

LEBANON BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Regular Business Meeting Minutes
December 1, 2022 6:30 pm
Lebanon Borough School Library

CALL TO ORDER: D. Elwell called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm

PUBLICATION

OF NOTICE:

In accordance with the provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, adequate notice of this meeting was provided through a public notice on January 13, 2022:

- a. Faxing to 2 Newspapers designated by the Board – The Hunterdon County Democrat and the Express Times*
- b. Posting to the District Website, posting on the main bulletin board in the main office,*
- c. Faxing to the Clerk of Lebanon Borough.*

ROLL CALL: Board Members:

Dan Elwell, President

David Abeles

Danielle Nugent

Benedict Valliere via Google Meet

Absent: Jacklyn Carruthers, Vice President

District Administrators:

Dr. Bruce Arcurio, Chief School Administrator

Mrs. Patricia Duell, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE:

D. Elwell led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President's Comments:

Congratulations to David Abeles and Danielle Nugent for winning the 2 board seats in November's election.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

Action Item 23-CSA-05:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby accepts the HIB report for the month of November 2022.

Motion by: D. Abeles, Second by D. Nugent. The Board adopts the resolution on a roll call vote as follows: 4 ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

CSA Discussion:

Discussion on policy and regulation 3270 which will be put on the agenda in January for a second reading and adoption.

Report of the School Business Administrator:

Informational: The next meeting is Thursday, January 5, 2023 at 6:30 pm (Reorganization Meeting)

Discussion for Reorganization:

1. Change public comments to one session only? Change to 1 public comment session after business has been handled.
2. Keep meetings on first Thursday of month? Change meetings to the first Tuesday of the month effective with February's meeting.
3. Representative to the Clinton-Glen Gardner Board

Health Insurance Rates: The new premiums have been posted and they are significantly higher. I will have a historical analysis to see what our actual costs have been for the next meeting.

CPS representative – we will be able to send a board member to represent Lebanon Borough at the Clinton Glen Gardner meetings effective as of January. Please decide who you would like that to be so we can appoint them at our Re-org meeting.

ACTION ITEMS 23-BA-21 THROUGH 23-BA-25:**Action 23-BA-21:**

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby approves the following Board Meeting Minutes for:

Minutes: Regular Session

November 3, 2022

Action 23-BA-22:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby approves the Board Secretary Reports for the period ending:

October 31, 2022

Action 23-BA-23:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby **approves the Treasurer's Reports for the period ending:**

October 31, 2022

Action 23-BA-24:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education hereby **approves Line item transfers for the period ending:**

October 31, 2022

Action 23-BA-25:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Education does hereby certify that as of the date of these reports, no line item account has encumbrances and/or expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.1:

AND BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chief School Administrator recommends that the Lebanon Borough Board of Education **accept the monthly financial reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of School Monies for the following periods:**

October 31, 2022

AND FURTHER RECOMMENDS, in compliance NJAC 6A:23-2.11c (4), that the Board of Education certify that no major account has been over-expended in violation of NJAC 6A:23-2.11(b) and that as of this report date, sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the school year.

Motion for Action Items 23-BA-21 through 23-BA-25:

Motion by: D. Nugent, Second by D. Abeles. The Board adopts the resolution on a roll call vote as follows: 4 ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

BA Discussion:

Discussion on Reorganization meeting items.

Discussion on health insurance benefits.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: AGENDA ITEMS

Please note that as a practice the Board limits public comments to three minutes.

District's Policy 0167 - Public Participation in Board Meetings. The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express themselves on school matters of community interest. In order to

permit the fair and orderly expression of such comment, the Board shall provide for two periods of public comments at every regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. Public participation shall be governed by the following rules:

- 1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his or her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate.*
- 2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to a reasonable time as determined by the presiding officer.*
- 3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard.*
- 4. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually.*
- 5. The presiding officer may*
 - (a) Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant to the district;*
 - (b) Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;*
 - (c) Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;*
 - (d) Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the Board's business.*

Marlene Baldinger, Brunswick Ave. Commented on bussing issues going to/from Clinton Public School as well as communication between the two districts and with parents. Ms. Baldinger also commented on her opinions about the public comment sections of the board meetings.

FACILITY/FINANCE/POLICY:

Action Items 23-FFP-35 through 23-FFP-36:

Action item 23-FFP-35:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the **payment of bills** for the period ending **December 1, 2022 in the amount of \$ 289,492.20.**

Action item 23-FFP-36:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the **Statement of Assurance** for the **2022/2023 Safety & Security Plan.**

Motion for Action Items 23-FFP-35 through 23-FFP-36:

Motion by: D. Abeles, Second by D. Nugent. The Board adopts the resolution on a roll call vote as follows: 4 ayes, 0 No, 0 Abstain.

FFP Discussion:

Question on the safety plan SOA.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC:

Please refer to Lebanon Borough BOE policy 0167 for public comment guidelines

Marlene Baldinger, Bruswick Ave. questioned if the availability of substitute teacher's has gotten better since the rate of pay was increased.

Lowell Perkins, 4th grade student teacher introduced himself to the board and thanked them for the opportunity to do his practicum and student teaching at the school.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion on the burst pipe and use of an inclement weather/emergency day.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

WHEREAS, while the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) requires all meetings of the Lebanon Borough Board of Education to be held in public, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine (9) types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in "Executive Session," i.e. without the public being permitted to attend, and

WHEREAS, the Lebanon Borough Board of Education has determined that the following issues are permitted by N.J.S.A. 10: 4-12(b) to be discussed without the public in attendance and shall be discussed during an Executive Session.

WHEREAS, any pending litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. The nature of the matter, described as specifically as possible without undermining the need for confidentiality is to discuss the following:

Matters under Attorney/Client Privilege

WHEREAS, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be fifteen (15) minutes after which the meeting shall reconvene and proceed with business.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lebanon Borough Board of Education will go into Executive Session for only the above stated reasons;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject will be made public at such time as the reason for confidentiality no longer exists.

Motion to enter Executive session:

Motion by D. Abeles, Second by D. Nugent. The resolution is adopted by the full membership of the board at 7:12 pm.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves reconvening the regular Board meeting.

Motion to Exit Executive Session:

Motion by B. Valliere, Second by D. Abeles. The resolution is adopted by the full membership of the board at 7:28 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Action Item 23-AD-05:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education adjourns this meeting.

Motion by B. Valliere, Second by D. Abeles. The resolution is adopted by the full membership of the board at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Duell
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Minutes prepared: December 2, 2022
Minutes remain unofficial until formally adopted by the board.

Daniel Elwell
Board President

Date