

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT
Special Session – April 29, 2008

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: Chairman, Donna Lafontaine, Vice-Chairman Jamie Bender, Darcy Battye, Beth Damble, Melissa Hofmann, Donna Skaats, Lori Jahoda, Keith Wentworth, Hannah Frank, student representative

ABSENT: Rene Wentworth

ALSO PRESENT: Stephen Salisbury, Acting Superintendent, Rob Laskarzewski, Brian Tedeschi, Carol Moore, Dr. Bonnie Hanna, Mal Leichter

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS - Letter of resignation from Suzanne Yeo, Elementary School.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Donna Skaats and seconded by Beth Damble to approve the minutes with the noted corrections:

1. Regular Meeting – 3/25/08 with the following corrections – IV. Public Participation: line 2 delete “Subcommittee” and line 3 change “School Safety Subcommittee” to “Policy Subcommittee”.
2. Finance /Budget Subcommittee 4/8/08. Motion unanimously passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CURRICULUM – no report.

FINANCE/BUDGET – The Subcommittee has had several meetings with the Town Board of Finance. The Board of Education budget was cut by \$100,000. A Public Hearing was held last Monday and residents commented on the increase in Special Education. After a meeting on Tuesday with the Town Board of Finance no further cuts were made to the proposed budget. A town meeting is scheduled for May 5th and the Referendum is scheduled for May 19th.

GOALS – no report.

NEGOTIATIONS – The secretaries contract to be discussed later this evening. No further report.

POLICY - no report.

TRANSPORTATION – no report.

COMMUNICATIONS - no report.

VO-AG ADVISORY – The Chairman of the Board received an email regarding Lyman VO-AG student participation in 4 teams in the National FFA Convention, which is the most in any state. The students were commended for their work as well as the FFA program.

PHYSICAL PLANT/FACILITIES – A joint meeting was held this evening with the Finance Subcommittee. Due to safety concerns, the boys’ baseball field has been closed due to deteriorating conditions in the infield. Limited use will be allowed for outfield practice only at this time. Mal Leichter will speak with the town’s engineer to receive recommendations and will move forward to the next step. The bid for custodial/maintenance service has been tabled to discuss further.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT – 10 students participated in a poetry contest on April 9 and Rachel Williams, grade 10 received a bronze in Spanish III; Myles Snelgrove won the Mr. Lyman contest; spring sports have begun; a Youth Forum will be held at RHAM on April 8; the band played for LES students on April 22; college pre night for parents of juniors on April 23; Goodspeed Opera trip is on Wednesday; Chorus concert on May 7; AP testing begins next week; Post Grad Auction on May 2; Seniors will presents the oral/visual portion of their Senior Projects by May 23; prom in May.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:

- Dates and times of school activities for the spring have been provided to the Board in their packet as well as the revised agenda for tonight's meeting.
- Dr. Theodore Sergi, President and CEO of the new Connecticut Science Center accepted Mr. McGray's invitation to be the guest speaker at the Academic Awards Ceremony.
- A letter from Commissioner McQuillan providing an update on the Secondary School Redesign initiative. The next steps are response to feedback and a timeline and a final set of recommendations to be made in December 2008.

2. Agricultural Science:

The Lyman Ag Science program has been chosen to participate in the development of National Standards for Agricultural Science programs. Lyman is 1 of 5 Ag centers chosen to pilot the program and an organization meeting will be held in May. One teacher will participate in a week-long summer internship, no cost to the district.

3. Bus Safety:

A meeting was held for parents on April 10th consisting of administrators, First Student bus manager, First Student Safety Manager. Input and suggestions were received by parents.

4. Lyman Memorial Baseball Field:

Due to deteriorating conditions and tripping hazards along the infield, professional recommendations have been made to reconstruct portions of the field and to look at completing the work over the late summer/early fall 2008 for use in the spring of 2009, at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.00.

5. Student Presentation:

Christine Wengloski and Rachel Williams (absent Katie Lamb), 10th grade students, presented to the Board on their findings from chloroform contamination of water at the Jonathan Trumbull Library.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Donna Skaats and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the secretaries contract. Abstaining: Keith Wentworth. Motion passed.

2. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve applying for the "School Readiness Grant". Abstaining: Keith Wentworth. Motion passed.

3. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Darcy Battye to approve the purchase of computers. Motion opposed unanimously.

4. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Jaime Bender to approve repairs to the Lyman Memorial Baseball field. Abstaining: Jaime Bender. Motion passed.

5. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Lori Jahoda to accept the resignation of Suzanne Yeo. Motion unanimously passed.

6. Moved by Donna Skaats and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the Vocational Agricultural Grant spending of local funds not to exceed \$3,880 as the district's 5% match. Motion unanimously passed.

7. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Darcy Battye to approve the application for the Perkins Grant. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – none

X. ADJOURNMENT –

Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary