

Lexington Community Unit #7 School District
Lexington, Illinois
Regular Board Meeting
March 17, 2016

President Jason Thomas called the regular meeting to order in the district office at 7:00 p.m. Roll was called with the following members present: Mike Beard, Mike Hawkins, Andrea Hoggins, Bruce Klein, Andy Schuler, and Jason Thomas. Also present were Dwight Stricklin; Superintendent/ High School Principal; Paul Deters; Junior High/Elementary School Principal, and Patti Thomas, recording secretary. There were no visitors present.

There was no public participation.

Andy Schuler moved to approve the Consent Agenda:

- A.) February 18, 2016 regular and closed session minutes.
- B.) March 11, 2016 special session minutes.
- C.) Lexington March 17, 2016, regular bills, the payroll liabilities and necessary additional payments made in February, 2016, and ratify Tri-County Special Education Association's bills for February, 2016.
- D.) District Finances:
 - February 29, 2016 Treasurer's Report.
- E.) Approve Tri-County Personnel Matters
 - Resolution of Reduction in Force.
- F.) Accept the letter of resignation from Mike Armitage as high school boys basketball coach.
- G.) Accept the letter of resignation from Mike Castleman as high school social studies teacher and athletic director.
- H.) Approve renewal of IHSA/IESA membership.
- I.) Employment of non-tenured staff for 2016-17 teaching positions
 - Drew, Catalina- 2nd year
 - Haslett, Rob- 2nd year
 - Ketelsen, Emily- 2nd year
 - Bissey, Christina- 3rd year
 - Newbold, Tabitha- 3rd year
 - Newton, Carlie- 3rd year
 - Peters, Shannon- 3rd year
 - Armitage, Mike- 4th year
 - Richart, Alyssa- 4th year
 - Stauter, Kristin- 4th year
 - Swanson, Brian- 4th year
 - Swearingen, Kristin- 5th year
 - Long, Emma- 5th year

Seconded by Andrea Hoggins. Roll call vote:

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| Beard | - yes | Klein | - yes |
| Hawkins | - yes | Schuler | - yes |
| Hoggins | - yes | Thomas | - yes |

Motion carried unanimously.

Dwight Stricklin, Superintendent, reported on the following:

- The budget continues to be on track. I budgeted three categoricals for this year (one from last year and two out of the four for this year). All three payments are in. If we were to receive this year's third payment, it would reduce this year's deficit by \$73,000. I have an ROE meeting Tuesday morning, so I hope to hear if there is still talk about pro-rating the remaining state aid payment.
- Talks in Springfield are that Michael Madigan has said that he will not pass a K-12 budget this year if they are still in a stalemate from last year's budget.
- We have had several calls this week about families interested in moving into our district and wanting information about the schools.
- We were very pleased with the turnout of voters at the primary elections on Tuesday with over 73% voting and overwhelmingly passed the referendum. That shows it was a true voice from the community. We are ready to move forward in the right direction.

Dwight Stricklin, High School Principal, reported on the following

- High School Enrollment
 - 9th Grade 32
 - 10th Grade 44
 - 11th Grade 35
 - 12th Grade 31
 - Apex 3
 - Total 145*

*Includes three foreign exchange students.

- I hope everyone loved the school video. As of this morning it has been viewed 4,500 times. The student council did a great job!
- PARCC testing began last week and we hope to have it completed this week before we go to Spring Break. I did receive a letter from ISBE about last year's PARCC participation rate. It is expected for schools to have at least 95% of students participate in the testing; however, last year Lexington did not show this at the high school level because of how it was set up. It was decided that all 11th graders would take both the Math and the English parts of the test. It should have been any student in Algebra II and English III who should have taken the test. So all 11th graders took the test regardless if they were in the class or not. If you were not an 11th grader and were in those classes, you did not take the test. This caused our participation rate to drop below the 95% mark. At some point, I will be meeting with the Regional Superintendent to explain this and he will report back to ISBE.

Paul Deters, Elementary School Principal reported the following:

- Pre-K-8 Enrollment 334
 - Preschool- 13
 - Kindergarten- 33
 - 1st Grade- 29
 - 2nd Grade- 40
 - 3rd Grade- 45
 - 4th Grade- 32
 - 5th Grade- 40
 - 6th Grade- 32
 - 7th Grade- 35
 - 8th Grade- 35
- We had another job well done by Ms. Hess, Mr. Bonny, and Ms. Long and all the students who participated at the Fine Arts Festival. The students did a great job showcasing their many talents with their artwork and performances.
- Students and staff participated in our annual “Anti-Bullying Week” during Feb. 22-26. Our students spent time in the classroom learning skills and strategies on how to stop and prevent bullying, the differences between bullying and being mean, and were treated to some special activities such as “Mix-It-Up” at lunch.
- The students and staff enjoyed an opportunity for some fun and fellowship prior to PARCC testing. On March 4, the elementary students enjoyed a movie in the small gym, while our junior high/ high school attended an assembly by Dr. Jim Wand, who is a hypnotist.
- PARCC testing is nearly complete for the year. We will have tests completed prior to leaving for Spring Break.
- The 7th Grade girls volleyball team finished their season with a record of 4-14.
- The 8th Grade girls volleyball team won the SVC tournament, Regional Championship, Sectional Championship and will be playing in the 1st round of the IESA 8 2A State Tournament this Saturday in Auburn, IL.
- The junior high track has 59 students that will be competing this season.
- Congratulation to Mrs. Simpson and the Literary Club students! The group of 5th-8th grade students recently participated at the Heyworth Literary Festival and brought back many first place finishes.
- We have recently had some plumbing issues in the kitchen and we are currently working on it to see if the custodians can get it fixed. If not we will be needing to call a plumber in over the break and fixing the issues.
- Judy Wick has submitted her letter of resignation from the cafeteria with her last day being May 27th. We will be posting that position in the near future.
- We will be starting up our roller skating unit in PE after spring break. We are planning of having a couple of open skate nights where the public is invited to come in and use the skates that we have rented to have a fun family skating night.

A discussion was held on the recent vote for the referendum and how well the community came together for the school by passing the referendum overwhelmingly. We are looking into ways that we can thank the community for their support. There was also a discussion about the Athletic Director position that is coming available and the goals we have as a district with that position and which direction to go.

Bruce Klein move to authorize the administration to choose a window company to replace the north elementary windows. The windows will be scheduled to be replaced sometime in June. Seconded by Andy Schuler

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| Hawkins | - yes | Schuler | - yes |
| Hoggins | - yes | Thomas | - yes |
| Klein | - yes | Beard | - yes |

Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Hawkins move to approve Thursday, May 26, 2016 as the 8th Grade Promotion date and Friday, May 27th, 2016 as the High School Graduation date. Seconded by Andrea Hoggins Roll call vote:

Motion carried unanimously.

Andy Schuler moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Seconded by Mike Beard.
Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Thomas, President

Michael F. Hawkins, Secretary