

Lakewood, Ohio
January 4, 2010

The Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Lakewood, County of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio, met in organizational session in the Board of Education Auditorium, 1470 Warren Road, Lakewood, Ohio, Monday, January 4, 2010, at 7:02 p.m.

OATH OF OFFICE TO RE-ELECTED AND ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Favre asked the Treasurer to administer the following Oath of Office to re-elected and elected Members of the Board. Mr. Berdine administered the Oath of Office to re-elected and elected Board members, Mr. Favre, Mrs. Shaughnessy and Mr. Kamkutis.

Member

State of Ohio
County of Cuyahoga

ss I, Edward Favre, do
hereby solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio and that I will perform faithfully to the best of my ability the duties of MEMBER of the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Lakewood, county and state aforesaid.

Member, Board of Education

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Treasurer

Member

State of Ohio
County of Cuyahoga

ss I, Betsy Shaughnessy, do
hereby solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio and that I will perform faithfully to the best of my ability the duties of MEMBER of the Board of Education

of the City School District of the City of Lakewood,
county and state aforesaid.

Member, Board of Education

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Treasurer

Member

State of Ohio
County of Cuyahoga

ss I, John Kamkutis, do
hereby solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution
of the United States and the Constitution of the State of
Ohio and that I will perform faithfully to the best of my
ability the duties of MEMBER of the Board of Education
of the City School District of the City of Lakewood,
county and state aforesaid.

Member, Board of Education

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Treasurer

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Favre, Mrs. Shaughnessy
Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Markling, Mr. Kamkutis

Members Absent: None

Comments by Outgoing President – Mr. Edward Favre

Although 2009 was a very busy year for the Lakewood Board of Education, I am going to try to keep my comments brief.

We began the year by appointing a new Board Member, Mr. John Kamkutis, who was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Chas Geiger. A life-long Lakewood resident and product of Lakewood Schools, Mr. Kamkutis continues to work hard at meeting and exceeding the expectations of this new assignment.

Next, we initiated a Phase III process for the completion of the historic reconfiguration and reconstruction of the District. Although the committee did not make a concrete recommendation, as the prior 50 Year Committee had, they gave us direction.

Our next major task for 2009 was a Superintendent Search. This search returned to Lakewood, and to our great fortune, Dr. P. Joseph Madak. Our highly successful Superintendent from 1995 to 2004, he guided Lakewood Schools out of the troubled waters of that time, and set the course for future achievements. Continuous academic improvement, the vision and beginning of our facilities project, are hallmarks of Joe Madak. He is the architect for much of the success the District has achieved. The calm, determined manner, and Dr. Madak's great ability to plan and execute, are what we need in this difficult time. The clouds of the perfect storm are upon us now. We will hear more about the great challenges we face later.

The West Wing of Lakewood High School, the last piece of Phase II, came on line in 2009. Hundreds of new computers and new technology make this portion of our high school unrivalled in Northeast Ohio. Two thirds of our School District's facilities are now new or rebuilt and are state-of-the-art.

The Lakewood City Schools are now rated "Excellent" by the State of Ohio. This is the result of the outstanding work of our teachers, staff, and administrators. Although a new designation, it really confirms what we have known all along; that any child, from any walk of life, can be successful in Lakewood Schools. Lakewood can truly be proud of its school district.

In November, the voters of Lakewood returned Mr. Kamkutis, Mrs. Shaughnessy, and I to the Board. I know I speak for my colleagues in expressing gratitude to the people of Lakewood for trusting us with their schools. We do not take our responsibility lightly.

Finally, I want to thank my fellow Board members for their support and hard work during 2009. It is an honor to serve with you. I also thank and commend the administration and staff of the District, and all those who work every day for the benefit of our students.

Thank You.

#01/10

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

_____ Mr. Favre _____ called for nominations for President.

_____ Mr. Kamkutis _____ nominated _____ Mrs. Shaughnessy _____

for office of President. There being no further nominations, _____ Mrs. Beebe _____

moved that the nominations be closed and that the Treasurer be instructed to cast a unanimous

vote for _____ Mrs. Shaughnessy _____.

_____ Mr. Berdine _____ administered the following oath of office to _____ Mrs. Shaughnessy _____.

OATH OF OFFICE

President

State of Ohio
County of Cuyahoga

ss I, _____ Betsy Shaughnessy _____, do hereby solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio and that I will perform faithfully to the best of my ability the duties of PRESIDENT of the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Lakewood, county and state aforesaid.

President

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Upon roll call on the motion, the vote was as follows:

Mr. Favre – Yea	Mrs. Shaughnessy – Abstain
Mrs. Beebe – Yea	
Mr. Markling - Yea	
Mr. Kamkutis – Yea	

The Motion passed.

Comments by Incoming President – Mrs. Betsy Shaughnessy

I would like to thank Mr. Favre for his leadership during the last year and for his commitment to this Board – I will make every effort to maintain the open lines of communication that marked his term as President.

I first ran and was elected to the Board of Education in 1993 – many of the questions that face us today are similar to those faced by the Board at that time. How do we expand educational opportunity for our children? How do we meet the needs of every child through meaningful parental involvement and ongoing support for teachers and building staff? How do we secure community involvement and build support for the schools when most families do not have children in school? How do we make the best use of our valuable resources, human and financial?

We have met and will continue to meet challenges when we as a Board respond, not by reacting to crisis and pressures, but rather by working to a plan, following a map – a plan based on thoughtful assessment and discussion, on the identification and anticipation of both opportunity and threats – a plan that provides structure, discipline and rationale for our actions and to which we are held accountable. In the face of serious facility problems and increased academic expectations a plan was created to meet the intertwined needs in both areas. This expansive and forward looking plan has enabled us to be poised on the final phase of the total rebuilding of the Lakewood City Schools and has contributed to the first of what we expect to be many “Excellent” ratings. Without remaining committed to action based on a broad and long range vision I believe it will be difficult to continue our steady progress in building academic strength and a stronger community.

We, as individuals, as school districts, as cities find ourselves in difficult economic times. Unfortunately, when there are difficult decisions to be made and a multitude of opinions exist, we may more quickly attribute negative motives to those with whom we disagree. I pledge to be mindful of this as I go forward and ask that we treat each other with respect and understanding as we move through this challenging year. It is important that we respect the difficulty that some voters may have in deciding to support a school levy in these stressful times. We need to remember that most of our voters do not have children in our schools and we need to be tireless and patient in our efforts to explain our need for financial support and why this levy is critical to our schools and our city. I believe that we need to acknowledge and respect the effort that our administrative staff puts forth every day and support the Superintendent as he guides us through this year with the knowledge that even with a levy we will continue cuts to continue progress. We need to convey our respect for the commitment our teachers and support staff have made to the ongoing efforts to maintain successful programs. We need to listen to and respect the concerns and commitment of the parents in our district and the marvelous students we have the opportunity to serve.

It is worth noting that as individual members of the Board of Education we have no authority. It is only as a collective body that we are able to establish policy and to uphold our pledge to use our

informed judgment to promote the educational welfare of all students attending our public schools. We, as Board members, will need to respect the individual experience, skill and knowledge that each of us brings to this Board of Education if we are to provide the leadership that this school district deserves.

The achievements of the last years, rebuilding our schools, improving achievement, investing in the ongoing education of our staff, using test data to meet the needs of individual students, instituting all day kindergarten, have created a strong foundation for our continued growth despite the challenges. Our actions as a Board this year will be critical to the continued progress of our schools and our community in the next 5, 10 or even 50 years.

I am honored to serve as president this year and to serve as a Board Member for the next 4 years. I am proud to be associated with the Lakewood Board of Education, the staff, parents and students of this district and to represent this vibrant community which has supported public education in the past and will in the future. I will always be grateful to the voters of Lakewood for giving me this gift, and I look forward to working with all of you in this New Year.

Thank you very much.

#02/10

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT

Mrs. Shaughnessy called for nominations for Vice-President.

Mrs. Beebe nominated Mr. Markling for

the office of Vice-President. There being no further nominations,

Mr. Favre moved that the nominations be closed and that the
Treasurer be instructed to cast a unanimous vote for Mr. Markling.

Mr. Berdine administered the following oath of office to Mr. Markling.

OATH OF OFFICE

Vice-President

State of Ohio

ss I, Matthew John Markling, do

County of Cuyahoga

hereby solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Ohio and that I will perform faithfully to the best of my ability the duties of VICE-PRESIDENT of the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Lakewood, county and state aforesaid.

Vice-President

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Treasurer

Upon roll call on the motion, the vote was as follows:

Mrs. Shaughnessy – Yea Mr. Markling - Abstain
Mrs. Beebe – Yea
Mr. Kamkutis – Yea
Mr. Favre - Yea

The Motion passed.

1. Appointment of Standing Committees

#03/10

2. Fixing Time and Place of Meetings

Mr. Kamkutis moved and Mr. Markling seconded the motion to approve the resolution.

It was noted that the meeting of January 19, 2010, will be held at Horace Mann Elementary School.

Mr. Kamkutis moved to amend the motion to include the change of location for the January 19, 2010, Board of Education Meeting and Mr. Markling seconded the amendment to the motion to approve the resolution.

Yeas: Mrs. Shaughnessy, Mr. Markling,
 Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

Nays: None

The motion passed

#04/10

3. Nomination and Election of OSBA Legislative Liaison Representative

Mr. Favre moved and Mr. Kamkutis seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Markling as the 2010 OSBA Legislative Liaison Representative.

Yeas: Mrs. Shaughnessy, Mr. Markling,
 Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

Nays: None

The motion passed

#05/10

4. Resolution to Provide for the Expeditious Transaction of the Business of the Board of Education of the Lakewood City School District During 2010

Mr. Favre moved and Mrs. Beebe seconded the motion to approve the resolution.

Yeas: Mrs. Shaughnessy, Mr. Markling,
 Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

Nays: None

The motion passed.

Mrs. Shaughnessy clarified that the Resolution to Retain Law Firms and Attorneys, Exhibit B of the Expeditious Transactions Resolution, was included in the motion to approve the Expeditious Transactions Resolution.

Adjournment of Organizational Meeting for 2010

The President, Mrs. Shaughnessy, adjourned the Organizational Meeting for 2010, sine die, at 7:23 p.m.

President

Treasurer

Lakewood, Ohio
January 4, 2010

The Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Lakewood, County of Cuyahoga, State of Ohio, met in regular session in the Board Auditorium of the Lakewood Board of Education Building, 1470 Warren Road, Lakewood, Ohio at 7:26 p.m..

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mrs. Shaughnessy, Mr. Markling
Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

Members Absent: None

06/10

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Favre moved and Mrs. Beebe seconded the motion that the Agenda for the January 4, 2010, meeting be adopted.

Upon roll call on the motion, the vote was as follows:

Mrs. Shaughnessy – Yea	Mr. Markling - Yea
Mrs. Beebe – Yea	Mr. Kamkutis – Yea
Mr. Favre – Yea	

The Motion passed.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES

Mrs. Beebe moved to adopt the minutes. Board President Shaughnessy informed the Board that there were no minutes to review at this meeting. The minutes from the December 21, 2009, Board of Education meeting will be presented at the meeting on January 19, 2010.

Mrs. Beebe withdrew the motion to adopt the minutes and Mr. Kamkutis seconded the motion.

Yeas: Mrs. Shaughnessy, Mr. Markling
Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

Nays: None

The motion passed.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Superintendent reviewed some of the considerations relating to the goal of providing for the financial stability of the District along with the necessity of having to place an operating levy on the ballot in May. It is important to remember that the Lakewood City School District achieved an “Excellent” rating. The challenge before the District is to become a “reliably excellent school district,” which means a district that can be counted on to be excellent year after year. This is an important goal to keep in the forefront.

The Superintendent spoke about some of the assumptions within the November 2009 Five-Year Forecast in the following areas: property tax revenue losses, state funding reductions, property tax revenue assumptions, and state funding assumptions. If the reality is different than the assumptions, the numbers in the Five-Year Forecast will change. The Superintendent discussed the expenditure reductions to date. From 2004-2009, the District reduced expenditures by \$5 million dollars; in the spring of 2009 an additional \$1.3 million reduction was made; and in the Fall of 2009 spending was reduced by an additional \$1.6 million for a total of \$7.9 million in expenditure reductions since 2004.

The Superintendent discussed the double-digit millage that would be required to continue with the present level of services, programs and staffing, but in this economy it would be unrealistic to expect the community to support it. A combination of further cost reductions and an increase in income is necessary to get through these difficult economic times while maintaining the educational quality of the District. The District should place a 6.9 mill levy on the ballot in May 2010. It is a millage that is the minimum the District needs and one that hopefully can be passed with a great deal of hard work.

Additional cuts will be needed even if the levy passes. In 2009-10, the District will reduce expenditures by \$1 million. For the 2010-11 school year, there will need to be an additional \$3.5 to \$4.4 million in reductions at a minimum. The Superintendent reviewed the District’s financial planning based on the November 2, 2009 Five Year Financial Forecast and if the May 2010 levy passes. Even with passage of the 6.9 mill levy and with the previously described financial cuts, the District’s expenditures continue to exceed income through FY14.

The District will be guided by a number of principles: to maintain as much in programs and services for students as possible; to work with the best information available regarding what it takes to be a “reliably excellent school district;” to look for ideas from other school districts to increase our own efficiency; to challenge all staff to be even more efficient; to not significantly alter major programs prior to giving the community an opportunity to vote to keep them; and to proceed in a timeframe that enables the District to make the necessary changes that will be successful.

The Superintendent discussed a timeline to present cost reduction recommendations to the Board for approval for the 2009-10 school year and the 2010-11 school year. The reductions are what is required if the levy passes. If the levy does not pass, the Lakewood Schools will be a much different school district than it has been. The May 2010 6.9 mill levy is critical for the District. Mr. Favre noted that it was important to take a proactive approach as outlined by the Superintendent. Controlling the process allows the District to come through the process in the best possible shape. A reactive approach will produce the opposite outcome. Mrs. Beebe stated that the course described by the Superintendent was a thoughtfully planned process. Mrs. Shaughnessy noted the importance of the District proceeding through the process in an orderly fashion and demonstrating that to the community.

This concluded the Superintendent's Report.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE SECOND REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

The members of the Board of Education previewed the items to be considered at the next regular meeting of the Board of Education to be held on January 19, 2010.

A. Report of the Finance Chairpersons: Mr. Favre, Mr. Markling

1. Investments Purchased and Matured – November, 2009
2. Financial Information – November, 2009

#07/10

3. Adoption of 2010-2011 Budget Request

At the recommendation of the Superintendent and Treasurer, the Board elected to approve the budget request resolution in one reading.

Mr. Favre moved and Mr. Markling seconded the motion to approve the resolution.

Yeas: Mrs. Shaughnessy, Mr. Markling
Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

Nays: None

B. Report of the Buildings, Sites and Major Purchases Chairpersons:

Mr. Kamkutis, Mr. Favre

C. Report of the Education Chairpersons:

Mrs. Beebe, Mr. Kamkutis

1. Resolution to Approve Out-of-State Field Trips
2. Co-Curricular and Non-Curricular Clubs
3. Waiving Tuition for Non-Resident Senior(s)
4. Gifts to Lakewood Schools

D. Report of the Human Resources and Community Services Chairpersons:

Mr. Markling, Mrs. Beebe

1. Certified
2. Classified
3. Community Recreation and Education

COMMUNICATIONS

Board President Shaughnessy asked if there were any communications received by the Treasurer, the Superintendent or members of the Board.

Mr. Favre informed the Board that he received two emails: the first was a complimentary message from a Horace Mann parent, which Mr. Favre forwarded to Principal Dr. Kathleen McGorray. The second was an email that contained a link to a Dallas news station showing the Lakewood Ranger Marching Band playing in front of the Texas home of music department benefactor, Mr. George Read.

Board President Shaughnessy asked if any member of the public wished to speak.

Ms. Kristine Pagsuyoin, 1356 St. Charles Avenue – Commended the Board and Mr. Berdine for their diligence regarding the District’s financial stability over the past several years; asked for clarification on a statement made during the Superintendent’s Report; and inquired about a Phase III decision. Board President Shaughnessy and the Superintendent responded to the inquiries.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

1. Resolution to Approve Board Policy 7251 – Naming of and Logos for Lakewood School District Programs. Services and Facilities
2. A Resolution Declaring it Necessary to Levy an Additional Tax for the Purpose of Current Expenses and Requesting the Cuyahoga County Auditor to Certify the Total Current Tax Valuation of the School District and the Dollar Amount of Revenue that Would be Generated by that Additional Levy, Pursuant to Sections 5705.03 and 5705.21 of the Revised Code

Board President Shaughnessy noted the need for an Executive Session and called for a motion to recess to Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Markling moved and Mr. Favre seconded the motion that the Board recess to five consecutive Executive Sessions for the purpose of (1) evaluating a public employee, (2) evaluating a public employee, (3) compensating a public official; (4) appointment of a public official; and (5) appointment of a public official.

Upon roll call on the motion, the vote was as follows:

Mrs. Shaughnessy – Yea	Mr. Markling - Yea
Mrs. Beebe – Yea	Mr. Kamkutis – Yea
Mr. Favre – Yea	

The Motion passed.

The meeting recessed to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.

The First Executive Session ended at 8:48 p.m.

The Second Executive Session ended at 8:50 p.m.

The Third Executive Session ended at 8:56 p.m.

The Fourth Executive Session ended at 9:14 p.m.

The Fifth Executive Session ended at 9:22 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Board President Shaughnessy adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

President

Treasurer