

Lackawanna Trail School District
School Board Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2024

The Lackawanna Trail School District met in person and via Zoom for a scheduled meeting on Monday, March 11, 2024 at 7:32 pm, public notice thereof having been given in accordance with applicable law.

An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. The following items were discussed: Foreign exchange student discussion, personnel, legal contract discussion, superintendent evaluation progress. All board members were present for the executive session.

President Joe Ross called the meeting to order and directed the secretary to call the roll. Board Members present: Adrian Bianchi, Heather Clark, Brendan Dwyer, Eric Johnson, Jaclyn Litwin, Dr. Michael Mould, Joseph Ross and Tracy Wescott.

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

There was an opportunity for public participation provided. No public comments were made.

Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Wescott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson,, that the minutes from the February 12, 2024 School Board Meeting and March 4, 2024 Work Session be approved as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Bill Listing

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mould, that all bills found to be true and accurate be approved. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Mould made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wescott, that the board approve the February Treasurer's Report as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Bond Resolution

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi, that the board approve the bond issuance resolution for general obligation bonds to support the high school HVAC project. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

2022-23 Audit

Mrs. Clark made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mould, that the board approve the 2022-23 audit and single audit report as performed and issued by Murphy Dougherty and Co. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Solicitor Fee Agreement

Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Litwin, that the board approve the appointment of Sweet Stevens Katz & Williams as solicitor for the 2024-2025 fiscal year in accordance with their fee agreement for such legal services as may be determined by the Superintendent or designee. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

ESS Contract

Mrs. Clark made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wescott, that the board approve the substitute service contract with ESS for substitute teachers and support staff. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Design Done Right Contract

Mrs. Litwin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Johnson, that the board approve the website redesign contract with Design Done Right at a cost of \$6,700. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

E-Rate Category Two Switches

Mrs. Wescott made a motion, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, that the board approve the PA PEPPM Mini-bid Contract for Lackawanna Trail School District for Switches to Weidenhammer at a price of \$12,727.00, pending E-rate and General Operating Budget funding approval. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

E-Rate Category Two Enclosures/Racks

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi, that the board approve the PA PEPPM Mini-bid Contract for Lackawanna Trail School District for Enclosures/Racks to EnNet at a price of \$549.34, pending E-rate and General Operating Budget funding approval. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

E-Rate Category Two Wireless Access Points

Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi, that the board approve the PA PEPPM Mini-bid Contract for Lackawanna Trail School District for Wireless Access Points to CDW-G at a price of \$13,839.42, pending E-rate and General Operating Budget funding approval. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

GSL Government Consulting Contract

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Litwin, that the board approve the contract with GSL Government Consulting for assistance in identifying, securing and implementing grants available from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

School Board Director Resignation

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mould, that the board acknowledge the resignation of Candace Haft as School Board Director representing Region I from the Lackawanna Trail School District Board of Education effective February 19, 2024. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Region I School Board Director

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mould, that the board appoint Tony Vanko as School Board Director representing Region I to complete the portion of Candace Haft's unexpired term until December 2025. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

2024-2025 Academic Calendar

Mrs. Litwin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi, that the board approve the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Policy for First Reading

Mr. Johnson made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Litwin, that the board approve the first reading of the following policy: 903 Public Comment in Board Meetings. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

PMEA District Orchestra

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bianchi, that the board approve the request of use of facilities for the PMEA District Orchestra for January 9-11, 2025. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Substitute Elementary Special Education Teacher

Dr. Mould made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Litwin, that the board approve Meghan Marion as a substitute elementary special education teacher effective March 28, 2024 through the end of the 2023-2024 school year at a rate of \$120/day. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Extracurricular Resignation

Mrs. Wescott made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mould, that the board acknowledge the resignation of Joel Nietz as Varsity Girls' Basketball Head Coach. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Extracurricular Football Cheerleading Advisor

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Clark, that the board approve Lauren Keyes as the Varsity Football Cheerleading Advisor to begin the 2024-2025 school year at a stipend of \$2400, according to the LTEA Contract. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Board Resolution 2024-01

Mr. Dwyer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Clark, that the board approve the Wyoming County Tax Collection Committee Voting Delegate Appointment Resolution. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

Reports of New Business were provided by the Superintendent, Elementary and Secondary Principals, Director of Curriculum and Federal Programs and Maintenance and Transportation Supervisor.

Mr. Ross announced that there would be an executive session prior to the next meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrian Bianchi, Secretary Board of Education

Superintendent's Report

Regular Board Meeting

March 11 th , 2024

1. Currently we are advertising for two positions; a Jr.-Sr. High School Assistant Principal, and an Elementary Principal's Secretary. The postings and job descriptions, which run through March 20th , are located on our web page under the employment and clearances drop down menu. Each of these positions has a start date of the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. Tomorrow we will add a posting for an Elementary Librarian which will run through March 26th . My hope is that we are able to attract a strong pool of applicants.
2. In a little more than two weeks we will begin the fourth marking period of this academic year. I look forward to and encourage everyone to take advantage of all of the opportunities at Trail for the rest of this year. As per adjustments to this year's calendar the last student day is now scheduled for Monday June 3rd , and Commencement for the Class of 2024 is scheduled for Friday June 7th.
3. During the public portion of our Work Session on April 2 nd our team of School Resource Officers from the Dalton Police will provide an overview and highlights of the program.
4. Next week four public Committee Meetings will be held over the course of two days. On Monday March 18 th the Buildings & Grounds Committee will meet at 6:00, and the Curriculum Committee at 8:00. On Tuesday March 19 th the Budget and Finance Committee will meet at 6:00, and the Wellness Committee will meet at 8:00. All of these committee meetings are public, will be held in the boardroom, and agendas will be published in advance.
5. Thank you to the Board of Directors for approving the 2024-2025 academic calendar. Tomorrow it will be posted on our web page and Facebook page.

LTHS Principal's Report

March 11, 2024

M. Murphy

- 1.) Winter Sports Awards: Monday March 18th, 6:00pm PS Bank Auditorium
- 2.) PSAT Day and SAT Day at LTHS
 - a.) PSAT: Thurs., March 7th - All Sophomores
 - b.) ACT: Weds, March 13 for registered juniors
 - c.) SAT: Weds, March 20th for registered juniors

Registration posted to Google Classrooms, advertised to juniors. Will host SAT day in the Fall for any senior who would like to retest or test for the first time. We recommend taking the test twice for all college bound students.

- 3.) End of Q3 is upon us!
 - a.) The last day for the 3rd marking period is: Weds., March 27th
 - b.) A reminder on how important Student Attendance is every day, but especially in the spring. Missing just 2 days per month means a student loses out on nearly 200 hours of instruction compared to a student who attends every day.
 - c.) Spring assessments are right around the corner and missing instruction leading up to the tests causes anxiety and even more pressure to perform.
 - d.) We know illnesses will happen. Please avoid unnecessary travel and prolonged absences.
 - e.) PSSAs begin April 22nd, Keystones begin May 13th; APs 1st week in May
- 4.) Winter Semi Formal, JH Spring Dance:
 - a.) HS Semi formal was held on March 17th and Stonehenge golf course. It was sponsored by Student Council and we had over 200 students attend the event. It was a great night for the students.
 - b.) JH Spring dance will be this Friday at the Factoryville Fire Hall. Open to 7th and 8th grade students at LTHS only.
- 5.) Congratulations to Madison Palmer, PMEA All-State Concert Band. The festival will be held at the State Conference in Erie, PA, this April.
 - a.) Madison also qualified for PMEA District and Region Band as well as District and Region Orchestra (next weekend at Blue Ridge).
- 6.) SAVE THE DATE, HS Musical - The Sound of Music, April 5-7th. Friday and Saturday evening with a Sunday matinee. The set is coming together, the lighting crew is beginning their work, and the ensemble is gaining confidence - even performing for the bus driver appreciation event last week. Good luck to the cast and crew, we hope everyone comes out to see the show!

Shannon Kuchak - Director of Curriculum & Federal Programs Report

Board Meeting

March 11, 2024

1. Wonders Program ELA K-6 has been delivered. Teachers will receive PD on the new program during the upcoming Act 80 Day on March 22nd.
2. CDT Schedule - LTEC/Jr High/HS Schedule:
 - o LTEC PSSA CDT Schedule:
 - i. CDT's 3-6: March 18th-28th
 - ii. ELA: March 18th-19th
 - iii. Science: March 20th
 - iv. Math: March 25th-26th
 - v. Make-Ups: March 27th-28th

- Jr HIGH PSSA CDT Schedule: April 3rd -11th
 - i. ELA - April 3rd & 4th
 - ii. Science: April 9th
 - iii. Math: April 10th & 11th
- Keystone Course CDT Schedule: April 16th - 24th
 - i. Lit: April 16th & 17th
 - ii. Bio: April 18th
 - iii. Alg: April 23rd & 24th
- 3. We have recently submitted applications for the upcoming round of PCCD grant funding. If we are successful in securing this funding, we are looking to build upon our successful utilization of previous PCCD grant allocations in order to sustain and further enhance the health and safety initiatives within our district.
- 4. Curriculum Committee Meeting next Monday at 8pm. One of the topics we'll be discussing is the transition to Standards-Based Report Cards for some grades in the Elementary Center for the 2024-2025 school year. There will be more information to follow about this process.

Board Meeting

March 11, 2024

Elementary Principal Report

The Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center recently held our "Night at the Rink" on Wednesday, February 28th. This event was held in support of our PBIS Program. Thank you to all the families that came out.

Parent Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 14 from 5:00 - 7:30 and on Friday, March 15th from 8:00 - 2:00 pm. Conferences will be held virtually.

On Thursday, March 21st we will host a "Someone Special Dance" for students in grades K-3. This dance will be held from 5:30 - 7:00. Tickets are \$15 for students and their special someone. Additional students will cost \$5. Please note this dance is for LTEC students in grades K-3 ONLY.

On Wednesday, March 27th we will host "March Madness" in the gymnasium.

On Friday, April 5th we will be hosting a laser light as part of our SWPBIS Program. This event will be held during the school day.

Though we are a little over a month away please remember that PSSA testing will be held in grades 3-6 from April 29th through May 3rd. This schedule is available on our school website.

Maintenance & Transportation Supervisor Report

The tiles have arrived to repair the floor in the high school gym area. This will be completed by Friday.

Thank you for the program in support of the bus and private drivers. They appreciated being thanked, and I heard many compliments of the students who performed.

Business Manager Report

The Food Service Management Contract will be awarded in April.

The Budget and Finance Committee will meet at 6:00 PM on the 19th and is open to the public.