

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

Regular Session – November 25, 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 7:31 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman, Donna Lafontaine, Darcy Battye, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda (8:00 p.m.), James Mello, Donna Skaats, Rene Wentworth, Keith Wentworth, Beriah Smith, student representative

ABSENT: Beth Damble

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

REORGANIZATION OF BOARD –

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

Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Donna Skaats to nominate Donna Lafontaine as Chairman. There were no further nominations. Motion unanimously passed.

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

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Keith Wentworth to nominate Darcy Battye as Vice-Chairman. There were no further nominations. Motion unanimously passed.

Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Keith Wentworth to nominate Melissa Hofmann as Secretary. There were no further nominations. Motion unanimously passed.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS - A letter of resignation from Beth Damble.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Rene Wentworth to approve the following minutes with noted corrections:

1. Regular Meeting – 10/28/08
2. Curriculum Subcommittee – 10/28/08, Finance/Budget Subcommittees – 11/5/08 (correction: Darcy Battye, Chairman replaces Donna Skaats, Chairman), Special Meeting – 11/17/08. Motion unanimously passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CURRICULUM – No report

FINANCE/BUDGET – Teacher input was received on Wednesday and staff comments were: add back to full-time the English position at the High School; early retirement incentives; the cost of in-school suspensions; better ways to communicate the budget; and pay-to-play sports. The Public Input Session was also held on 11/19/08 with the following comments: Functioning without a Curriculum Director; with regards to technology and Special Education, Lebanon is competitive with other districts. A meeting was held with the new town Capitol Expenditures Committee to review all departments within the town; the finance board needs for new year budget and capital and non recurring money to set aside.

GOALS – no report.

NEGOTIATIONS – no report.

POLICY - There are two policies for 2nd reading.

TRANSPORTATION – no report.

COMMUNICATIONS - no report.

VO-AG ADVISORY – The meeting was postponed and will be held in January.

PHYSICAL PLANT/FACILITIES – Jody Walsh will present to the Board under Superintendent’s Report.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – no report.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:

- School staff donated \$1,859.00 to the United Way Annual Pledge Drive.
 - No problems with the boiler at the Elementary School.
 - The following students received the CAPSS Award: Derek Seidl, Grace Kirkpatrick – 8th grade; Beriah Smith, Megan Postemski – 12th grade.
 - Official October 1 enrollments are: LES - 522, LMS – 413, LMHS – 600, total enrollment 1535.
 - Mal Leichter will report on the 403B status at the December meeting.
2. A presentation from Stephen Salisbury and Ms. DeLong, Guidance Counselor, on the services provided by the High School Guidance Department; the Mission Statement; The Student Strategy Team, and in-school based prevention and early intervention program for students, its role, and the referral process.
 3. Jody Walsh presented on the status of completed maintenance services, prioritizing health and safety first; 64 new work orders in last month; 121 items left open; some jobs to be completed after school when students are out of the building and to be completed before December 23. Mr. Walsh reported that the snow plows are in working order and are ready for use; evaluate pricing for refuse contract; and yearly pricing on custodial supplies.
 4. Sandye Simon reported on the success of the 2nd senior citizen computer classes. 11 seniors participated in the beginners class held at the Elementary School and 11 seniors participated in the advance class at the Middle School. Ms. Simon also reported on the donation of 100 3rd grade dictionaries; 1 set for each 3rd grade teacher, 1 set for the library by the Lebanon Lions. Bulb plantings by Miss Mackewicz, high school senior as part of senior project; Megan Rice’s recognition for her invention on the Ellen DeGeneras Show.
 5. A presentation on the Strategic School Profile by Sandye Simon, LES, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS, Stephen Salisbury, LMHS, Maryanne Leichter, Special Education and the Superintendent for the district report.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Jim Mello to approve the second reading of Bullying Policy #5131.911. Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by Darcy Battye to approve the second reading of Ethics Policy #9271. With no second, the motion failed.
3. Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Darcy Battye to approve the draft of Superintendent’s Evaluation discussed previously in Executive Session and to forward a copy to the Superintendent per his contract. Abstaining: Donna Skaats. Motion passed.
4. Moved by Rene Wentworth and seconded by Jim Mello to approve Bulldog Productions trip to Springfield, MA. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. New Business/Items for Next Agenda -

Communication Subcommittee meeting before 12/9/08; Goals Subcommittee meeting to be determined; DARE Officer to provide safety update to Board; provide an agenda of staff development days; maintenance daily reporting; Tools for Schools line item with maintenance on budget.

X. Adjournment

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Keith Wentworth to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:55 p.m.
Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary