

LEYTON BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT 17-0003
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
September 14, 2020 – 7:30 PM

The Leyton Board of Education met on Monday, September 14, 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 September 8, 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 7:32 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, HS Principal Nick Brost, and Elementary/JH Principal Dana Morgan. Absent: None.

1.3 COMMUNICATIONS/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

There were no communications. The Board and all visitors stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2 HEARINGS AND PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

2.1 Motion by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mrs. Rexroth to recess at 7:34 p.m. to wait for a patron to arrive who wished to address the Board. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES: Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO: None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

2.2 Motion by Mr. Henke, seconded by Mrs. Rexroth to return to regular session at 7:37 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES: Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO: None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

2.3 Kevin Tretter addressed the Board as to why his children are being homeschooled this year. His decision was not based on COVID, but rather the actions of an individual. He learned this summer from a former Leyton graduate that an educator had provided alcohol and had inappropriate relations with them while they were a student. Mr. Tretter encouraged the Board to look into this matter and speak with all graduates but specifically students from 2004-2007.

3 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

None

4 REPORTS

4.1 STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS REPORT

STUCO President, Zac Henke, and Vice-President, Brenton Abbott, addressed the Board on student activities. Zac recapped some of the STUCO activities that were implemented last school year including open campus lunch on Fridays, weekly bulletins to students, having two dismissal bells for lunch, student involvement in the hiring of teachers, and swing dance lessons. They've had several meetings this year, elected officers, and finalized Homecoming activities. Homecoming Week will be September 21st – 25th and includes themed spirit days, a bonfire, a parade, and a dance.

4.2 BOARD REPORTS

Mrs. Rexroth presented the Budget report. The Budget Committee has met and reviewed the budget documents and recommends the proposed budget and tax request of \$0.898887.

4.3 STAFF MEMBERS REPORT

Irma Rios, K-12 SPED Teacher, addressed the Board by having them participate in an activity with other patrons. Everyone was given several cards and they had to match up with someone in the same grade level; the same disability; and finally the same kind of help. Their final item was a Band-Aid. Mrs. Rios described how hard it is to teach so many individual skills to a wide variety of age groups and disabilities and that there isn't one plan for all students. She referred to herself as the one little "Band-Aid" trying to fix everything. She asked the Board to consider hiring a para for the high school and the elementary to help her with the students.

4.4 ELEMENTARY/JH PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Morgan attended a Return to School Committee meeting, driver safety training, HAL plan and funding webinar, two MDTs, three IEPs, and meetings for administration, SPED, ESU Title 1C and 504. She also held/hosted the kindergarten graduation, 8th grade promotion, a Leyton mentor meeting, a behavioral professional development, and weekly staff meetings. Mrs. Morgan led the curriculum map discussion at the teacher in-service, continued to review and edit the Year-at-a-Glance documents, and completed lockout/fire drills and a bus evacuation. She worked with Mrs. Rios to complete SPED indicators 11/12 with the NDE and started MTSS process at the elementary, led by Ms. Primm. She stated that formal Danielson evaluations will begin on September 22nd.

4.5 SECONDARY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Brost attended meetings for administration, the MTSS team, teacher mentors, an IEP, and MAC Conference ADs. He facilitated a student 504 team meeting, scheduled Fall NWEA MAP testing for September 21st – October 15th, and met with Sheyenne Meadows of NDE on the HAL program. He also completed lockout drills and a bus evacuation at the high school. Mr. Brost announced that Homecoming is scheduled for the week of September 21st-25th. He also stated that there has been successful implementation of the "Warrior Period" during the school day as time for study hall, guidance, enrichment and eligibility work.

4.6 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

4.6.1 CONTRACT DAYS

Mr. Geary completed 18.5 days in August for his 2020-2021 contract, plus an additional 28 hours.

4.6.2 MEETINGS/TRAVEL

Mr. Geary had meetings with the Budget Committee to finalize the proposed budget based on certified valuations; with NSAA Student Representative, Brenton Abbott, to discuss his meeting and ideas for our school; and with Pam Brezenski, our ESU SPED Director, to review planning for the year. He also attended meetings for administration, MAC Conference Superintendents, ESU Superintendents, HAL, and the Leyton Foundation.

4.6.3 CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Mr. Geary stated that patches have been made on the track and we are still waiting on other minor repairs.

4.6.4 ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Geary reviewed the action items including changes to policies #3028; #4040; #6007 and #6008. He also reported that the Board would like clarification from the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission regarding conflicts of interest in small school districts where, often, board members are related in various way to employees at school. The school attorney drafted a query to address this concern.

4.6.5 OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Geary congratulated our district staff for receiving the ALICAP safety award. Our trainings and their attention to detail have kept us all safe and as a result qualify our district for a significant discount on our insurance premium. He emailed the board a copy of our ALICAP inspection and said that Ken Navratil visited both sites and was pleased with what he found. Mr. Geary stated that we received a significant incentive for our use of the Distance Learning (DL) system, however, continuing availability of these funds is uncertain at this time. He added that at the Budget Hearing, he had suggested that we would need to amend the published Budget to show cash reserves in the Employee Benefit, Activity, and Lunch funds. Mr. Geary visited with Janice Eret at NDE and was told that it wasn't necessary to change it; it was fine as it was published.

5 REGULAR AGENDA

5.1 EXCUSING A BOARD MEMBER

None

- 5.2 SPECIAL RECOGNITION
Motion by Henke, seconded by Rexroth to recognize Brenton Abbott for being an NSAA State Representative; to Pam Brezenski, Jessica Broderick, Pam Uhl and Cassie Challburg for assisting us with ideas for transitioning kindergarten students; to Allie Primm for leading MTSS; to the elementary/junior high staff for their flexibility and willingness to work as a team in order to get our students in school and keep them here; to Coach Gamble and Coach Lipska for helping paint the lines on the football field at the high school; to the volleyball and football teams with a successful start to their seasons; to the maintenance and custodial team in the district for the extra work they have put in to help keep our facilities clean and sanitized for our students to start the school year; and to the football team for their patriotism at their first home game and their sportsmanship with the opposing team. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.3 APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on August 10, 2020, the Special Board Meeting on August 17, 2020, and the Budget Hearing and Tax Request Hearing on September 10, 2020. Mr. Bartling noted that the minutes from August 10, 2020 should be corrected in Ms. Boggess' address to the Board from 74 days to 54 days. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.4 APPROVAL OF REPORTS
Motion by Bartling, seconded by Borges to approve reports presented at this meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.5 APPROVAL OF CLAIMS, WARRANTS, AND TRANSFERS
- 5.5.1 Motion by Henke, seconded by Cruise to approve General Fund bills and Financial Reports as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.5.2 Motion by Borges, seconded by Henke to approve bills and financial reports from the remaining funds as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.6 APPROVAL OF POLICIES
- 5.6.1 Motion by Henke, seconded by Cruise to approve Policy #3028 (Sex Offenders) as amended. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.6.2 Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Bartling to approve Policy #4040 (Employment Terms for Classified Staff) as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, and Borges. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.6.3 Motion by Bartling, seconded by Rexroth to approve Policy #6007 (Senior Recognition) and Policy #6008 (Class Rank). ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, and Cruise. VOTING NO – Borges. MOTION CARRIED: 5-1.
- 5.7 APPROVAL OF NEBRASKA ACCOUNTABILITY AND DISCLOSURE COMMISSION OPINION
- 5.7.1 Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to request an advisory opinion from the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission regarding potential conflicts of interest when determining compensation for school district employees. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.8 APPROVAL OF RESIGNATION
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to approve, with regret, the resignation of Krystal Borges as the Lawn Care provider for Leyton Public School and to thank her for her hard work and doing as much as she did. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Benish, Cruise, Henke, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. ABSTAIN – Borges. MOTION CARRIED: 5-0.

- 5.9 APPROVAL OF TECHNOLOGY RECYCLING
Motion by Cruise, seconded by Henke to approve the disposal of excess technology equipment as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.10 APPROVAL OF THOMPSON INVESTIGATION REPORT
Motion by Bartling, seconded by Rexroth to accept and approve the investigative report from Tim Thompson made in response to a complaint against a school employee. Mr. Benish read summaries of the report and advised patrons that copies were available for them to review it in its entirety. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.11 APPROVAL OF FURTHER ACTION
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Henke to take no further action regarding the complaint against a district employee. Mr. Borges questioned if the Board could even vote on this as they were indirectly named in the complaint. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – Borges. MOTION CARRIED: 5-1.
- 5.12 APPROVAL OF REIMBURSEMENT
No motion was made to indemnify Mr. Chris Geary for attorney fees.
- 5.13 APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 BUDGET
Motion by Cruise, seconded by Rexroth to approve the 2020-2021 Budget as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, and Cruise. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.14 APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 TAX REQUEST
Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Bartling to approve the 2020-2021 Tax Request as presented. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Rexroth, Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, and Henke. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.15 APPROVAL OF CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE CONTRACTS
- 5.15.1 Motion by Borges, seconded by Rexroth to approve the Classified Employee Contract for “Exempt” employees. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Bartling, Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, and Rexroth. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.
- 5.15.2 Motion by Cruise, seconded by Rexroth to approve the Classified Employee Contract for “Non-Exempt” employees. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Benish, Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, and Bartling. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

6 INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

6.1 Next Regular Board Meeting: October 12, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

7 MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rexroth, seconded by Cruise to adjourn the regular school board meeting at 8:47 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: VOTING YES – Borges, Cruise, Henke, Rexroth, Bartling, and Benish. VOTING NO – None. MOTION CARRIED: 6-0.

Ryan Borges, Board Secretary

Janella Kruse, Recording Secretary