

# School Board of Directors Meeting

## August 20, 2020

### School Board Meeting Minutes

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*A Regular Meeting of the Columbia Borough School Board of Directors, which was properly advertised in the LNP Lancaster Newspaper, was held on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in-person at the Columbia High School and virtually due to the Governor's Order of July 16, 2020 imposing limits on large gatherings.*

*To hear the details under each agenda item, please refer to the recording of the meeting which is posted on the District's website ([www.columbiabsd.org](http://www.columbiabsd.org)) under Departments // School Board // Virtual School Board Meetings YouTube.*

#### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

President Leader called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed the public that are viewing the Board Meeting virtually.

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Leader led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### 3. Roll Call

**Board Members in attendance:** Devon Fisher, Kathleen Hohenadel, Robert Misciagna, Lauren VonStetten, Rebecca Young, and Charles Leader

**Board Members not in attendance:** Sandra Duncan, Kate Keyser and Cole Knighton

**District Administration/Solicitor in attendance:** Tom Strickler, Keith Ramsey and Mike Grab

**Staff/Public in attendance:** Citizens of the community and staff members of the District

#### 4. Notice of Executive Session

The School Board held an executive session on the following dates for Personnel.

August 4, 2020

August 14, 2020

August 17, 2020

August 20, 2020 (prior to Board Meeting)

President Leader noted that there was an Executive Session on the above dates for Personnel

#### 5. Communications

Attached is a letter that was received and asked to be included in the minutes.

- Keith Combs Letter – 355 N. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Columbia, PA 17512

President Leader noted the communication was received.

## 6. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda

### a. Motion to approve Amended Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan

Based upon updated guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Columbia Borough School District Administration regarding in-person student instruction, I make a motion to Approve the Amended Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan, changing the District's reopening model from a Total Reopen for all students and staff to a Blended Reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students, as well as revising the Anticipated Launch Date for in-person learning from August 24, 2020 to August 31, 2020.

### b. Motion to approve Resolution Declaring an Emergency Pursuant to Section 520.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code

President Leader stated that item 6a will be inserted under Curriculum & Instruction as letter c and item 6b will be inserted under New Business as letter d.

## 7. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

The Board recognizes the value of public comment by residents of the district on agenda items. Each resident of Columbia Borough wishing to address the Board will be limited to five (5) minutes to make their comments. While your comments are welcome, please refrain from introducing questions before the Board or Administration. Please forward any questions, via E-mail, to the Board President at [cleader@columbiabsd.org](mailto:cleader@columbiabsd.org). Answers to your questions will be sought from the appropriate Administrative staff. A response will be sent to you in a timely manner. After being recognized by the presiding officer, the speaker must preface their comments by an announcement of their name, address and group affiliation if appropriate. All comments shall be directed to the presiding officer.

The presiding officer may interrupt or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene or irrelevant.

None

## 8. Minutes (Mr. Leader – Board President)

### a. Motion to approve the following minutes:

July 23, 2020 - School Board Meeting

August 03, 2020 - Extra-Curricular, Curriculum and Instruction, and Policy Committee Meetings

August 04, 2020 - Property and Finance Committee Meetings

Mr. Misciagna made a motion. Miss Hohenadel seconded the motion.

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

## 9. Curriculum & Instruction Committee (Mrs. Fisher – Chair)

### a. Information Item - Personalized Learning Model Guidance hyperDOC

Dr. McGough presented the Personalized Learning Model Guidance Hyper Doc and answered questions from the board.

### b. Information Item - Review of Reopening Plan

Mr. Strickler reviewed the changes to the plan, which included an A/B Hybrid schedule. Mr. Strickler and building administrators answered questions from the Board.

**c. Motion to approve Amended Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan**

Based upon updated guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Columbia Borough School District Administration regarding in-person student instruction, I make a motion to Approve the Amended Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan, changing the District's reopening model from a Total Reopen for all students and staff to a Blended Reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students, as well as revising the Anticipated Launch Date for in-person learning from August 24, 2020 to August 31, 2020.

Miss Hohenadel made a motion. Mr. Misciagna seconded the motion.

Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**d. Motion to approve the 2020-21 school calendar**

Mr. Misciagna made a motion. Miss Hohenadel seconded the motion.

Board discussed changing the start of school until after Labor Day. After some discussion, the Board decided to stay with the current date of August 31, 2020 as the 1<sup>st</sup> student day.

Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

## **10. Finance & Audit/Property (Miss Hohenadel – Chair)**

**a. Motion to approve the attached financial reports**

- Treasurer's Reports
- Cafeteria Fund Profit and Loss Report
- Student Activity Account Report
- Grant Report

Mrs. VonStetten made a motion. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion.

Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**b. Motion to approve the attached check disbursements**

Mrs. Fisher made a motion. Mrs. Young seconded the motion.

Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

## 11. Personnel Committee (Mrs. Duncan – Chair)

### a. Motion to approve the following resignations:

#### *Administrative Staff:*

Dr. Michael Smith, High School Principal at Columbia Borough School District – Hill Campus, resigning from his position effective on September 30, 2020.

#### *Professional Staff:*

Charles “Chad” C. Ankney, Elementary Teacher at Park Elementary School, resigning from his position effective August 14, 2020.

Aubree Lockard, Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Teacher at Taylor Middle School, resigning from her position effective August 19, 2020. (District will hold Aubree with an anticipated last day on or about October 17, 2020)

Joshua W. Nolt, Elementary Teacher at Park Elementary School, resigning from his position effective August 18, 2020. (District will hold Joshua with an anticipated last day on or about October 16, 2020)

#### *Support Staff:*

Lisa A. Horner, Accounts Payable/Human Resource Generalist at Columbia Borough School District – District Office, resigning from her position effective on or about October 2, 2020.

Mrs. VonStetten made a motion. Miss Hohenadel seconded the motion.

Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

***The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)***

### b. Motion to approve the following retirement:

#### *Support Staff:*

Melissa Deascenti, Elementary Teacher Aide at Park Elementary School, retiring from her position effective July 30, 2020.

Miss Hohenadel made a motion. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion.

Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

***The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)***

### c. Motion to approve the following employment status:

#### *Support Staff:*

Krislina Myers, Cafeteria Assistant at Columbia Borough High/Middle School Hill campus effective August 19, 2020. (*Vacancy*)

Mrs. VonStetten made a motion. Mrs. Young seconded the motion.

Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

***The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)***

**d. Motion to approve the following leave of absences:**

*Professional Staff:*

Timothy M. Cushatt, Social Studies Teacher at Columbia Borough Middle School Hill campus, unpaid military leave of absence request beginning on July 27, 2020, military orders received, with an anticipated return to work on or after September 30, 2020.

Mrs. VonStetten made a motion. Miss Hohenadel seconded the motion.

Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**12. Property Committee (Mrs. Keyser – Chair) - NONE**

**13. Extra-Curricular Committee (Mrs. VonStetten – Chair) - NONE**

**14. Old Business**

None

**15. New Business**

**a. Motion to appoint Kate Keyser as the District's PSBA Liaison**

Mr. Misciagna made a motion. Mrs. VonStetten seconded the motion.

Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**b. Motion to waive the readings of the Use of Livestream Video on School District Property Policy**

Miss Hohenadel made a motion. Mrs. Fisher seconded the motion.

Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**c. Motion to approve the Use of Livestream Video on School District Property Policy**

Mrs. Fisher made a motion. Mrs. Young seconded the motion.

Miss Hohenadel asked the Solicitor if he has reviewed the policy. Mr. Grab shared that he has reviewed it and it is a relatively standard policy. Miss Hohenadel also followed up on a question from the Committee meeting about students/parents being notified on the use of live streaming in the classroom. Mr. Strickler shared that once the policy is approved an email will be sent to all parents and a notice will be posted on the website.

Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**d. Motion to approve Resolution Declaring an Emergency Pursuant to Section 520.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code**

Miss Hohenadel made a motion. Mrs. VonStetten seconded the motion.

Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Fisher – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes;  
Mr. Leader – Yes

*The motion passed (6 – 0; 3 absent)*

**e. Update on the New Title IX Regulations**

Mr. Ramsey provided an overview of the changes with the new Title IX regulations. The revised policies were distributed to the Board for their review at their September Policy Committee meeting.

## **16. Superintendent Updates – Mr. Strickler**

- Computer distribution to all students was done last week
  - Hot spots to those students needing them will be distributed in the next 2 weeks
- The District has been surveying parents to select their choice for students
  - About 40% of our students are planning to return in person
- Cooperative effort of 16 school districts and PM LGH to provide information, webinars, and other updated information. Updating our website with information provided by PM LGH. LGH will be holding webinars for community members, students, and staff. We have Frequently asked Questions that will be on our intranet for staff. They are holding weekly phone calls with school nurses, and Principals. They will also be available to answer questions regarding specific concerns with District issues.

Based on the current environment and leadership uncertainties in the District, the following programs are being suspended:

- Benchmark program
- ATTOLLO Leadership program for Juniors and Seniors
- PA College of Health Sciences courses in our building
- Thaddeus Stevens shop program for students and adult education program in our building
- Thaddeus Stevens Dual Enrollment program

## **17. Reports**

**a. IU Report – Mrs. Young**

- No report

**b. LCCTC Report – Mrs. Duncan**

- No report

**c. PSBA – Administration**

- Mr. Strickler asked the Board to keep an eye out for emails from PSBA.

**d. Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau – Mr. Ramsey**

- Next meeting is September 9, 2020

**e. Community Development – Mrs. Keyser**

- No report

**f. Columbia Education Foundation – Mr. Leader**

- Mr. Leader was unable to attend the Foundation meeting.
- Mr. Strickler shared that the Foundation is developing procedures to help students with a dual enrollment scholarship.

**g. Land Bank – Miss Hohenadel**

- Met virtually on August 5, 2020
- Several properties currently in the land bank are slowly receiving attention.
- RFPs have been sent out and getting interest from developers.
- Shared a recent success story on the 324 Union Street property. It was under contract within 12 hours of being put on the market.

## **18. Public Comment on Agenda and Education Items Only**

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**Francis Resch – 1027 Walnut Street, Columbia, PA 17512**

**Mr. Resch commended the Board for doing a wonderful job and never realized how involved a School Board meeting was. His vote is and always will be for Tom Strickler.**


## **19. Dates for Future Meetings**

- Committee Meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the following dates:**  
**September 01, 2020** - Extra-Curricular Committee followed by Curriculum & Instruction Committee followed by Property Committee followed by Finance Committee followed by Policy Committee
- Regular Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m. – September 17, 2020**

President Leader announced the future meetings as listed.

## **20. Adjournment**

President Leader adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

  
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Keith D. Ramsey  
School Board Secretary