Unapproved, unofficial Minutes of the November 9, 2020 Lackawanna Trail School Board Meeting

The LTSD Board of Education had a meeting on November 9, 2020 @ 7:34pm in a Zoom session, public notice having been given in accordance with Pa.C.S.A. § 709 (Sunshine Act) & LTSD Procedure #006. The President called the meeting to order. Present: Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Minick, Dr. Mould, Mr. Mulhern, Ms. Naylor, Mr. Petula, Mr. Ross, Mr. Stark, Mr. Thorne. Administrators present: Dr. Murphy, Mr. Glynn, Ms. Talarico, Mr. Kearney, Ms. Kuchak, Mr. Rakauskas, and Mr. Schofield.

At times there were up to 51 attendees at the Zoom meeting.

Unless otherwise indicated, the following agenda items were approved by unanimous vote.

+ Motion by Mr. Stark, Mr. Thorne to approve the minutes of the previous two meetings.

+ Motion by Mr. Minick, Mr. Ross that all bills found to be true and accurate be approved.

+ Motion by Dr. Mould, Mr. Ross to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted

+ Motion by Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Ross to approve purchase of 32 SMART Boards from a COSTARS authorized reseller up to $50,000 from assigned fund balance.

+ Motion by Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Stark to approve CDW-G for $ 9,013.80 to purchase projectors from assigned fund balance.

+ Motion by Dr. Mould, Mr. Thorne to approve the following policies complete with errors.

[111: Lesson Plans](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20111%20Lesson%20Plans.pdf)

[203: Immunizations & Communicable Diseases](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20203%20Immunizations%20and%20Communicable%20Diseases.pdf)

[209: Health Examinations/Screenings](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20209%20Health%20Examinations-%20Screenings.pdf)

[309.1:Telework](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20309.1%20Telework.pdf)

[314: Physical Exam](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20314%20Physical%20Examination.pdf)

[318: Penalties for Tardiness](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20318%20Attendance%20and%20Tardiness.pdf)

[331: Job Related Expenses](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20331%20Job%20Related%20Expenses.pdf)

[332: Working Periods](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20332%20Working%20Periods.pdf)

[334: Sick leave](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20334%20Sick%20Leave.pdf)

[340: Responsibility for Student Welfare](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20340%20Responsibility%20for%20Student%20Welfare.pdf)

[705: Safety](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20705%20Facilities%20and%20Workplace%20Safety.pdf)

[803: School Calendar](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20803%20School%20Calendar.pdf)

[904: Public Attendance @ School Events](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20904%20Public%20Attendance%20at%20School%20Events.pdf)

[907: School Visitors](https://www.ltsd.org/cms/lib/PA02203626/Centricity/Domain/267/BoardDocs%20PL%20907%20School%20Visitors.pdf)

+ Motion by Mr. Stark, Dr. Mould to approve the Superintendent’s early contract renewal for Matthew Rakauskas for July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2026 at a salary of $125,198 as per first year of the contract was overridden by a motion by Mr. Bianchi and Mr. Petula to table for one month to give the public time to comment. Note: There was significant input from the public as to why this early renewal was necessary, and why the public was not informed of this motion in time to reasonably discuss the issue.

+ Motion by Mr. Minick, Mr. Bianchi to approve the retirement of Robert Smith from his Maintenance II position effective December 31, 2020.

+ Motion by Mr. Thorne, Ms. Naylor to approve Erin Merkel’s request for FMLA leave starting December 1, 2020 with a return date of March 4, 2021.

+ Motion by Dr. Mould, Mr. Stark to board approve Robert Houser’s request for FMLA leave from October 19, 2020 to return to work starting with a half-day on November 23, 2020. Approved 7-2, Mr. Bianchi and Mr. Thorne voting 'NO'.

+ Motion by Ms. Naylor, Mr. Stark to approve Rebecca Joseph’s request for FMLA for continued leave with a return date of November 19, 2020.

+ Motion by Mr. Thorne, Ms. Naylor to approve Tara Conway as a long-term substitute Elementary Learning Support teacher for 90 school days, at a pay rate of $54,374/yr prorated.

All clearances are on file.

+ Motion by Mr. Minick, Mr. Bianchi to approve the extension of Lauren Keyes substitute paraprofessional position ending on November 18, 2020, at a pay rate stipulated in the collective bargaining agreement. All clearances are on file. Passed 8-0-1, Mr. Minick abstained.

+ Motion by Dr. Mould, Mr. Stark to approve Jake Bedford as the Jr. High Basketball Coach starting the 2020-2021 season, at a stipend of $3,750 according to the LTEA contract, will not be paid if the season is canceled. All clearances are currently on file.

+ Motion by Mr. Minick, Mr. Bianchi to approve Lauren Keyes as the Volunteer Basketball Cheer Coach for the 2020-2021 Season. All clearances are on file.

+ Motion by Mr. Thorne, Dr. Mould to approve Jeffery Marx as the Volunteer Wrestling Coach for the 2020-2021 Season. All clearances are on file.

+ Motion by Mr. Bianchi, Mr. Minick to approve Chaz Ross as the Volunteer Wrestling Coach for the 2020-2021 Season. All clearances are on file.

The Superintendent gave a report and stated that Winter Sports are expected to be delayed pending review with dates to be determined. Also, there will be a use of virtual days to avoid school closings for predictable likely weather events.

Mr. Kearney stated that there will be a November 20 virtual parent conference or phone conference with teachers for the Elementary Center.

Mr. Kuchak gave a review of attendance related issues due to the pandemic.

Meeting adjourned 9:06pm

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There was an Executive Session of the Board on November 2 from 7:42-8:27pm to discuss the Superintendent's Contract.

There was an Executive Session of the Board before this night's public meeting to discuss personnel matters related to winter sports and persons mentioned on the agenda.

There is an expected Executive Session before the next public meeting.