

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

Regular Session – December 9, 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, Darcy Battye, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda, James Mello

ABSENT: Donna Skaats, Rene Wentworth, Keith Wentworth, Beriah Smith, student representative

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – none.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Lisa Sedlmeier and Linda Desmarais, members of the 2009 Post Grad Committee urged the Board to set the 2009 graduation date early to help with the booking of a venue for the 2009 Post Grad celebration. Stephen Salisbury, representing student and faculty, looking for Board support to fundraise four ski trips to Massachusetts. Fundraising will fund student costs and stipends for adult chaperones.

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Darcy Battye to approve the following minutes:

1. Regular Meeting – 11/25/08
2. Finance/Budget Subcommittees – 11/19/08, Special Meeting – 11/20/08, Goals/Strategic Planning – 12/2/08. Motion unanimously passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CURRICULUM – no report.

FINANCE/BUDGET – The subcommittee met this evening to discuss: 1) Anticipated Board of Finance letter requesting the Board to submit a “flat” budget with no increases. Sub committee looking at reductions due to the increase in teacher salaries and benefits for 2009/2010. The Board will be looking at potential mowing contracts, high school English, in-school suspension; class size at the elementary school; school sports and extra-curricular activities. The Board will approach the bargaining groups for discussion. 2) Capital/Non-Recurring Account will be prioritized – replacement of the air handling units and roof at the high school; window replacement at the elementary school; vehicle purchase.

NEGOTIATIONS – no report

GOALS/STRATEGIC PLANNING - The subcommittee met on December 12 to review Beriah Smith’s student survey and additional items to be added. The subcommittee also drafted initial strategic goals. A draft of the strategic goals for the Strategic Plan has been given to the subcommittees and will present a report to the full Board at a later date.

POLICY - The ethics policy is scheduled for January.

TRANSPORTATION – no report.

COMMUNICATIONS - The subcommittee reviewed the 2008 Graduation Survey. Mr. Salisbury will send out a new version to the 2008 graduates with some changes.

VO-AG ADVISORY – Next meeting is scheduled for January.

PHYSICAL PLANT/FACILITIES – Discussion under Superintendent’s Report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – Mr. Salisbury reported that the 8th grade student survey to students has been given to students and will provide the Board with a report at a later date.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:

- Due to a reduction in grant funds, the college intern for the elementary school computer lab will end at the end of the semester. Ms. Simon reported on the transition.
 - Sandye Simon, Dr. Bonnie Hanna and Stephen Salisbury reported on the goals and objectives for the professional development process at each of their respective schools.
2. Sandye Simon presented on the elementary school process of assessing student problems and developing interventions with the START intervention process for students at risk. Dr. Bonnie Hanna presented on the Middle School intervention process and presented Jeanette Picard, Reading Consultant, Sheila Russolino, School Psychologist, Valerie Nettleton, School Counselor who reported on the intervention programs: Peer Educators, Student Assistance Model (SAM), Character Counts, DARE Program with Trooper Kalkus and the TST intervention. The middle school provides students at risk with a Teacher Support Team identified by teachers with small group participation and targeted strategies.
 3. Board members were provided with information on the non-renewal process for non-tenured teachers and the non-tenure process which will likely be necessary this year.
 4. Jody Walsh provided 3 binders of closed work orders and provided a brief description of the maintenance process.
 5. Dr. Bonnie Hanna provided an update for the Lebanon School Readiness Council involving accreditation criteria for the Pre-K and K programs. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for January 21, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the elementary school library.

Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add two new items: 1) Approval of the exception to Policy #3281 to allow for the parent support to fundraise for 4 trips to Wachusett Mountain in Massachusetts. 2) Acceptance of a parent donation of \$2,000 to the Middle School.

Motion unanimously passed.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Jim Mello and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the appointment of Marisa Haralson to the vacant Board seat. Motion unanimously passed
2. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the exception to Policy #3281 to allow parent support to fundraise for 4 ski trips to Wachusett Mountain in Massachusetts. Motion unanimously passed
3. Moved by James Mello and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to accept a parent donation of \$2,000 to the Middle School. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. New Business/Items for Next Agenda -

Board Retreat at the end of January for all members; Ethics Policy and Trooper Kalkus at the January BOE Meeting.

X. Adjournment

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Darcy Battye to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:05 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary