### LICKING VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021

Vision Statement: Every adult helping every child learn and grow every day.

## **ROLL CALL**

The Licking Valley Board of Education met in Special Session on October 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. The following members responded to roll call: Mrs. Becky Clark, Ms. Mary Kay Martin, Mrs. Jo Lynn Torbert, Mrs. Lucinda Wills and Mrs. Kim Christian. Dr. David Hile, Superintendent was also present.

### 21-90 TREASURER PRO-TEM

90

Mrs. Wills moved and Mrs. Clark seconded the motion to approve the following.

It is recommended to accept Dr. David Hile as Treasurer Pro-Tem for this Special Board Meeting.

Ayes: Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Clark, Ms. Martin, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Christian

Nays: None Motion Carried.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

## **SPECIAL REPORT**

**Mr. Troy Ruger** – Chartwells representative Troy Ruger provided an overview presentation of the Chartwells Company and their food service program.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

Michelle Aronowitz stated that the cooks had a meeting with Chartwells representatives and Dr. Hile before this meeting and we got our questions answered. She stated the cooks had a lot of questions because of so many unknowns and they needed this meeting. She stated that the cooks feel much better about the transition now and are willing to give it a try.

After Michelle spoke, President Christian permitted questions from the floor and it became more of an open forum. Members of the audience asked questions from their seats without giving their names.

- O Questions addressed a variety of topics including employee contract status when transitioning to Chartwells. Casey Williams and Todd Bennett wanted to be assured that the cooks with contracts would have their current contract status adopted by Chartwells. Troy Ruger said their current contract status would be honored.
- Others asked that if we returned management to the district would the contracted cooks be rehired under their same contracts. Dr. Hile stated that they would.
- O Lynne McLeish said she had seen on social media people accusing Dr. Hile of getting a financial kick-back from Chartwells and she just wanted to know for the record if this was the case. Dr. Hile stated: "Absolutely not. I would lose my license and maybe go to jail." The Chartwells representatives concurred.
- O Julie Stedman asked if when our cooks become Chartwells' employees if they would be required to get the COVID vaccine. Troy Ruger said they would not.
- O Someone asked if the cooks would still be able to dress up for special occasions and continue to have fun in their jobs. Troy Ruger said they would.

### LICKING VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021

- Todd Bennett asked Dr. Hile what prompted him to pursue outsourcing the food service program rather than hiring a food service supervisor and keeping it in-house. Dr. Hile stated that the food service director's position is one that is very difficult to fill because it is a high-skill, high-knowledge, low-pay position due to the limited contract days. The district has had trouble attracting qualified candidates in the past. As a result, after posting the supervisor's position internally, Dr. Hile reached out to his central Ohio superintendent colleagues to get their input on posting the position and attracting candidates. A number of his colleagues responded that they had outsourced their food service programs to third party vendors and were really happy with the results, and they suggested that Dr. Hile explore that option as well. Dr. Hile then began exploring the option by speaking with superintendents and treasurers in central Ohio who were currently outsourcing their programs and he was impressed with the things he learned and felt that it might be the best option for the students, the district, and the kitchen staff.
- o Someone asked if we have to purchase new equipment for the kitchen, who will purchase it/own it. Dr. Hile stated that the district would purchase all equipment because the district wants to be in a position to always have the option of transitioning back to full control of the food service program.
- o Kristen Rose asked how Chartwells would ensure that the elementary students would be able to get served effectively and efficiently. Troy Ruger stated that their team will come in and assess the serving areas and processes and, if needed, design a system to ensure that students are served efficiently.
- ❖ This is only a sample of the many questions asked and the answers provided; this is not a complete list of all questions and answers presented. Because of the open forum-style conversation that occurred spontaneously it was not possible to record every question and answer. President Christian asked twice members of the audience if there were any additional questions before closing the comments from the floor section of the meeting and there were no additional questions.

# 21-91 SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Martin moved and Mrs. Wills seconded the motion to approve the following.

## **Chartwells Food Service Contract**

It is recommended to approve the contract between Chartwells Food Service and Licking Valley Local Schools for food service through May 2022.

DISCUSSION: none

Ayes: Ms. Martin, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Christian

Nays: None Motion Carried.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR** - none

### 21-92 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

92

91

Mrs. Torbert moved and Mrs. Clark seconded the motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:15 pm to consider the employment of public employees, dismissal, discipline, and the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee.

## LICKING VALLEY LOCAL BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021

Ayes: Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Clark, Ms. Martin, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Christian

Nays: None Motion Carried.

The Board returned to regular session at 7:11 pm.

# 21-93 **ADJOURNMENT**

93

Ms. Martin moved and Mrs. Clark seconded the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Christian closed the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Ayes: Ms. Martin, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Torbert, Mrs. Wills, Mrs. Christian

Nays: None Motion Carried.

Kim Christian, President	David Hile, Treasurer Pro-Tem