



Lower Merion School District
301 East Montgomery Avenue ♦ Ardmore, PA 19003-3399
www.lmsd.org

LMSD Board of School Directors Feb. 22, 2022, Business Meeting Highlights

*For a complete agenda, visit the [BoardDocs section](#) of the District website.
Closed-captioned [meeting videos](#) are available on the District website within five days.*

SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE/PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Mumin reported that LMSD will continue to follow its Board-approved Health and Safety Plan. With Pennsylvania confirming that Montgomery County moved from “high” to “substantial” transmission for the week ending Feb. 17, 2022, and the District’s own numbers showing a steep decline in cases, masks will become optional outside during recess and other outdoor activities, in accordance with MCOHP guidance that says masks can be optional outdoors after two weeks with “substantial” (or better) transmission. Dr. Mumin stated that he is hopeful that rates will continue to fall, allowing students and staff to unmask indoors soon MCOHP guidance says that can occur when there is “moderate” transmission for two consecutive weeks. The Health and Safety Committee will continue to review data and guidance to determine when further changes to protocols should occur and will update the Board again at its meeting on March 14, 2022.

Dr. Mumin also addressed recent incidents at Bala Cynwyd Middle School involving Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) issues that resulted in discipline for both students and staff. He emphasized that students and staff have rights and responsibilities that must be respected when sharing information with the community. Particularly, he stated the goal with student discipline is always to educate children when they make mistakes, to recognize their positive traits and to guide them toward becoming good citizens. That is why the District emphasizes restorative practices for students. With staff, there are specific steps of progressive discipline that are also followed to ensure that mistakes are not repeated. These issues will also be discussed at the Wednesday meeting of the Board’s Ad-Hoc Committee on Equity and Anti-Racism, with a goal of developing action steps to move forward on these issues. In addition, the District Administration is working on updating student handbooks so that expectations are clear.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Harriton High School Student School Board Representative Eli Feldman reported that COVID precautions continue to be followed seriously, though students are looking forward to a time

when masks are optional. Most winter sports have concluded, but the girls' basketball team is competing in District playoffs. In honor of 2/22/22, there were free cupcakes, tacos and t-shirts for seniors (Class of '22). The Dr. Harriton show is this Friday and enthusiasm is high, especially with full capacity being allowed in the auditorium. Seniors are also excited that their prom will be taking place at Reading Terminal Market as planned.

Lower Merion High School Student School Board Representative Emmi Wu reported that LM students continue to take COVID seriously as well and that winter sports are wrapping up. Students are meeting with their counselors to discuss their course selections for next year and many students are looking forward to seeing their works displayed at the upcoming ISC Art Show.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

Mr. Lee reported on the Jan. 26, 2022, meeting of the Communications Committee, where Ms. LaPera, Board Secretary, demonstrated how the public can use BoardDocs to see agendas and other documents. That presentation is [available for viewing here](#). Also at that meeting, Ms. Buckman, Director of School and Community Relations, gave an overview of the department, its initiatives and ongoing projects, and an update on the website outage earlier in the year, which was due to a ransomware attack on Finalsite, the website provider, during which no data was exfiltrated.

Ms. Kalish reported on the Feb. 2, 2022, meeting of the Curriculum Committee of the Board, where there was a presentation on the acquisition of library resources for BRMS, which included reviews with students, staff and cultural proficiency teams. There was also a report on PSSAs, which was unusual because the data was not provided by PDE, who warned that this year's data should not be used for comparative purposes. Finally, there was a presentation on the new schedule for middle schools, which will allow students and staff more flexible periods and collaboration time.

Ms. Robinson reported on the Feb. 4, 2022, meeting of the Policy Committee, where Policies listed for first and second readings below were reviewed. There was also an update on the process of moving policies from their current pages on the District website, www.lmsd.org to the BoardDocs site, which will be piloted this month. Administrative Regulations regarding assignment of students within the District were also reviewed, to allow for controlling class sizes. There was also discussion of including social-emotional health in the policies relating to student health.

Ms. Shafmeister reported on the Feb. 17, 2022, Facilities and Purchasing Committee meeting, which included review of the following items: the list of bills, the contracts and purchasing report items listed on tonight's agenda and an update on construction of the new middle

school. Upcoming estimates for change orders could take the project over the initial budget estimates, so the project team is looking closely at potential saving opportunities.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION

During audience recognition, students and residents commented on the following topics, in person and via the chat feature on Zoom.

- Masking in schools and off-ramps for COVID protocols
- Petition asking LMSD to move to mask-optional regardless of MCOPH guidance
- Field trips, testing and masking for those trips
- Styrofoam containers being used in lunchrooms
- Tree removal for the BRMS fields
- Safety for students of color, LGBTQ students and students with disabilities
- Reduced number of in-person learning days
- The appropriateness of Cultural Proficiency lessons (CP4Kids)
- Video shown in a BCMS social studies class that was disturbing to students
- Staffing assignments for BRMS
- Bringing back fun activities in schools
- Policy 340: Evaluation of Professional and Temporary Professional Employees

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were approved as a consent agenda:

ROUTINE/BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

The Board approved the minutes of prior Board meeting and committee meeting(s).

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Board approved:

- Personnel actions across the District, including staff hires, re-hires and reclassifications for the 2021-2022 school year.

STUDENT SERVICES

The Board approved:

- Educational Service Agreements for students receiving non-District educational services.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The Board approved:

- Registration and tuition fee structure for LMSD summer programs
- The following overnight field trip requests
 - BCMS Science Olympiad
 - HHS Boys and Girls Lacrosse
 - LMHS Boys and Girls Ultimate Frisbee

- Follett quote for printed materials for the BRMS library

BUSINESS OFFICE AND FINANCE

The Board approved the following items:

- List of Bills.
- January 2022 LMSD Financial Report.
- 2022-2023 MCIU Budgets

The Board accepted with gratitude the following donations:

- \$1469 from PVES HSA to replace a washer/dryer at the school
- \$1500 from Touchpoint, Inc. for HHS STEM programs
- \$5000 from the Stettner Family to support the LMHS Science Olympiad team in memory of Mr. Mike Stettner

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

The Board approved the following items:

- Contracts for relining the running track at LMHS; upgrading the fire panel at MES; and the following for BRMS:
 - Digital lab equipment and services
 - MakerBot 3D printers, laser engraver, air pump and filters, vinyl printer/cutter, Dell laptops for administrative and support staff, iMacs and iPads, Dell POS equipment for Nutritional Services, equipment and supplies for Career Technology Program
- ePlus quote for service contract for Schneider cooling units
- Statement of Work from Optiv Security Inc. for Azure MFA Pilot and M365 Tenant Hardening Services
- Tree services from Davey Tree Expert Co. for tree services at BRMS
- Dismantling and removal of temporary classrooms at MES, PWES and BCMS
- Change orders for BRMS

OLD BUSINESS

The Board heard second readings of:

- Policy 340 Evaluation of Professional and Temporary Professional Employees
- Policy 341 Evaluation of Support Employees
- Policy 908 Volunteers

NEW BUSINESS

The Board:

- Approved revisions to the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 calendars
- Heard first readings of:
 - Policy 412 Evaluation of Professional Employees (FOR REPEAL)
 - Policy 512 Evaluation of Classified Employees (FOR REPEAL)

SUNSHINE ACT

Mr. Roos, Solicitor from Wisler Pearlstine, reported when the Board of School Directors met for an information session on Feb. 14, 2022 and in Executive Session on Feb. 22, 2022.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Board Meetings will be held at 8:00 p.m. in the DAO Board Room:

- March 14 Education Committee and Supplementary Regular Board Meeting
- March 21 Regular Business Board Meeting

Committee Meetings will be held in the Board Room (and livestreamed) starting at 8:30 AM unless noted otherwise:

- February 23 Ad Hoc Committee for Equity and Anti-Racism @ 7:00 PM
- March 2 Curriculum Committee
- March 4 Policy Committee
- March 17 Facilities/Purchasing Committee
- March 23 Finance - Operations Budget Review
- March 30 Communications Committee @ 7:00 PM

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