



# School Board of Directors Meeting

## September 1, 2020

### Committee Meetings

### Minutes

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*Committee meetings of the Columbia Borough School Board of Directors, which was properly advertised in the LNP Lancaster Newspaper, were held on Thursday, September 1, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in-person at the District Administration Center 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.

## 2. Roll Call

**Board Members in attendance:** Sandra Duncan, Devon Fisher, Kathleen Hohenadel, Kate Keyser (arrived at 6:07 p.m.), Robert Misciagna, Lauren VonStetten, and Charles Leader

**Board Member not in attendance:** Cole Knighton and Rebecca Young

**District Administration in attendance:** Tom Strickler, Keith Ramsey, Greg McGough, Mike Smith, Rob Kedney, Donna Prokay and Spencer Zeigler

## 3. Extra-Curricular Committee (Mrs. VonStetten – Chair)

### a. Review of webinar information, gators/masks

Provided updates from a webinar that Dr. Smith and Mr. Williams had attended regarding the impacts on athletics with COVID, including Governor Wolf's guidance.

Mr. Kedney shared that he was initially thinking of providing gator face coverings for athletes, however based on costs and information from the webinar, gators are not as effective as masks and may be worse. Therefore, he decided to stay with the traditional face covering (i.e. masks).

### b. Fall sports review and Board vote at September meeting

Mr. Kedney shared that we are proceeding with Fall sports within Governor Wolf's recommended guidance.

Mr. Strickler shared the safety protocols, including live streaming of the event, that will be put in place for athletic events.

Mr. Kedney informed the board that all Lancaster-Lebanon school districts have decided to proceed with Fall sports, even with districts that started 100% virtual.

c. Other Items

Mrs. VonStetten followed up on the following programs that were being suspended/cut based on the Superintendent's report at the last Board meeting

- Benchmark
- Atollo
- PA Health Sciences
- Stevens School Enrollment

Mr. Strickler shared that the programs were suspended until the new leadership is hired and that all funding is provided by the community. After some discussion, the consensus of the Board was to see these programs continue based on the benefits to the students.

Miss Hohenadel asked if there was a decision on whether or not band could occur with masks or no masks. There has been no guidance from PDE or the Department of Health, therefore, the Lancaster districts are proceeding without guidance.

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

a. Action Item: CHS Library list of diversity texts harvested from Gracie's list

The director of curriculum provided the book list with brief descriptions. The board commented on the wonderful selection of diverse texts. The board directed the curriculum director to work with the district library team and compile a comprehensive list of texts from Gracie's List for implementation K-12.

b. Information Item: Share progress on Administrative Goal(s) associated with curriculum & instruction

The director of curriculum reviewed the administration's efforts to locate internal data gathering/interpreting programs to determine the relative success of the Personalized Learning Model being implemented across the district. The board directed that the team create a spreadsheet to track progress on all board goals.

#### 5. Policy Committee (Mr. Misciagna – Chair)

a. Review of Board Policies, including adjusted policies based on new Title IX regulations

The committee reviewed and revised the following Board Policies to comply with the new Title IX regulations:

- Policy 103 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Students
- Policy 104 - Discrimination/Title IX Sexual Harassment Affecting Staff
- Policy 247 - Hazing
- Policy 249 - Bullying/Cyber-Bullying
- Policy 252 - Dating Violence - **New Policy**
- Policy 317.1 - Educator Misconduct - **New Policy**
- Policy 824 - Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries - **New Policy**

After final review by the Solicitor, the revised policies will be approved at the September 17, 2020 Board Meeting.

Policy #004 was reviewed as it relates to removal of a Board Member and after some discussion, the recommended wording is as follows:

*A Board member who neglects or refuses to attend two (2) successive meetings of the Board including committee meetings to which they are assigned, unless detained by sickness or prevented by necessary absence from the district, or if in attendance at any meeting neglects*

*or refuses to act in his/her official capacity as a school director, may be removed from his/her office, with prior notice, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining members of the Board.*

The committee asked that Mr. Ramsey share the changes with the Solicitor for his guidance.

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

Miss Hohenadel asked for an update on the repair/replacement of the steeple on the District Administration Center. Mr. Strickler shared that we were working with the Architectural firm, but this discussion was delayed due to COVID-19.

Mr. Strickler shared that the solicitor is currently reviewing the STS lease agreement and will be an action item at a future meeting.

Miss Hohenadel shared that at one of the teacher meetings, there was concern that the windows did not have latches, therefore teachers could not open them to get fresh air. Mr. Strickler said that he would look into this.

## **7. Finance Committee (Miss Hohenadel – Chair)**

### **a. Agenda Item: Approve the following financial reports**

1. Treasurer's Reports
2. Cafeteria Fund Profit and Loss Report
3. Student Activity Account Report
4. Grant Report

### **b. Agenda Item: Approve check disbursements**

### **c. Information Item – Use of Financial Resources to Support to Board's goals**

Miss Hohenadel explained that this will be an ongoing agenda item so that the Board can understand how our financial resources are being spent to achieve the goals. She hopes that this could become an agenda item on each committee as all goals are not financial in nature.

#### **Board goals:**

Reopening - Mr. Ramsey shared that there have been no changes on the reopening goal since the last meeting.

Diversity – Mr. Strickler shared with the Board about Professional Development for Diversity within the district. The staff was put into small groups, per safety protocols, and had discussions about Diversity.

Mr. Ramsey shared that a Google doc will be created to assist in reporting goals. Miss Hohenadel recommended putting a column on the Google doc to identify the committee it belongs to.

### **d. Discussion Item: Funding of the SRO position**

Mr. Strickler shared information about the School Resource Officer position and which grant the funding came from. At this time, the District has funding for the next 2 years under the PCCD Safety & Security Grant.

e. Information Item: Columbia Virtual Academy (CVA) and Cyber School Enrollments and Projected Costs

Mr. Strickler handed out a sheet detailing the current enrollment numbers and explained that he is concerned that our numbers should be between 1350 and 1400 and right now they are at 1300. This difference could be cyber school students that we are not aware of yet. Last year we were at 45 CVA students and this year we are at 179 CVA students which equates to a \$700,000 increase in the budget. Mr. Strickler also explained that the average cost for an outside cyber school is approximately \$21,000 per student.

## 8. Adjournment

President Leader called an Executive Session for Personnel immediately following the Committee Meetings.

President Leader adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.



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Keith D. Ramsey  
School Board Secretary