

Lackawanna Trail School District
School Board Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2022

Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the CDC recommendation to have groups adhere to social distance guidelines, the Lackawanna Trail School District met in person and via Zoom for a scheduled meeting, on Monday, January 17, 2022 at 7:31 pm. Public notice thereof having been given in accordance with applicable law. A mixture of live and virtual Google Executive Session was held prior to the School Board meeting from 6:31 pm to 7:25 pm. All nine board directors were present for this meeting. The following items were discussed: Personnel, Health & Safety Plan, and charter school extracurricular participation.

President Mulhern called the meeting to order and directed the secretary to call the roll. Board Members present: Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Minick, Dr. Mould, Mr. Mulhern, Mr. Petula, Mr. Ross, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Thorne and Mrs. Wescott.

Administrators present: Mr. Glynn, Mr. Kearney, Mrs. Kuchak, Dr. Murphy, Mr. Rakauskas, Mr. Gaidula, Mr. Schofield and Ms. Talarico.

The meeting began with a chance for public participation. Time was allowed for public comment. Trevor Scala commented on and asked questions about chromebook internet use, Colin Dempsey and Candice Pagnotti commented on and asked questions about the masking policy.

Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Minick that the minutes from the December 6, 2021 School Board Reorganization Meeting and the January 10, 2022 Work Session Meeting be approved as submitted. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi that all bills found to be true and accurate be approved. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Thorne made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mould that the board approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Minick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ross that the board approve a resolution pursuant to Act I of 2001 indicating that the Lackawanna Trail School District will not raise the rate of tax support of its public schools for the 2022-2023 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Department of Education for the district of 3.8%. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Mulhern made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wescott that the board accept the 2021 Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Award - Lackawanna Trail #2 (2844-00) in the amount of \$500,000 through Wyoming County. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mrs. Wescott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ross that the board approve the contract with DeHEY McAndrew for the 2021 tax year for preparation of 1094-C and 1095-C forms. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Bianchi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ross that the board approve the resolution for Lackawanna Trail School District's delegate on the Wyoming County Tax Collection Committee. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi that the board approve the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation contract in the amount of \$1900 per month with Hester Wastewater Services LLC beginning on February 1, 2022. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Bianchi made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mulhern that the board approve the purchase of a Dishwasher system for the High School from Rice's Food Service at a cost of \$27,413.03 from Cafeteria Fund Balance. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wescott that the board accept the retirement of Kathleen Missey Bower from her paraprofessional position effective January 7, 2022. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention. Mr. Mulhern abstained from his vote.

Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Minick that the board retroactively approve an unpaid leave request for Linde Maurer for December 13, 14 and 15, 2021. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mrs. Wescott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi that the board approve the appointment of Levi Bennett to the full-time Maintenance II position with a start date of January 18, 2022, at a rate of \$14.25 per hour, per the LTESPA collective bargaining agreement. All clearances are on file. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi that the board approve Micah Schneider and Seamus Nichols as bus drivers with Nichols Bus for the 2021-2022 school year. All clearances on file. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Minick made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wescott that the board approve Laura Evans as the Head Varsity Field Hockey Coach to begin the 2022-2023 season, at a rate of \$5100, according to the LTEA agreement. All clearances are on file. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5 in favor, 4 opposed. Dr. Mould, Mr. Mulhern, Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Thorne voted no.

Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mulhern that the board approve Jessica Bentley as the Assistant Softball Coach to begin the 2021-2022 season, at a rate of \$4250, according to the LTEA agreement. All clearances are on file. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Mulhern made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt that the board approve Jillian Rojek as Dramatics Director to begin the 2021-2022 school year, at a prorated share of the stipend of \$2300, according to the LTEA agreement. All clearances are on file. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Mulhern made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt that the board approve Cody Youtz as Volunteer Wrestling Coach to begin the 2021-2022 season. All clearances are on file. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Minick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ross that the board acknowledge the resignation of David Thorne from the position of Secretary of the Board of Education effective January 18, 2022. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention. Mr. Thorne abstained from his vote.

NOMINATION: Secretary of the Board of Education

Mrs. Wescott nominated Brian Petula to be Secretary of the Board of Education, seconded by Mr. Ross. There were no other nominations.

APPOINTMENT: Secretary of the Board of Education

Mr. Mulhern made a motion, seconded by Mr. Minick that the board appoint Brian Petula as Lackawanna Trail School Board Secretary for the remainder of David Thorne's unexpired term effective January 18, 2022 through June 30, 2025, at a stipend of \$600 per year prorated. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 5 in favor, 1 opposed and 3 abstentions. Dr. Mould voted no. Mr. Mulhern, Mr. Petula and Mr. Thorne abstained from their votes.

Mr. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ross that the board acknowledge the resignation of David Thorne as School Board Director from the Lackawanna Trail School District Board of Education effective January 29, 2022. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention. Mr. Thorne abstained from his vote.

Mrs. Wescott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schmidt that the board acknowledge the resignation of Dan Demora from the position of Stagecraft Director effective immediately. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Minick made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schdmit that the board acknowledge the resignation of Brink Powell from the position of Dramatics Director effective immediately. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 9-0.

Mr. Ross made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wescott that the board accept the proposed changes to the LTSD Health and Safety Plan. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 8 in favor, 1 opposed. Mr. Schmidt voted no.

Mr. Mulhern announced that there would be an executive session prior to the next meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Minick,
Vice President of the Board of Education