

**LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 16, 2016**

**DRAFT**

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield High School Library Media Center.

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

Absent was: Mr. Bongiorno

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

**Approval of Minutes**

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 2, 2016 as submitted with the following corrections on page 3548 capitalize “daughter dance,” change “Jennie” to “Jennine,” on page 3550 first paragraph add “and grant leave until September;” under calendar paragraph change “teacher” to “teachers” and correct “Yum” to “Yom,” on page 3552, motion for LIS Library media specialist add Mr. Clock to the affirmative vote; under Jennine Lupo vote add Mr. Pavlick to the affirmative vote.

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

**Payment of Invoices**

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: approve the payment of FY 2016-17 invoices on Accounts Payable warrant # 2017-11 dated 11/17/2016 in the amount of \$294,428.97; Food Service warrant dated 11/16/2016 in the amount of \$12,637.73.

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

**Public Comment and Correspondence Communications**

- a. STPC – none.  
PTO – Ms. Moore reported: book fair going on now; Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Daughter Dance at Bantam Firehouse; next meeting, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>; and input from parents expressing concern with hiring of Library Media Specialist.
- b. LHS Student Council – none.
- c. Litchfield Prevention Council – none.

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- d. Litchfield Education Foundation – Ms. Reidy and Ms. Saunders reported: latest grants presented; \$1,000 OWL; \$1,000 to Junior Achievement; \$8,000 to School on the Green; \$1,000 to Ms. Clementson and Mr. Piechowski for Light Up Litchfield.
- e. Other public comment.
  - Rachel Reiter commented on concerns for the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Patty Laure commented on concerns for the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Jackie Tiul presented a petition to the Board regarding the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Jill Johnson commented on concerns for the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Bryce commented on concerns for the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Jack commented on concerns for the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
- f. Correspondence.
  - Letter from Dana Moore concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Kim Tessier concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Kathleen Reidy concerning the LIS library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Patty Laure concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Annamari Curtiss concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Happy Gamer concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Amanda Glover and Brian Horbal concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Landon Cahill concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Debra Cahill concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Lisa Gosselin concerning the LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Karmen Couret concerning LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Nathan Reiter concerning LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Stephanie and Geoffrey Round concerning LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Jodie Bongiolatti concerning LIS Library Media Specialist position.
  - Letter from Peter Sorenson supporting Jennine Lupo for Litchfield Board of Education position.
- g. Administrators' Report
  - Ms. Haggard reported: happy to bring forward a Special Education candidate that will be discussed in Executive Session; cyber safety parent forum held and well attended.
  - Ms. Murphy reported: conferences held this week; Joanne McCormick event to be held on November 22<sup>nd</sup>; Veterans' Day assembly held; fundraiser for "Fish;" and thank you to the Vets for attendance.
  - Ms. Kubisek reported: none.
  - Ms. Della Volpe reported: 1,000 cans donated; assembly held; concert held and winter sports start next week.

- Mr. Fiorillo reported: Green Team meeting this week; savings initiatives; savings from retrofit of lights; energy savings 40%; need to pay off loan for lights and meeting with town.
- Mr. Ammary reported: Veterans' Day assembly held; 40 Vets attended; thank PTO for book fair; PTO brought cookies and milk and read books; fall conferences underway; on Tuesday, Specials teachers will hold "colonial day," dress in period clothing; and finalizing new standards based report cards.

Board members discussed committee needs: Ms. Carr will continue to represent the Board at Ed Advance and Mr. Bongiorno will be the Board liaison to Plumb Hill Fields committee.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Turner reported: on Tuesday Pre-K through grade 12 PD held; survey done for staff input; what needs are as we move forward; input from teams; meeting in Feb.; worked with tech team on a survey; and need to get feedback on website.

**Old Business** –none.

### **New Business**

a. **Smarter Balance/SAT Scores**

Mr. O'Connell distributed a handout "State Test Results 2016" and reviewed the following: a list of State Test 2016; 2015 to 2016 ELA Comparison by Grade; 2015 to 2016 Math Comparison by Grade; 2015 to 2016 ELA Comparison by Cohort; 2015 to 2016 Math Comparison by Cohort; CMT Science by Grade over 3 Years; CAPT Science Grade 10; CT School Day SAT, Grade 11, 2016; College/Career Ready; Participation Rate 2016; Test Dates, 2017; and Public Information Sites.

Board members discussed: lots of change; doing ok; not much to compare; was pencil and paper test, now on computer; another year of data; could do better; nothing jumps out; students more confident taking tests; smarter balance testing; students savvy in test taking; can click and drag with mouse; keyboarding skills improved; analyze, synthesize skills needed; Science based skills; graphing skills needed; interpreting skills needed; theme not content; mirror life scenarios; trends and patterns; answers based on experiences; translation skills; part of Common Core; higher level of thinking needed; and synthesize, create rather than assess.

b. **Out of Country Field Trip**

**MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri:** to approve the Out of Country Field Trip to Spain in February, 2018 as presented.

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

c. 2017 Board of Education and Committee meeting schedules

Mr. Fiorillo presented Litchfield Board of Education Meeting 2017 Draft 1 and 2 and reviewed the following: draft 2 has committee meetings before Board meetings for information to be presented. One meeting will be cancelled due to conflict with Rosh Hashana.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Draft 2 as amended.

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

d. 2017-2018 Budget Development Calendar

Mr. Fiorillo presented the Litchfield Public School 2017-2018 Budget Development Schedule from November 10<sup>th</sup> to May 10<sup>th</sup>.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and withdrawn by Ms. Carr.

Board members discussed: no need for Board approval; and if changes need to be made can be done without special meetings to be held.

### **Committee Reports**

Curriculum, Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the Committee met last Thursday and discussed the following: math curriculum update by Lori Shuhi; Pre K – 6; new para professionals and PD; community planning meeting; videos of lessons; K-5 teachers meet weekly; standard based curriculum; enVisions Math text book; grade 6-8 McGraw Hill math program; students have devices for Math curriculum; grades 6-8 align with high school math program; look at pilot for 6-8; possibly Visions for continuum Pre K-8; more aligned; McGraw Hill curriculum; curriculum issues and instructional issues; need best match with high school; and different platform needs for high school math.

Facilities and Technology Committee - Scheduled meeting next Monday.

Board members discussed the status of the MOU with the Selectmen and reviewed the following: Selectman want to meet to discuss decision; needs to be joint meeting with the Board of Ed and Selectmen; clear what directions we have chosen; possibly broadcast meeting for community; process was followed to get to this decision; meetings in June, Sept., and Oct. and

nothing happened; way past point to talk; can work together in many facets; specific items listed; Board of Ed can manage custodian usage better than Selectmen; Town can manage grounds; issues with information given to other Selectmen by Mr. Paul; “gospel” used by Mr. Paul about how Board listens to information regarding MOU; need to move forward with decision; possible mud-slinging if joint meeting held; Board are “puppets” to Superintendent and Business Manager; taxpayers need to know what is going on; need for audience; process needed to terminate MOU; issues with budget transfers; maintenance issues; budget items for this year; data shared with Selectman; equipment, property and staff; make known to public; take higher ground; need to publicize list; issues with light bulb delivery; people need the facts; issues with communication; not all Selectmen are aware of process that took place; need to move forward; bridge to build a budget; miscommunication with people who work in buildings; separation of services; loss of confidence with management of personnel; misconstrued in paper; and paper did say the Selectman agrees with decision; need to get clear facts out to the community; building and maintenance issues; Town good at outside needs; and need to build a budget with custodians included in it.

Finance Committee - none.

Policy - none.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to move to Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss a Personnel Matter.

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

### **Executive Session**

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

Invited to attend were Superintendent Turner and Ms. Haggard.

Returned to public session at 8:35 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to hire Kelly O’Connell as a Special Education Teacher at Litchfield High School.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Falcetti, Secretary

Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary