

## **COCALICO SCHOOL DISTRICT Denver, PA**

The regular meeting of the Cocalico School Board of Directors was called to order on Monday, October 26, 2020 by Rev. Kevin Eshleman, President. He welcomed the visitors. A moment of silence was held, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Eshleman reported that prior to the public meeting, the Cocalico School Board met for an Executive Session to review several legal matters. He then provided an update about a faculty, student, and staff survey and the next steps for returning to a five-day in-person schedule at the secondary level. Mr. Bennetch and Cocalico High School students Kira Lapi, Jilian Musser, and Taylor Wenger provided student perspectives about the hybrid schedule.

### Board Members Present

Richard Brenner	Lin Sensenig	Desiree Wagner
Pamela Blickle	Randall Renninger	Douglas Graybill
Juanita Fox	Brett Buckwalter	Rev. Kevin Eshleman

### Administrators Present

Dr. Ella Musser	Dr. Stephen Melnyk	Dr. Beth Haldeman
Sherri L. Stull	Scott Bennetch	Andrew Price
Anthony DiMatteo	Samantha Bensing	Dr. Susan Snyder
Dr. Andria Weaver	Angela Marley	Mary Rinehart
Brad Kafferlin	Sherry Luttrell	

### Visitors Present

Tara Griest	Georgette Hackman	Erin Kregar
Lynn Keene	Megan Renaud	Laura Musser
Kristine Butz	Emily Griest	Casey Quinto
Timothy Butz	Warick Baxter	Linford Hurst
Kim Marselas	Joy Dickson	Joe Nash
Tab Musser	Jodi Garman	Tanya Burkholder
Dawn Martin	Scott Garman	Shawn Gable
Tim Martin	Jennifer Martin	Greg Buck
Jeremy Campbell	Lonny LeVan	Suelda Hurst
Katrine Martin	Becky Peters	Courtney Hall
Laura Stehr	Jamie Leshar	Jennifer McClellan

On a motion made by Mr. Buckwalter and seconded by Ms. Wagner, the Board approved the minutes of the School Board meetings held on September 28, 2020 and October 12, 2020. Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0. (Addenda attached)

Made to motion by Ms. Wagner and seconded by Mrs. Fox, the Board approved the Treasurer's Report as written. Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0.

Beginning Balance 9/1/20 \$19,666,345.73

Receipts:

Transfer from Tax Account	15,192,518.57
PDE – Special Education	280,613.00
PDE – Plan Con	2,445.76
PDE – Retirement	1,085,906.63
PDE – Title I	23,980.27
PDE – Title IIA	5,028.07
PDE – Title IIA TIWP	2,272.73
PDE – Title III	765.67
PDE – Title IV	2,114.53
PDE – PA Smart Grant	1,944.44
PDE – CARES Act	18,079.63
PDE – NSL	8,904.33
Commonwealth of PA – CARES PCCD Grant	236,109.00
County of Lancaster – Realty Transfer Taxes	72,115.03
County of Lancaster – Delinquent Taxes	106,980.70
LCTCB – Wage Tax	258,000.50
UGI – rebates	6,000.00
DEMCO – refund	181.44
Reach Cyber Charter School – refund overpayment	11,388.85
McKesson – refund credit balance	13.36
RTI Survey Incentive – donation	400.00
A+ School Rewards – donation	271.72
Denver PTA – reimburse for extra styluses	1,068.30
Food Service – Salaries & Benefits	72,484.86
District Magistrate – fines	177.24
School Rental	300.00
Ephrata Recycling	134.81
Credit Recovery Course Fee	875.00
Fuel Sharing Fees	2,124.01
Mission Inspire Student Fees	8,000.00
Athletic Account	3,968.87
Insurance Receipts from Retirees	46,329.69
Insurance Receipts from Employees/Cobra	5,379.30
Miscellaneous Income	2,300.50
Interest	2,557.60
 Total Receipts	 \$17,461,734.41
 Total Receipts Plus Beginning Balance	 \$37,128,080.14

Expenditures:

Invoices approved for month of September	3,975,860.68
Invoices for Athletics for month of September	22,683.86
Payrolls – 9/11 & 9/25	2,118,828.64
Health Insurance Transfer	800,000.00
Fulton Bank – Monthly Fee	1,680.13

Total Expenditures \$6,919,053.31

Void ck#153739-Liberty Elevator Experts-different vendor name (1,104.00)

Void ck#153676-21<sup>st</sup> Century Cyber Charter – updated reconciliation – do not owe (986.00)

Net Expenditures \$6,916,963.31

**Ending Balance 9/30/20 \$30,211,116.83**

Mr. Buckwalter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wagner, to approve invoices in the amount of \$1,535,648.32. Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0. (Addendum attached)

Mr. Renninger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Buckwalter for Board approval of the transfer of \$5,000,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Project Fund. Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Buckwalter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wagner, to approve the Capital Project Fund Account Register in the amount of \$574,155.71. Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0. (Addendum attached)

Mr. Sensenig made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wagner for Board approval of the following agreements/proposals: Revised Proposal for Architectural/Engineering Services for High School Partial Roof and District Administration HVAC and LED Lighting Replacement, the I.U. #13 CAFCO Participation Agreement, a Settlement Agreement and Release, and an Agreement to Provide Educational Services. Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0. (Addenda attached)

**PERSONNEL**

Mr. Buckwalter made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wagner for Board approval of the hiring of the following professional staff effective October 5, 2020:

- (a) Kasey Fitzpatrick, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor’s/Step 1
- (b) Lauren Kemler, Elementary Teacher, Bachelor’s/Step 1

Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Renninger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sensenig, for Board approval of the following personnel actions:

- (a) Approval of PSERS Special Sick Leave
- (b) Approval of the following support staff resignations:
  - (1) Stacey Karns, part-time Human Resources Office Assistant, effective October 30, 2020
  - (2) Ann Marie Reisig, part-time Paraprofessional, effective November 15, 2020
  - (3) Howard Rue, full-time Custodian, for the purpose of retirement, effective December 31, 2020
- (c) Approval of the following support staff personnel:
  - (1) Terri Barbera, full-time Head Cook, effective November 2, 2020
  - (2) Dean Pannebecker, substitute Custodian, effective October 27, 2020
- (d) Approval of supplemental contracts for the 2020-2021 school year, for STS-employed guest teachers, and sport event workers.

Roll call vote, all members voting yes. Motion carried 9-0.

Mr. Buckwalter shared information about the I.U.#13 Board meeting and some of the budgeting concerns that were discussed at the meeting.

Mr. Renninger provided an update about the CTC meeting, virtual tours, and things that are happening within the various programs at the CTC.

Dr. Haldeman provided information about a special education grant that has been used to purchase materials for Middle School students.

Dr. Musser shared information about IDEA compliance and highlighted student recognitions: AP Scholars with Honor - Noah Bennetch and Alex Mellinger, AP Scholars with Distinction - Kibson Elmore and Conor Meise; the Hugh O'Brien National Leadership Conference Virtual Representatives - Scotia Foose and Kathryn Shanaman; Golf Distinction - 14th at States, 4th at Districts, 2nd in the Lancaster-Lebanon League - Ammala Moua; qualification for National History Bee - Max Blickle; selection for state-wide Attorney General's Drug-Free calendar contest - Cheyan Bashjian and Lydia Martin; and recognition for a winning storm drain marker design - William Saporreti.

During the General Comments portion of the meeting, several parents addressed the Board regarding the difficulties their children are experiencing. Parents shared concerns that included (1) students learn in different ways and some really need to be back in the building, (2) the increased emotions and frustrations students are experiencing, (3) the constant battle some parents are experiencing trying to help their children with completing their work and handing it in on time, (4) parents struggling to help their children while having to work, (5) students not getting immediate feedback when they need help, and (6) the numbers don't justify students being kept out of school. They also acknowledged that the return of secondary students full-time may increase the risk to teachers. Those parents who spoke to the Board included Shawn Gable, Jennifer Martin, Joe Nash, Jen McClellan, Jamie Leshner, and Tara Griest.

Several students voiced their opinions also. Their concerns included (1) they are struggling and lacking support, (2) they are missing socialization and the human connection, (3) technology issues are keeping the teachers from providing proper attention to those

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students that are in person, and (4) they want to go back to school, it would be better for their mental health. Students addressing the Board included Josh Garman, Emily Griest, and Warick Baxter.

Comments from the Professional Staff to the Board included (1) difficulty watching students struggle, although they have also seen students step up and out of their comfort zone (2) teacher workloads increasing for each staff member that's out, (3) bringing everyone back and then having to shut down would be worse than the hybrid schedule, (4) adults must be protected, especially with numbers going up and holiday traveling. Professional Staff addressing the Board included Lynn Keene and Courtney Hall.

Board President Rev. Eshleman told those in attendance that all factors are being taken into consideration and a plan is being worked on, with guidance from medical experts. He acknowledged all of the efforts the teachers are making and expressed that we are in this together.

On a motion made by Mr. Sensenig, seconded by Mr. Buckwalter, and unanimously agreed to by the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Sherri L. Stull  
Secretary