

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## Minutes of CONNEAUT BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING

December 15, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Conneaut Area City Schools Board of Education was held on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at the Conneaut High School 381 Mill Street, Conneaut, Ohio 44030. The Regular Meeting was preceded by a 10:00 a.m. Work Session.

Work Session: Mrs. Carrie Brockway, Lakeshore Principal, provided the board with an update on the “Home of the Little Spartans”. With an enrollment of 436 students of preschool thru 2nd grade, 37 certified teachers and intervention specialists, 20 classified support staff and related services staff that are in and out of the buildings, Lakeshore is a busy building. Mrs. Brockway shared that thru COVID and employee absences, she truly appreciates the flexibility that staff has provided in filling in where needed to support a consistent learning environment as much as possible. The building is focusing on social and emotional learning skills with support of Community Counseling. Specials classes have been built in for two times per day, four times per week providing social and emotional skills within the class period, noting there is a huge value to the specials classes of music, physical education/health and art. PBIS is also a focus in promoting that Little Spartans choose to be kind, safe and responsible. Each classroom selects a PAX leader monthly to be recognized. Staff had earned the Bronze PBIS award last year and are working their way towards the Silver PBIS award for this year. Promethean boards have been added to LPS for student and staff use. Mrs. Brockway also noted that the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant is being provided again this year to Lakeshore students with all students receiving a free fruit or vegetable three days per week.

Dr. Emily Dobran, Executive Director for ACCESS Ashtabula County, provided exciting news of being the recipient of the GEARUP Program grant provided to Access and partners, Conneaut Area City Schools and Kent State University. The GEARUP Program is a college and career advisory and education program that will be starting in the 7th through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade to provide enrichment programs. Dr. Dobran will be working with the school district to identify the best use of expenditures for programming. Dr. Dobran also shared that this program could become a 7 or 8-year program if funding allows.

Mrs. Miranda reviewed the federal change in minimum wage and that she and Mrs. Riley propose exceeding the minimum wage for substitute classified support staff to \$11.00 per hour for substitute cafeteria, custodial, paraprofessionals and administrative assistants.

Meeting began at 10:31 a.m.

Members Present: Penny Armeni, Christopher Bartone, Suzanne Bernardini, Christopher Brecht, Joan Norton.

Others Present: Bob Ettinger – Courier, Chuck Guglielmo, Jim Kulko.

Certifications by Treasurer that the Board of Education is in Compliance with meeting requirement rules.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Armeni

Agenda Modifications: None

Delegations and visitors: None

Correspondence: Mrs. Miranda presented two letters of support against House Bill 126. One for the board members to sign and one from the superintendent and treasurer. House Bill 126 negatively affects the district’s ability to file a complaint regarding property valuations and thus affects the district’s ability to collect property taxes. House Bill 126 puts in place requirements for boards of education across the state to follow multiple steps before filing a complaint.

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Presentations: Mrs. Kathy Zappitelli presented the Conneaut Chamber of Commerce Student of the Month award to Carl Lambert. Mrs. Rebecca Thomas shared that Carl is a problem solver, is a helper in the class, is very responsible and is always willing to take on extra work.

Mrs. Penny Armeni presented the 2021 OSBA Media Honor Roll Awards to Mr. Chuck Guglielmo, Conneaut Ohio Cable Access Television and Mr. Jim Kulko, Great Wave Communications for their ongoing responsible and exemplary nature of reporting on this community's public schools.

Committee Reports: None

Legislative – None

A-Tech – Mrs. Bernardini reported A-Tech held the sophomore showcase which allowed students to experience different tech tracks available at A-Tech. mailed the quarterly newsletter.

Athletic Council/SPARC– None

Friends of the Conneaut Public Library/DLT – None

City Council – Mrs. Norton, stated the next monthly joint City Council meeting has been scheduled for 6:00 p.m. in the Conneaut High School Library, for January 12, 2022. Spartan of the Month for December is LaiAnna Loucks.

Board President – None

Superintendent's report: Mrs. Riley, Superintendent, shared that after discussions with the school nurse, and athletic director, athletic teams will be placed on a 2-week hiatus if two or more team members test positive. Mrs. Riley continues to support the use of facial coverings as the county population is still less than 50% vaccinated. Mrs. Riley also shared that the 2022-2023 calendar committee met and have two options for review and will be presenting a final calendar for board approval in the spring. The board held discussion of the value and positive effect on tourism and local business if the district adopts a later calendar start date.

Treasurer's report: Mrs. Miranda reviewed agenda items for board members, discussing the early redemption of the PI Tax Anticipation note with Conneaut Savings Bank. The outstanding balance of the bond was paid by private donation, not public funds.

12-2021-01 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the minutes of the regular meeting of November 17, 2021 be approved as presented.  
Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Norton  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried

12-2021-02 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the financial report be approved as presented.  
Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Norton, Armeni  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried

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- 12-2021-03 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the resolution authorizing the funding and optional redemption of the school district's outstanding school improvement bonds, series 2018, and authorizing and directing the call of those bonds for optional redemption prior to maturity.  
Ayes: Bernardini, Brecht, Norton, Armeni, Bartone  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 12-2021-04 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the following donations as presented.
- Donation in the amount of \$1,600 for SPARC from FO Eagles Club, fund # 019-9100
  - Donation in the amount of \$1,400 for SPARC from FO Eagles Club, fund # 019-9100
  - Donation in the amount of \$1,550 for SPARC form FO Eagles Club, fund # 019-9100
  - Donation in the amount of \$3,000 for Marching Band Uniforms from Peggy and Clayton Webb, fund #001-1890
  - Donation in the amount of \$\$1,137 for Conneaut Boys Basketball Bench Club from the Class of 2025 Craft Fair, fund 200-9025
  - Donation in the amount of \$84.25 from Conneaut Port Authority for Stuff the Bus, fund #001-1890
- Ayes: Brecht, Norton, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 12-2021-05 Moved by Christopher Bartone, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board approve the agreement between the district and the General Electric Company as presented.  
Ayes: Norton, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 12-2021-06 Moved by Suzanne Bernardini, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Board approve an increase in the wages of substitute cafeteria, custodial, clerical and paraprofessionals to \$11.00 per/hour to exceed the current Ohio minimum wage requirements effective January 1, 2022.  
Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Norton  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 12-2021-07 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Christopher Bartone that the Board approve the OSBA Media Honor Roll 2021 resolution as presented.  
Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Norton, Armeni  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried

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- 12-2021-08 Moved by Christopher Bartone, seconded by Joan Norton that the Board approve the resolution for the temporary employment of substitute teachers as presented.  
Ayes: Bernardini, Brecht, Norton, Armeni, Bartone  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 12-2021-09 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Suzanne Bernardini that the Board approve the revised district calendar for school year 2021-2022 as presented.  
Ayes: Brecht, Norton, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini  
Nays:  
Abstain:  
Motion Carried
- 12-2021-10 Moved by Joan Norton, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board approve the following personnel resolutions, pending proper certification and successful completion of pre-employment testing and personnel paper work as needed, in accordance with scale as adopted by the Board.
- 10.01 Approve supplemental resignation
- Emily Tallbacka Winter Cheerleading Advisor
- 10.02 Approve leave for the following personnel.
- Lesley Gerics, beginning on or about 3/21/22 through 5/13/22 following the birth of a child.
- 10.03 Approve a one (1) year contract for the following classified personnel for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Jennifer Owens, bus aide/w parapro certification, step 0, 7 hrs/per day, 186 days/per year, effective 11/30/21  
Shelley Fertig, bus aide, step 0, 5 hrs/per day, 186 days/per year, effective 12/1/21
- 10.04 Approve employment for the following substitute classified personnel for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Jeanann Irwin
- 10.05 Approve supplemental contract for the 2021-2022 school year.
- |                   |                              |        |
|-------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| Bill Lipps        | Head Baseball Coach          | Step 1 |
| Erik Hodges       | Baseball Varsity Asst. Coach | Step 2 |
| Matt Pape         | Baseball JV Asst. Coach      | Step 5 |
| Keith Sherman     | Head Softball Coach          | Step 1 |
| Alexis Zappitelli | Softball Varsity Asst. Coach | Step 1 |

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Brianna Oatman	Softball JV Asst. Coach (half time)	Step 1
Joe Chadwick	Softball JV Asst. Coach (half time)	Step 1
Doug Hedrick	Boys Tennis Coach	Step 4
Nathan Wise	Co-Ed Tennis Coach	Step 2
Adam Lytle	CMS Head Track Coach	Step 9
Artemis Mermis	Winter Cheerleading Advisor	Step 1

Ayes: Norton, Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

12-2021-11 Moved by Christopher Brecht, seconded by Christopher Bartone that Penny Armeni be appointed as President Pro-Tem for the January 5<sup>th</sup> organizational meeting.

Ayes: Armeni, Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Norton

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

Board Member Summary: The board discussed a board retreat date and determined that Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. with a location to be determined. The board commended Mrs. Brockway and Dr. Dobran on their presentations and value all that they do for the benefit of Conneaut students. The board also noted appreciation for the music department and their presentation at Lights of Love. Mrs. Penny Armeni, Board President thanked everyone for working with her as board president during a difficult year of COVID

12-2021-12 Moved by Christopher Bartone, seconded by Christopher Brecht that the Board adjourn this regular meeting.

Ayes: Bartone, Bernardini, Brecht, Norton, Armeni

Nays:

Abstain:

Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned 11:43 a.m.

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Treasurer

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President