

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 16, 2012

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, May 16, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield High School Library/Media Center.

Present: Mr. Simone, Chairperson; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Messrs. Bongiorno, Falcetti, Shuhi and Waugh. Ms. Carr and Mr. Katzin were absent.

Also present: Dr. Wheeler; Mr. Buccitelli; Ms. DellaVolpe; Ms. Murphy; Ms. Longobucco; the public and the press.

Approve Minutes

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the Minutes of regular meeting May 2, 2012 with the following corrections: on page 3024 in the first line add “from the Governor” after the word “statement” and remove “from the Governor” at the end; on page 3025 add “to” to “how maintain them,” add a “to” to “how measure,” and change “transferred” to “transfer.”

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Approve Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to approve the payment of invoices for 2011-2012 budget as needed.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Mr. Simone abstained.

Out of State Field Trip

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve the out of state field trip to Project Native, Housatonic, MA.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Public Comment and Correspondence

- a. STPC: Ms. Fabbri reported: the pre-prom will be held on Saturday, May 19th at 5:00 p.m. at the Litchfield Community Center.

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PTO: Ms. Moore reported: proceeds from the Joanne McCormick fundraiser; son activity at L.I.S. on May 28th hosted by Mr. Parker; book fair at L.I.S. and Center School starting June 4th; ice cream social June 6th; and final meeting to be held May 17th and is open to questions and answers from the Board of Education.

b. Public Comment:

➤ Ron Glander commented on replacement principal for C.S.; maintenance; sidewalk repair at C.S. and the Department of Public Works.

c. Correspondence:

➤ Thank you email from Tina Cardini for the flowers sent for Nurse's day.
 ➤ Invitation to the retirement of Janice Crovo, Teacher of the Year, Friends of Education recognition celebration.

d. Administrators' Reports:

➤ Ms. Longobucco reported: annual ACES event; end of year transition activities; 3rd grade to Norman Rockwell Museum with Ms. Clementson; Junior Achievement day; field day; 2nd grade play May 25th.
 ➤ Ms. Murphy reported: transition activities for 6th grade; Band performance May 24th; chorus concert May 31st; 3rd grade visit June 7th; parent orientation; and moving up June 16th.
 ➤ Ms. Della Volpe reported: voter registration held; Rose Haven Senior Prom; recognition ceremonies; Governor's luncheon, Celebration of Excellence; Art Awards June 11th; Leadership dinner June 4th; Finance workshops on May 23rd; Career Day on May 23rd; College Knowledge on May 24th; Envirothon on May 24th; and Build a Better Me - Peer Educators.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Wheeler distributed a copy of "Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium," "Comparison of Current Education Statutes & Education Reform Final Legislation" and reported on the following:

➤ Update on SMARTER Balanced Assessment including: shared with Curriculum, Policy and Personnel Committee; education reform act; balanced assessment and Education Reform Act; 5 Principle of Assessment; the next generation of assessment in CT; Types of Assessment; Summative; Benchmark; Formative; Balanced assessment system responsibilities; SBAC assessment core components; SB 458 An Act Concerning Educational Reform; Aligned Systems Actions-Ensuring Cohesion and Focus; Leadership Focus; Reading Focus; Professional Evaluation; Professional Development and our Current Status. Power Points to be posted on district website.

- PEAC Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Pilot including: pilot application; in conjunction with Region 6.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to authorize the Chair to approve participation in the pilot teacher evaluation model if application is approved by the State.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

- Ms. Longobucco was presented with a Citation from the Connecticut Association of Schools on May 10th in recognition of her years of service to CAS and public education in Connecticut.

New Business

- a. Litchfield High School Student News - John Kassay, Drew Stone and Gaby DeVito presented CNR (Cowboy News Roundup) project from Video Production class; students involved in producing reports; talent needed; anchors; reporters; multiple tasks; lots of support; question of the week; need for student input; two cameras; technical director; sound technician; teleprompter operator; director; floor manager; camera operator; process of recording; scripts; multiple takes; fun facts; fun environment; final product; and YouTube address.

Board members discussed: possible coverage of athletics; equipment needs; software; student choices; comfort zone; and time limit.

- b. Vote to renew non-tenured teachers for 2012-2013 school year - Dr. Wheeler recommended to approve the renewal of the following non-tenured teachers for 2012-2013: Center School – Elizabeth Bailey, Brooke Hazen, Kim Roe, Amy Thivierge, Randi Zanesky; Intermediate School – Krista Beyer, Jennifer Digliani, Rebecca Duquette, Heidi Lechich, Melissa Malia, Mark Obolewicz, Adam Piechowski, Caitlin Van Stone; High School- Shoshanna Armington, David Constant, Ernesto Davila, John Kassay, Diana Melendez, Peter Perkins, Kerri Petti, Michael Roy, Patricia Smaldone, Debra Staffiere.

MOTION made by Mr. Waugh and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to support the Superintendent's recommendation as presented.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Committee Reports

Curriculum, Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported the committee met and discussed the following: new Balanced assessment; methodology and benchmarks; positions open in the district; process of hiring Director of Business Operations; review of applications (Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Simone, Mr. Waugh, Mr. Zaremski, Ms. Fabbri, Mr. Shuhi, Mr. Bongiorno); Finance Committee to go into Executive Session to discuss applications.

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Bongiorno reported that the committee will meet on May 21st and discuss the following: Technology quotes; bid process adjustment; modularized bidding process; ports and switches; needs of schools; C. S. flooring abatement and process after obtaining bids.

Finance - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee will meet Tuesday, May 29th.

Policy - committee will not be meeting until June 21st.

Policies

- a. Second Reading – Policy # 4115 Supervision and Evaluation
- b. Second Reading – Policy # 4115.1 Evaluation – Supervisors
- c. Second Reading – Policy # 4151 Leaves

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve the following policies, # 4115 Supervision and Evaluation; # 4115.1 Evaluation – Supervisors; and # 4151 Leaves as written.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

MOTION made by Mr. Waugh and seconded by Mr. Shuhi; to move to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss Superintendent's annual evaluation. Dr. Wheeler was invited to attend.

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MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Executive Session

Present were: All the above Board members and Dr. Wheeler.

Open session resumed at 8:58 p.m.

No action was taken.

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Falcetti, Secretary
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary