

LEYTON BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 17-0003
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
April 9, 2019 – 7:30 PM

The Leyton Board of Education met Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 7:30 P.M. in the District's Administrative Office. Publicized notice of the meeting was posted in the Leyton High School, Leyton JH/Elementary School, at various businesses in the community, and on the www.leytonwarriors.org website on or before April 2, 2019. Said posting gave date, time, and location of the meeting.

1 CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Board President Jed Benish called the regular school board meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

1.2 ROLL CALL

1.2.1 The following Board of Education members were present: Galen Bartling, Jed Benish, Ryan Borges, Colleen Cruise, Kevin Henke, and Anne Rexroth. Absent: None

1.2.2 The following Administrators were present: Superintendent Chris Geary, Elementary/JH Principal Dana Morgan and HS Principal Lance Howitt. Absent: None.

1.3 COMMUNICATIONS

None

2 HEARINGS AND PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

None

3 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

3.1 DJ George, FFA Chapter President, presented his report to the Board on the FFA State Convention. The Leyton Chapter had fourteen members who attended sessions and workshops along with 6,000 students from across the state. Four members (Mariah Draper, DJ George, Destinee Henke, and Kelcie Van Anne) were recognized and became Leyton's first group to receive their State Degrees. DJ expressed his gratitude to Mr. Randy DeBoer for providing general admission tickets to the Huskers' baseball game and to Mr. Tracy Cooper & Mrs. Ann Rushman for being their sponsors.

3.2 Emily Thomas, Regional Coordinator for TeamMates, presented their program to the Board. TeamMates was established in 1991 by Tom and Nancy Osborne to provide youth support and encouragement through a mentor. The program has impacted the mentees by improving their academic performance, reducing unexcused absences, and having fewer disciplinary referrals. Ms. Thomas stated that TeamMates has more success when it is ran through the school and that they provide the background checks and training of mentors. Mr. Geary added that this would need Board approval and it will be an item on the May agenda.

4 REPORTS

4.1 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

President Danielle Higgins and Vice-President Maddy Watchorn presented their STUCO report to the Board. The student powder puff volleyball games were held in March with the Junior class winning the Championship game. Upcoming projects include having a human foosball game and doing a food pantry drive for flood relief victims.

4.2 BOARD REPORTS

4.2.1 The Building/Grounds Committee met on April 2, 2019 with nine members present.

4.2.1.1 They reviewed summer projects to be presented to the Board. At the Elementary/JH those projects include installation of a hallway drop ceiling, LED lights, painting, classroom carpet (2-3 rooms) and doing a fill/grade in the south parking lot. High School projects include classroom carpet (3 rooms), double glass doors (North & East sides), and relocating the guidance counselor's room. They are also recommending the purchase of a Walker Lawn Mower to be used at both sites.

4.2.1.2 The committee also discussed the following items that they will review and present at the May board meeting: 1) Bus barn to be added to the 5 year budget plan; 2) Track restrooms; 3) Locker rooms; and 4) Gutters to flow under sidewalks at the HS.

4.2.1.3 Other issues discussed at the high school site included general maintenance/repair issues, storage space concerns, utilization of the ice room, turning two unused classrooms into a wrestling room and a teacher planning room, and construction of a new press box at the football field.

4.3 STAFF MEMBERS REPORT

None

4.4 ELEMENTARY/JH PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Morgan attended two IEP meetings, an ESU planning meeting for 2019-2020 school needs, a KSB Student Discipline Presentation, a Reading Improvement ACT Planning meeting and the third grade biography presentations. She also worked at the MAC JH and High School Quiz Bowl, catalogued 80 books for the library, and conducted new hire interviews. Mrs. Morgan has completed all required teacher evaluations and will have lunch with her March good citizens. She also announced that they had a Pep Rally to "kick-off" State Testing.

4.5 SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Howitt reported that the junior class took their statewide ACT Test on April 2nd. It was the first year of online testing and they had minor technical issues. He had very favorable feedback from the students, especially on the writing portion of the test. The MPCC Scholastic Contest was held on March 27th. Mr. Howitt also took students to the Panhandle Youth Leadership Conference and stated that it was very motivational and that he would recommend scheduling coach Cory Fehringer to speak to our students.

4.6 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.6.1 MEETINGS/TRAVEL

Mr. Geary attended the KSB Student Discipline Presentation, the West Nebraska Administrators' Meeting, and the MAC Superintendents' Meeting. At the MAC meeting, state and conference items were discussed including a charge to expel Bayard from the conference. After discussion, the decision was clear that Bayard would stay in the MAC. Mr. Geary attended the NRCSA Spring Conference and went to sessions on eSports, school finance, open meetings, student discipline and listened to Husker VB Coach, John Cook. He was nominated to serve as the West District Representative for NRCSA. Mr. Geary has been invited, and agreed, to serve on the Board for the Cheyenne County Community Foundation. He also helped with the Gurley Lions Club Auction on March 30th. The school will receive a check for the items sold and he has instructed maintenance staff to compile a list of excess items for the next sale.

4.6.2 CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Mr. Geary reported that he and the architect met with the General Contractor to discuss the Pre-Construction agreement for the track. He will receive an outline for the timing of the project with demolition to begin promptly. Mr. Geary worked with Triple O's to create a materials list for the press box project and he will supervise construction of this project with our shop classes. The Building/Grounds Committee will bring recommendations to the Board for approval at the May meeting.

4.6.3 ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Geary asked the Board to consider Golf as a spring sport next year. He stated that it will be one of the least expensive activities we offer and will provide an opportunity for students who otherwise wouldn't participate in a spring sport. Mr. Geary has been working with Mrs. Morgan to create a schedule that maximizes learning time and best serves our students. They are recommending minor adjustments to the school day. He also reviewed policies #1003 and #4015 for the Board's consideration. He reported that the interview committee is recommending two new teachers for Board approval.

4.6.4 OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Geary reported that he has completed 176 days of his contract as of March 31st. He stated that we have two registrations for the NASB School Law Seminar for Board Members on April 16, 2019. Mr. Geary also gave a Legislative update including the signing of LB 103 to require additional hearings for passing the budget and LB 399 to add

curriculum requirements on “Americanism”. Policy recommendations from our attorney will come after the legislative session is over. Mr. Geary has been asked by Horace Mann to offer services to our employees. He asked the Board to let him know if they want that to be an agenda item for next month. He also reported that based on fiduciary and educational reasons, they are planning on moving elementary/JH science back into the classrooms where it will be the responsibility of the teacher to teach that curriculum. Mr. Geary stated that Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th-10th. He also extended congratulations to Mr. Jesse Henderson who attended the NETA conference and took the testing to become a Level 1 “Google Certified” teacher.

5 REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 EXCUSING A BOARD MEMBER

None

5.2 SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to recognize Wheat Belt for pulling out the poles at the football field; to Linda Morgan for doing a fine job recognizing our students; to Touchdown Calves (Randy DeBoer & Dave Nyffeler) and Borges Farm & Ranch for their beef donations; to Jodi Craig as Western Nebraska All-Star Volleyball game Head Coach in June; to Paul Ringleman for his donation of football cleats; to ACT Testing Volunteers (Neal Thompson-room set-up, Iris Owes (NDE) and Alison Haley-technical help, Jodi Howitt-breakfast burritos, Homestead Market-sandwiches for lunch); to Carly Fortune as NDE World Language Distinguished Scholar winner (only 35 students recognized statewide); to MPCC-Top 3 Place winners (Josh Kruse-Music Theory, Aly Holt-MS Works) to HS MAC Quiz Bowl Runner-up: (DJ George, KJ Bush, Josh Kruse, Ethan Eckhardt, Cortney Holt, Brenton Abbott, and Jeremy Carley); to State Speech Qualifiers (Hannah Vath, Janessa Carley, DJ George, Cassidee Murray, Drew Haley, Josh Kruse, Danielle Higgins, KJ Bush, Kaitlyn Jones, and Cortney Holt) to All-State Girls BB (Maddy Watchorn-Lincoln Journal Star & Omaha World-Herald-Honorable Mention); to NCPA Winter Academic All-State: (Boys Basketball-Josh Kruse, Jeremy Carley; Wrestling-Brenton Abbott; Girls Basketball-Megan Ernest, Danielle Higgins; Speech-Hannah Vath, Janessa Carley); to Ashton Van Anne, for earning a red ribbon in Ag Science at the State FFA Convention; to Faith Jones for all of her hard work in first grade; to Mrs. Murray, Grandma Annie and the third graders for their classroom biography presentations; to Mrs. Bartling and her fifth graders for the hard work on their Mardi Gras state research, float designing, and parade; to everyone who raised dollars for the Pennies for Patients Campaign, to the following junior high quiz bowl participants for winning third place at the Banner County Meet (Tyler Bayne, Peyton Eckhardt, Holden Syverson, Levi Weyerts, Jakob Kruse, and Michael Kepler); to Jill Bartling and Heidi Rushman for coaching the JH Quiz Bowl team; to Quentin Tretter, Josette McConnell and Alec Watchorn for placing in the favorite animal essay contest through the Cheyenne County Extension Office; to Josette McConnell, Faith Lee, Carlyn Thomas, Kaleb Miller, Halle Carter, and Macey Roelle for having their poems selected to be published in the Young American Poetry Digest; and to the following students for being named March good citizens by their classroom teachers: (Kindergarten-Breckyr Cranmore, 1st grade-Cainyn Rushman, 2nd grade-Chase Moore, 3rd grade-Gracyn Abbott, 4th grade-Hunter Borges, 5th grade-Alec Watchorn, 6th grade-Jaiden Schilreff, 7th grade-Madi Joles and 8th grade-Dawson Juelfs). ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Benish Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.3 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Bartling, seconded by Rexroth to approve the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, March 13, 2019. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES –Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.4 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES – BOARD WORKSHOP

Motion by Borges, seconded by Rexroth to approve the minutes of the Board Strategic Planning Meeting, March 13, 2019. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges, Henke, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.5 APPROVAL OF REPORTS

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Henke to approve reports presented at this meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Bartling, Borges, Henke, Benish, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.6 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS, WARRANTS, AND TRANSFERS

5.6.1 Motion by Cruise, seconded by Bartling to approve General Fund bills and Financial Reports as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Borges, Henke, Benish, Rexroth and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.6.2 Motion by Henke, seconded by Rexroth to approve bills and financial reports from the remaining funds as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.7 APPROVAL OF NEW CERTIFIED TEACHERS:

Motion by Henke, seconded by Cruise to approve teaching contracts for Rylee Bloomenkamp and Ryan Coffey as teachers in the Elementary/JH. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.8 APPROVAL OF POLICY #1003

Motion by Henke, seconded by Bartling to approve Policy #1003, Option B (Mission Statement). ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.9 APPROVAL OF POLICY #4015

Motion by Bartling, seconded by Henke to approve Policy #4015, Option B (Prohibition Against Employment of Board Members). ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling. VOTING NO – Rexroth, Cruise, Borges, and Henke. MOTION FAILED: 1-4 with Benish abstaining.

5.10 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Motion by Borges, seconded by Henke to approve the Superintendent Evaluation as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Bartling, Borges, Henke, Benish, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.11 APPROVAL OF GOLF AS A STUDENT ACTIVITY

Motion by Cruise, seconded by Henke to approve Golf as a Student Activity beginning in the 2019-2020 school year. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – None. VOTING NO – Bartling, Borges, Henke, Benish, Rexroth, and Cruise. MOTION FAILED: 0-6. Item to be revisited at the May Board meeting.

5.12 APPROVAL OF SCHOOL HOURS

Motion by Borges, seconded by Benish to approve school hours for the 2019-2020 school year; Elementary/JH: 8:00 – 3:20, High School: 7:50 – 3:25. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.13 APPROVAL OF PRESS BOX

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Borges to approve expenses for materials at Triple O's for the new press box, not to exceed \$15,000.00; with funds to be used from the Building Fund. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

5.14 APPROVAL OF OVERNIGHT STAY

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Benish to approve an overnight stay for the State Science Fair when it is rescheduled. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

6 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6.1 Building/Grounds Committee Meeting: April 15, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

6.2 Next Regular Board Meeting: May 13, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

7 MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to adjourn the regular school board meeting at 9:07 P.M. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES –Rexroth, Cruise, Bartling, Borges, Henke, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.