

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

President Jason Thomas opened the regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called with the following members present: Karin Atkins (via Zoom), Mike Beard, Jamie Farrell, Andy Killian, Andrea McBurney, Chris Olson, and Jason Thomas. Also present were Paul Deters; Superintendent, Jennifer McCoy; Junior High/High School Principal, Julie Strating; Elementary Principal, Isaac Steidinger, Athletic Director/ Dean of Students, (via Zoom), and Patti Thomas recording secretary. There were no visitors present.

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

Andy Killian moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A.) Minutes from the October 15, 2020 Regular Meeting.
- B.) Lexington November, 2020, regular bills, the payroll liabilities and necessary additional payments made in October, 2020, and ratify Tri-County Special Education Association's bills for October, 2020.
- C.) District Finances: October 31, 2020, Treasurer's Report.

Seconded by Andrea Mc Burney. 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:

- With the progressive tax not approved by the voters, the Governor's office has communicated that cuts to funding are likely on the horizon. At this point in time, no specifics have been shared. Our budget numbers already factor in less than full categorical payments. I do not expect evidence based funding to be adjusted this fiscal year.
- We distributed tablets to our certified staff members a few weeks ago to help improve instruction both in-person and in the event we go remote. These tablets will also to be used for meetings and professional development. These tablets were purchased with the EIR Grant.
- A current budget summary was presented to the board.
- Mr. Deters shared with the board how in person learning is currently going and gave an update on the return to learn plan moving forward.
  - Today is our 60<sup>th</sup> day in session.
  - Our overall district attendance is 96.7% this year, compared to 96.3 last year.
  - We plan to move to remote learning for Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>. The rationale for this decision is due to the steady but increasing numbers in our building and our region.

- We plan to move to remote learning for Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday December 1<sup>st</sup>. The rationale for this decision is that, in the event someone was exposed to a positive or possible positive case on Thanksgiving, the protocol for testing would be to wait 5-days post exposure to be tested.
- We will reassess our wellness date on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and if the numbers are in our favor we hope to return to in-person learning on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- This allows for proactive, responsive, and planned remote learning plan as we try to be cautious about heading into and out of our first major holiday.

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

- Enrollment as of 11/16/20 for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades: 271
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 34
  - 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 38
  - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 46
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade: 35
  - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade: 41
  - 11<sup>th</sup> Grade: 32
  - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade: 36
  - Virtual Academy: 9
- Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> we held our third Remote Learning Planning Day. Teachers were assigned tablets and mounts for the devices. The device is a Samsung Galaxy Tab A, 8.1”, and was given with the immediate intent for remote learning (camera/microphone in one device). For long-term, teachers plan to use it as a document camera as well as for data collection and flipped learning (creating LMS content).
  - For this year, the Leadership Team agreed that under the circumstances, the high school would not have “traditional” finals (e.g. requirement or expectation of a cumulative assessment or finals schedule).
    - Teachers may still give course assessments (e.g., unit assessment, project, portfolio, etc.).
    - NWEA Map assessment will be given during the second week of December.
  - Teachers reported very good attendance for the high school remote learning earlier this month. We ran an average of about an 82% student attendance rate during that time.
  - Teachers were able to use their new tablets to teach virtually, and this opportunity allowed our teachers to develop resources for the entire district.
  - There have been 153 Chromebooks checked out by high school students and assigned to junior high students.

Elementary Principal, Julie Strating, reported on the following:

- Pre-K- 5<sup>th</sup> Enrollment 220
  - Preschool: 12
  - Kindergarten: 36
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade: 28
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 29
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: 40
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 34
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 35
  - Virtual Academy: 6
- During Red Ribbon Week, the grade school students participated in dress up days, donated over \$200 to the food pantry for Thanksgiving pies, selected Mr. Brown to be the recipient of a pie in the face, watched Mr. Brown get pied, met Casey the therapy dog, and pledged to be drug free. Special thank you's go to Mrs. Christianson and Nurse Pam for organizing the events, to the PTO for providing daily prizes and red ribbons, and to Mr. Brown for taking three pies in the face!
- The third grade created their Purple Pride Video about respect and we shared it with our students, staff, and families. Thank you to Mrs. Ketelsen and Ms. Maynard for creating our first video of the year and to Mrs. Bachman for organizing this year's events under current guidelines.
- We distributed and trained our staff on how to use their new tablets and mounts.
- We focused on lesson planning for both in-person and remote learning and how to make in-person lessons become successful remotely.
- Our staff participated in the "Jeans for Food" for the needy once again this year, raising \$1,310 to help our local families have a Thanksgiving meal on the table. We split the donations between the local food pantry and our backpack program.
- We will be having our annual staff and student Thanksgiving dinner this Thursday. Thank you to Molly and the kitchen crew for making this a special annual event.

Athletic Director, Isaac Steidinger, gave an update on the "Return to Play" plan for the IESA and the IHSA. IESA has decided to follow all IDPH guidelines and the IHSA is planning to meet with the Governor's office this week to decide what to do with their decision on high school basketball.

A discussion was held on the 2020-21 high school graduation requirement proposal for this year's senior class only.

Chris Olson made the motion authorize to display the 2020 tentative tax levy. Seconded by Jamie Farrell. Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Andy Killian made the motion to approve Paul Peacock as freshman class sponsor.  
Seconded by Jamie Farrell. Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Andrea McBurney made the motion to approve Jody Ryczyn as freshman class sponsor.  
Seconded by Mike Beard. Roll call vote:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Jamie Farrell moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Seconded by Chris Olson.  
Motion carried.

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Jason Thomas, President

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Andrea McBurney, Secretary