



School Board of Directors Meeting

September 17, 2020

School Board Meeting Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Columbia Borough School Board of Directors, which was properly advertised in the LNP Lancaster Newspaper, was held on Thursday, September 17, 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) 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 were in attendance and viewing the Board Meeting virtually.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Leader led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Board Members in attendance: Sandra Duncan, Kathleen Hohenadel, Kate Keyser, Robert Misciagna, Lauren VonStetten, Rebecca Young, and Charles Leader

Board Members not in attendance: Devon Fisher 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.

September 02, 2020

September 03, 2020

September 14, 2020

September 15, 2020

September 17, 2020 (Prior to Board Meeting)

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

5. Communications

None

6. Agenda Modification/Approval of Agenda

President Leader requested a motion to add two items under New Business (15e) for the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Return to Work – Hybrid/Blended Instruction and Return to Work – Livestreaming Instruction

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

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. 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:

August 20, 2020 - School Board Meeting

September 1, 2020 - Extra-Curricular, Curriculum and Instruction, Policy, and Property and Finance Committee Meetings

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

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

a. Motion to approve the CHS Library list of diversity texts harvested from Gracie's List

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

b. Update on Re-Opening Plan

Dr. McGough shared that he is here to answer questions about the reopening plan

Miss Hohenadel asked what impact has there been on instruction and learning due to the blended model? Dr. McGough shared that despite the implementation hurdles, he feels that is going very well and the data supports that the blended model was the right choice.

Miss Hohenadel followed up with asking whether we should be looking at going back or transitioning to in person 5 days a week. Dr. McGough shared the conclusions from the Mathematica Study that PDE contracted and stated that consistency is the key and we should continue the current course.

Mrs. Duncan asked if the special education needs are being met in this current model. Dr. McGough feels that they are and shared research that supports his position.

Mrs. VonStetten followed up on Mrs. Duncan's question and asked if some of the special education learners that are not currently in person 5 days per week could they be re-evaluated and possibly be moved to in person 5 days per week. Dr. McGough shared the IEP process and recommendations on learning environment that may come out of the process.

Miss Hohenadel asked if we have any COVID positive situations and/or did we have any students that were tested, and we are waiting for the results. Dr. McGough shared that to date we do not have anyone that is COVID positive and if we would, the Board would receive communication from the Superintendent. Mr. Strickler shared that it is possible a student(s) has been tested, but we are not aware unless informed by a parent. However, should a student be quarantined would be an indication that they may have been tested.

Miss Hohenadel asked if the sanitizing plans are working and if there are any hindrances to time management due to these new requirements. Dr. McGough said that everything is working based on the plan and it is difficult to say whether these new requirements are affecting time management but feels from the mitigation side that it is not.

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

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

b. Motion to approve the attached check disbursements

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

c. Information Item - School Resource Officer (SRO)

At the Finance Committee Meeting on September 1, 2020, the Board reviewed the funding stream for the School Resource Officer. No objections to the position were raised at that meeting. The school's cost for the officer is covered by grants, with enough funding remaining to cover the position for an additional two school years. No local funding has been used for this position. The board remains committed to continuing the School Resource Officer for at least two more school years and will recommend that the guidelines, parameters, and protocols for the position be reviewed when a new High School principal is in place.

Miss Hohenadel read the above statement

11. Personnel Committee (Mrs. Duncan – Chair)

a. Motion to approve the following resignations:

Professional Staff:

Danielle Reinhard, 4th Grade Elementary Teacher at Park Elementary School, resigning from her position effective September 14, 2020. (District will hold Danielle with an anticipated last day on or about November 13, 2020.)

Lisa M. Sempsey, Music Teacher at Taylor Middle School and Park Elementary, resigning from her position effective August 21, 2020. (District will hold Lisa with an anticipated last day on or about October 20, 2020)

Heidi M. Vaitl, English Teacher at Columbia Borough High/Middle School campus, resigning from her position effective August 26, 2020. (District will hold Heidi with an anticipated last day on or about October 23, 2020)

Support Staff:

Donald E. Gallagher, Jr, Cafeteria Site Leader at Columbia Borough High/Middle School campus, resigning from his position effective on September 4, 2020.

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

b. Motion to approve the following employment status:

Professional Staff:

Maria McComsey, Itinerant Learning Support Teacher (Grades 5th & 6th) at Taylor Middle School effective on or about October 5, 2020. (Replace R. McBride)

Extra-Curricular and Athletic Staff:

Brianna Resh, Band Front Director (Color Guard) at Columbia Borough High School on or about September 21, 2020.

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

c. Motion to approve the following employment status changes:

Administration Staff:

Robert Kedney, transition to Interim High School Principal at Columbia Borough High School with an effective date on or about September 28, 2020 until January 31, 2021. (Temporarily Replace M. Smith)

Professional Staff:

Alicia Burger-Shirk, transition from Special Education Elementary teacher at Park Elementary to Elementary 3rd Grade teacher at Park Elementary effective on or about August 18, 2020. (Replace C. Ankney)

Caitlin E. Hogan, transition from Special Education Elementary teacher at Park Elementary to Elementary 1st Grade teacher at Park Elementary effective on or about August 18, 2020. (Replace B. Broome)

Ryan McBride, transition from Itinerant Learning Support teacher at Taylor Middle School to Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) teacher at Taylor Middle School effective on or about October 7, 2020. (Replace A. Lockard)

Extra-Curricular and Athletic Staff:

Mark Wisler, Co-Curricular Liaison for Attollo Program at Columbia Borough High School on or about September 21, 2020.

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

d. Motion to approve the following leave of absence request:

Professional Staff:

Brittany Lentz, Elementary Teacher at Park Elementary School, leave of absence request beginning on or about November 21, 2020, leave of absence for approximately ten weeks with an anticipated return to work on or about February 16, 2021.

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

e. Motion to approve professional staff for tenure:

Professional Staff:

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Building Location</u>
Jessica	Lane	Teacher	Columbia Borough High School
Melissa	Sintef	Teacher	Columbia Borough High School
Rebecca	Sprenkle	Teacher	Columbia Borough High School
Pamela	Westbrook	Teacher	Columbia Borough High School

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

f. Motion to approve the following extra-curricular contracts:

2020-2021 Athletic Contracts		
<u>Fall</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Employee</u>
Cheerleading	Varsity Coach	Peggy Spiese
	Asst. Coach	Adriene Zercher
Cross Country	Varsity Coach	Charles Leader
	Jr. High Coach	Gary Kauffman
Football	Varsity Head Coach	Bud Kyle
	Asst. Coach V/JV	Anthony Dorm
	Asst. Coach V/JV	James Jackson
	Asst. Coach V/JV	Travis Proctor
Tennis	Varsity Coach	Jim Rhoads
Volleyball	Varsity Coach	Tory Engle
	JV Coach	Vacancy
	Assistant Coach	Molly Jones
Marching Band	Director	Dan Stauffer
	Asst. Director	Kayla Noll
	Percussion Instructor	Jeremy Beckley
	Band Front Director	Brianna Resh

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

Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mrs. Keyser – Yes; Mrs. Duncan – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. Young – Yes; Mr. Leader – Abstain

The motion passed (6 – 0; 1 abstention; 2 absent)

g. Motion to approve volunteer(s):

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Volunteer Areas</u>
Blake	Bonacquisti	Columbia Borough High/Middle School campus	Athletics - Football

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

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

13. Extra-Curricular Committee (Mrs. VonStetten – Chair)

a. Motion to proceed with fall sports competitions (MOTION BELOW)

Motion to proceed with fall sports competitions as discussed at the September extracurricular meeting—following current guidelines from PIAA, LGH, District 3, and the L-L League

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

Mrs. Young – Yes; Miss Hohenadel – Yes; Mrs. Duncan – Yes; Mrs. Keyser – Yes; Mr. Misciagna – Yes; Mrs. VonStetten – Yes; Mr. Leader – Abstain

The motion passed (6 – 0; 1 abstention; 2 absent)

b. Information Item - Student Centered Programs

At the Extra-Curricular Committee Meeting on September 1, 2020, the Board discussed the student-centered programs which had been announced as “suspended” at the end of the August 2020 board meeting. The Board is committed to continuing as many of these programs as is possible. The first among these is the Attollo program which will continue during the 2020-2021 school year.

Mrs. VonStetten read the above statement.

Miss Hohenadel thanked Mrs. VonStetten for bringing this up and believes most of the board was caught unaware with the announcement that a number of programs were being suspended for the current school year. There had been no prior discussion of this with the board, and the verbiage used led the board to believe that this action was COVID-related. After further inquiry at the committee meetings, we learned that this was the case for just a portion of the programs. The Attollo program was not in the group that was restricted due to the pandemic. Attollo – like a few other suspended programs – had originally been presented as a program that is in the best interest of our students. This recent action makes those suspended programs look more like resume builders than programs “for the kids.” This board sees the value in Attollo and is committed to continuing at CHS. She thanked the community member who brought some pertinent facts to the attention of several board members. We were told that there was no one to serve as liaison for the program, when in fact several staff members indicated an interest. We will take action later in this meeting to name a staff member to that position. We were also told that the program costs \$30-\$40 thousand per year. Data provided shows the cost to be under \$20,000 per year with a carryover in excess of \$9,500 to start the year. Further, informal contacts have shown what we have always known to be true and have always appreciated about our community: When there is a need for financial support for programs for our students, Columbians step up. Attollo programming for our students should not be used as a pawn in a game of politics.

President Leader read a letter that he, Mr. Strickler, and Mr. Cunningham received from John Gamby with the Columbia Lions, as follows:

On behalf of the Columbia Lions Club, I am writing to express support for the Attollo program and pledge to sponsor three students at a cost of approximately \$1,125. It has come to our attention that the district may discontinue the program this year due to the uncertainty of raising the funds to pay for the program. In addition, individual members of the Lions Club and their spouses who have donated to the Columbia Education Foundation over the past three years in support of Attollo have also indicated they will donate again this year.

The Lions support the mission of Attollo and have seen first-hand the positive impact it has had on the juniors and seniors at Columbia High School. Last fall, we invited two CHS Attollo scholars to speak at one of our meetings and were impressed with how the program has empowered them to rise up in pursuit of their goals. Several of our members have attended Attollo fundraising events in Columbia and Lancaster and have been just as impressed with the students and staff they met.

Finishing strong is one of the six pillars of the Attollo program. We feel strongly that the 26 seniors who completed the Attollo Recruit program last year as juniors should have the opportunity to complete the program this year. We also feel just as strongly that this year's juniors should have the opportunity to be selected to participate in Attollo Recruit and complete the intensive six-week course and solve the Rubik's cube on their way to becoming Attollo scholars.

The Lions motto is "We Serve." We stand ready to support the students of Columbia Borough School District through the Attollo program and in any other way we can. Feel free to call on us if there is anything we can assist with this school year.

c. Information Item – Club Donations

At a recent Borough Council meeting, the school district was challenged to discontinue its practice of accepting donations from private clubs which refuse membership based on race. While the school district does not condone nor does it support discrimination of any type, it does appreciate the financial support that these clubs have given to programming for our students. It is our understanding that the clubs referenced are currently reviewing their governing documents and practices. We will defer any action on this topic to allow the clubs an opportunity to address the issue internally. It is our intention to reach out to these clubs for a clarification on their membership practices before considering formal action.

Mrs. VonStetten read the above statement.

14. Old Business

None

15. New Business

a. Accept Resignation of Cole Knighton Effective September 7, 2020

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

b. Motion to waive the readings of the following Policies to comply with updated 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**

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

c. **Motion to approve the attached Policies and Administrative Regulations to comply with updated Title IX Regulations**

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

d. **PSBA Officer Elections. Board will need to discuss and vote on candidates for various leadership positions at PSBA**

Miss Hohenadel made a motion to approve the slate of candidates including Daniel O’Keefe for Vice President. Mrs. Duncan seconded the motion.

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

e. **Approval on of Memorandum of Understandings on Return to Work (motion below)**

Motion to approve the following Memorandum of Understandings between the Columbia Borough School District and Columbia Education Association:

- Return to Work – Hybrid/Blended Instruction subject to clarification on Wednesday instruction and formatting correction

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

- Return to Work – Livestreaming Instruction

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

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

The motion passed (7 – 0; 2 absent)

16. Superintendent Updates – Mr. Strickler

Mr. Strickler shared that the start of school has been very positive, and we are monitoring on a daily basis.

17. Reports

a. **IU Report – Mrs. Young**

- No report

b. **LCCTC Report – Mrs. Duncan**

- Received a positive update after week #4 with how things are going for their students

c. PSBA – Mrs. Keyser

- At the request of PSBA, the PA Department of Education (PDE) has issued flexible guidance concerning the requirement under the School Code for schools to conduct emergency and bus evacuation drills. The guidance impacts schools that are opening in an all virtual or hybrid format.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced it is extending a suite of nationwide waivers for the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) and Seamless Summer Option (SSO) through the end of 2020, or until available funding runs out.
- This year's PSBA Delegate Assembly meeting has been separated from the events of the PASA-PSBA School Leadership Conference. The Delegate Assembly meeting is scheduled at this time to be conducted as a live event on November 7.
- SB 1286 was introduced which would establish a waiver program that would provide public schools relief from costly and unnecessary state mandates.
- New state science standards were proposed and received initial approval by the State Board of Education and now will move through the regulatory review process. The new standards will become effective for the 2024-25 school year.
- PSBA asked for guidance on the testing rules during the current environment.

d. Lancaster County Tax Collection Bureau – Mr. Ramsey

- Next meeting is November 11, 2020 which will discuss the Operating Budget.

e. Community Development – Mrs. Keyser

- No report

f. Columbia Education Foundation – Mr. Leader

- Meeting next Monday, September 21, 2020.

g. Land Bank – Miss Hohenadel

- Emailed pictures to share the positive impact that the Land Bank is having on our community.
- September's meeting was cancelled
- Two more properties were sold to developers

18. Public Comment on Agenda and Education Items Only

The Board recognizes the value of public comment by residents of the district on agenda and education 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. 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.

Liz Smedley, 258 N. 3rd Street, Columbia, PA 17512, expressed concern how the process with Mr. Strickler was handled and shared that the Board still has a couple of months to do the right thing.

Dave Cunningham, 1116 Locust Street, Columbia, PA 17512, asked for an update on the status of the Superintendent search and with the many executive sessions for personnel the past few months, we would welcome any information. He remains disappointed that the Board is going in a different direction for the Superintendent.

19. Dates for Future Meetings

- a. **Committee Meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the following dates:**
October 5, 2020 - Extra-Curricular Committee followed by Curriculum Committee followed by Policy Committee
October 6, 2020 - Property Committee followed by Finance Committee
- b. **Regular Board Meeting - 6:00 p.m. – October 15, 2020**

President Leader announced the future meetings as listed above

20. Adjournment

President Leader announced that there will be an executive session for personnel immediately following tonight's meeting.

President Leader adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



Keith D. Ramsey
School Board Secretary