

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

Regular Meeting - October 27, 2009

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

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

PRESENT: Donna Lafontaine, Chairman, Keith Wentworth, Donna Skaats (7:35 p.m.), Darcy Battye, James Mello, Marisa Haralson, Melissa Hofmann, Rene Wentworth

ABSENT: Lori Jahoda, Felicia Bakaj, Student Representative

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – Rene Wentworth was recognized for her 12 years of service on the Board of Education and the Board wished her well as she will not be running in the current elections.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Miguel Garcia, High School Spanish, expressed concerns if AP classes were to be eliminated and the drastic effects for students as it is a rumor. Levi Duhaine, 8th grade student, expressed concerns with the elimination of the 8th grade field trip to Washington, D.C. and asked the Board to reinstate this very worthwhile experience for 8th grade students. Charles Haralson, 631 Exeter Road, formally requested the Board to provide him with the CAPT testing results for the past 5 years. These could be mailed to him or he would pick up when ready.

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Rene Wentworth to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of minutes.

1) Regular Meeting 9/22/09

2) Policy Subcommittee – 9/22/09, Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – 10/20/09, Finance/Budget Subcommittee – 10/20/09, Policy Subcommittee – 10/20/09, Curriculum Subcommittee 10/20/09.

Abstaining: Melissa Hofmann Motion passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES –

1. Curriculum – Discussion on X-block and 5th grade novel, *The Keeping Room*. The novel will be brought to the November meeting for approval.
2. Finance/Budget – The subcommittee met on October 20th to review the 2010/2011 budget and to look at a status quo budget which would be about 4 ½-5% increase or a budget which would bring back supplies and equipment which would be a about 7% increase. Public Input Session for the budget will be held on November 18th at 7:00 p.m. The subcommittee also met tonight and discussed the current spending, retirement savings, etc., potential substitute teacher costs due to H1N1 and 4th grade instrument instruction. The subcommittee will continue to look at fuel prices to lock in and will discuss this at the next subcommittee meeting.
3. Goals - No report.
4. Negotiations – No report.
5. Policy – There are several policies for informal approval under Action Items.
6. Transportation/Residency – Mal Leichter explained that the bus drivers are beginning to use disinfectants on the handrails, tops of seats, etc.
7. Communications – Invite cards for the Public Input Session will be going out in the mail.
8. Vo-AG Advisory – no report.
9. Physical Plant/Facilities – Mal Leichter reported that a water purification system is being investigated and the water heater at the high school will need replacement this year.

10. Student Representative – Stephen Salisbury, Principal reported for Ms. Bakaj. A successful Open House, X-Block accountability, PSATs, seniors are meeting with guidance, seniors prepare for senior project presentations; fall sports are doing well, annual Ms. Lyman pageant, 20 FFA students attended convention and results will follow.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:
 - Recognition to the following students who scored at the advanced level on all four subtests on the 2009 CAPT: Andrew Chalifoux, Vanessa Gray, Gabriel Palisano, Alex Paris, Rebecca Runkle.
 - Online registration of professional development courses with a program called Protraxx to allow teachers to sign up for courses and review their CEU history.
 - EASTCONN is offering adult education classes at Lyman.
 - Summer reading statistics were provided by Mrs. Shea and Mrs. Picard for LMS.
 - A discipline report will be presented at the next Policy Subcommittee
2. Testing Report: Stephen Salisbury, Principal presented and provided handouts for the SAT results for the Class of 2009; PSAT/NMSQT Summary Report 2005-2009; 2009 SAT school Scores; and 2006-2009 Advanced Placement Testing Results.
3. No Child Left Behind/Adequate Yearly Progress: Maryanne Leichter presented on the process and intervention in place for grades 5-8 and provided a handout for the Spring 2009 scores.
4. Facilities: Mal Leichter presented on the status the 39 projects on maintenance tracker; moving a maintenance worker to 2nd shift after the Thanksgiving holiday once ball fields have been fertilized and closed; receiving quotes for replacement of the 600 gallon water heater at Lyman estimated at an estimate of \$46,000; a filtration system also to be installed at Lyman which will inject low levels of chlorine in the water at an estimated costs of \$15,000-\$16,000. The wind turbine is progressing and the tower has been delivered. Installation will take place this week or next and the testing equipment will be installed around November 15th and generating power some time in January.
5. School Readiness Council: Dr. Bonnie Hanna updated the Board on the progress of the School Readiness Council, which continues to meet on a monthly basis. The Council is working on several policy and procedure issues in anticipation of NAEYC accreditation for Kindergarten and Preschool. Accreditation of the program is anticipated for March 2011. The grant funds for 2009-2010 have allowed to provide a full-time preschool teacher and 2 full-time preschool teaching assistants. Current preschool enrollment is 50 and 12 new students will be entering the program in January, March and May for a total of about 70 preschool students.
6. The Superintendent reported on the SRBI – Scientifically Research Based Interventions program to address the needs of students demonstrating learning difficulties that is also integral to the special education identification of learning disabilities.

Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Marissa Haralson to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add Action Item No. 7; out of state field trip. Motion unanimously passed.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the first reading of Student Activity Fund policy #3451. Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Donna Skaats to approve the first reading of Lebanon Middle School Promotion/Retention policy #5123.1. Motion unanimously passed.
3. Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the first reading of Committees and Meetings policy #9300. Voting Aye: Jim Mello, Marissa Haralson. Voting Nay: Melissa Hofmann, Keith Wentworth, Darcy Battye, Rene Wentworth, Donna Skaats. Motion failed.
4. Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Marissa Haralson to approve job description: Maintenance/Grounds Worker. Motion withdrawn by Melissa Hofmann and Marissa Haralson.

5.No motion was made to approve job description: Supervisor of Facilities and Custodial Services.

6.Moved by Marissa Haralson and seconded by Keith Wentworth to approve the 8th grade field trip to Washington, DC. Motion unanimously passed.

7.Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Keith Wentworth to approve the Ag Science Equine field trip to Springfield on November 18th. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Curriculum Subcommittee meeting to further discuss senior projects and X-block; discuss 8th grade job shadow project; 2nd request by Marissa Haralson to receive grading policy; Strategic Plan update.

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Rene Wentworth to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:00 p.m. and enter into Executive Session to discuss attorney's written legal opinion. Motion unanimously passed.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION - 1) To discuss attorney's written legal opinion.

Moved by Marisa Haralson and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to leave Executive Session at 9:10. Motion unanimously passed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Marisa Haralson and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to Adjourn at 9:10. Motion unanimously passed

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary