



## MINUTES

### Regular Board Meeting of April 13, 2016

- 1. Call to Order.** President Loy called to order the meeting of the Livingston Educational Service Agency (LESA) Board of Education at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at the LESA Education Center, 1425 W. Grand River, Howell, Michigan.

Present were:

Board Members: President Loy,  
Vice President Hill,  
Treasurer Kaiser,  
Secretary Fryer,  
Trustee Cortez

LESA Staff: Dawn Bentley, Dan Danosky, Mike Hubert, Tim Jackson, Sean LaRosa, Naomi Norman, Judy Paulsen, Michelle Radcliffe, Heather Rottermond

#### **A. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Loy led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **B. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Fryer and seconded by Cortez to approve the agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **2. Call to the Public/Correspondence**

The President asked if anyone wished to speak on any items or had received correspondence. There was no public comment or correspondence.

### **3. Adoption of Consent Agenda.**

#### **A. Superintendent's Recommendations**

039-015-016

The Board approve the appointment of Melissa Conley to fill the vacant Hartland

membership position on the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee for the period April 2016 through June 2017.

040-015-016

The Board approve entering into a Cooperative Cash Match Agreement with **Livingston County Community Mental Health Authority** (LCCMHA), Howell, MI; **Livingston County Department of Health and Human Services** (LCDHHS), Howell, MI; **County of Livingston** for **Livingston County Department of Public Health** (LCDPH), Howell, MI; **44th Judicial Circuit Court – Family Court Division/ Juvenile Unit (JCC)**, Howell, MI; **Community Mental Health Partnership of Southeast Michigan** (CMHPSM), Ann Arbor, MI; to provide cash match funding in order for the LCCMHA as the financial fiduciary and the managing entity for said venture, to coordinate behavioral health managed care services for specific children who are residents of Livingston County and who meet the enrollment criteria for said services for the period October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. The Cash Match Agreement total is \$1,268,074.

Funding obligations are as follows:

\$40,000.00 – CMHPSM

\$33,000.00 – JCC

\$5,000.00 – LCDPH

\$98,000.00 – State Child Care Fund Match

\$20,000.00 – LCDHHS

**\$20,000.00 – LESA**

\$2,000.00 – CMHPSM’s Medicaid Allocation

\$942,074.00 – LCCMHA’s Medicaid Allocation

\$108,000.00 – Community Reinvestment Funds

LESA Funding Source: Act 18 Funds

**B. Approval: Minutes**

The following minutes were presented for approval:

- Executive Session of March 16, 2016
- Board Workshop of April 6, 2016

**C. Approval: Financial Information**

The following financials were presented for approval:

- Check Register (February 29, 2016)
- Purchase Card Transactions (February 29, 2016)
- Financial Status Report (February 29, 2016)

**D. Approval: Personnel Board Report**

The following personnel report was presented for approval:

- Personnel Report Summary (March 31, 2016)

It was moved by Fryer and seconded by Cortez to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A roll call vote was taken. Fryer voted YES, Hill voted YES, Kaiser voted YES, Cortez voted YES, and Loy voted YES.

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. Special Presentation(s)**

Naomi Norman gave a special presentation on the Early Literacy Task Force work that is being done in the state.

#### **5. Action/Discussion Items.**

##### **A. Head Start Bus Purchase**

The recommendation is to purchase two 2013 36-passenger Blue Bird buses from the Holland Bus Company, using the 2015-2016 Head Start budget.

It was moved by Hill and seconded by Kaiser that the Board approve the purchase of two 2013 36-passenger Blue Bird Visions buses from the Holland Bus Company using the 2015-2016 Head Start budget at the cost of \$59,993 per unit, totaling \$119,986. Following applicable regulations; bids were accepted, reviewed and then awarded to the Holland Bus Company.

A roll call vote was taken. Hill voted YES, Cortez voted YES, Kaiser voted YES, Fryer voted YES, and Loy voted YES.

The motion carried unanimously.

##### **B. Legal Considerations to Support the Hartland Consolidated Schools**

On January 20, 2016, a school district located in Washtenaw County authorized a charter to create a “cyber academy.” Subsequently, on March 3, 2016, the Michigan Department of Education issued a letter to the Superintendent of the school district notifying them that MDE had issued a district and building code to the charter identifying them as a “school of excellence that is a cyber school.”

Since receiving that status, the cyber school has approached the Brighton Township Planning Commission with plans to construct a building “to ultimately provide schooling for 450 Elementary (K-5<sup>th</sup>), 225 Middle School (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>), 300 High School (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) students and 120 Children in Day Care.” Their plan states that “School will be in session between approximately 7:30 am and 3:45 pm... (and) the school expects approximately 100 students will participate in before school and after school programs offered by the school.” (Work has begun on the school site.) If approved, the proposed school will be located within the boundaries of the Hartland Consolidated Schools district.

A review of the laws that created cyber schools, as well as discussions with the leadership of MASA, and a preliminary discussion with a law firm that specializes in education law, has led to the conclusion that the action of the cyber school is likely a violation of its charter as a cyber school by operating a “brick and mortar” school outside of the boundaries of the authorizing district. If the effort is successful, the action will establish a precedent that would redefine the limitations of a cyber school and cause harm to the Hartland Consolidated Schools as well as the rest of the public schools in Livingston County.

Although we are working with the MASA and possibly other school leadership organizations, it may be necessary to engage the services of a law firm to seek advice and determine action on behalf of the Hartland Consolidated Schools. This proposal seeks permission to have LESA co-lead a legal effort to challenge the cyber school’s likely violation of the law and to share in the legal expenses connected with that effort.

It was moved by Hill and seconded by Fryer that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent to participate with and support the Hartland Consolidated Schools, including sharing legal costs up to a total of \$10,000 without further board approval, in their effort to challenge the construction of a school building by the Livingston Classical Cyber Academy under a charter authorized by the Whitmore Lake Public Schools.

A roll call vote was taken. Cortez voted YES, Hill voted YES, Kaiser voted YES, Fryer voted YES, and Loy voted YES.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **C. Reports**

### **- Staff Reports**

Updated the Board on progress toward LESA strategic plan goals.

### **- Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Danosky indicated he was invited to attend the Hartland Consolidated Schools Board meeting Monday, April 18.

Superintendent Danosky presented an update on the Sandila Estates boundary change request.

Superintendent Danosky informed the Board that WISD is holding June 8 for our joint board meeting. LESA will host this year.

**D. Board Discussion**

**6. Adjournment**

President Loy declared the meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold E. Fryer  
Secretary

HEF/jp