

The Board of Education of La Harpe Community School District #347 held a regular meeting August 21, 2012 in the school district library. President Cindy Wear called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call was answered by Nate Butler, Pam Campbell, Willo Carpenter, Rex Huston, Mark Irish, Darren Spangler, and Cindy Wear. Supt. Jo Campbell, Principal Lila McKeown and Board Sec. Jeanne Clayton were in attendance.

A motion was made by Butler with second by Wear to approve the minutes of the open and closed meetings of the July 17, 2012 regular meeting of the La Harpe CSD #347 School Board as presented. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Supt. Campbell gave the financial report and presented district bills.

A motion was made by Carpenter with second by Irish to approve the financial report and payment of bills as presented. Roll Call: Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Public Presentations: No presentations given.

*Board Committee Reports:*

*Facilities:* Irish mentioned the positive community feedback he had received about the demo project. The Johnson Building should be painted next summer to blend with the brick. Dick Smith is making nice mementos of the 1928 building bricks. A demolition site work update was given. A project finance report was given. Plans were discussed for creating a new logo for the gym floor which could also be used for other applications as well. An update on the School Maintenance Grant was given. Input will be gathered from staff regarding playground placement in the spring. Sidewalk will be reconnected before winter. A thank you note was signed to send to the area road commissioners for all their help with the parking lots. Dr. Campbell mentioned the Governor signed an allowance to use school construction grant program funds to renovate older buildings in addition to new construction.

*Technology:* The 5 new Promethean boards have been installed.

Dr. Campbell's Superintendent's report included information regarding the increased level of specificity on agenda items which is now required in order to tell what action is being taken. Dr. Campbell mentioned the upcoming Western Division Fall Dinner Meeting in Macomb. The Health Insurance coop will soon meet in an effort to drastically reduce premiums.

As a member of the IASA Board of Directors, Dr. Campbell attended the July annual meeting this year held at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, where two polar opposite views of Ed Reform were presented. One view emphasized returning to community controlled schools in order to build the next generation of active skillful citizens, and the other centered on performance-based contracts for teachers in order to effectively compete in a global market.

Prin. McKeown attended an early August conference on Girl Bullying by the author of the book upon which the movie *Mean Girls* was based. The more Bullying is emphasized, the more of a problem it becomes. Instead the focus should be on conflict resolution teaching students the skills to deal with negative behavior.

McKeown presented photos from the Fall Teacher In-service showing the activities and many of the staff including the new certified personnel. McKeown showed the form which will be used for monthly teacher reports to the Board. AYP Reports were examined. The Elementary and Junior High students met or exceeded in every subject with the exception of Junior High math last year.

Elementary math score reported was 100%. McKeown outlined the Response to Intervention (RtI) plan to bolster the new math AYP. McKeown suggested a walk-through to see the classrooms readied for the start of school.

Business Items:

Preliminary Budget for FY 2013: Dr. Campbell led the Board through the details of the preliminary Budget pointing out the significant changes in staff and the reduction in General State Aid entitlement, as well as other continuing State funding reductions as accounting for the preliminary budget being a deficit budget, but not requiring a debt-reduction plan. Dr. Campbell mentioned the Johnson Estate funds as continuing to bolster the Ed Fund. The budget may affect the District's financial profile. The District has been in "financial recognition" for 4 years. The current budget may put us in "review" status. If the State would catch up on past-due payments, it would take care of the anticipated budget deficit.

A motion was made by Huston with second by Irish to accept the preliminary budget for FY 2013 as presented. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes; Campbell, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

School Bus Routes for FY 2013: Clayton presented a map of the FY 2013 PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade school bus routes with drivers, student numbers, miles and start times included.

A motion was made by Campbell with second by Butler to approve the FY2013 School Bus Routes as presented. Roll Call: Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

HVAC Bids for Elementary South Wing: Discussion of bids from the recent opening. No action taken. Further information about alternates needed.

Fuel Bids for FY 2013: A motion was made by Irish with second by Butler to accept the fixed bid submitted by West Central FS as presented. Roll Call: Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent Search Procedure: This item is on the Dallas City Board agenda for August also. Dr. Campbell outlined the 4 options available for the superintendent position:

1. Shared superintendent- There is more support for the position that is required from the central office and principal.
2. Full-time superintendent and full-time principal- This option is more costly, but affords the complete focus on one district.
3. One person as superintendent/principal- This option is not advised in light of the exponential changes in administrative positions, especially the principal position. This is not necessarily less expensive as usually additional administrative support staff is required such as dean of students, assistant principal, and athletic director.
4. Interim superintendent- This option is only a temporary solution for a year or two. A retired superintendent as interim is limited to 100 days per year, and is not necessarily less expensive at \$450 to \$750 per day.

A combined search committee would investigate the organization to guide the search, and a joint board meeting may be held to decide salary and other parameters. If a shared superintendent is continued, it would line up with the Lt. Governor's recommendation to try to share services where possible. Working environment, salary and location are all important components which candidates investigate well.

A motion was made by Butler with second by Spangler to form a committee to pursue the shared superintendent with Dallas City. Roll Call: Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Members Butler, Irish Wear, and Huston volunteered to serve on the superintendent search committee.

Verbatim Closed Meeting Records: A motion was made by Spangler with second by Butler to approve the deletion of verbatim closed meeting recordings made at least 18 months and older, per board policy 2:220. Roll Call: Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

The Board walked through the building and observed the classrooms and hallways prepped for the start of school.

**Closed Meeting:**

**A motion was made by Irish with second by Butler to adjourn to closed meeting on August 21, 2012 at 11:00 p.m. to discuss items per ILCS 120/2(c) listed below:**

**(1) Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees,**

**(2) Collective negotiating matters between the District and its employees or their representatives, and**

**(10) The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.**

**Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0.**

**President Wear called the August 21, 2012 closed meeting to order at 11:00 p.m. Board members present: Nate Butler, Pam Campbell, Willo Carpenter, Rex Huston, Mark Irish, and Darren Spangler, Cindy Wear. Also present: Supt. Jo Campbell, Princ. Lila McKeown, and Sec. Jeanne Clayton.**

**Closed meeting included discussion of (1) Letters of Resignation,(1) Classified Personnel Employment, (1) Athletic Coaching Recommendations from Dallas ESD #327, (1) Applications for Classified Substitute Employment, (1) Classified Salary Schedule for FY 2013, (1) Review Status of Assistant Head Cook Position, (2) LEA Negotiations, and (10)Matters Related to Individual Students- No discussion for this item.**

**A motion was made by Butler with second by Irish to return to open meeting at 11:46 p.m. Voice Vote confirmed all in favor. Motion carried.**

Letters of Resignation:

A motion was made by Huston with second by Campbell to accept with regrets the letter of resignation submitted by Angela McConnell for the position of Early Childhood Teacher. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

Although resigning from her route, Donna Nell will continue to do substitute and activity driving for the District as available.

A motion was made by Butler with second by Carpenter to accept with regrets the letter of resignation submitted by Donna Nell for the position of regular route driver. Roll Call: Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes; Butler, yes. Motion carried 7-0.

**Classified Employment for FY 2013:**

A motion was made by Irish with second by Huston to approve fulltime paraprofessional employment status for Denise Kost. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Butler with second by Carpenter to approve regular school bus employment for Nik Wasielewski. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Campbell with second by Butler to approve full time bus driver status for Jim Clayton; regular AM and PM school bus route and Am and PM Macomb Special Education. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

Athletic Coop Coach Employments Submitted by Dallas ESD #327: A motion was made by Huston with second by Irish to approve the athletic coop coaching positions recommended by Dallas ESD #327 as presented in Addendum #1. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

Applications for Classified Substitute Employment: A motion was made by Butler with second by Wear to approve the substitute cook application submitted by Vivalda Roberts. Roll Call: Butler, yes; Campbell, yes; Carpenter, yes; Huston, yes; Irish, yes; Spangler, yes; Wear, yes. Motion carried 7-0

Certified Staff Salary Schedule for FY 2013: Dr. Campbell took the Board through a draft for FY 2013. No action was taken.

LEA Contract: To date no final agreement from the LEA for approval, so no action was taken on this item.

A Letter to Staff from the Board was viewed and discussed with minor changes made.

Dr. Campbell and Mrs. McKeown brought to the Board's attention parent's request for their student to skip Kindergarten. The situation reviewed and discussed at length. Some testing had been done. No current policy is in place to manage a request of this nature. Policy may be pursued through the Board Policy Committee, but at this time, the teacher will be requested to find multiple ways to address a high-achieving child in a class, using the current philosophy individualized instruction.

A motion was made by Irish with second by Carpenter to adjourn the meeting at 12:18 p.m. The voice vote response returned all in favor. None opposed. The meeting adjourned.

Signed by Board President Cindy Wear

Signed by Board Secretary Jeanne Clayton

Approved 09-18-2012

August 21, 2012

**Addendum No. 1**

5/6 Girls' Head Basketball - Stacia Logan

5/6 Girls' Assistant Basketball - Kelly Morck

Junior High Girls' Track - Lori Fritcher