiser on May 31 which raised \$323.66. Through a student voting system on willing volunteers, the two lucky faulty members are Mr. Bluemling and Mr. Gray.

Jefferson MS Student Council had a very successful and productive school year.

Mellon Middle School Student Council members Jack Silverman, Trey Reichenfeld, Katy Meta, and Nina Paliouras presented an update to the Board on the events at Mellon. Events for the remainder of the year included First Fun Fridays in May and June. May was "Star Wars Day," where students and staff dressed as their favorite Star Wars character or sported their Star Wars

gear. June the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be honored for moving onto the high school with “Oh, the Places You’ll Go,” where students will dress for the future.

Student Council set up “The Appreciation Station” for teacher appreciation week. Students would come up to a table set in the cafeteria during their lunch period and write a simple thank you card for their teachers, thanking them for all they have done to help Mellon grow.

In celebration of Hearing Awareness Month and with the help of one of Mellon’s faculty member, Mrs. Kollar, Student Council participated in *Cheers for Ears*. Students purchased a cold drink for \$1 a cup to help support this event.

Student Council members were treated to a Pirate game to reward members for their attendance and dedication to Mellon and Student Council.

Mt. Lebanon High Student Council co secretary, Glenn Ayieko, reported on the high school activities. The 2017-2018 Student Body officers will be inducted. The new officers are Will Buerger and Thomas Heagy as Co Presidents, Golda Gershanok and Mark Pesacreta as Co Vice Presidents, Elizabeth Hartung and Andjelija Ranick as Co Secretaries and Danielle Malizio and Lucio Santella as Co Treasurers.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation week occurred at the beginning of May. All faculty, administrators and staff member enjoyed treats provided throughout the week. Students greatly appreciate what our teachers, administrators and staff member do for the school each day. Co President Molly Merrick initiated the first annual Cafeteria Staff Appreciation Day. During each lunch period, three students served on the hot food line and two students washed dishes. A corsage or boutonniere was given to each cafeteria employee. It was good for our student body to recognize the efforts of the people who provide a vital service to us each school day.

The high school production of “The Pajama Game” was a huge success. The cast, the crew, and the orchestra pulled off an amazing performance each and every night! Our extremely hard working teachers Mr. LaPlaca, Mrs. Kapron, Mrs. Kuhar, Mr. Vogel, and staff member, Mr. Stoklosa, provided a learning environment that taught the cast and crew so many lessons about the beauty of live theatre

Several volunteer projects have occurred or will be taking place before this month ends. Thirty students spent four hours scooping rice cereal out of huge bins into 2 pound containers at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank’s headquarters in Duquesne, Pennsylvania. Approximately 40 pallets were packed during this activity. On May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Class of 2019 will be making 300 lunches for the Red Door homeless food program that is located in downtown Pittsburgh. And the fifth annual “End of School Locker Cleanout” collection will take place on May 31<sup>st</sup>, June 8<sup>th</sup>, and if needed on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Eight members of the junior class are organizing the collection of students’ unwanted pens, pencils, notebooks, binders, and backpacks. All reusable items will be donated to the Educational Partnership organization located in McKees Rocks.

### BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mrs. Birks reported on her visits to Jefferson Middle School, Lincoln Elementary and Washington Elementary. Our schools are filled with energized students ready to learn and teachers empowered to be creative and innovative in ways that keep students interested and engaged. Mrs. Birks thanked the principals, faculty, staff and students for permitting her to take a peek into their daily work.

This month’s Extra Mile Award winners are two faculty members from the high school. Michael Locke, high school math teacher and secondary mathematics department chair, and Shelly Saba, high school counselor were nominated by high school English teacher Trish Shine and the high

school principals for their excellent work in laying the foundation and developing the high school's freshmen orientation and transition program called "Link Crew." The yearlong Link Crew program includes a ½ day orientation before the school year begins followed up by monthly meetings during the year led by trained Link Crew upperclassmen with other freshmen only activities offered at times during the year including a football tailgate, Cocas and Cram semester exam study session, and an inflatable game night, just to name a few.

Mrs. Saba and Mr. Locke have been instrumental in initiating and strengthening the Link Crew program at the high school, and Mrs. Shine noted that she personally thinks that the program has improved the soul of the school. Freshmen feel more connected, kinder, and more willing to lend a hand to those in need. Mr. Locke and Mrs. Saba are truly an asset to our high school and district.

At this evening's meeting, the Board will be asked to consider a \$96.6 budget which preserves the programs which this community expects and our children deserve. There is no need for a millage increase this year since the Board was able to balance the budget with significant cost savings. Contracts were structured for lower cost utilities, the transportation contract was rebid for a savings, and the Board took advantage of restructuring the first high school bonds bringing a total savings of \$7.6 million. In addition to using the savings to lower budgets over the next four years, we will now have an additional \$3.8 million to fund capital projects over the next few years. This is an enormous win for our community and Mrs. Birks stated that she is proud to be part of the team that made this budget and the bond savings possible for the community.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Steinhauer recognized and highlighted the work of some of our finest administrators, faculty and staff on the occasion of their retirement from the Mt. Lebanon School District. Through their diligent and skillful work, our retiring employees have enriched the lives of our students and their colleagues and have directly contributed to our District's success. This year there were five faculty members, seven support staff, and one principal retiring. Together they represent over 252 years of expertise and experience. The superintendent presented certificates and pins to the following retirees attending the meeting: Sandra Callahan, Susan Dunn and Mary Kay Davis.

The National French Contest/*Le Grand Concoure* is an annual competition sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of French. Students of French take a written test and compete against students with similar educational background for prizes. Lindsay Ferreira, high school freshman, earned a Platinum Medal for the highest score possible-a perfect score-on the level 2 National French Exam. Lindsay's French teacher is Joan Hayden. Congratulations to Lindsay for this outstanding accomplishment.

Five middle school students have been recognized with Certificates of Recognition as Promising Young Writers by the National Council of Teachers of English. This year, 163 students were nominated. Of that number 67 received the highest award, Certificate of Recognition. The following students were recognized for this honor: Haridhar Pulivarthi and Sloan Criner from Jefferson Middle School, and Grace Kearns, Olivia Salib, and Emma Toussaint from Mellon Middle School. The superintendent also recognized writing clinicians Mellisa Kelly from Jefferson and Eve Kollar from Mellon for nominating these very talented students.

Dr. Steinhauer announced that high school student, Elyana Glass, was selected for a 2017 Achievement Award in Writing given by the National Council of Teachers of English. Elana is one of eight students in Pennsylvania and the only one from Western PA to win the very select award. Elyana was nominated by high school English teacher Patricia Shine. The superintendent congratulated Elyana on this outstanding award.

Mt. Lebanon High School's Winter Guard competed in the Tournament Indoor Association Atlantic Cost Championships in New Jersey. This event is part of the Tournament of Bands circuit. Our A team made it to the finals and won a Bronze Medal and our Regional A team made it to the semi-finals for the first time and ended in 16<sup>th</sup> place overall. Dr. Steinhauer presented Certificates of Achievement to the following senior members of the Winter Guard team: Bailey Eichmiller, Hannah Labovitz, Rebecca Labovita, Ilane Saad, Ryan Wilkerson, and Coach Stephanie Eneedy.

The last presentation for the evening is a remarkable story. Andrew Kuskil, high school applied engineering teacher was approached by a parent of one of our students. He was asked if the department would work with her younger son who is in 4th grade to develop a prosthetic hand for him to help with a physical impairment. Mr. Kuskil immediately thought of three of his students who would be up to this advanced challenge. The students immediately started researching and were able to create a prosthetic device using a 3D printer. They are in the final phase of refining and fitting the prosthetic but it will be ready for the young man to use very soon.

This project is one example of the many innovative projects that will be presented at the capstone Honors- Applied Engineering- 3<sup>rd</sup> annual, "Guppy Tank Showcase" which is the Lebo Applied Engineering's spin-off of the TV show Shark Tank. Dr. Steinhauer introduced Taylor Ransford, Cameron Taylor, and Robert Donahue, and congratulated them on the outstanding project.

#### BOARD REPORTS

Policy Committee – Mr. Moorhead reported that the Policy Committee met on May 8 to review policies AD, Educational Philosophy; BG, Policy Development; JI, Scholarships and Special Funds; JICD, Bullying and JJIE, Performance Enhancing Drugs. The Committee has recommended Board approval of revisions to four of these policies on this evening's agenda. The next meeting will be held on June 12

Board Development – Dr. Strotmeyer reported that the Board will hold a retreat over the summer sponsored by PSBA.

Facilities – Mr. Remely reported that the brick paving contractor is working to install the brick pavers in the sidewalk and roadway areas on Horsman Drive, the asphalt contractor has installed the asphalt pavement on Horsman and Stadium Drives and has completed the concrete sidewalk on the north end of Horsman Drive, and the fencing contractor has begun to core drill holes on the tennis courts for fence posts to be installed next week.

Parkway West Career and Technical Center – Mr. Remely reported that the welding and vet tech programs have the highest enrollments for next year. Parkway West has made a facility use agreement with the Art Institute of Pittsburgh to use the culinary kitchen at Parkway. Christina Walter, a health occupation student from Moon, placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Skills USA competition and will be moving on the national competition in Louisville, KY. Twelve Mt. Lebanon students made the Dean's list this quarter.

Pathfinder School – Mrs. Olbrich reported that Pathfinder School celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. Rita Havran retired in February after 50 years as a secretary at the school. The Pathfinder Festival was held on April 29 with a special visit from Penguins Iceberg. Five students will graduate on June 6.

PSBA/NSBA – Mr. Beal reported that HB1213 and SB586 have been introduced regarding property assessment for commercial business. The legislation would allow for business to be taxed on the building only. This would be a great loss to school districts. Representative Dan Miller opposes this legislation. HS97 on charter schools passed the House and is now being

considered in the Senate. NSBA focused on legislation related to cuts to Medicaid, reduced funding to school districts, and school choice.

Revenue Generation/MLFE – Dr. Strotmeyer reported that the MLFE Taste of Lebo raised \$5,500 for the organization. Totopo in Uptown Mt. Lebanon was the #1 winner of the participants of the event. The MLFE Board issued \$6,250 in grants to teachers at Markham, Jefferson Middle School, Mellon Middle School, Foster, and Mt. Lebanon High School. Dale Ostergaard stepped down as president of the Mt. Lebanon Foundation for Education, and Natalie Wagner was appointed president for a three year term.

#### COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

One resident spoke before the Board about the following:

Bus transportation costs

#### NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves a final budget for the 2017-2018 school year in the amount of \$96,566,075 setting the millage rate at 23.93, a zero mill increase over the 2016-2017 millage rate, utilizing \$750,000 of the Fund Balance to balance revenues with expenditures and continuing to force all other taxes levied for school purposes as per the formal budget resolution. (Formal Resolution to be amended to the minutes.)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer,  
Strotmeyer, Birks

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

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

- a. Treasurer's Report dated April 30, 2017,
- b. List of Bills dated April 28, 2017, and May 16, 2017; and
- c. List of Tax Refunds dated April 30, 2017.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer,  
Strotmeyer, Birks (abstained item b.)

Against: None

MOTION APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board appoints Joseph T. Senko as the Real Estate Tax Collector for the 2017-2018 school year at a salary of \$10,000.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer,  
Strotmeyer, Birks

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Riemer that the Board appoints Joseph T. Senko as the Delinquent Real Estate Tax Collector for the 2017-2018 school year at no remuneration.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer,  
Strotmeyer, Birks

Against: None

MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board appoints Janice R. Klein as the School District Treasurer for the 2017-2018 school year at no remuneration.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Olbrich that the Board exonerates the Real Estate Tax Collector from collecting taxes on the list of properties dated May 1, 2017. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Strotmeyer and seconded by Olbrich that the Board accepts the audit of the Municipal Real Estate Tax Office for the year ending December 31, 2016. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Strotmeyer and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the bids for supplies and equipment for the 2017-2018 school year at the lowest responsible bidders meeting specifications as per the Vendor Name Summary dated April 28, 2017. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Riemer and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the May 4, 2017, list of personnel changes as revised May 18, 2017. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Riemer and seconded by Cooper that , pursuant to Section 1127 of the School Code, the Board of School Directors of the Mt. Lebanon School District hereby authorizes the issuance of a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges directed to Mr. Christian Stein proposing that his professional contract be terminated for cause in accordance with the provisions of School Code Section 1122.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves revisions to Policy AD, Educational Philosophy in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Riemer that the Board approves revisions to Policy BG, Policy Development, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves revisions to Policy JI, Scholarships and Special Funds, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Moorhead and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves revisions to Policy JICD, Bullying, in the form presented. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Strotmeyer that the Board approves the appointment of Cecile D. Bowman as Board Secretary for a term commencing July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Cooper that the Board approves the following recommendations for Act 80 use for the modification of the student day:

DATE	SCHOOL	GRADE	TIME	ACTIVITY
August 29, 2016	All Elementary	Kindergarten	AM & PM	Kindergarten Interviews
August 30, 2016	All Elementary	Kindergarten	AM & PM	Kindergarten Interviews
September 9, 2016	All Elementary	1-5	PM	Teacher In-service
November 17, 2016	All Elementary	Kindergarten	PM	Parent Conferences
November 18, 2016	All Elementary	K-5	AM & PM	Parent Conferences
May 26, 2017	All Elementary	1-5	PM	Teacher In-service

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
Against: None  
MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Olbrich and seconded by Cooper that for the purpose of providing appropriate educational programs and services for all District children, the Board approves the proposed standardized testing schedule for the 2017-2018 school year:

<b>DATES</b>	<b>GRADES(s)</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT INSTRUMENT</b>
September 5- September 29, 2017	1-5	Measures of Academic Progress Reading and Math
	6-11	Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT- English, Math, Science
October 11, 2017	10-11	PSAT
December 4-15, 2017	8 -11	Keystone – Algebra 1
	11	Keystone – Biology
	10 -11	Keystone - English Literature
January 2 – January 31, 2018	K -5	Measures of Academic Progress- Reading and Math
	6 -11	Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT) – English, Math, Science
April 9-13, 2018	3 - 8	Achievement Test – English Language Arts (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
April 16-20, 2018	3 - 8	Achievement Test – Math (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
April 23-27, 2018	4 and 8	Achievement Test – Science (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
April 30-May 4, 2018	3-8	Achievement Test - Make Up (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
May 1-May 31, 2018	K-5	Measures of Academic Progress Reading and Math
	6-11	Classroom Diagnostic Tool (CDT) - English, Math, Science
May 14-25, 2018	8-11	Keystone - Algebra 1
	10-11	Keystone - Biology
	9-11	Keystone - English Literature
May 2018	1	Speech and Language Screening

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer,  
Strotmeyer, Birks

Against: None

**MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED**

It was moved by Strotmeyer and seconded by Olbrich that the Board approves the following agreements with the Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh to support the development and implementation of Matt’s Maker Spaces in Mt. Lebanon Elementary Schools:

- Design Consultation Services for each elementary school at a cost of \$1,500 per school for a total of \$10,500, to be paid with Ready to Learn grant funds.
- Professional Development Services for a four-day summer workshop for 25 staff members at a cost of \$15,000, to be paid with Title II funds.



ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Remely and seconded by Olbrich that the Board awards the 2017 District Wide Asphalt Sealing and Paving bid to T.A. Robinson Asphalt Paving with a bid price of \$38,118 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Beal and seconded by Olbrich that the Board awards Project F-17-001, Transportation for Exceptional Children 2017-2018, to ALC Busing in the amount of \$668,758.89 as the lowest responsible bidder meeting specifications. (Copy in official minutes)

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Strotmeyer that in accordance with Section 803 Pennsylvania School Laws, The Board approves the list of textbooks for the 2017-2018 school year as follows:

HIGH SCHOOL

**Subject: English**  
Course: English 10

Title	Grade	Publisher	Copyright Date	Author(s)
A Thousand Splendid Suns	10	Penquin Publishing Group	2008	Khaled Hosseini
The Hobbit	10	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	2012	J.R.R. Tolkien

**Subject: Math**  
Course: Algebra 2

Title	Grade	Publisher	Copyright Date	Author(s)
envision	10	Pearson	2018	Kennedy, Milou, Thomas, Zbiek

**Subject: Science**  
Course: Advanced Placement Chemistry

Title	Grade	Publisher	Copyright Date	Author(s)
Chemistry, AP Edition	10	Cengage Learning	2018	Zumdahl, Zumdahl, DeCoste

ROLL CALL: For: Beal, Cooper, Moorhead, Olbrich, Remely, Riemer, Strotmeyer, Birks  
 Against: None  
 MOTION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

### COMMENTS FROM RESIDENTS

Three residents spoke before the Board about the following:

- Bus transportation costs for after school programs, field trips, etc
- Lack of mention in The Almanac about Mt. Lebanon schools
- Invited Board members to swim meet
- Accolades to Parkway West CTC students
- Questioned if employee hearing was open to the public
- Suggested that the Board review its nepotism and conflict of interest policies

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Cooper and seconded by Olbrich to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Cecile D. Bowman, Secretary  
Board of School Directors

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