

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 16, 2015

DRAFT

A special meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Thursday, April 16, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Central Office Conference Room.

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

Absent were: Mr. Clock.

Also present were: Superintendent McMullin; Mr. Fiorillo; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Kubisek; the public and the press.

a. 2015-2016 Budget Review

Mr. Simone reported that the Board of Finance met last Monday and requested that the Board of Education reduce the budget to seventeen million dollars even.

Superintendent McMullin distributed a “Budget Reduction Worksheet,” which included the following: adjustments based on new information received after Board adoption on March 4th; reduction from Superintendent’s budget of \$89,000; Superintendent adjusted budget based on the Board of Finance recommendation April 13th; one unbudgeted FTE budget error; items A-J including \$184,062; summary of other potential reductions items K-Q and Sheet 1 account code with cost and comments with a total of \$46,290.39.

Board members discussed: technology position not budgeted; could make cuts and have public request the money back; issues with library funding for books; could swap out items; what impact increases would be on families; concerns over opinions of Board of Finance; need to support Superintendent’s budget; Math curriculum needs over two years; could budget over three years but not necessary; curriculum writing needs; possible update to program that can be updated regularly and not a static document; Social Studies curriculum needs; could cut amount out of budget and choose specific items after; need for non-fiction books in libraries; technology needs for security; \$20,000 in budget for classroom books; could allocate some for library needs; input from ad-hoc technology committee regarding security; \$6,500 for Barracuda Internet security; concerns over sports cuts; possible input from Park & Rec to take over; concerns over kids need things to do to stay active; transportation costs, entry fees are significant for small number of students served; is CIAC sanctioned; licensing issues for technology; could make tradeoffs for sports; issues with getting interns to cover substitute needs; concerns over furniture needs; fewer cuts to Board of Selectmen budget; concerns over round numbers; capital needs; need for PE instruction for added preschool enrollment; need for future analysis of furniture needs; new desks budgeted for L.I.S.; community input on security in schools; need funding for security; spam filter costs; being comfortable with seventeen million dollar budget; issues with

Litchfield Board of Education Special Meeting, April 16, 2015

secretarial needs at L.I.S. in the morning and afternoon; timing is difficult with needs; and low enrollment needs at L.I.S. does not warrant hiring secretary.

MOTION made by Mr. Shuhi and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to reduce the budget to \$17,000,000.00 as presented in items A-J with adjustments in library needs, secretary needs and furniture needs.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Bongiorno and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

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

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