

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
July 18, 2012

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, July 18, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield High School Library/Media Center.

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

Also present were: Dr. Wheeler; Mr. Lathrop; Mr. Zaremski; and members of the public.

Approve Minutes

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve the minutes of Regular Meeting June 20, 2012 and Special meeting July 2, 2012 with the following corrections: on page 3043 change “RRivellini” to “Rivellini” on page 3046 last line change “superintendents” to “Superintendent’s.”

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Ms. Fabbri and Mr. Waugh abstained for June 20th minutes. There were no abstentions for July 2, 2012 meeting.

Approve Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Ms. Rosser: to approve payment of invoices for 2011-2012 budget as required and 2012-2013 budget as required.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

- a. STPC/PTO: none
- b. LHS Student Council: none
- c. Public Comment:
 - Mr. Sandrib commented on the technology plan.
- d. Correspondence: none
- e. Administrators’ reports: none

Superintendent's Report

- a. Professional Evaluation Pilot update: leadership team roles; work with Education Connection; train with Region 6; state funds first full set of training; teacher evaluation training August through September; Principals' document in October; orientation with Region 6 afternoon of August 31st; and four specific days of training.
- b. Personnel Update:
 - Diana Melendez resignation letter.
 - Recommendation to hire Erin Butler Special Education at Center School to replace Erin Bates.
 - Recommendation to hire Gabriel Alejandro Alvarez for Spanish teacher.
 - Open positions: classroom teacher at Center School; long term sub classroom teacher at Center School; Business Education reopened; H.S. Spanish, M.S. Spanish.
 - Possible special meeting on Monday, July 30th to hire candidates.
- c. Broadcasting of Board meetings: funding input from Mr. Simonin; RFP grant; October 31st submission; committee includes Joanne Moore; Johnny Kassey; Mark Landy; Steve Simonin; Pat Donovan; and John Bongiorno.

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve Erin Butler for Special Education Teacher at Center School and Gabriel Alejandro Alvarez for Spanish teacher.

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

New Business

- a. Request for Admission – Tuition Based: Request from Mary Grace Duley for admission of her daughter, Eirinn Duley, to begin her sophomore year at L.H.S. Dr. Wheeler reviewed the policy with the Board.

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to allow Eirinn Duley to enroll in Litchfield for 2012-2013 school year for a period of six weeks without tuition in accordance with school policy.

Board members discussed the following: policy clarification; no documentation for rental or purchase of housing; and possibly pay for entire year.

MOTION withdrawn by Mr. Shuhi and second by Mr. Waugh.

MOTION made by Mr. Waugh and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to grant Mary Grace Duley's request to allow her child to become a student in the Litchfield schools with tuition payment as of the first day of attendance.

MOTION amended by Mr. Katzin and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to add that if the family enters into a contract for a rental or purchase, throughout the school year, reimbursement of the initial six weeks charge will be given.

AMENDMENT carried. All votes were in the affirmative except Mr. Shuhi who voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative except Mr. Shuhi who voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

Committee Reports

Curriculum, Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the committee met last week and discussed the following: World Language Program; grades 4-6 for Spanish I and 7 & 8 for Spanish II; French in high school, grading practices; honor roll; devices possibly used for Social Studies pilot; Naviance Program and surveys from graduates for the future agenda.

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met and discussed the following: status of programs; L.I.S. gate, tennis courts, abatement at C.S., floors at C.S., playground; grant application with Mr. Simonin; BYOD vs. One to One; 7th and 8th grade pilot as one to one; technology plan posted on web site; 3 year overview; and funding for next few years.

Finance - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee is scheduled to meet next Monday but it is cancelled because there is nothing significant for the agenda at this time.

Board members discussed the meetings held with the Board of Finance including the following: need for expanded list of items requested; questions regarding end of year monies; input from the Board of Finance; past practices; OPEC and OCR needs; encouraged to attend each other's meetings; input from auditor and Board counsel; input from Finance and Facilities Committees; bid and bid process; Tech plan work; stimulus funds given back previous years; need to not have hands tied; well managed budget; efficiencies; reasons for surplus; wireless program is not a capital expenditure; done as operating budget; need to include line items for technology each year; and scheduling a walkthrough.

Policies

- a. NEW – First Reading – Policy # 1111 Broadcast of Board of Education Meetings – reviewed. Return to Committee.
- b. First Reading – Policy # 5111 Ages of Attendance – reviewed. No changes noted. Return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.

- c. First Reading – Policy # 5113 Attendance and Excuses and regulation – reviewed. No changes noted. Return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.
- d. First Reading – Policy # 5113.2 Truancy – reviewed. No changes noted. Return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.
- e. Rescind – Policy # 5112 Ages of Attendance – reviewed. Rescind policy.

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to move to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's Evaluation. Dr. Wheeler was invited to attend.

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 8:10 p.m.

No action was taken.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

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

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