

LEHIGH VALLEY ACADEMY
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Minutes
January 19, 2010

Opening Business:

The meeting began at 7:08 pm.

1. Flag Salute and Silent Meditation

2. Roll Call

X Eva Burkhart, President
X Joseph Kipp, Vice President
X Brian Bortz, Secretary
X Dennis Capozzolo, Treasurer
EX William Parkinson
X Richard Gorton
EX Eric Ervin
X Jack Toy
EX Paula Margraf

Invited Guests:

X Susan Mauser, CAO, HS Principal
X Lee Merendino, Business Manager
X Terry Walter, PS/ES Principal
X Cristal McCollum, MS Principal

Legend:

Roll Call: X – Present; EX – Excused; A – Absent

Motion/Seconded: Board Member's Initials Vote: 0-0-0 = In Favor/Oppose/Abstain

Roll Call Vote: Y – Yes; N – No; AB – Abstain

3. Agenda

Motion: To approve the Agenda.

Motion: JK Seconded: DC Vote: 6-0-0 passed.

4. Minutes

The minutes of the December 15, 2009 regular meeting are being submitted for approval.

Motion: To approve the submitted Minutes from the December 15, 2009 meeting.

Motion: BB Seconded: JK Vote: 6-0-0 passed.

The December 15, 2009 minutes were approved as amended.

5. Executive Session Report

An executive session was held on January 19, 2010 to discuss contractual and personnel matters.

6. President's Report – Ms. Burkhart

Ms. Burkhart was not present at the work session last week. She will obtain a copy of the Grade Presentation that was given by Eric Ervin and Susan Mauser. She received positive feedback on it. An Executive Session is planned for the second Tuesday of the month in February to discuss a timeline regarding the CEO position. The Board will decide if the February work session will be held. Cancellation of the work session will be posted.

7. CAO's Report – Mrs. Mauser

Primary/Elementary

A Choir Concert took place in the elementary school at the end of the year. They were televised on Blue Ridge Communications, TV 13. The elementary school teachers met with Sue Mowery, an expert in reading, during the in-service day.

Middle /High School

The middle and high school faculty worked on the MYP planners with the principals. The action plan that was submitted to the International Baccalaureate of Americas (IBA) was approved. On December 22, the students celebrated lesser known holidays of different cultures. They held a brunch and dressed up for the occasion. This Friday at 4:00 pm, the middle school basketball team is playing their first game at Roberto Clemente Charter School. They will be playing two other community teams during the month. The high school team will play against them on Monday.

Andy Hall, DP Coordinator/HS Teacher and Mrs. Mauser attended the Gibbs Conference in NYC. Gibbs is the Guild of IB Schools in the Mid - Atlantic States. Mrs. Mauser met with the new staff member of the MYP Program in the New York Office. The Guild of IB Schools is planning to schedule meetings of the different Programmes. The MYP group will meet in NYC. The Diploma Group will meet in another location, possibly Buffalo and the PYP group will connect online.

Mrs. Walter and Mrs. Mauser attend the Lehigh Study Council. Dr. Alex Wiseman presented the topic, Creating Global Citizens in an Era of International Competition. They had the opportunity to speak with other superintendents in the area. The main topic of conversation was the Race to the Top Grant.

The students are leading the charge in starting a collection of donations for Haiti. We will make a donation to the Red Cross with the donations received from a school-wide dress down day on January 29. Individuals from the Red Cross will be invited to explain to students how the donation will be used, as part of the educational piece. It is anticipated that the schools will individually participate in additional activities to continue to support Haiti in the next month or so.

anticipated average salary increases. This figure does not account for any increases in staffing. This amount is in addition to the reserve that is planned to fund the projected rate increases by PSERS beginning in the year 2012-2013. The hope is to continue to fund this reserve to at least the same level in each year until then.

9. Activities/Committees

The Board Development Committee (BDC) will be planning to meet within the next thirty days. Information will be placed in the Newsflash. Brian Bortz, Jack Toy and Joe Kipp will assist on the committee as needed.

The PTO Meeting was held last Thursday. One of the topics of discussion was the Bingo Fundraiser. It will be held on April 11.

Mrs. Mauser commented on the Olweus Bullying Program as part of her CAO report at this time.

This year we are in the process of implementing The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. It will kick off in the middle of February. Thanks to Mrs. McCollum, MS Principal and Ms. Nonnemacher, MS Teacher, LVA was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Safe Schools and Communities through PA Cares. Together with some federal funds, the implementation costs of the program will be covered.

9. Public Comment

Mr. Mike Karabin asked about the organizational chart including a CEO position. The Board agreed that the CEO position is needed but have not made any additional decisions on the organizational chart at this time. He asked if Ms. Burkhart as the Interim CEO question was researched with the solicitor. The Board did and will discuss this further along on the agenda.

Mrs. Brigitte Bortz, parent, commented as an FYI on the state's denial of the Thomas Payne Charter School's appeal. I was planned to be a K-8 school and could have been a feeder school to our high school.

11. Personnel Matters

11.1 Personnel Report

Motion: To approve the personnel report.

Motion: BB Seconded: RG

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Burkhart	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Capozzolo:	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Ervin:	<u>---</u>
Mr. Kipp:	<u>Y</u>	Mr. Parkinson:	<u>---</u>	Mr. Toy:	<u>Y</u>
Mr. Bortz:	<u>Y</u>	Dr. Gorton:	<u>Y</u>	Ms. Margraf	<u>---</u>

Motion passed 6-0-0.

11.2 Interim CEO

Motion: To approve the Board Resolution designating Eva Burkhart, Board President, as Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Motion: _____ JK _____ Seconded: _____ RG _____ Vote: _____ 0-6-0 _____.

11.2.1 Interim CEO

Motion: To appoint Susan Mauser as Interim CEO, with signatory authority only.

Motion: _____ BB _____ Seconded: _____ JK _____ Vote: _____ 6-0-0 passed _____.

12. Student Matters

12.1 Student Population – 886

Recently enrolled: 1
In Process:
Withdrawals: 2

12.2 Disciplinary Issues:

Primary/Elementary

Issues – no

Middle School

In-school suspensions – no
Out of school suspensions – one
Issues – multiple referrals

High School

In-school suspensions – two
Out of school suspensions – no
Issues – class disruption

13. New Business

13.1 Electricity Contract

Motion: To approve an agreement with Constellation Energy for a one-year period contingent on an effective usage rate lower than .104 per kilowatt hour (kWh).

Motion: BB Seconded: DC

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Burkhart N Mr. Capozzolo: N Mr. Ervin: ---
Mr. Kipp: N Mr. Parkinson: --- Mr. Toy: N
Mr. Bortz: N Dr. Gorton: N Ms. Margraf ---

Motion failed 0-6-0.

Mr. Merendino will continue to seek competitive rates.

14. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

15. Future Activities, Times, and Important Dates

- January 20, 2010 PS/ES mid-point of second trimester, end of 3rd Unit of Inquiry
- January 20, MS/HS end of second marking period
- January 23 Market Day Pick Up, Main Cafeteria, 10:30 am
- January 29 PS/ES second trimester progress reports distributed
- February 1, 4, 10 Reenrollment Sessions – Main Cafeteria, 5:30 pm /7:30 pm
- February 9 BOT Work Session – Main Cafeteria, 7:00 pm
- February 11 PTO General Meeting - in elem. school, 6:30 pm
- February 16 Executive Session, MS Library, 6:00 pm
- February 16 Board Meeting, Main Cafeteria, 7:00 pm

16. Motion to Adjourn

Motion: JT Seconded: JK Vote: 6-0-0 passed

The meeting ended at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by:
Kimberly Koons