

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT**

Regular Meeting – December 15, 2009

The Chairman will vote only to make or break a tie.

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Lori Jahoda, Donna Skaats (7:35PM), Sandra Tremblay, Keith Wentworth, Melissa Hofmann, Darcy Battye, James Mello, Felicia Bakaj, Student Representative

ABSENT: Donna Lafontaine, Deanna Kokoszka

ALSO PRESENT: Robert McGray, Superintendent, Sandye Simon, Robert Laskarzewski, Carol Moore, Stephen Salisbury, Maryanne Leichter.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS –

1. The Board received written resignation from LMHS .6 English teacher Emily Brancati.
2. The Board received written retirement notice from Superintendent Robert McGray, effective June 30, 2010.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Members of the Lebanon Wrestling program spoke in support of the program; Wayne Harrington (director), Linda Benjamin (parent), Phil Johnson (parent), David Preli (student-athlete), Asa Preli (student-athlete), Grace Preli (student-athlete), Jennifer Preli (parent), Doug Morton (M.S. coach), Bill Seddlemier (former LMHS student-athlete), William Michael (parent), Rob Czplicki (LMHS Coach) and Brice Johnson (student-athlete).

Marisa Haralson, resident, shared e-mail from Greg Roy (parent/resident) in regards to classroom policy revision; document forwarded to Superintendent McGray. Ms. Haralson also asked the following questions in regards to SRBI – How will SRBI be implemented? And who will be in charge of data collection?

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by James Mello to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of minutes.

- 1) Regular Meeting – 11/24/09
- 2) Physical Plant/Facilities – 12/08/09, Policy Sub-Committee – 12/08/09.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES –

1. Curriculum – The subcommittee met this evening to discuss programs at LMS to include: Nature's Classroom, Homework Club, Newspaper Club, WWII Holocaust Unit and Job Shadow Program; information was provided by Robert Laskarzewski, Principal.
2. Finance/Budget – The subcommittee met this evening to discuss the substitution account expenditures, copier contract for LMHS and Central Office, Board of Finance letter to Boards, Commissions and Departments, formation of a letter to the Board of Finance in regards to upcoming budget season and 2010-2011 budget.
3. Goals – The subcommittee met this evening to review the 5 year plan, semi-annual retreats for BOE members (possible January and April dates).
4. Policy – The subcommittee met on 12/08/09; to discuss student discipline procedures and policy #5114.
5. Transportation/Residency – no report.
6. Communications – no report.
7. Vo-Ag Advisory – The Vo-Ag Holiday Bazaar was held on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at LMHS.

8. Physical Plant/ Facilities – The subcommittee met on 12/08/09 to discuss the maintenance tracker, staffing, job descriptions for Maintenance/Grounds Worker and Supervisor of Facilities and Custodial Services and the capital improvement list.
9. Student Representative – Ms. Bakaj presented the following information; LMHS had an early closing on 12/03/09 and a snow day on 12/09/09: both of which affected all classes and some senior projects. Seniors are finishing up their oral visual presentations – Graduation deadline (outside of rescheduling) December 22nd. The winter sports' seasons are underway: boy's and girl's basketball, boy's and girl's indoor track, and wrestling. The band concert, rescheduled for the 14th, went smoothly. Vo-Ag has been busy making their holiday sales. They also had an Open House and Holiday Bazaar on the 10th. At the Bazaar, 10 community vendors came out to make it a great success. The sophomore class sponsored a Snow Ball Dance last Friday which was a hit. It was a semi-formal event where prom tickets were raffled off. The Middle School has a chorus concert tonight and a band concert on Thursday. All of the schools are preparing and excited for the holiday break to come at the end of next week!

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:
 - This is to inform the Board that First Student, our bus contractor, had alleged idling violations in two locations. This was not in our district. In the settlement they are retrofitting busses with pollution control systems on busses in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Lebanon busses have already been retrofitted through a grant last year.
 - The Board had discussed when to have the retreats that were included in the Board Goals. The Board had discussed roles and responsibilities of Board members as well as Board processes and procedures. The last time these general topics were discussed at a regular meeting rather than an alternative time and date. Now that the Board has the new members it appears a good time to discuss when and how the Board would like to meet. Board members should contact Mr. McGray with possible Saturdays available in January for retreat.
2. Calendar Options:

Enclosed in the Board packet are three calendar options for discussion. There will be an Action Item in January. Mr. McGray has provided the LEA a copy of these options. The three basic variables are: shortened February vacation, a week-long February vacation and a starting date in August. Each impact the last day of school. James Mello spoke about reducing the amount of days from 186 to 183.
3. Non-Renewal Process:

Enclosed in the Board packet is a brief summary of the non-renewal process for non-tenured teachers, which Mr. McGray explained. It will be necessary to non-renew non-tenured teachers again this year.
4. Title Grants:

Federal entitlement grants that we receive are Title I (remedial reading at LES), Title IIA (PD/Curriculum – currently funding SRBI at LES, technology at LMHS, CAPT & CMT professional development time, and data warehouse expansion), Title III (English language learners), Title IV (Innovative programs – Nature's Classroom and Homework Club at the LMS and extended library hours at LMHS. Mr. McGray reviewed what we are supporting in the district through these grants.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by James Mello to suspend the rules to amend the agenda and add Letter to BOF as an Action Item. Motion approved unanimously.
2. Moved by James Mello and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the first reading of Student Discipline – Removal/Suspension/Expulsion policy #5114. Motion approved unanimously.
3. Moved by Lori Jahoda and seconded by James Mello to accept LES PTA donation to repair/replace stage lighting at LES. Motion approved unanimously.
4. Moved by Donna Skaats and seconded by Keith Wentworth to authorize the Superintendent by sole discretion to approve individual tuition students to enroll at Lyman. (Discussion: Parent(s) will be responsible for transportation and Superintendent will conduct a scholastic review). Motion approved unanimously.
5. Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve job description: Maintenance/Grounds Worker. Motion approved unanimously.
6. Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by James Mello to approve job description: Supervisor of Facilities and Custodial Services. Motion approved unanimously.
7. Moved by James Mello and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve copier contract to CBS Blooms. Motion approved unanimously.
8. Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Lori Jahoda to accept the resignation of LMHS .6 English teacher Emily Brancati. Motion approved unanimously.
9. Moved by Sandra Tremblay and seconded by Lori Jahoda to write a letter to the Board of Finance in regards to upcoming 2010/2011 budget process. Ayes – L. Jahoda, D. Skaats, J. Mello, S. Tremblay and M. Hofmann. Abstain – K. Wentworth. Motion passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – BOE members to contact Mr. McGray with dates for January retreat. Please contact the Chair or Mr. McGray with topics for January meeting.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION -

Moved by James Mello and seconded by Keith Wentworth to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing attorney's legal opinion at 8:45 p.m.. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Donna Skaats and seconded by Lori Jahoda to exit executive session at 9:00 p.m.. Motion approved unanimously.

XI. ADJOURNMENT -

Moved by Lori Jahoda and seconded by Sandra Tremblay to adjourn at 9:02 p.m.. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Hofmann, Recording Secretary