

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

Regular Meeting - November 24, 2009

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

PRESENT: Donna Lafontaine, Chairman, Keith Wentworth, Donna Skaats (7:35 p.m.), Darcy Battye, James Mello, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda (7:35 p.m.), Sandra Tremblay, Deanna Kokoszka, Felicia Bakaj, student representative.

ALSO PRESENT: Robert McGray, Superintendent, Sandye Simon, Rob Laskarzewski, Dr. Bonnie Hanna, Stephen Salisbury, Carol Moore, Mal Leichter, Maryanne Leichter, Jody Walsh

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:30 p.m. and new Board members, Sandra Tremblay and Deanna Kokoszka were welcomed.

1. Board Reorganization-

Donna Lafontaine, Chairperson steps down and Darcy Battye, Vice-Chairperson opens the floor for nominations of Chairperson.

Moved by Jim Mello and seconded by Keith Wentworth to nominate Donna Lafontaine. With no further nominations, Melissa Hofmann moves and seconded by Keith Wentworth to close nominations for Chairperson. Motion unanimously passed.

The meeting is turned over to Donna Lafontaine, Chairperson and opens the floor for nominations of Vice-Chairperson.

Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to nominate Darcy Battye. With no further nominations, Melissa Hofmann moves and seconded by Keith Wentworth to close nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Motion unanimously passed.

Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Donna Skaats to nominate Melissa Hofmann. With no further nominations, Melissa Hofmann moves and seconded by Keith Wentworth to close nominations for Secretary. ABSTAINING: Melissa Hofmann. Motion passed.

2. Subcommittee Assignment Input –

Board members are asked to select 3 subcommittees they are interested in serving on and the Chairperson would make assignments and provide a list at the next regular meeting.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – Thank you card from Rene Wentworth.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Marissa Haralson, resident, requests a copy of the memo on change of grading policy; information pertaining to the supervision of students at out-door lunch at the high school during warm weather; effectiveness of X-Block; addressing low test scores; the necessity of a Senior Project when this is not mandated by the State and the acceleration for the senior class.

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Keith Wentworth to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of minutes.

1) Regular Meeting 10/27/09

- 2) Finance/Budget Subcommittee – 10/27/09, Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – 11/10/09, Finance/Budget Subcommittee 11/10/09. Abstaining: Sandra Tremblay. Motion passed.

#### VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES –

1. Curriculum – No report.
2. Finance/Budget – The subcommittee has had several meetings; a Public Input Session with a small number of attendees requesting the return of the Curriculum Director position, keep a status quo budget; further discussion with the Board of Finance for the water heater replacement; a joint meeting with the Facilities Subcommittee in December; new copier contract; lock in fuel prices.
3. Goals - The subcommittee met on November 10<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the Action Plans for all 3 schools and with a 5-year focus and reflections at milestone points.
4. Negotiations – The instructional assistants and custodians contracts are up this year. An initial meeting has been scheduled with the instructional assistants and will wait to hear back from the custodians in December.
5. Policy – no report.
6. Transportation/Residency – no report.
7. Communications – no report.
8. Vo-AG Advisory – An update on the National Convention; school opening; the next meeting is scheduled for January.
9. Physical Plant/Facilities – Mal Leichter reported on prices for design/engineering for the water heater replacement at the high school; the Board of Finance will need to review and approve, find an engineer and write bid document; the Board of Finance wants competitive bidding.
10. Student Representative –First quarter closing; Looking in Theater came and worked with 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students as part of diversity program; college visits; senior project presentations, deadline is December 22<sup>nd</sup>; French Week and trip to Newport; Vo-Ag Dept. held dog wash and blood drive on November 19<sup>th</sup>; Connecticut Youth Forum on November 10<sup>th</sup>; Chorus Concert on November 17<sup>th</sup> and Band Concert on December 3<sup>rd</sup>; 30 students participate in Charter Oak Music Festival, 4 students participated in Regional; Fall sports finish strong, Girls Soccer – made second round in states; Boys Soccer – made finals in states; Volleyball made finals in states; all won the ECC small division title; SAT prep and drivers' ed program; Fun Friday on the November 30<sup>th</sup> and Snowball Dance hosted by the Class of 2012 is on December 11<sup>th</sup>; Middle School talent show on November 20<sup>th</sup>; National Honor Society Induction Ceremony this evening with 20 new inductees and Lauren Belisle of the Class of 2006 was keynote speaker.

#### VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:
  - Recipients of the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendent's Award on November 17<sup>th</sup> at a ceremony at RHAM, the following students were recognized: Christopher Konow, Alyssa Tacchi, 8<sup>th</sup> grade; Kena Perry and Casey McCall, 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - Mr. McGray and Ryan Fabry attended the State Teacher of the Year ceremony and Mr. Fabry received his state recognition on October 29<sup>th</sup>.
2. Special Education Report: Maryanne Leichter and staff members provided reports on special education services in the district and the number of direct and indirect hours of services; pre-identification process and 504 interventions. Special education student totals as of November 24<sup>th</sup> – 176; out-of-district special education students presently at Lyman – 20; a breakdown of Special Education Distribution for all 3 schools as well as the service hours. Sam Ralston, LMHS Psychologist presented on the role of the school psychologist, conducting evaluations, counseling, communication with outside agencies and counselors, group counseling, progress monitoring, behavior intervention plans and SRBI – working with a team to generate interventions for students, progress is monitored to track behaviors and improvement. Trish Mueller, Speech/Language Pathologist responsibilities, consulting, IEP plans for students with services, PPT meetings with students, update evaluations, consultation with classroom teachers, START, evaluations. Leigh Hogan, Speech/Language Pathologist provided the caseload for 2009-2010 school year as follows: LES – 6 classes, 25 students; LMS – grades 5-8, 12 students and 3 speech improvement students; LMHS – grades 9-12, 12 speech and language students, for a total of 49 students and

expectance of 12-15 more students for a total of 61 students for the academic year. Sally May presented on the Occupational Therapy report roles and responsibilities providing direct OT services to students for fine motor, visual motor, visual perceptual, sensory processing and self-help skills and caseload. LES – total service hours per week, 39.5 hours servicing 42 students; LMS – total service hours per week, 11.75 hours, 17 students; LMHS - .5 hours, 1 student.

3. Strategic School Profiles – Presentation of 2008-2009 State mandated annual report by school administration and enrollment numbers as of 10/1/09, LES – 521, LMS – 412, LMHS – 599. Each Principal, the Director of Special Education each spoke on their sections of the report.

#### VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Lori Jahoda to rescind non-renewal of non-tenured Elementary Instrumental Teacher. Opposed: Keith Wentworth. Motion passed.
2. Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the second reading of Policy #3451, Student Activity Fund. Abstaining: Sandra Tremblay. Motion passed.
3. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the second reading of Policy #5123.1, Lebanon Middle School Promotion/Retention Policy. Motion unanimously passed.
4. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the acceptance of LES PTA donation of 5 new Smart Boards. Motion unanimously passed.
5. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve out-of-state field trip: Lyman Ski Club. Motion unanimously passed.
6. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the adoption of fifth grade novel The Keeping Room. Motion unanimously passed.

#### IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Subcommittee reassignment; subcommittee meetings in December: Goals, Policy, joint meeting of Physical Plant/Facilities and Finance, Curriculum; 8<sup>th</sup> grade job shadowing project.

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Keith Wentworth to enter into Executive Session at 9:40 to discuss legal opinion. Motion unanimously passed.

#### X. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 1) To discuss legal opinion.

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Donna Skaats to leave executive session at 10:00. Motion unanimously passed.

#### XI. ADJOURNMENT -

Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Donna Skaats to adjourn at 10:02. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary