



Lower Merion School District

301 East Montgomery Avenue ♦ Ardmore, PA 19003-3399

www.lmsd.org

LMSD Board of School Directors Business Meeting Highlights

April 16, 2018, Regular Business Meeting

For a complete agenda, visit the [BoardDocs section](#) of the District website.

PRESENTATIONS

Students from Lower Merion High School gave an impressive presentation on their Code.Design.Story project. This is an inter-disciplinary approach to learning where students in computer sciences, design and AP English collaborate to create apps with graphics and advertising descriptions. The [PDF from their presentation](#) is available on LMSD.org.

Superintendent Copeland presented the [proposed final budget](#). He noted that while most other districts in Pennsylvania are experiencing decreasing growth in their student populations, Lower Merion is the fastest-growing district in the commonwealth. The budget anticipates an additional 20 staff members for next year and calls for a 2.4% tax increase, which amounts to about \$169 for the average household. Despite the anticipated enrollment increase, the District will not be seeking any exceptions that would allow for larger tax increase. He also noted that some numbers are preliminary because the amount the District will be receiving from the state has not yet been finalized.

Superintendent Copeland presented an [update on facilities](#). He noted that the District has issued Letters of Intent for four properties being considered as possible sites for a 5-8 middle school campus. These sites are the Friends Central Lower School at 228 Old Gulph Road in Wynnewood, the Islamic Foundation site at 1860 Montgomery Avenue in Villanova, 6.9 acres of the Haas Estate site at 1829 County Line Road in Villanova and the St. Charlest Seminary site on City Ave. in Wynnewood.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Board approved personnel actions across the District, including staff hires, re-hires and reclassifications for the 2017-2018 school year.

Two longtime staff members announced their retirements this month. Best wishes to Beverly Hess, Sixth Grade Teacher at Bala Cynwyd Middle School and to Ann Tuttle, Senior Administrative Secretary at the District offices.

The District mourns the passing of Cosmo Romano, who worked as a painter in Operations/Buildings and Grounds from 1977 until his retirement in 2005.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

The Board approved the renewal of PowerSchool's Performance Tracker through June 2019.

STUDENT SERVICES

The Board approved an agreement for Students receiving Non-District Educational Services and the [Final Special Education Comprehensive Plan](#).

BUSINESS OFFICE AND FINANCE

The Board approved a List of Bills reviewed through the Facilities and Purchasing Committee as well as the March 2018 LMSD Financial Report.

The Board tentatively adopted the 2018-19 Proposed Final School District Budget.

The Board accepted with gratitude the donation for four bench seats and rectangular tables valued at \$7,538.24 from the Harriton HSA to be placed outside the cafeteria and a Redbud tree valued at \$160 from the Penn Valley HSA to be planted in the school's Redbud grove.

FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

The following items were approved:

- Contract awarded to replace the dimmer rack in the Harriton High School Auditorium
- Contract awarded for stormwater system maintenance at Lower Merion High School
- Contract awarded for sanding and floor refinishing at Cynwyd Elementary School
- Contract awarded for repairing the stormwater basin at Harriton High school
- Contract awarded for replacing the fire panel at Bala Cynwyd Middle School
- An addendum to the First String Sports license agreement should they have interested in adding an additional week of camp at Lower Merion High School
- Quote approved from Presidio Networked Solutions to facilitate moving security cameras at the high schools and administration building onto a separate network.

OLD BUSINESS

The following policies were approved for a second reading: Policy 249 Bullying and Policy 140 Charter Schools.

NEW BUSINESS

The following policies were reviewed for first readings: Policy 322/422/522 Gifts; Policy 350/450/550 Staff Access to Networked Information; and Policy 620 Fund Balance.

The Board approved revisions to the 2018-2019 school year calendar to reflect Act 80 days and approved the 2019-2020 School Year Calendar.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Board Meetings @ 8:00 p.m.:

Monday April 23 – Special Board Meeting

Monday May 14 – Education Committee and Supplementary Regular Board Meeting

Monday May 21 – Regular Business Board Meeting

Committee Meetings:

Wednesday April 18 – Communications Committee 7:00 p.m.

Thursday April 25 -- Finance Committee 8:30 a.m.

Thursday April 25 – Legislative Committee 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday May 8 – Curriculum Committee 8:30 a.m.

Friday May 11 – Policy Committee 8:30 a.m.

Thursday May 17 – Facilities/Purchasing Committee 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday May 23 – Communications Committee 8:30 a.m



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.