

LEYTON BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 17-0003
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
August 10, 2020 – 7:30 PM

The Leyton Board of Education met on Monday, August 10, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. 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 August 5, 2020. 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 and HS Principal Nick Brost. Absent: Elementary/JH Principal Dana Morgan. President Benish stated he had received notification from Mrs. Morgan regarding her absence and that she was excused from the meeting.

1.3 COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

2 HEARINGS AND PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

2.1 Suzy Ernest asked the Board if they realized they had not approved extra duty assignments for the 2020-2021 school year. The assignments, while listed in the HS Principal's report which the Board approved in July, were not specifically voted on. She referred the Board to look at the NSAA Constitution regarding coaching contracts and sanctioned activities. Ms. Ernest had further concerns regarding the student, staff, and activity handbooks and listed numerous sections for the Board to consider.

2.2 Cody Collins presented a Robert's Rules of Order book to each Board member.

2.3 Christina Boggess reported that seventy-four days ago, she issued notice to the Leyton Board of Education and provided evidence of malpractice. At the last Board meeting she was told that her concerns would be addressed promptly. Ms. Boggess stated that Leyton's board policy uses words like "efficiency", "promptly", and "thoroughly" and nothing about seventy-four days is any of those things. She added that the attorney hired by the school was out of the state until about July 20th, has been out of the office the majority of working hours since he returned to the state, and will likely remain in and out of the office through most of the month of August. Ms. Boggess also discussed LB 470, known as the Superintendent Pay Transparency Act, and noted that the District violated this act on February 12, 2018 and September 16, 2019 by not giving proper notice that the approval of a proposed superintendent's contract would be on the agenda.

2.4 Jesse Henderson addressed the Board on the proposed staff handbook. A few of his concerns included increased daily hours for teachers, duty free planning periods, and core curriculum.

3 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

None

4 REPORTS

4.1 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

None

4.2 BOARD REPORTS

4.2.1 Mr. Henke reported that the 1998 maintenance pickup, mainly used for snow removal, needs an engine replacement. His recommendation was to approve the necessary repairs.

4.2.2 Mrs. Rexroth gave the Budget Committee minutes from July 16, 2020 and August 4, 2020. At the first meeting, the committee reviewed classified salaries and made recommendation for those increases including a 40 cents per hour raise for all classified staff, except bus drivers who would have an increase of 50 cents per hour with a cap of

\$35.00 per hour. They also reviewed the district's Certified Budget Authority and State Aid. At the second meeting, the committee discussed the NDE budget, including the Superintendent Pay Transparency disclosures, and each funds' 2020-2021 projected budget. Once the final valuations from Cheyenne and Morrill counties have been received, the committee will meet again to plan for the budget proposal.

4.3 STAFF MEMBERS REPORT

Alison Haley reported to the Board that she can't eliminate the "comments" feature on the school Facebook page. She has checked area schools and the comments are available on their pages as well. The Board advised her to move forward with the school Facebook page and to monitor the comments. If it is misused, then the page will be taken down.

4.4 ELEMENTARY/JH PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Morgan attended many meetings and webinars including LaunchNE, the Nebraska State Advisory Council on Libraries, Amplify Science and an IEP. She worked with the administration team on handbooks and a return to school plan. In addition, she attended the Return to School Committee and Wellness Committee meetings. She continued to review/edit Year-at-a-Glance documents, met with a new high school teacher, and completed the math curriculum. Mrs. Morgan configured the library Follett system calendar and assigned students to homerooms for library checkout for the 2020-2021 school year. She held kindergarten registration by appointment only and completed/submitted the PPHD application to hold kindergarten graduation and the 8th grade promotion ceremony on August 13th.

4.5 SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Brost attended many meetings and webinars including the NSAA AD seminar, NDE Resilience webinar, NSAA football meeting, NIAAA Title IX informational meeting, NCSA Administrator Days, and "How Can We Safely Reopen Schools in the Fall?" presentation from the National Parent-Teacher Association. He attended meetings for the Return to School Committee, the Wellness Committee, and the Cheyenne County Excessive Absenteeism meeting with the county attorney. In addition, Mr. Brost attended the HAL (High Ability Learners) meeting with the administration team. He also reported that today was the first day of football practice.

4.6 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.6.1 CONTRACT DAYS

Mr. Geary completed 20 days in July for his 2020-2021 contract.

4.6.2 MEETINGS/TRAVEL

Mr. Geary continues to attend the weekly Panhandle Public Health District meetings and reviewed with the Board the guidance around "masking" and quarantine. He attended the Return to School Committee meeting, held Superintendent Scoop meetings and met with Allen Gross to conduct the annual Rule 10 Safety Inspection. He also attended the NRCSA Executive Committee meeting and worked with the administration team to review handbooks. He reviewed the budget with NDE and was encouraged to get guidance from the Board on setting the levy. Mr. Geary stated that overall valuations are down and therefore the levy will need to go up. He noted that people who live in town will pay more in taxes as their valuations actually went up and now the levy will be higher as well.

4.6.3 CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Mr. Geary has applied for a permit to install electricity under the sidewalk for the new marquee. The sign is scheduled for delivery September 15th.

4.6.4 ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Geary reviewed the action items on the agenda including handbooks, Title IX policy changes, results of the preschool survey, and a new wellness policy. He reviewed purchases, through CARES funding, for UV disinfectant lamps and table "dividers". He also discussed the annual declarations for naming the Superintendent as the official representative and to authorize the payment of year end bills for fiscal year 2019-2020.

4.6.5 OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Geary reported on a replacement mimio board for the 2nd grade room and that wires have been installed for the track timing system. He asked the Board for their thoughts on

updating the gym seating. He announced that the administration team will meet with staff to develop plans for as many contingencies as they can think of. Mr. Geary also reported that the kitchen hoods in both buildings should be done by the end of the week. He stated the Launch Nebraska website discusses possible scenarios for students being absent due to COVID and that these absences are covered under Policy #5001 (Compulsory Attendance and Excessive Absenteeism).

- 5 REGULAR AGENDA
- 5.1 EXCUSING A BOARD MEMBER
None
- 5.2 SPECIAL RECOGNITION
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Borges to recognize all Cheyenne/Morrill County 4-H fair winners and participants for all of their accomplishments this summer; to all of our baseball summer league players and their accomplishments; to Alison Haley and Amy Henke for helping Mrs. Morgan in some of the classrooms; to our custodial and maintenance staff for their work throughout the district during the summer; to patrons, staff members, and parents who collaborated to develop Leyton's Return to School Plan; and to Deaver Ag (Terry Deaver) and KD Lawn (Drew Leisy) for their donation of insecticide and application to the high school football field. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.3 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES
Motion by Borges, seconded by Rexroth to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on July 13, 2020. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.4 APPROVAL OF REPORTS
Motion by Cruise, seconded by Bartling to approve reports presented at this meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.5 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS, WARRANTS, AND TRANSFERS
- 5.5.1 Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to approve General Fund bills and Financial Reports as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.5.2 Motion by Henke, seconded by Cruise to approve bills and financial reports from the remaining funds as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.6 APPROVAL OF HANDBOOKS
Motion by Benish, seconded by Henke to recess the meeting at 8:23 p.m. to call the school attorney. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
Motion by Benish, seconded by Borges to return to return to general session at 8:34 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
Motion by Benish, seconded by Borges to table the approval of the handbooks. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0. It was noted by the Board that there would need to be a special meeting to approve the handbooks close to the 14th of August due to the Title IX changes.
- 5.7 APPROVAL OF COVID SAFETY EQUIPMENT PURCHASES
- 5.7.1 Motion by Bartling, seconded by Henke to approve the bid from FSG for the purchase of two 300W portable UV carts. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.7.2 Motion by Cruise, seconded by Henke to approve the bid from ROI for the purchase of safety shields to be used in the elementary. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

- 5.8 APPROVAL OF WELLNESS POLICY #5052
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Borges to approve Policy #5052 (Wellness Policy) as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.9 APPROVAL OF TITLE IX POLICIES
Discussion was held on the proposed Title IX policies.
- 5.9.1 Motion by Bartling, seconded by Rexroth to approve Policies #2006 (Complaint Procedure); #4014 (Employment-Related Sexual Harassment-DELETE) and #5026 (Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment of Students-DELETE) as presented with recommendations noted. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.9.2 Motion by Henke, seconded by Cruise to approve Policy #3057 (Title IX Policy) as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.10 APPROVAL OF ACTIVITY TRIP POLICY #6029
Motion by Cruise, seconded by Rexroth to approve Policy #6029 (Activity Trips) as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.11 APPROVAL OF PRESCHOOL for 2021-2022
Discussion was held on the preschool surveys. Mrs. Rexroth, as a member of the committee, recommended that the Board not proceed with a preschool due to a lack of student numbers. Motion by Henke, with no second to proceed with the formation of a Preschool for the 2021-2022 school year. MOTION FAILED.
- 5.12 APPROVAL OF CLASSIFIED STAFF WAGES
Motion by Cruise, seconded by Henke to approve the Budget Committee’s recommendation for 2020-2021 classified wages as presented. Mr. Borges read and delivered a statement to the Board that per policy #2005 there is an inherent conflict of interest for him to vote on this agenda item. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Benish, Cruise, Henke, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. ABSTAIN – Borges. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.
- 5.13 APPROVAL OF REPAIRS TO SCHOOL PICKUP
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Borges to approve the replacement of the engine in the school pickup by Matt Wells, Gurley Diesel, in an amount not to exceed \$6,240.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.14 APPROVAL OF SUPERINTENDENT AS DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
Motion by Cruise, seconded by Rexroth to approve the Superintendent as the official representative of the District for state and federal forms. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.15 AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERINTENDENT TO PAY BILLS
Motion by Bartling, seconded by Henke to authorize the Superintendent to pay end of year bills for fiscal year 2019-2020, up to and including August 31, 2020. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

6 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- 6.1 Special Meeting to Approve Handbooks: To Be Announced
- 6.2 Next Regular Board Meeting: September 14, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

7 MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Borges to adjourn the regular school board meeting at 9:25 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.