

**LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**April 15, 2024**

The combined Committee-of-the-Whole and regular monthly meeting for voting purposes of the Lake-Lehman Board of School Directors was held on Monday, April 15, 2024, in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Wright, at 7:00 p.m., and opened with Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

<u>DIRECTORS</u>	<u>Roll Call</u>
Robert Baran	Present
Kevin Carey	Present
Al DeAngelis	(Resigned Seat)
David Paulauskas	Present
Drew Salko	Present
Mark Wallace	Present
Scott Walsh	Present
Rob Wojtowicz	Present
Robert Wright	Present

**Others Present:**

James E. McGovern, Superintendent of Schools  
Tracey Liparela, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Avery E. Smith, Esquire, King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Faul LLC  
Mary Jo Casaldi, Superintendent's Administrative Asst./Board Secretary  
Tabitha Miscavage Spagnuolo, Personnel/Benefits Manager  
Joseph Caputo, Business Consultant  
Lori Bednarek, Special Projects Coordinator  
Mike Kostrobala, Assistant Principal, Junior-Senior High School  
Matthew Nonnenberg, Ross Elementary Principal  
Donald James, Lehman-Jackson Elementary Principal  
Jeff Shook, Dean of Students/ Home and School Resource Officer/ Athletic Director  
Brian Murphy, Technology Director/Director of Buildings & Grounds  
Tina Antonello-Portee, Special Education Director  
Erica Orock, School Psychologist  
Sarah Walsh, Food Service Director, Metz Culinary Management

David Fedor	Jean Sayre	Jennifer Vigorito	Tina Judge	Heather Gensel
Alahna Morris	Frank Picchi	Reggie Gensel	Lisa Delaney	Thom Ondrea
Chris Yanek	William Vigorito	Rachel Degnan	Joseph Frackowiak	Ella Wilson
Jay Konigus	Diane Johnson	Anthony Sayre, Jr.	Anita Koziol	Michael Matsysik
Tyler Collura	Melissa Collura	Tim Norconk	Jen Norconk	R. Cronin
Sierra Scaggs	Cheryl Koval	Anna Fedor	Lori Kuciewicz	Rachel Coffee
Michael Buffer	Jodie Shultz	Jack Dennis	Landen Aritz	Kathleen Selner
Brenda Morris				

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

An Executive Session of the Board was held on April 15, 2024, to discuss employment opportunities - support staff/administration, coaching/extra-curricular appointments, Act 93 Agreement and personnel matters.

**READING OF MISSION**

Cast members from the Lake-Lehman Theatre Group's production of Beauty and the Beast, Jr., recited the Mission of the Lake-Lehman School District. Alyse Miller who played the role of Belle, entertained with a musical selection from the production.

"The Mission of the Lake-Lehman School District is to inspire students to achieve personal fulfillment through the context of community, independence, generosity and mastery within a safe learning environment."

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mrs. Liparela reported on Senior Projects, the Lake-Lehman Theatre Production of Beauty and the Beast, Jr., and the "U-Knighted Knight Out" event.

**Senior Projects:** Each year seniors complete a community service project to provide help and support to local community service agencies. Students spend numerous hours volunteering their time and in some cases raising money for causes that are important not only to them, but the community at large. Each year we are in awe of the amount of hard work that goes into these projects. This year is no different. The students volunteered well over 2800 hours of community service. They raised an unbelievable amount of \$55,401.46 to benefit local non-profits including Lake-Lehman Booster Clubs, local families in need, MS Society, Autism United, Crohns and Colitis Foundation, just to name a few. We could not be happier to call these students Lake-Lehman Knights. We are so proud of all of them!

**Lake-Lehman Theater Production:** Beauty and The Beast Jr, a fun and family friendly production, will be presented this weekend by the Lake-Lehman Theatre Troupe. Show times are Saturday at 3 pm and Sunday at 2 pm. Ticket info can be found on the Lake-Lehman Theatre Facebook Page.

**The "U-Knighted Night Out"** event will also be held this weekend on Saturday from 5-8:30 p.m. at the football stadium. There will be tons of activities for kids and families including face painting, yard games, carnival games, L-L athletic workshops, and a home run derby. L-L Theatre characters will stop by, there will be a touch a truck display with local emergency responders, and food and ice cream trucks will be there too! The night will end with a fireworks show! This event is free with the exception of food and beverage. Please join us for some family friendly fun!

Mr. Jeff Shook, Athletic Director, invited Coach Konigus and Coach Lavan to the podium for the following athletic presentations.

Coach Konigus and Coach Gensel presented a Certificate of Athletic Achievement to Alahna Morris, District II Girls Wrestling -148 lb. Champion, who also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in regional competition and 6<sup>th</sup> place in the PIAA Championship. Alahna thanked the Lake-Lehman School Board, coaches and teachers for promoting gender equality and empowering young women. Reggie Gensel also thanked the School Board for supporting the program.

Ella Wilson was also presented with a Certificate of Athletic Achievement from Coach Charles Lavan, for reaching 1,000 points scored in Girls Basketball.

Congratulations to both students!

**Minutes of the Lake-Lehman School Board Meeting 4/15/2024, Page 3.**

Mr. Brian Murphy, Director of Technology, Buildings and Grounds Director, and E-Sports Gaming Coach, reported on the very successful first year of the new E-Sports gaming program at Lake-Lehman.

Mr. McGovern announced the first Building Blocks full summer camp program for students in Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, which will be hosted at the Lake-Lehman campus throughout the summer months. Registration is now open and information is available on the website.

**BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT**

Mr. Joseph Caputo provided a slide presentation on introduction to budgeting.

**WEST SIDE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER REPORT**

Mr. Wright provided highlights from the February meeting of the West Side CTC Joint Operating Committee.

**LUZERNE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT**

Mr. Walsh provided highlights from the February meeting of the Luzerne Intermediate Unit.

**STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT**

Student Council representative, Landen Aritz provided the following report:

The Lake-Lehman Student Council has been hard at work to ensure the final months of the school year are exciting. Presently, we are in the midst of our April class competition - a Blue Chip animal product donation in support of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month spanning from April 8th through April 19. This will be the final class competition, after which the junior high and senior high class victors will be granted a prize at the end of the year. Moving forward, the Student Council will host a bake sale on Tuesday, April 16; and, finally, we are excited to show our appreciation for our teachers with an upcoming surprise during Teacher Appreciation Week.

**FOOD SERVICE REPORT**

Sarah Walsh, Food Service Director, announced that the cafeteria is fully staffed and are able to provide more options. Ice cream will also be available starting Friday.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. McGovern reviewed and read the agenda and addendum items.

Mr. Wright noted the agenda is approved as read and amended.

**VISITORS** – Comments relative to approval of Minutes, treasurer's report, payment of bills, and ACTION ITEMS.

No comments.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Mr. Salko, seconded by Mr. Wojtowicz, to approve the following minutes.

March 18, 2024 - regular monthly meeting

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.**

**PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion was made by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Salko, to approve the Fund Accounting Payment Summary with payment date listed as April 16, 2024, in the amount of \$476,940.52, and interim payments dated March 22, 2024, in the amount of \$275,599.69, and April 5, 2024, in the amount of \$140,225.54; subject to audit.

**Vote: Upon roll call, all directors present voted yes; motion carried.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Motion was made by Mr. Paulauskas, seconded by Mr. Salko, to approve the treasurer’s report as of March 31, 2024.

**Vote: Upon roll call, all directors present voted yes; motion carried.**

**ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL REPORTS AND FILE FOR AUDIT**  
**(Attached to Treasurer’s Report)**

Balances as of March 29, 2024

- Athletic Fund
- Food Service
- Jr/Sr High Activity Fund
- Jr/Sr High Principal/s Fund
- Lake-Noxen Elementary
- Lehman-Jackson Elementary
- Ross Elementary

**ACTION ITEMS**

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

No items.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

No items.

**ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES**

Motion was made by Dr. Carey, seconded by Mr. Baran, to move on the following items:

1. Approve the following as School & Booster Volunteers for the 2023-2024 school year; all clearances on file:

A.	Jennifer Borger	E.	Erin Lada
B.	Briane Flaherty	F.	Bridget Morgan
C.	Reginall Gensel	G.	Scott Walton
D.	Lois Hutchins	H.	Mary Wolfe

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried**

2. Appoint the following Assistant Coaches/ Extra-Curricular Advisors for the 2023-2024 school year, all clearances on file.

A.	John McGurk	Track & Field	Volunteer
----	-------------	---------------	-----------

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.**

3. Appoint the following Assistant Coaches/ Extra-Curricular Advisors for the 2024-2025 school year, all clearances on file.

A.	Miranda Parry	Varsity Girls Volleyball	\$2,115.36
B.	Brynn Giordano	Girls Volleyball	Volunteer
C.	Melissa Janick	Girls Volleyball	Volunteer
D.	Mark Major	Girls Volleyball	Volunteer
E.	Robert Wilson	Girls Volleyball	Volunteer
F.	MaryAnn Maxfield	Varsity Cross Country	\$1,201.67
G.	Paul Callahan	Varsity Girls Soccer	\$2,741.04
H.	Devin Michalec	JH Boys Soccer	\$2,741.04
I.	John Christopher Chapple	Boys Soccer	Volunteer
J.	Kyle Greenwood	Boys Soccer	Volunteer
K.	Kyle Hall	Boys Soccer	Volunteer
L.	Donald Michalisin	Boys Soccer	Volunteer
M.	Deanna Dragon	JH Cheerleading	\$1,762.37
N.	Kortnie Savage	Cheerleading	Volunteer
O.	Courtney Thomas	Varsity Field Hockey	\$4,229.45
P.	Janine Kasarda	JH Field Hockey	\$3,513.28
Q.	Sandra Boyle	Field Hockey	Volunteer
R.	Lynn Coury	Field Hockey	Volunteer
S.	Melissa Smigielski	Field Hockey	Volunteer
T.	Katie Supey	Field Hockey	Volunteer

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.**

**TRANSPORTATION**

1. Approve the following list of bus/van drivers for the 2023-2024 school year. All clearances on file.

A.	Dawn Bartorillo	Back Mountain Transit
B.	Zachary Lofthouse	Back Mountain Transit

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.**

**SUPPORT SERVICES**

No items.

**SCHOOL BOARD**

Motion was made by Mr. Baran, seconded by Mr. Wallace, to move on the following items:

- 1. Authorize payment of the following insurance appeal(s) based on the determinations of the Lake-Lehman Insurance Appeals Committee:

A.	Appeal #2024-01-3102	\$969.05
B.	Appeal #2024-01-3242	\$450.00

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.**

- 2. Approve the calendar for the 2024-2025 School Year.

**Vote: Upon roll call, all members present voted yes; motion carried.**

**SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS**

The following individuals have expressed interest in being considered to fill the school board vacancy due to the resignation of Mr. Al DeAngelis and were present at the school board meeting to participate in the public interview process:

- A. David Fedor
- B. Jean Sayre
- C. Jennifer M. Vigorito

Each candidate was allowed two (2) minutes to make an opening statement.

Board members interviewed candidates individually asking each candidate the same questions.

Upon conclusion of the interviews, the Board deliberated regarding the selection of a candidate to fill the vacancy.

**APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR**

Mr. Fedor, Mrs. Sayre and Mrs. Vigorito each received nominations to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

**Vote:** Upon roll call; Mr. Baran, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Walsh and Mr. Wright voted for Mrs. Sayre. (4 votes) Mr. Paulauskas and Mr. Salko voted for David Fedor; (2 votes) Mr. Wojtowicz and Dr. Carey voted for Mrs. Vigorito. (2 votes)

*In accordance with the School Code and Sunshine Act an appointee must receive a vote of the majority of the remaining members of the Board, therefore, the board voted until one candidate received the votes of the majority of the membership.*

**Vote:** Upon second roll call; Mr. Baran, Dr. Carey, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Wojtowicz and Mr. Wright voted for Mrs. Sayre, (6 votes) Mr. Paulauskas and Mr. Salko voted for Dr. Fedor. (2 votes)

Mrs. Jean Sayre, of Sweet Valley, receiving the majority of votes; (6-2) was appointed to the position of School Director of the Lake-Lehman School District, to fill the vacancy due to the resignation of Mr. Alfred DeAngelis; term expiring December 1, 2025.

**Minutes of the Lake-Lehman School Board Meeting 4/15/2024, Page 7.**

The Oath of Office will be administered to Mrs. Jean Sayre by Mrs. Tina Judge, Lake-Lehman School District Registrar and licensed Notary, at the conclusion of the meeting. Mrs. Sayre will be seated as an official member of the Board at the May 20, 2024, School Board Meeting.

**INFORMATION AND RECOGNITION**

Mr. Wright noted that all informational items are as listed.

**BOARD DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE BUSINESS**

Mr. Salko noted that the Board is required to appoint a representative to fill the vacancy on the West Side Career and Technical Center Joint Operating Committee due to the resignation of Mr. DeAngelis and stated that he would like to be appointed as representative to fill that vacancy.

**SET MEETING DATES**

Mr. Wright read the following meeting information:

The combined Committee-of-the-Whole and regular monthly meeting for voting purposes has been scheduled for May 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., and will be held in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

**VISITORS**

Michael Matysik	Ross Township	Mr. Matysik thanked the School Board and Mr. Murphy for introducing the E-Sports Gaming program to Lake-Lehman, stating how much the kids enjoy it.
Tom Ondrea	Lehman Township	Mr. Ondrea addressed the board in regard to storm water flooding, back-up and overflow onto his property which borders the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School campus.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Salko, seconded by Mr. Baran.

Mr. Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Non-Member, Board Secretary  
Mary Jo Casaldi

