

Lexington Community Unit #7 School District
Lexington, Illinois
Regular Board Meeting
April 16, 2020

President Jason Thomas opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called with the following members present: Karin Atkins, Mike Beard, Jamie Farrell, Andy Killian, Andrea McBurney, Chris Olson, and Jason Thomas. Also present were Paul Deters; Superintendent, Julie Strating; Elementary Principal, Jennifer McCoy; Junior High/High School Principal, Isaac Steidinger; Athletic Director/ Dean of Students, and Patti Thomas; recording secretary. There was one visitor present.

President Jason Thomas led the board with The Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no public participation.

Karin Atkins moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A.) Minutes from the March 16, 2020 Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting
- B.) Lexington April 2020, regular bills, the payroll liabilities and necessary additional- payments made in March, 2020, and ratify Tri-County Special Education Association's bills for March, 2020.
- C.) District Finances: March 30, 2020 Treasurer's Report.
- D.) Approve the transfer of \$22,157.28 from Working Cash to IMRF/ Social Security Fund.
- E.) Approve the transfer of \$7,202.30 from Working Cash to Tort.
- F.) Approve the IESA membership for 2020-2021.
- G.) Approve the resignation of Jill Stutzman as paraprofessional effective at the end of the 2019-20 school year.
- H.) Approve the resignation Emma Havrilka as Junior High Assistant Softball coach effective immediately.

Seconded by Jamie Farrell. Roll call vote:

Atkins	- yes	McBurney	- yes
Beard	- yes	Olson	- yes
Farrell	- yes	Thomas	- yes
Killian	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously

Superintendent, Paul Deters, reported on the following:

The financial implications of COVID-19 are far from clear at this point. Rather than provide assumptions and guesses at this point, here are the knowns at this point in time:

- McLean Co. Board agreed to delay 1st property tax billing/ collection by 2 weeks from June 3rd until June 17th. We will see some delay in how much early tax money will come in during June, negatively affecting our local revenue and budget for FY20. However, the late property taxes should help increase the local revenue for FY21. We had budgeted for \$2.5 million in taxes to still be collected in FY20.

- We anticipate to get most/all local levy requests, just not on the time line we expected.
- We are collectively +\$19,000 for the year from what I currently budgeted for investments, athletics, food, fees, LEAP programming, donations, Medicaid, and Corporate Personal Replacement Taxes. This number will not change much more.
- We have only received one or two categorical payment from the State of Illinois at this point in time and we are not expected to receive the remaining money owed to us. If we do not receive any more funding in this area for the year, we will be -\$160,000.
- Currently, the state has been on time with the bi-weekly payment for EBF funding. They still owe us approximately \$200,000 for the year.
- We have received almost all federal monies for the year.
- We have budgeted to receive almost \$3 million in revenue over the next 10 weeks.
 - As required, we must pay all salaries of employees at this time.
 - Exceptions to this: ticket takers, softball/baseball umpires, substitutes, extra-curricular routes, LEAP employees.
 - Currently, we have protested unemployment claims made against the district in an of these area.
 - We still have monthly bills and some large costs such as bond payment, leasing payments, etc. to take place.
 - We will see some savings in our expenditures in fuel, HVAC, office supplies, some hourly labor.
- I recommend at this time to put our summer renovations projects (Lobby, GS Bathroom) on hold for the summer.
- Summer work will include: finish painting HS rooms, stripping 1/3 of floors, some minimal landscaping (HS, Quad), finishing gym floors, replacing library windows, new signage, beginning to create a STEM lab.
- We plan on purchasing a new 3rd – 8th grade social studies curriculum as planned as well as a new high school science curriculum.
- We plan on replacing the 200 Chromebooks that are no longer supported by Google.
- We are in negotiations a new contract with Quality Network Solutions for Tech support.
- We hope to reach an agreement with the LEA very soon.
- I would recommend that we proceed with a strategic conservative approach heading into FY21.

Junior High/ High School Principal Jennifer McCoy reported on the following:

- In the weeks that have passed from when the Board last met, we have checked out an additional 72 Chromebooks to our families. In total, we have issued 115 Chromebooks and 14 hotspots since March 16th. We are seeing a dramatic decrease in new requests.
- The remote learning adjustments are as follows:
 - We changed 6th-12th schedule for remote learning.
 - Fixed constraints on Gmail for 6th graders.
 - Corrected Google Classroom issues not notifying junior high students of assignments.
 - Issued security guidelines for Zoom to all teachers to follow.
 - Enabled support personnel to email students (e.g., school psychologist and school social worker).
 - Created shared documents to ensure that our teachers are connecting with all of our students.
- Due to COVID-19, the HOIC principals agreed to change their procedures on the Athletic and Academic Scholarships. As a result, Jayden Standish and Clayton Haase will each receive a \$700 scholarship. Congratulation to both!
- Four students were selected by staff to be recognized by the Corn Belt Division of the Illinois Principals Association:
 - Junior High: Emily Bratcher and Kyle Bradford
 - High School: Grace Michal and Clayton Haase
- In addition to our Art Program being nominated as Program of the Year and Mrs. Long being nominated for the Illinois Art Education Association's 2020 Illinois Elementary Art Educator of the Year. Emma long was also nominated as Secondary Art Educator of the Year!
- Upcoming Events
 - 6th Grade Orientations: Tuesday, April 28th Virtually
 - 8th Grade Promotion: Looking at doing a video
 - High School Graduation: Memorial Day Weekend
 - Prom: Postponed until June 27th
 - National Honor Society: Postponed until fall

Elementary Principal Julie Strating reported on the following:

COVID-19 Closure Food Service:

- We are currently feeding an average of 180-200 people (including adults) every Monday (4 meals/ person) and Wednesday (6 meals/person).
- Our backpack program providing weekend food bags to needy children is still up and running thanks to our partnership with Midwest Food Bank.
- Thanks to a generous donation from Clint and Ashley Chapman, we are providing school supplies as needed.

- Thanks to a generous donation from Jim Groth, Julie Hardt, Ashley Miller, and the Lexington Fire/ EMT department, we are providing toiletries as needed.
- Thanks to Sam's Club for their donation of zip lock baggies.
- Thanks to Spencer Johansen for donating card games, popcorn, and mini-muffins for our food boxes.
- Thanks to the Lexington Fire Dept. and Rebecca Pentecost for their financial donations to assist with our food process.
- Thanks to Pam Sinnett for providing boxes that she has picked up from Dollar General.
- A huge than you to Molly Higgins and her crew in the kitchen making this possible each day, to our paraprofessionals for their roles in food prep and delivery, to Wendy Bachman for assisting with deliveries and on-the-spot counseling needs, and to Les Thomas and his crew for providing the deliveries.

Elementary Remote Learning Updates:

- Daily google drive folder with all grade level assignments in one place is sent via email by Isaac to the parents (and students in grades 4th-5th) each nigh prior to a day of learning. It is also posted online the next morning.
- Teachers are conducting a minimum of one zoom per week (many are doing 2 or 3).
- We are tracking attendance in zooms, progress in online learning activities, and responses to requests for pictures/ videos of student completion of work.
- Speech, RTI, counseling services are still being provided through zoom meetings.
- All technological requests have been and are being fulfilled for all students at this time.
- We have provided books to needy families in their food boxes as well as arts/ crafts supplies.
- We have a virtual book fair running from April 20th- May 3rd.
- Our staff created a zoom birthday song for our students and we are sending it via email for their birthdays. We are also mailing their birthday card and pencil along with a Subway gift card in place of the monthly birthday luncheon.
- Teacher are planning virtual activities for the day they would have a field trip.
- Our 3rd grade class created an online Purple pride in place of the traditional assembly.
- We are planning a spirit week for next week.

Kindergarten Registration:

- We held it virtually on March 31st as originally scheduled.
- High parent attendance via Zoom.
- Current list is at 40 students for 2020-2021.

Congratulations to Mrs. Long!!

- Mrs. Long has been name a finalist for the Elementary Art Educator of the Year Awards and District Art Program of the Year Award by the Illinois Art Education Association.

Congratulation to our Students!!

- Fifth graders Jaclyn Grunloh and Hailey Foote were selected as our Elementary IPA Winners this year! Congratulations to two well-deserving fifth grade students!
- The 2019-20 yearbook cover contest winners are fifth graders Gracie Stutzman and fourth grader Shelby Fleming. Congratulations to both students!

Athletic Director, Isaac Steidinger presented to the board the athletic department's annual report for 2019-20.

Jamie Farrell made the motion to hire Jori Maynard as elementary teacher for the 2020-21 school year. Seconded by Chris Olson. Roll call vote:

Beard	- yes	Olson	- yes
Farrell	- yes	Thomas	- yes
Killian	- yes	Atkins	- yes
McBurney	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously

Andrea McBurney made the motion approve Wendy Bachman to oversee the Elementary Character Education program for the 2020-2021 school year. Seconded by Andy Killian. Roll call vote:

Farrell	- yes	Thomas	- yes
Killian	- yes	Atkins	- yes
McBurney	- yes	Beard	- yes
Olson	- yes		

Motion carried unanimously

Andy Killian made the motion to approve the Board of Education Meeting Dates for 2020-2021. Seconded by Mike Beard.

Motion carried.

Andrea McBurney made the motion to authorize the administration to seek out a Line of Credit if needed. Seconded by Andy Killian.

Motion carried.

Jason Thomas presented the first reading of Policy 8:30: Community Use of School Facilities.

Jamie Farrell made the motion to go into executive session at 8:20 pm to discuss the collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of its employees. [Section 2 (c) (2)] Seconded by Andy Killian.

Motion carries.

Jamie Farrell made the motion to go into open session at 8:35 p.m. Seconded by Karin Atkins.
Motion carried.

Andy Killian moved to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. Seconded by Mike Beard. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Thomas, President

Andrea McBurney, Secretary