

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 2008

The Board of Directors of the Laurel Highlands School District met in Regular Session on Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., with President Cathy Rice presiding. The Meeting was held in the Auditorium of the Middle School, Hookton Avenue, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. The Meeting was opened with Silent Meditation and Salute to the Flag led by President Rice.

ROLL CALL: *Present at the Meeting were Beverly Beal, James F. Burns, Mary Conway, William Elias, Edward S. George, Angelo Giachetti, Cathy Rice, Palmer Sabatine, and James Tobal.*

There being 9 Present at Roll Call.

Also present at the Meeting were: Dr. Ronald M. Sheba, Joyce Estocak, Kim J. Pegg, Gary J. Frankhouser, (Solicitor), Jerry Dupey (Videographer), Angela Oravec (Uniontown Newspapers), district personnel and a number of citizens.

Director Beal moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to adopt the Agenda with the Addendum.

VOTE

Beal, Yea	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Yea	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS AND GUESTS:

None at this time.

Director Conway moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 18, 2007.

VOTE

Beal, Yea	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Yea	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Elias moved and Director Burns seconded the motion to approve the Attendance Records of Committee Meetings and Work Sessions.

VOTE

Beal, Yea	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Yea	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

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President Director Rice announced that this Meeting would be televised on Channel 21 (CUTV) on Thursday, February 22nd at 2:00 p.m., Friday, February 23rd at 8:30 a.m., and other dates and times to be announced. Check local listings for those dates and times.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND PUBLIC RELATIONS/CURRICULUM COMMITTEE/ BOARD POLICY

Academic Foundation Report

Director Tobal reported that the Academic Foundation Winter Community Spirit Day held on Friday, February 2nd went very well. He thanked everyone who was involved in making this first time event a success. All the monies raised will be 100% given back to the students of the district.

For more information about the Academic Foundation, please go to the district website at www.lhsd.org and click on the link.

Informational:

With regard to his other Committees, Mr. Tobal gave the following reports:

The Policy Committee met and looked at the Mentoring and Advertising Policies. A decision was made to adopt these revised Policies this evening. The Committee will also be revisiting and re-examining the Dress Code, Cell Phone and Locker Policies. It is the Board's and the Administration's desire to provide every child in Laurel Highlands with a safe, educational environment in which to learn.

The Technology Committee met extensively and are continuing to move forward with our needs and goals. There has been a major change in software from MMS to CSIU and we are continuing to get all the conversion problems worked out. New links have been added to the district website (www.lhsd.org) as it continues to grow and take on a new look. Please feel free to examine the site and let us know your comments and suggestions.

Mrs. Bubonovich informed the Committee that there was a Grant that was received that would enable us to purchase SmartBoards. These would be implemented in the near future. In regards to Curriculum, Mr. Tobal reported that in conjunction with the "Success For All" Program, a new elementary report card has been proposed. There was a committee comprised of teachers, principals, and curriculum coordinators that made these suggestions. This is a new and bold initiative in grading and places a high level of academic achievement on our students. The Committee recommends approval of the changes.

"Success for All" is making progress in our elementary schools. We have received positives as well as concerns for the Program. The concerns are being strongly addressed. Everyone is concerned about the success of the children of Laurel Highlands and are targeting reading to achieve our goals and for our children to be able to compete in the 21st century.

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Dr. Brain has gotten a few more Grants - the Dual Enrollment Grant which enables students to take classes and receive college credits while still in high school. The second Grant is the College and Career Counseling Grant. This grant will enable us to hire another Guidance Counselor and hopefully bring an ROTC Program to Laurel Highlands.

COMMUNITY -SCHOOL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

No report at this time.

Director George moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to approve the Resolution on The Refinancing of the Bond Issue.

VOTE

Beal, Yea

Elias, Yea

Rice, Yea

Burns, Yea

George, Yea

Sabatine, Yea

Conway, Yea

Giachetti, Yea

Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

At this point, the Meeting was turned over to the Student Representative Alternates, Emily Merti and Megan Prah, with Sean Lementowski, for Student Recognition. (Attached and made a part of the Minutes of this Meeting.)

***Informational:** The Family Reading Night Series continues on March 28, 2007 at Hatfield Elementary School from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited to attend and participate.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Sheba thanked the students and parents for their patient during the recent weather cancellations and delays. Please keep checking the media and the hotline for the latest updates. Make-up days are being scheduled and a revised calendar will be presented later in the meeting.

CURRICULUM

Informational: Registration for prospective Kindergarten students for the 2007-2008 school year will be held on the following dates:
March 26 – Marshall Elementary School
9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
March 27 – Hutchinson Elementary School
9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
March 28 - Clark Elementary School
8:30 – 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

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March 30 – Hatfield Elementary School

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

***All Kindergarten students attending the 2007-2008 school term must be five (5) years of age on or before August 31st of the school year for which they are enrolled. Please contact your local school for Immunization Procedures.**

Director Sabatine moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve the Additional Bidders for Outdoor School Staff. (Attached Exhibit A)

VOTE

Beal, Yea

Burns, Yea

Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea

George, Yea

Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea

Sabatine, Yea

Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

BOARD POLICY

***Informational:* Any First Readings of Board Policy will be available at the Central Office for preview to the public. First Readings will also be sent to each Building Principal.**

Once a policy receives final approval at a second reading, it becomes Board Policy. Each Building Principal is then given a copy of the approved policy which will be posted in the building for 10 days then made a part of the Policy Manual Notebook in each building. It will also be sent to PSBA.

There was no Action on Item B/P-3 as this was previously removed from the Agenda.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

POSSIBLE ACTION ON HUTCHINSON PROJECT:

There was no Action on Item B/G-1 as this was previously removed from the Agenda.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE:

FINANCE, BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE:

Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve the Treasurer and Budget Report. *(Attached Exhibit A)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve payment of the General Fund Bills. *(Attached Exhibit B)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

Director George moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve payment of the G.O.B. Bills, Item 1 only. *(Attached Exhibit C)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

Informational: The Investment Report was presented for Board's review. (Attached Exhibit D)

Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve the Federal Report. *(Attached Exhibit E)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

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Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve the Student Activity Funds/Athletic Funds Reports. *(Attached Exhibit F)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve the Intermediate Unit #1 General Operating Budget for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount of \$2,167,021.00. *Laurel Highlands share is \$38,156.13. (Attached Exhibit G)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve authorization to Southwest Regional Tax Bureau to obtain Personal Income Tax Information from the PA Department of Revenue for the 2006 Tax Year.

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Vernon moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to approve 60 Month Lease through Ford Business Machines for 24 digital black & white copiers and 1 color printer throughout the district. (Approximate cost is \$10,293.36 per month – this price is CoStar approved and no additional cost to the district) *(Attached Exhibit H)*

VOTE

Andaloro, Yea	Elias, Yea	Santore, Yea
Beal, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea
Conway, Absent	Jacobs, Absent	Vernon, Yea

There being 7 Yeas and 2 Absent, the President declared the motion carried.

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Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Beal moved and Director Conway seconded the motion to authorize Southwest Regional Tax Bureau to obtain Personal Income Tax Information from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue for the 2006 Tax Year.

VOTE (SWRTB TO OBTAIN INFO)

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director George moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to authorize McClure & Wolf to audit th PLANCON J for the Hutchinson Project.

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

FOOD SERVICE & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:

FOOD SERVICE

Director George moved and Director Elais seconded the motion to approve the Cafeteria Report.
(Attached Exhibit K)

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Geroqe moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to approve permission to solicit bids for the Point of Service Software Program for the Cafeterias, to be paid out of next fiscal year's budget.

VOTE

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Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Pass
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 8 Yeas and 1 Pass, the President declared the motion carried.

TRANSPORTATION

Director George had no report at this time.

Director Beal moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to Go Into Executive Session at 7:51 p.m., for Discussion of Legal and Personnel Matters.

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Beal moved and Director Conway seconded the motion to Return to Regular Session at 8:45 p.m.

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

PERSONNEL & LABOR RELATIONS:

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

Director Elias moved and Director Tobal seconded the motion to approve the Additional Substitute Teachers, Regular Certified Substitutes. (*Attached Exhibit L*)

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

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There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

REQUESTS FOR RETIREMENTS/SABBATICAL/DISABILITY/OTHER LEAVES:

None at this time.

Director Tobal moved and Director Burns seconded the motion to hire Greg Hensh as the Business Manager, with a starting date of April 1, 2007. Salary for the balance of this school year will be pro-rated at \$65,000 with a one year probation period. Thereafter, July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 the salary will be \$65,000 per year. No health benefits will be given to Mr. Hensh, however the remainder of his benefits package will follow the Act 93 Package for Administrators.

VOTE

Beal, Nay	Elias, Yea	Rice, Nay
Burns, Yea	George, (Pass) Nay	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Nay	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 5 Yeas and 4 Nays, the President declared the motion carried.

CONFERENCE REQUESTS:

Director Tobal moved and Director Elias seconded the motion to approve all four of the Conference Requests at this time. (See Agenda)

VOTE

Beal, Nay	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Nay	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Nay	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 6 Yeas and 3 Nays, the President declared the motion carried.

SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Director Sabatine moved and Director Tobal seconded the motion to approve the Additional Substitute Employees for Service Personnel. (*Attached Exhibit L*)

SERVICE PERSONNEL (CAFETERIA, CUSTODIAL, MAINTENANCE)
CLERICAL PERSONNEL
SECURITY PERSONNEL
PARAPROFESSIONALS
HEALTH ROOM AIDES
TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF

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VOTE

**Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, (Pass) Yea**

**Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea**

**Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea**

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Conway moved and Director Beal seconded the motion to hire Tammy Orr and Amy Mullins for the two 5 ½ Hour Cafeteria Employees. (Attached Exhibit O)

VOTE

**Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea**

**Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea**

**Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea**

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

ATHLETIC AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Director Conway moved and Director Tobal seconded the motion to approve permission to award the Athletic/Extra Curricular Activities Positions, 1 - 11, for the 2007 school year. (Attached Exhibit P)

VOTE

**Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea**

**Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea**

**Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea**

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Sabatine moved and Director George seconded the motion to approve permission to seek quotations for Reconditioning of Football Equipment.

VOTE

**Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea**

**Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea**

**Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea**

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

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Director Elias moved and Director Sabatine seconded the motion to approve permission for the Superintendent and Board Members to attend the PA Association of Rural and Small Schools Conference in State College, April 25-27, 2007. (Approximate cost is \$280 each plus transportation for driver)

VOTE

Beal, Nay	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Nay	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Nay	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 6 Yeas and 3 Nays, the President declared the motion carried.

Director George moved and Director Elias seconded the motion to Adopt the Revised Calendar for the 2006-2007 school year. Make up days will be Monday, February 19, 2007, Monday, April 9, 2007 and Tuesday, May 15, 2007. All other make-up days will be placed at the end of the school year.

VOTE

Beal, Yea	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Yea	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Beal moved and Director Tobal seconded the motion to approve the Request by Liz Dunham. (Exhibit A-2)

VOTE

Beal, Yea	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Yea	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Beal moved and Director Elias seconded the motion to approve the Resolution to nominate Cathy Rice to stand for Election to the Intermediate Unit #1 Board of Directors.

VOTE

Beal, Yea	Elias, Yea	Rice, Yea
Burns, Yea	George, Yea	Sabatine, Yea
Conway, Yea	Giachetti, Yea	Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

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Director Burns moved and Director Elias seconded the motion to approve the Settlement on Personnel Matter.

VOTE

Beal, Nay

Elias, Yea

Rice, Yea

Burns, Yea

George, Pass

Sabatine, Yea

Conway, Pass

Giachetti, Pass

Tobal, Yea

There being 5 Yeas, 1 Nay, and 3 Pass, the President declared the motion carried.

LEGAL ADVISEMENT:

GRIEVANCES:

Mr. Frankhouser advised the Board that there was one Grievance at the Arbitration Level. He would keep them advised of the scheduled date. This involved a service employee.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Frankhouser advised the Board that the Legal Ad for the Referendum issue(s) has appeared in the paper and all is in order for the Special Meeting on March 13, 2007 for the Board to take action on this matter.

The Public Hearing regarding Act 1 will take place immediately preceding the Special Meeting on March 13, 2007. The appropriate language will then be drawn and placed on the ballot for the May election.

GENERAL MATTERS:

Director Tobal moved and Director Elias seconded the motion to approve changing the Work Session and Board Meeting for March. The Work Session will be held on Monday, March 12, 2007 starting at 5:00 p.m., in the Middle School Conference Room. The Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., in the Auditorium of the Middle School.

VOTE

Beal, Yea

Elias, Yea

Rice, Yea

Burns, Yea

George, Nay

Sabatine, Yea

Conway, Yea

Giachetti, Yea

Tobal, Yea

There being 8 Yeas and 1 Nay, the President declared the motion carried.

Director Tobal moved and Director Giachetti seconded the motion to approve the In Loco Parentis. (Attached Exhibit Q)

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

The Intermediate Unit I Annual Convention is scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2007, in the Performance Center of the Natali Student Center at California University of PA. A banquet for school directors will be held at 7:00 p.m., followed by the convention at 8:30 p.m.

VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOL REPORT:

Mr. Giachetti reported that the Vo-Tech would be meeting this coming Monday evening.

Public Comment:

None at this time.

Director Sabatine moved and Director Giachetti seconded the motion to Adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

VOTE

Beal, Yea
Burns, Yea
Conway, Yea

Elias, Yea
George, Yea
Giachetti, Yea

Rice, Yea
Sabatine, Yea
Tobal, Yea

There being 9 Yeas, the President declared the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,