

Approved 9/21/2016

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Middle School Art room.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chair; Ms. Carr; Mr. Bongiorno; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick; Mr. Shuhi; and Mr. Waugh.

Absent was: Ms. Fabbri

Also present were: Superintendent Turner; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Kubisek; Ms. Murphy; Mr. Ammary the press and members of the public.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Falcetti: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 10, 2016 with the following corrections on page 3525 under public comment change “Glandar” to “Glander” on page 3526 under “c” change “Foreman” to “Forman.”

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Mr. Bongiorno and Mr. Shuhi abstained.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mr. Clock: to approve the minutes of special meeting of August 25, 2016 as presented.

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

Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: approve the payment of FY 2016-17 invoices on Accounts Payable warrant # 2017-4 dated 8/26/2016 in the amount of \$397,304.48.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to add to the agenda as VII c. a discussion on mental health first aide.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to add to the agenda after Executive Session “possible action.”

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative.

Public Comment and Correspondence Communications

- a. STPC – none.
PTO – Ms. Stone reported that Back to School Social is on Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- b. LHS Student Council – none.
- c. Litchfield Prevention Council – none.
- d. Other public comment
 - Ms. Tenney commented on her concerns regarding poor quality of French III online classes and possible options to be investigated.
- e. Correspondence –
 - Email from Mr. Spelman regarding CS.
 - Letter from the US Labor Department’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) regarding the Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS) that will be completed.
- f. Administrators’ Report
 - Ms. Murphy reported: smooth opening; Open House September 13th; hosting of Waterbury Symphony Orchestra again in March; part of arts program; play for entire district; and value of \$17,000.
 - Ms. Kubisek reported: smooth opening; great orientation held; 7th grade transition complete; Open House next Thursday.
 - Ms. Della Volpe reported: September 22nd Open House; night games this week with Wamogo; input from Thomaston HS regarding entering tri town wrestling activity including Holy Cross; number of students involved; fee required; and more info to follow.
 - Mr. Ammary reported: smooth opening; enrollment up 19; 292 total student enrollment; increase in many grades; welcoming kids into building; signs very helpful; new routine; curriculum night on September 20th and PTO Open House this Friday.
 - Outline from Mr. Fiorillo of the status of the BOE 2015-2016 fiscal year end report including unexpended funds of \$59,810.

Mr. Simone thanked the administrators, staff and maintenance people for a job well done over the summer and opening of schools.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Turner reported: plan to visit schools weekly; happy to see students back; back into a routine; new teacher orientation held; successful convocation held last week; thanks to

Mr. Waugh for participating; highlight was the band participation; Howie Roll; pictures on Facebook page; LMS on Facebook; damaged sign fixed through insurance; “Enrollment Figures Opening Day” handout; and enrollment down 33.

Old Business – none.

New Business

a. Teacher Resignations.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to approve the teacher resignations with regret from Debbie Benedict Orado, Robert Caldwell and Nathaniel Southard as presented.

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

Board members discussed status of World Language studies at the LHS.

b. Out of State/Overnight Fieldtrip - Philadelphia.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to approve the out of state Fieldtrip request from the music department to attend musical and cultural activities in Philadelphia as presented.

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

c. Mental Health First Aid Training.

Valerie English Cooper distributed two documents, “Free Mental Health First Aid Training” outline; “Mental Health First Aid USA” details and reviewed the following: Federal grant; 3 year grant; age 16-24 underserved; unlimited training in Litchfield County; workshops held at Advanced Ed; Sept. 26 and 28 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.; support people who struggle with mental health; need for lay person to recognize need; create space for comfort; no issue with cost; data shows it can take 10 years to receive services needed; mental first aid should be same as CPR; has bipartisan support; emphasis on parents of seniors to attend; vulnerable parent needs; concerns with young adults to adulthood; seniors loose scaffolding within schools when graduate; help parents to help maintain scaffolding; and evidence that it works through research.

Board members discussed: why emphasis on senior parents; need for all levels; need for youth mental health first aid; foundational course; EdAdvance will also host programs; no grant

for elementary grades; ADHD issues; depression/anxiety; everyone touched by mental illness; community issues; 8 hour training; get certificate; and need to register ahead of time.

Committee Reports

Curriculum, Programs and Personnel - Mr. Waugh reported that the committee met and discussed: Special Education program; services offered; processing students early on; status of 6th grade Spanish program; positions in LIS; AP scores; and AP in psychology.

EdAdvance - Mr. Waugh reported: change of name; programs to be offered; Jeff Kitching leadership; and Danbury input.

Facilities Committee - Mr. Waugh reported that the committee met and discussed the following: space for town hall use; issues with using schools for town hall needs; and will meet Sept. 27th and Oct. 26th to discuss town hall needs.

Finance Committee - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met last night and discussed: yearend finance report; will go to Board of Finance; tuition for students of employees; ways to generate students to stay in Litchfield; status of fiber from LMS/LHS to LIS; budgeting for fiber optics; underground preferred; salaries and wages; Connecticut Education Network; withdrawn from State; and cost for district around \$14,000.

Litchfield Education Foundation - Need Board rep to serve on the committee. Mr. Pavlick volunteered.

Meeting held with Selectmen regarding better communication on jobs needed to get done and notification of who will be in the building when work is being done. Grounds look good.

Policy - Ms. Carr reported that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday instead of Thursday.

Policies

- a. First Reading – Policy # 0400 Achievement Assessment/Needs Identification: Litchfield – no changes made. Return at next regular BOE meeting for Second Reading.
- b. First Reading – Policy # 0600 Monitoring/Reporting – no changes made. Return at next regular BOE meeting for Second Reading.
- c. First Reading – Policy # 3523.11 Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drones) –New – no changes made. Return at next regular BOE meeting for Second Reading.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to move to Executive Session discuss collective bargaining issues.

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

Executive Session

Entered Executive Session at 8:00 p.m.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chair; Ms. Carr; Mr. Bongiorno; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick; and Mr. Waugh.

Mr. Shuhi recused himself.

Invited to attend was Superintendent Turner.

No Action was taken.

Returned to public session at 8:28 p.m.

MOTION made by Mr. Clock and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to accept the contract with the Litchfield Education Associations (LEA).

MOTION carried. Ms. Carr, Mr. Clock, Mr. Falcetti, Mr. Pavlick, Mr. Simone and Mr. Waugh voted in the affirmative. Mr. Bongiorno voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Donald Falcetti, Secretary
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary