

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

December 11, 2023

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, December 11, 2023, in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Wright, at 7:14 p.m., and opened with Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Mr. Wright welcomed new board members: Mr. Mark Wallace, Mr. Rob Wojtowicz, Mr. Scott Walsh and Mr. Rob Baran.

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

Others Present:

James E. McGovern, 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
Lori Bednarek, Special Projects Coordinator
Doug Klopp, Junior-Senior High School Principal
Matthew Nonnenberg, Ross Elementary Principal
Donald James, Lehman-Jackson Elementary Principal
Jeff Shook, Home and School Visitor/Athletic Director
Erica Orock, School Psychologist
Sarah Walsh, Food Service Director, Metz

Selena Mazzella	Mike Teetsel	Chris Teetsel	Carol Riaubia
Dallas Hanna	Samantha Furman	Michael Stash	Mary Ann Lugiano
Bob Lugiano	Bobby Lugiano	Michael Lugiano	Jeannie Sayre
Rachel Coffee	Scott Shotwell	Jamie Walsh	John
Ella	Mark Major	Jamie A. Walsh	Jackie Neiman
Heather R.	Laura Liparela	Dawn Dennis	Sarah Kabata
Bill Lavan	Jim Fife	Mark Coach	Steve Liparela
Mike Phillips	B. K.	David Stockholm	Gary Bienkowski
Dave Neiman	Chris C.	Mary Simons	John S.
Jill Casale	Sherry Daum	Brian Daum	Crystal Savage
Heather Kukosky	Matt Kukosky	Jack Patton	Bonnie Patton
Cheryl Koval	Carrie McDonald	Corry Hanson	Christine Snell
Tammy Schnable	Halley Corey	Erica Hanson	Kathleen Selner
Joe Liparela	Barb Liparela	Alex Liparela	Melissa Smigielski

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session of the Board was held on December 11, 2023, to discuss Employment Opportunities - support staff/ teacher/administration, Coaching/Extra-Curricular Appointments/Openings, and Act 93 Agreement.

READING OF MISSION

Mr. McGovern read the following "Mission" of the Lake-Lehman School District.

"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

The superintendent's report included the following:

- Coach Mark Major presented a certificate to Ella Wilson for being named to the Pennsylvania Volleyball Coaches Association All-State Volleyball Team for 2023. Coach Major also added that Ella is a great team captain and a great leader.
- Mr. Jeff Shook, Athletic Director, presented a certificate to Michael Lugiano for being named to the 2023 Rolex Junior All-American Golf Team.
- Mr. Shook presented a certificate to Crystal Savage, Cheerleading Coach, for being awarded "2023 Coach of the Year" by Dallas Post "Best of the Back Mountain." Mr. Shook added that Crystal has been involved with cheerleading and coordinating activities at Lake-Lehman for 23 years.
- Mr. Shook also presented a certificate to mini-cheerleading Coach Mindy Grossman, Lake-Lehman Junior Knights 9u competition squad, in recognition of being recipients of the 9u Grand Champions Award and also being awarded Misericordia University Charity Cup Champions.
- Mr. Shook presented a certificate of athletic achievement to Coach Jim Fife accepting on behalf of Coach Scott Renfer, Lake-Lehman Junior Knights Football, for being named 2023 Superbowl Champions.
- Toby Hanson, 6th grade student at Lehman-Jackson Elementary was presented with a certificate from Principal Donald James, for being awarded 1st place winner in the 2023 Wyoming Valley Veteran's Day Parade Committee Essay Contest/6-12 grade category. Toby read his winning essay with this year's theme: "Honoring our Korean War Veterans: Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Korean War Armistice." Devon Bienkowski, 4th grade student at Lehman Jackson Elementary, was also presented with a certificate from Mr. James for being awarded 3rd place winner in the 4th and 5th grade category with the theme: "Why is it important to remember and honor our Veterans?"

- The following students were chosen as winners in this year's 6th Grade Holiday Card Contest.

McKenna Riaubia – Ross Elementary
Iva Kukosky – Lehman-Jackson Elementary
Colby McDonald – Lake-Noxen Elementary

Art teachers, Selena Mazzella and Jill Casale presented the students with certificates for their artistic achievement in designing cards with this year's theme: "The 12 Days of Christmas." Students also received a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble Booksellers.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

No Report.

WEST SIDE AREA CAREER AND TECHNICAL CENTER REPORT

No Report.

LUZERNE COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT REPORT

No Report.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

Student Council president, Hailey Corey provided the following report:

"Good evening, the Lake-Lehman Student Council has been working very hard to accomplish some fun events for our student-body. To start off the month of December, we sponsored two children for Lake-Lehman's Children's Christmas Party. Today, we held our holiday bake sale during all lunches where every item was sold for \$1. We will be having a holiday spirit week from Monday, December 18th to Friday, December 22nd. Monday is Winter Wonderland White Out, Tuesday is Crazy Holiday Hats and Socks, Wednesday is Candy Cane Day, Thursday is Ugly Sweaters, and Friday is Holiday Chaos with all out accessories. Thursday will be our class competition, so the class with the ugliest sweaters that day will gain 100 points onto their overall score. Our biggest event this month will be our annual holiday assembly. This assembly will be Friday, December 22nd, and the theme will be The 12 Days of Lake-Lehman. There will be 12 events that follow along with the "12 Days of Christmas" song. Word is that Santa, Mrs. Claus, and two of their elves will be there to deliver presents and add to the wonderment of the holiday season!! We are excited to have a fun and eventful day as the students prepare for the break."

FOOD SERVICE REPORT

Sarah Walsh, Food Service Director, Metz Culinary Management, reported that the cafeteria is offering additional items such as pizza, every day. A goal for the near future is to bring back the salad bar, expand the program and offer snacks in the elementary schools.

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 Visitor’s Comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Bob Wright, seconded by Al DeAngelis, to approve the following minutes.

November 20, 2023 - regular monthly meeting
December 4, 2023 – Reorganization meeting minutes

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion was made by Scott Walsh, seconded by Al DeAngelis, to approve the Fund Accounting Payment Summary with payment date listed as December 12, 2024, in the amount of \$412,000.91, and interim payments dated November 17, 2023, in the amount of \$196,056.59, and December 1, 2023, in the amount of \$146,948.79; subject to audit.

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

TREASURER’S REPORT

Motion was made by Drew Salko, seconded by Al DeAngelis, to approve the treasurer’s report as of November 30, 2023.

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 November 30, 2023

- Jr/Sr High Activity Fund
- Jr/Sr High Principal/s Fund
- Lake-Noxen Elementary Building Fund
- Ross Elementary Building Fund

ACTION ITEMS

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

No items.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

No items.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

Motion was made by Kevin Carey, seconded by Drew Salko, to move on the following items:

Minutes of the Lake-Lehman School Board Meeting 12/11/2023, Page 5.

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

A.	Lisa Bernardoni	C.	Francis Procopio
B.	Tracie Davis	D.	Mary Simmons

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

2. Accept, with regret, the letter of resignation from Thomas Yoniski, Head Golf Coach, effective November 17, 2023, and authorize administration to advertise for the position.

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

3. Appoint the following Assistant Coaches/ Extra-Curricular Advisors for the 2023-2024 school year, all clearances on file; provided that the season is not cancelled due to Covid-19 related purposes.

A.	Thomas Manzoni	Swimming	Volunteer
B.	Scott Shotwell	Softball	Volunteer
C.	Heather Gensel	Wrestling	Volunteer

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

4. Approve the following Boys Basketball Coaching Staff & amended Salary Schedule, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Lake-Lehman School District and the Lake-Lehman Education Association for the 2023-2024 school year. All clearances on file.

A.	Joseph Lech Jr.	7th/8th Grade Coach	\$3,250.00
----	-----------------	---------------------	------------

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

5. Approve the following Baseball Coaching Staff & amended Salary Schedule, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Lake-Lehman School District and the Lake-Lehman Education Association for the 2023-2024 school year. All clearances on file.

A.	Michael Sholtis	Head Coach	\$4,504.20
B.	Lawrence Smith	Varsity Assistant	\$2,643.22
C.	Eoin Ellis	JV Assistant	\$2,643.22
D.	Robert Aten	JH/Freshman	\$1,000.00
E.	John Morgan	Baseball	Volunteer
F.	John Morris	Baseball	Volunteer

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

6. Rescind the following motions appointing Assistant Coaches/ Extra-Curricular Advisors for the 2023-2024 school year:

A.	June 19, 2023	5 – N.	Joshua Sayre	Wrestling	Volunteer
B.	June 19, 2023	5 – O.	Michael Slivinski	Wrestling	Volunteer
C.	September 25, 2023	2 – E.	Christopher Gray	Boys Basketball	Volunteer

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

TRANSPORTATION

No items.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Motion was made by Mark Wallace, seconded by Kevin Carey to move on the following items:

1. Appoint Deanna Rae Winter of Sweet Valley as Part-Time Food Service Worker, 5.5 hours per day, 186 days per year, at an hourly rate of \$15.00. Pending receipt of clearances within the mandated timeframe.

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

SCHOOL BOARD

Motion was made by Rob Baran, seconded by Al DeAngelis, to move on the following items:

1. Approve the Clinical Education Experience Agreement between Misericordia University and the Lake-Lehman School District to provide an opportunity for University students to obtain additional training, education and practical experience. Term of agreement shall be in effect when executed by both parties for a period of one year as per terms of said agreement.

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

2. Approve a refund of paid taxes for the year 2022, to Brett Clutter, for property located in Lehman Township, in the amount of \$685.04. Reason for refund: Double Assessed.

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

INFORMATION AND RECOGNITION

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

BOARD DISCUSSION FOR FUTURE BUSINESS

None.

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 January 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m., and will be held in the auditorium of the Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School.

VISITORS

Kathleen Selner	Jackson Township	Mrs. Selner addressed the board stating that she would like the board to provide a link to attachments on items that the board is voting on, specifically agreements, and noted that she has requested this several times at previous meetings.
Chris Teetsel	Lehman	Mr. Teetsel offered his concerns with the effectiveness of current football coaching staff.
Jamie Walsh	Sweet Valley	Mr. Walsh expressed his concerns with cyber enrollment at Lake-Lehman and is asking the Board to improve our cyber program.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Robert Baran, seconded by Scott Walsh.

Mr. Wright adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted



Non-Member, Board Secretary
Mary Jo Casaldi

