



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

LMSD Board of School Directors April 25, 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 introduced representatives of the Pa. Association of Educational Office Professionals who presented Board Secretary Ms. LaPera with the Gertrude E. Kopf Award. The award honors a PAEOP member who has contributed outstanding service to education through the performance of their duties/responsibilities in an educational office.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Harriton High School Student School Board Representative Eli Feldman reported that the student council hosted a spring sports pep rally – their first in two years – followed by a student/staff basketball game, which the students won. The Harriton Theater Company put on their winter One Acts and spring musical, “Mama Mia!” Harriton played LM in boys and girls lacrosse today and the games were attended by many students. Senior prom is this Saturday at the Reading Terminal Market. AP, IB and Senior final exams are coming up in the next weeks. Following that, seniors will begin their senior project experiences.

Lower Merion High School Student School Board Representative Emmi Wu reported that almost all students and staff were featured in their lip dub video, which is available online and raises funds for the Sean A. Hughes Children’s Trust. TSA and Science Olympiad are in championships and the school hosted Code LM. LM Players are presenting “Godspell” this weekend, as seniors at LMHS also anticipate finals and prom. She also emphasized that the students are excited to welcome incoming Principal Mr. Johnson.

Dr. Mumin introduced Mr. Mike Johnson, who will become principal of LMHS next year, and Ms. Shawanna James-Coles, who will become the District’s Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in July 2022. Both of the candidates were officially approved later in the meeting.

Assistant Superintendent Dr. Alexis McGloin and Elementary Curriculum Director Dr. Jennifer Gaudio, shared a presentation on the prospect of full-day kindergarten in LMSD, which was also studied in 2013 and 2016. There are some competing interests, including lights for Arnold Field and later start times, BRMS field sites and pending budget litigation, that all must be considered in the process of considering implementation of full-day K. There are also

considerations of transportation, curriculum and costs. This is the beginning of a process that will move ahead in the upcoming year as a possible recommendation to the Board.

Key Points:

- LMSD began extended day kindergarten (EDK) as an early intervention in 2013. And there is the pilot targeted K-Plus program, which is available in three schools with a higher percentage of traditionally disadvantaged students. K-Plus students are admitted based on screening metrics in an effort to close achievement and opportunity gaps.
- To move to full-day K for all students, LMSD will need to study enrollment and staffing, facilities and building a curriculum.
- The projected timeline for this work would be:
 - Sept. 2022 form a stakeholder committee
 - Oct. 2022 work with a demographer, survey community to try to ascertain numbers
 - Dec. 2022 develop an estimate of budgetary impact
 - Feb. 2023 evaluate facilities
 - March 2023 update the Board on the above

Dr. Mumin and Mr. Orlando, LMSD Business Manager, shared the 2022-2023 Proposed Final Budget.

Key Points:

- The budget will not exceed the 3.4% index limit.
- Factors impacting the budget this year include staffing, operating and providing curricular and extracurricular activities at BRMS; implementation of MTSS (multi-tiered systems of support) and increased needs for student services and wellness supports; uncertainties regarding the impact of COVID-19 on enrollment; uncertainties about state and federal funding, inflation and supply chains; and ongoing budget litigation, for which \$30 million dollars will be segregated and cannot be spent.
- The proposed tax increase comes out to about \$262 per average household.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

Ms. Robinson reported on the March 23, 2022, meeting of the Finance Committee, where the committee reviewed the proposed budget for the Operations Department. That meeting can be viewed [here](#).

Ms. Robinson also reported on the April 20, 2022, Finance Committee meeting where the proposed budget for the Student Services Department was reviewed. Due to technical difficulties, this meeting was not recorded, but Ms. Fraser, Director of Student Services, will record her presentation and answers to questions posed at that meeting. That recording will be posted on the District website in lieu of the meeting video, once it has been created and made accessible. The presentation slides [are available on BoardDocs](#).

Mr. Lee reported on the March 30, 2022, meeting of the Communications Committee, which was abbreviated to allow time for the rescheduled Ad-Hoc Committee on Equity and Anti-Racism workshop. The committee reviewed the implementation of the School Messenger texting feature and upcoming projects including the superintendent's First 100 Days report, budget book, 25-year honorees event and graduation live streams.

Mr. Mooring reported on the March 30, 2022, meeting of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Equity and Anti-Racism, which was a workshop regarding the Administrative Regulations that are being developed to accompany Policy 101 Equity. More than 45 stakeholders participated in breakout groups to review the ARs and reported back on their work.

Mr. Mooring also reported on the April 6, 2022, meeting of the Curriculum Committee of the Board, where textbook proposals and contracts on tonight's agenda were reviewed. There was also a presentation on PREPaARE crisis intervention training and process.

Ms. Robinson reported on the April 8, 2022, meeting of the Policy Committee, where there were presentations on the ARs for Equity Policy 101 as discussed at the Ad-Hoc Committee on Equity and Anti-racism, the homework policy and the policies listed for first readings below. Policies are being moved to BoardDocs to make them more easily searchable on the website.

Ms. Shafmeister reported on the April 21, 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.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM

The Board voted to add consideration of the Memorandum of Understanding with the LMEA to tonight's agenda. This memorandum allows for increased compensation for bus drivers and raises minimum compensation to \$15/hour for some other positions.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION

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

- Importance of the student equity survey and what will done with the results
- Later school start times
- BRMS field site
- The order of the Board meeting agenda and when public comment is taken
- Full-day kindergarten and the proposed timeline for study and implementation
- The tax increase in the proposed final budget
- Joining the Township's sustainability committee

- Allowing zoom comments during committee meetings

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were pulled from the Consent Agenda and then approved by the Board:

- Tentative adoption of the 2022-2023 Proposed Final School District Budget

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, the summer of 2022 and the 2022-2023 school year.
- Memorandum of Understanding with LMEA regarding salary adjustments in Transportation, Food Services and Health Services
- The Board noted the passings of
 - Claire McGeehan, who was a science teacher at PWES and BCMS from 1973 until her retirement in 1986.
 - Amy Maltzman (Goldman), who was a chemistry teacher at LMHS from 1966 until her retirement in 1985.

STUDENT SERVICES

The Board approved:

- Educational Service Agreements for students receiving non-District educational services.
- Agreement with the MCIU for consultation and training by a mental health provider to support students with disabilities

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The Board approved:

- The following overnight field trip requests
 - LMHS/HHS Orchestra
 - LMHS DECA Club
 - HHS NSBE Final Competition
 - WVMS VEX Robotics
- Comprehensive Classroom contract
- Purchase of HS Calculus textbooks
- Purchase of AP Environmental Science textbooks
- Renewal of Nearpod Premium Plus digital resource
- Renewal of Pear Deck digital resource

- Renewal of Edmentum digital resource

BUSINESS OFFICE AND FINANCE

The Board approved the following items:

- List of Bills.
- March 2022 LMSD Financial Report.
- Engaging the firm of BBD, LLP to audit District accounts for the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 fiscal years
- Proposal for Professional Services from Valbridge Property Advisors

The Board accepted with gratitude these donations:

- \$11, 519.46 from the Giant Company's Feeding School Kids Register Roundup
- \$375.86 from Skirt Boutique to WVMS
- Kawai upright piano valued at \$6000 from an anonymous donart to BRMS
- Two redbud tree plantings valued at \$400 from PVES HSA to PVES

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

The Board approved the following items:

- Contracts for Dell Compellant Storage Array for IS Dept. office; VEX IQ Classroom Bundle for BRMS; ODB Leaf Vaccuum for Buildings and Grounds; Kitchen equipment for FCS room at BRMS; Fall athletic uniforms, recreation and fitness equipment for BRMS; Scala hardwared for BRMS; Reconstruction of tennis courts at WVMS; construction of asphalt play area at PWES.
- Order form, addendum and invoice for Frontline employee absence and substitute management system
- BusBoss software agreement
- Apple quotes and short-term payment agreement
- Presidio Palo Alto renewal quote
- Security services agreement with Advanced Protection Co.
- Cost for LM Township Engineer for inspections at BRMS
- Change orders for BRMS

OLD BUSINESS

- There were no second readings

NEW BUSINESS

The Board heard First Readings of:

- Policy 217 Graduation Requirements
- Policy 810 Student Transportation

SUNSHINE ACT

Ms. Brooks, Solicitor from Wisler Pearlstine, reported when the Board of School Directors met for an information/executive sessions on April 18 and 25, 2022.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

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

- May 9 Education Committee and Supplementary Regular Board Meeting
- May 16 Regular Business Board Meeting

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

- April 27 Finance – Staffing and Information Systems Budget Review
- April 27 Ad-Hoc Committee on Equity and Anti-Racism @ 7:00 p.m.
- May 4 Curriculum Committee
- May 6 Policy Committee
- May 11 Finance – Curriculum and Instruction Budget Review
- May 12 Facilities and Purchasing
- May 25 Communications Committee

LMSD BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS is distributed to the community and staff of Lower Merion School District to highlight actions taken at Board Meetings. It is not intended to take the place of the meeting minutes. Citizens are encouraged to attend meetings. For information, visit LMSD.org.