

Standing Rule on Roll Call Votes, Passed September 12, 2017, Policy 006.2

The Laurel Board of Education met on Wednesday, September 9th, 2020, for their regular meeting in the Board Room at the Middle/High School. The meeting was also available virtually.

The meeting was called to order by the Board President, Mr. Stephen Sickafuse at 7:09 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Roll call by the Board Secretary for Board members present:

Mr. Robert Dicks	Mrs. Korie Enscoe (via phone)	Mr. Jeff Hammerschmidt
Mr. Justin Kirkwood	Mr. James McGee	Mr. Lance Nimmo
Mr. Michael Parker	Mr. Kevin Patterson	Mr. Stephen Sickafuse.

Also in attendance:

Mr. Leonard Rich, Superintendent	Mrs. Jennifer Conrad, Business Manager
Mr. Robert Lee, Director of Administrative Svcs	Mr. Kevin Mahoney, Principal
Mr. Mark Frengel, Principal	Mr. Daniel Svirbly, Principal
Mrs. Nicole Bell, Director of Pupil Services	Mr. Matthew Mangino, Solicitor.
Mr. Pete Siriani, New Castle News	

There were 3 in-person guests and online guests.

Recognition of Meetings:

September 2, 2020: 7:10 – 8:26 PM Board Work Session, 6:00-7:10 PM Executive Session for Personnel/Legal

Presentation – Pride and Promise:

Mr. Rob Lee introduced the Tech Team consisting of Brent Kosior, Junior, Slippery Rock University, Aaron Sickafuse, Junior, Grove City College, and Sebastian Shaffer, Senior, Laurel Middle/High School. Mr. Lee recapped the accomplishments of the Tech Team this past summer and thanked the team for being extremely instrumental in the District’s technological progress.

Report from Standing Board Committees:

Nothing to report.

Administrator Report:

Mr. Rich and Mrs. Conrad informed the Board that USDA had approved the continuation of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) program which meant that all students, both in the building and virtual/synchronous, could have a breakfast and lunch at no cost.

Patrons’ Session relative to Agenda items:

Mrs. Bobbilyn Henry complemented everyone involved with the football scrimmage held on September 5th and noted that there were issues with the scoreboard not working correctly.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Patterson, second by Kirkwood to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Board. The President requested negative votes and abstentions by show of hands. There were none. All votes were recorded as roll call votes – Yes.

Treasurer's Report:

Motion by McGee, second by Kirkwood to approve the Treasurer's Report to the Board as of August 31, 2020. Cash Balance for July 31, 2020 was \$1,748,274.88. Receipts during August, 2020, were \$1,165,201.59. Expenditures during August, 2020, were \$1,001,897.03. The President requested negative votes and abstentions by show of hands. There were none. All votes were recorded as roll call votes – Yes.

Investment Report:

Motion by McGee, second by Patterson to approve the Investment Report as of August 31, 2020. The President requested negative votes and abstentions by show of hands. There were none. All votes were recorded as roll call votes – Yes.

Approve General Fund Bill Listings:

Motion by McGee, second by Dicks to approve the General Fund Bill Listing for September 9, 2020, in the amount of \$644,737.01 and checks written manually during the month of August, 2020 in the amount of \$26,328.12 for a total of \$671,065.13. The President requested negative votes and abstentions by show of hands. There were none. All votes were recorded as roll call votes – Yes.

Board action items:**A. Personnel:**

Motion by Kirkwood, second by Patterson to approve the following items A1 through A17:

1. Approve an FMLA/Disability Leave for Mrs. Sarah Dado beginning August 18, 2020, and ending on October 18, 2020.
2. Recognize the employment of Mrs. Lisa Simko as a Technology Education Tutor for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$21,000 for 187 days, effective August 24, 2020.
3. Approve the transfer of Cynthia Nicklas to the position of Clerical Aide in the Middle/High School Office at a rate of \$10.25/hr. for 6 hrs per day and for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year, effective September 10, 2020.
4. Approve the employment of Lisa Boston as a Part-Time Elementary Attendance Secretary/Cafeteria (dual position) at a rate of \$10.00/hr. as Attendance Secretary and \$10.50/hr. for the Cafeteria position for a total of 6 hrs. per day (2.5 hrs. as Attendance Secretary/3.5 hrs. Cafeteria), for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year, pending receipt of required clearances.
5. Approve the employment Chad Adams as a School Police Officer at a rate of \$20.00 per hour with no other benefits.
6. Approve the employment of Jay McBride as the Jr. High Baseball Coach for the 2020-2021 school year on Step 7 of the Assistant Coach for Secondary Sports schedule in the negotiated agreement (19-20 rate is \$3,400).

7. Approve the employment of Sarah Little as a Title I Paraprofessional at a rate of \$21,600 for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year, effective immediately.
8. Approve the salary of \$24,365 for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year for Title I Paraprofessional, Delita Doran. This position is funded with Federal Title I funding.
9. Approve the salary of \$22,032 for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year for Title I Paraprofessional, Pamela Bowden. This position is funded with Federal Title I funding.
10. Approve the attached list of additions to the Volunteer and Non-instructional Substitute Listing for the 2020-2021 school year, pending required clearances.
11. Recognize the employment of Taylor Wetzel as Elementary Cafeteria Server (17.5 hrs. per week) at a rate of \$10.50/hr. per negotiated agreement, for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year, effective August 31, 2020.
12. Recognize the employment of Buffy McConahy as Elementary Manager/Cashier/Cook (30 hrs. per week) at a rate of \$10.50/hr. per negotiated agreement, for 180 days during the 2020-2021 school year, effective August 31, 2020.
13. Approve a \$0.25/hour increase for the 2020-2021 school year for all aide positions including:
 - Special Education Aides/Paraprofessionals (includes IDEA)
 - Library Aides
 - Clerical Aides
14. Remove the motion from August 12, 2020, for approval of the Superintendent's evaluation for the 2019-2020 school year from the table.
15. It is the recommendation of the President to the board to approve the Superintendent's evaluation for the 2019-2020 school year. Leonard A. Rich was rated as Proficient by the board of education.
16. Approve Angela Murrman to attend "Writing IEPs and the Educational Benefits Review Process" webinar on September 22, 2020, with the cost to the District of \$85 for a substitute teacher.
17. Approve the following resignations/retirements:
 - Ms. Nicole Wade as the Assistant Volleyball Coach and Jr. High Track & Field Coach – Effective August 17, 2020 (resignation)
 - Mrs. Brooke Knox as the Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach – Effective August 17, 2020 (resignation) – added to volunteer list
 - Megan West as a Title I Paraprofessional – Effective August 21, 2020 (resignation)
 - Kevin Mahoney as Secondary Principal in Charge of the Middle School and Student Affairs 7-12– Effective November 2, 2020 (retirement)

The President requested negative votes and abstentions by the show of hands. There were none. All votes were recorded as roll call votes – Yes.

Mr. Kirkwood thanked Mr. Mahoney for his years of service to the Laurel community and indicated how much he has meant to the District. Mr. Sickafuse added that Mr. Mahoney is an outstanding individual and will be sorely missed.

B. Committee of the Whole:

Motion by McGee, second by Parker to approve the following items B1 through B12:

1. Approve the Virtual Learner and Guardian Code of Conduct (attached).
2. Approve the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV to service Title I students attending non-public schools during the 2020-2021 school year.
3. Recognize and approve an agreement for cyber services with the Seneca Valley School District for virtual education (attached).
4. Approve the renewal of the established service agreement between Laurel School District and Johnson Controls for the period October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021, in the amount of \$6,214 (attached).
5. Approve the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant permission for student-athletes to participate in PIAA-approved programs within the District.
6. Recognize and approve Jessica Farra as a student teacher from Penn State University for the Middle/High School for the 2020-2021 school year under the supervision of Mrs. Susan Gryn.
7. Grant approval for Ms. Elizabeth Volkay, Westminster Graduate Student, to receive practicum training during the Fall of 2020 with the Laurel School District.
8. Approve the acceptance of a bid of \$25.00 for the sale of used lockers to Charles Boyer.
9. Approve the second reading and adoption of the 300 policies on the attached list.
10. Approve the addition of Jennifer Conrad to all District bank accounts as an authorized signer.
11. Approve the consolidation of unused bank accounts drawn on First National Bank of PA and the closing of the Laurel Athletic Association account.

12. Approve Sydney Alfara and Michael Avery to compete as independent swimmers representing Laurel School District for the 2020-2021 school year. All costs and transportation will be the responsibility of the parents.

The President requested negative votes and abstentions by the show of hands. There were none. All votes were recorded as roll call votes - Yes.

New Business:

Mr. Sickafuse questioned the principals if there has been an increase in the number of cyber or synchronous learners. Mr. Frengel reported no increase, Mr. Svirbly indicated there has been an increase, but the number of students returning to in-person learning has also increased, so attendance is relatively the same.

Mr. Patterson requested an update on the band shelter and football scoreboard. Mr. Rich indicated that the band shelter is ready for use other than some minor cosmetic items to complete. The District has purchased a control board for the football scoreboard that will provide a short-term repair for most of the issues. The long-term repair/replacement will be addressed during the State of the Laurel discussion at budget time.

Patrons' Session relative to non-agenda items:

None.

Adjournment

Motion by Patterson, second by McGee to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of the Laurel Board of Education at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted


Jennifer L. Conrad, Board Secretary


Stephen Sickafuse, Board President