

BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 13, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.

The Board of Education of the L'Anse Creuse Public Schools district convened a Regular Meeting on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 6:46 p.m. at the Harry L. Wheeler Community Center an Administrative Offices, located at 24076 F.V. Pankow Boulevard, Clinton Township, Michigan.

A. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call

Mrs. Dubay, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:46 p.m.

Present: Mrs. Hilary Dubay, President

Mrs. Amelia Servial, Vice President

Mrs. Sharon Ross, Secretary Dr. Terri Spencer, Treasurer Mrs. Mary Hilton, Trustee Mr. Shane Sellers, Trustee Mr. Adam Lipski, Trustee

Also present: Mr. Erik Edoff, Superintendent

Mrs. Lisa Montpas, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Ms. Rochelle Gauthier, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations

Dr. Greg Dixon, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

Ms. Laura Holbert, Director for Elementary Education Ms. Nancy Supanich, Director for Special Education

Mr. Donald Gratton, Director for Operations Mr. Brandon Streng, Supervisor for Technology

Mrs. Nicolette Trask, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

Employees and Patrons of the District

B. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Sellers, supported by Dr. Spencer, to approve the agenda for the December 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting as presented with the exception of Consent Agenda Item D.11. Student Travel Request to be voted on as a separate item.

Yes: All No: None Motion carried.

C. Hearing of District Patrons

Mrs. Ross read the *Addressing the Board Guidelines* for the public.

Ms. Gina Nowicki, teacher in the district, addressed the Board regarding school safety and the recent Oxford incident.

Ms. Samantha Moucha, teacher in the district, addressed the Board regarding school safety and livestreaming board meetings.

Ms. Vicki Beran, parent in the district, addressed the Board regarding the district fire drill and safety policy.

Mr. David Beran, parent in the district, addressed the Board regarding his concerns of a board member participating in the Band activities at L'Anse Creuse High School.

Ms. Lalatta Coleman, parent in the district, addressed the Board regarding an incident involving her son at Carkenord Elementary.

Ms. Betty Brown addressed the Board regarding an incident involving her grandson at Carkenord Elementary.

Ms. Audra Brennon addressed the Board regarding an incident involving her nephew at Carkenord Elementary.

Mr. Jody Leskinski, parent in the district, addressed the Board regarding Critical Race Theory (CRT).

D. Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Sellers, supported by Mrs. Servial, to approve the following Consent Agenda items as presented without D.11. Student Travel Requests:

- D.1. Budget Report
- D.2. Quarterly Budget Update
- D.3. Payment Registers
- D.4. Bid Award Recommendations
- D.5. Purchases
- D.6. Overtime Report
- D.7. Summary of Investments
- D.8. Summary of Wire Transfers
- D.9. Accounts Payable Check Register Schedule
- D.10. Employment Recommendations
- D.12.a. November 15, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- D.12.b. November 22, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Sellers, Servial, Dubay, Hilton, Lipski, Spencer, Ross

No: None Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Hilton, supported by Mrs. Servial, to approve D.11. Student Travel Requests as presented.

Discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Hilton, Servial, Lipski, Dubay, Spencer, Ross

No: Sellers Motion carried.

E. Superintendent's Report

E.1. Mr. Edoff provided a district update and shared that the district continues to be faced with extremely challenging times, most recently with the Oxford High School tragedy. He shared that the district has spent a signification amount of time reviewing safety procedures with administrators, and stated the district will be reviewing the Run, Hide, Fight safety model with all staff. He expressed his sympathy for the Oxford community and showed his support for the actions taken by the Oxford school staff during the incident.

Mr. Edoff stated that as a result of the Oxford event, buildings have been responding to student incidents in the schools and he expressed his concern with students making comments that are threatening in nature. He asked for support from all families and parents to help schools stop these situations and asked them to talk with their kids and stress that words have meaning. He then asked students to not create a situation that is untrue, because it can affect the rest of their life. Mr. Edoff shared that the staff and community have been sharing their feelings about the incident and that everyone has different feeling and reactions to the stresses in schools. He shared that the district is continuing to hire social workers and support personnel to support the schools and that the district along with the Board are currently looking at additional safety equipment to improve safety measures in the buildings.

E.2. Mr. Edoff recommended an Employee Appreciation Payment for all employees to knowledge the hard work and dedication over the last year and to recognize the time and effort above and beyond the normal work day and expectations.

Motion by Mrs. Servial supported by Dr. Spencer, to approve an Employee Appreciation Payment for the L'Anse Creuse staff members.

Discussion followed. Board members expressed their appreciation to staff for the work and dedication over this past year.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Spencer, Servial, Ross, Sellers, Lipski, Dubay

No: None

Abstain: Hilton, due to her husband being an employee in the district

Motion Carried.

F. Other Matters

F.1. Motion by Mrs. Ross, supported by Dr. Spencer to approve the Superintendent's evaluation as highly effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

Discussion followed.

Roll Call Vote:

Yes: Ross, Spencer, Lipski, Servial, Dubay, Sellers, Hilton

No: None Motion carried.

Board members thanked the Superintendent for his work over the last year.

Mrs. Dubay provided the following statement regarding Mr. Edoff's evaluation:

On the heels of 2020, 2021 has presented even more challenges to the educational system. Our Superintendent, Erik Edoff has not only met every challenge head on, but has thrived at continuing to educate the students of L'Anse Creuse. He has established himself as a leader throughout the Tri-County area and is seen as both a voice of reason and a reliable resource. While continuing to lead during these unprecedented times, Superintendent Edoff better the L'Anse Creuse Community by increasing our fund balance while expanding resources to our students. With the addition of social/emotional support staff, Superintendent Edoff shows how L'Anse Creuse understands that the mental health of our students is vital to their success. It is for these reasons amongst others that the L'Anse Creuse Board of Education has given our Superintendent, Erik Edoff an evaluation rating of highly effective for the 2020-2021 school year.

G. Hearing of School District Patrons Follow-Up

No patrons addressed at this time.

H. Board Member Comment

Dr. Spencer addressed comments made during public participation and spoke regarding the state approved curriculum that the district is teaching and Critical Race Theory is not used in the district. Dr. Spencer also spoke about the employee appreciation payment and thanked everyone to recognized the work that has been.

Mr. Sellers addressed his interest in livestreaming future board meetings in the future and stated he plans to bring a motion forward at the Organizational meeting to livestream meetings next year.

Mrs. Dubay addressed the public and thanked everyone for attending and sharing comments.

Mrs. Hilton addressed the need for better communication in the district.

I. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Sellers, supported by Dr. Spencer, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Yes: All No: None Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Ross, Secretary Board of Education

Sharon Y. Rosa

SLR:nt