

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

Approved 10/5/2011

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board Education was held on Wednesday, September 21, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school Library/Media Center.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Messrs. Falcetti, Gorman, Katzin, Noone, and Shuhi.

Also present were: Dr. Wheeler; Mr. Buccitelli; Mr. Zaremski; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Longobucco; Ms. Kubisek; the public and the press.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and Ms. Rosser: to move agenda item VI a. to III a.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Gorman: to approve the consent agenda:

- a. Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting September 7, 2011.
- b. Approve the payment of invoices for 2011-2012 budget as required.
- c. Out-of-State Field Trip (Music in the Parks: Agawam, MA, grades 7 & 8, May 4, 2012).
- d. Two requests for extended childrearing leave.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

- a. Destiny Presentation - Ms. Moore, Ms. Benedict, and Ms. Tracy presented a summary of Destiny, the online card catalogue system. Students from Center School, the Intermediate School and the High School (Samantha Barnes, Alexa Yanavich, Alyssa Malloy, Morgan Lyons, Tom Spierto, and Matt Miller) demonstrated how to use all the levels of the program.
- b. STPC / PTO – Ms. Fabbri reported on upcoming STPC activities: first meeting to be held next Monday, September 26th, at 7:30 p.m. at LHS; LHS culinary students will be providing refreshments.

Ms. Moore reported on the following PTO activities: a very successful Back to School Social was held at Litchfield Community Field; the first meeting will be held on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Center School gym.

- c. LHS Student Council - Joe Wihbey reported on the student council activities at the high school.
- d. Other Public Comment –
- Mr. Battiste commented on alleged bullying at the middle school and asked that the Board follow up on the allegations.
 - Ms. Fabbri thanked the administration for a successful open house at the high school and commented about the class size in some Science classes leading to overcrowding.
- e. Correspondence –
- Thank you note from Barbara Crowe.
- f. Administrators Reports –

Ms. Della Volpe reported on the following activities at the high school: Guy Wolfe throwing clay pots with art students for a fundraising activity; college fair held with over 100 colleges represented; successful open house on September 20th; and an award recipient, Alexis Macchiarolli, for NPR's "This I Believe."

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following activities at the Intermediate School: successful Band open house; open house held on September 14th; and two field trips being planned to Sound Waters and American Indian Institute.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following:

- AYP data distributed and discussed; the district achieved AYP in spite of raised threshold.
- Pending a CIAC ruling our boys' soccer team has agreed to play the game against Wamogo that Wamogo forfeited.
- Leadership Advisory Council will meet next week.

New Business

- a. Establish Tuition Rate for 2011-2012 – Mr. Buccitelli presented the proposed 2011-2012 tuition rates for Grades K-6- \$8,840 and Grades 7-12- \$10,600.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to accept the non-resident tuition rate as presented.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Ms. Carr abstained.

b. Gift from Kathleen Murray and Doug Gouy-Guy

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to accept the gift from Kathleen Murray and Doug Gouy-Guy (Policy #3280).

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

Committee Report

Curriculum and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the committee met on September 8th and discussed the following: Guidance presented advisor/advisee program at the high school; Naviance update; staff updates; Project Poetry Live program status; budget, BYOT (Bring Your Own Technology).

Finance - Mr. Noone reported that the committee met this evening, September 21st, and Mr. Buccitelli presented the end of year budget and a draft list of capital requests.

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met on September 19th and discussed the following: Bring Your Own Technology; possible capital requests; town solar panels project; presentation by Ed Fabbri on traffic flow on 202 and working with the town to see what can be done to improve safety.

Policies - Ms. Carr reported that the committee met on September 15th and discussed several policies that will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Gorman: to move to Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. for discussion and possible action in regard to the Superintendent's contract. Dr. Wheeler was invited into the session.

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

Executive Session

Present were Mr. Simone, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Mr. Falcetti, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Katzin, Mr. Noone, Mr. Shuhi and Dr. Wheeler.

Open session resumed at 8:22 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Gorman: to extend the Superintendent's contract through June 30, 2014 authorizing the Board Chairperson to engage in negotiations regarding terms of contract to be returned to the Board of Education.

MOTION carried. Affirmative: Ms. Carr, Mr. Katzin, Ms. Rosser, Mr. Noone, Mr. Gorman. Negative: Mr. Falcetti, Mr. Shuhi and Ms. Fabbri.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Katzin: to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

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

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