Unofficial Minutes of the February 7, 2022 Lackawanna Trail School Board Meeting

The LTSD Board of Education had a meeting on February 7, 2022 @ 7:30pm in the Board room and ZOOM, 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, Mr. Petula, Mr. Ross, Mr. Schmidt, Mrs. Wescott. Administrators present: Mr. Rakauskas, Dr. Murphy, Mr. Kearney, Mr. Glynn, Ms. Talarico, Ms. Kuchak, Mr. Schofield.

There were up to 27 participants and one reporter attending either in the Board Room or via ZOOM.

The meeting began with an Hour and 25 minute update on the Comprehensive Planning Process hosted by Mr. Rakauskas.

Then various Goal setting specific presentations with measurable benchmarks were made as follows

 Ms. Kuchak - Student Centered Support systems

 Mr. Kearney - PRIDE program

 Dr. Murphy - Professional Learning

 Ms. Kuchak & Dr. Murphy - Courses of Study

 Mr. Rakauskas - School Safety, Physical and Social-emotional

 Ms. Talarico - Special Educational Needs

Board Member Mr. Petula questioned about the Board's requirement as per policies to approve materials. There was no adequate response to his question.

The following items were proposed to appear on agenda for next week's meeting.

+ Motion that all bills found to be true and accurate be approved.

+ Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted.

+ Motion to amend the Act I Resolution motion from January 17, 2022 to indicate the correct adjusted rate of 4.4%.

+ Motion to approve the budget for the Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit #19 for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Lackawanna Trail’s contribution is $13,193.94.

+ Motion to approve the solicitation of bids for the construction of the Lackawanna Trail Student Wellness Center.

+ Motion to approve the Jr.and Sr. High 2022-2023 Curriculum/ Course Description Guide.

+ Motion to approve the Elementary 2022-2023 Curriculum/ Course Description Guide.

+ Motion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as School Board Director representing Region I to complete the remainder of David Thorne’s unexpired term ending in 2023, effective February 14, 2022. [This item on the agenda appears to confirm the apparent Sunshine Law violation by the Board to select the next candidate in a closed-door Executive Session rather than before the public as required.]

+ Motion to remove from the table the motion from December 6, 2021 to appoint \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to complete the remainder of Philip Stark’s unexpired term on Intermediate Unit 19’s Board of Directors through 2023.

+ Motion to appoint \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to complete the remainder of Philip Stark’s unexpired term on Intermediate Unit 19’s Board of Directors through 2023.

+ Motion to approve Tom Lengel as Stagecraft Director to begin the 2021-2022 school year at a stipend of $1675 according to the LTEA agreement. All clearances on file.

+ Motion to approve Elissa Loubet 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.

+ Motion to acknowledge the resignation of Laurel Kinback from her position as Unified Track & Field Coach effective immediately.

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There was an Executive Session from 5:30 to 7:25pm

+ to discuss personnel

+ to review district communications (apparent violation of 65Pa.C.S.§§708)

+ to review legal personnel matter

+ to discuss Building & Grounds needs (apparent violation of 65Pa.C.S.§§708)

+ to revue Board replacement procedure (apparent violation of Sunshine Act and the procedure recommended by the PSBA)

There will be an Executive Session before the next meeting.

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Public ZOOM CHAT Comments during meeting

The decision was made NOT to allow the Public to participate via ZOOM CHAT.

During the Public discussion, Mr. Rakauskas began with a review of the Health and Safety plan and then continued an almost one hour discussion with various members of the public about COVID, its implications, masking, and preventive philosophies.

Ronda Normal asked from the public in the rear of the room about the masking policy and then presented to the Board data to support ending the masking mandate. She asked what data the Board had to support masking, but there was no response.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54pm.

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