

## Unapproved Minutes of the November 10, 2014 Board Meeting

The LTSD Board of Education met in a meeting on November 10, 2014 @ 7:36pm in the board room, public notice having been given in accordance with Pa.C.S.A. § 709 (Sunshine Act) & LTSD Procedure #006. President Lombardi, called the meeting to order. Present:, Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Clarke, Mr. Lombardi, Dr. Mould, Mr. Mulhern, Mrs. Selwood, Mr. Stark, Mr. Strauch, Mr. Thorne. Administrators present: Mr. Rakauskas, Dr. Murphy, Ms. Russell, Dr. Stoker, Mr. Homish.

All motions approved by unanimous vote unless otherwise noted.

Motion by Mr. Clarke, Mrs. Selwood to accept the minutes as corrected (by Mr. Strauch) passed 7-1-1, Mr. Thorne abstaining since he was absent from the last meeting, Mr. Strauch voting 'NO' as details required by law were missing.

Motion by Mr. Strauch, Mr. Thorne that the following consent agenda be accepted.

+ Motion that the Treasurer's Report be approved as submitted

+Motion that the following names be added to the district substitute lists.

Bernetta Scacchitti	Dunmore	Tchr Asst/Secretary	All Clearances on file
Daniel Luce II	Wilkes Barre	E.Chd/Elem.	All Clearances on file

+Motion that Mary Zbegner be appointed mentor for Kelly Hopkins, secondary librarian at a stipend of \$450 as stipulated in the collective bargaining agreement.

Motion by Mr. Thorne, Dr. Mould that all bills found to be true and accurate be approved.

Motion by Mr. Stark, Mr. Bianchi that Policy #138 entitled *Limited English Proficiency Program* be approved for second reading.

Motion by Mr. Clarke, Mrs. Selwood that the Lackawanna Trail School District Comprehensive Plan be approved, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Stark, Mr. Thorne that Leslie Grega be appointed to the full time secretarial position at the probation rate of \$15.20/hour as stipulated in the collective bargaining agreement. Passed 8-0-1, Mr. Strauch abstaining because, by contract, the Superintendent appoints.

Motion by Mrs. Selwood, Mr. Bianchi that Jody Kwitkowski be approved as a volunteer girls' basketball coach for the 2014-2015 school year, all clearances currently on file.

Motion by Mr. Clarke, Mr. Strauch that Thomas Ward be approved as a volunteer wrestling coach for the 2014-2015 school year, all clearances currently on file.

Motion by Dr. Mould, Mr. Clarke that the *Settlement Agreement and Release* between the Lackawanna Trail School District and Miss Laurie Burdett be approved.

Motion by Mr. Clarke, Mr. Stark to amend the agenda.

Motion by Mr. Stark, Mr. Bianchi that David Homish's resignation as Business Manager be accepted effective June 30, 2015 with regret. Passed 8-0-1 (Mr. Strauch abstaining) **because there is no authority to accept or reject an employee's resignation.**

Discussion by the public (Mrs. Strauch) to introduce two separate and distinct Drivers Education Business representatives who wished to be approved to conduct the business of testing Trail students for their Pennsylvania Drivers License, as allowed by law, at no cost or liability to the School District. The majority of the Board would not consider allowing these businesses to conduct their fair and legal trade as approved by the State.

Questions by the public (Mrs. Clarke) to ask the Board members to present their reasons for not approving the Drivers Education Businesses to test Trail students. Mrs. Selwood responded that since there may be some students who could not afford to use a Drivers Education Business, then ALL students should be denied the opportunity of using them. Mr. Mulhern responded that he believed only State officials should conduct the tests, i.e. he does not support Penn DOT's "End-of-Course Skills Program" that is in place in schools across Pennsylvania. No other Board member would offer a reason for their objection to the proposal. Mr. Strauch supported the proposition.

Motion by Dr. Mould to adjourn at 8:39pm.

---

There was an Executive Session from 6:30 - 7:20pm to discuss:

- + the proposed agenda for the night
- + the proposed budget
- + the resignation of the Business Manager

**Note: The first topic is not allowable under the Sunshine Act for Executive Sessions.**  
<http://webpages.charter.net/gdsbmmlp/sunshine.htm#%EF%BF%BD%20708.%20Executive>

There was another Executive Session hastily called from 7:23 to 7:35 to discuss

- + the strategy of dealing with a request by the public to consider a proposal that would benefit parents and students.

**This topic was clearly in violation of the Sunshine act for discussion at an Executive Session (as above), was objected to by Mr. Strauch, citing the appropriate section of the law. Mr. Strauch was told by Mr. Lombardi to report the action to anyone he liked and if he felt strongly about the situation to leave the room. Mr. Strauch then absented himself from the illegal meeting, and explained to the public awaiting the regular meeting why he took that action.**

There will be another Executive Session before the next meeting to discuss matters that may arise.