

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT
Regular Session – July 22, 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, Beth Damble, Rene Wentworth, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda, Keith Wentworth

ABSENT: Donna Skaats

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS - Letter of resignation from Christopher Discordia, Elementary School.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none.

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Rene Wentworth to approve minutes of:

1. Special Meeting – 6/16/08
 2. Revised minutes – 4/29/08, Special Meeting – 6/23/08, Executive Session – 6/10/08
- Motion unanimously approved.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

CURRICULUM – The Subcommittee met and discussed the new math textbooks and this is an Action Item.

FINANCE/BUDGET – The Subcommittee met and discussed the following: 1) School lunch increase by 25 cents; 2) 403B Tax Deferred Program; 3) Continuation of Pre-K tuition; 4) Student Management System software program; 5) Proposal of “pay to play” with further information to be provided to the Board.

GOALS – no report.

NEGOTIATIONS – Instructional Assistant negotiations are still in the process.

POLICY - An Action Item for a policy draft is on tonight’s agenda.

TRANSPORTATION – no report.

COMMUNICATIONS - The Subcommittee met this evening and discussed a bulk mailing in the fall notifying residents of upcoming budget dates and deadlines; Public Input Session to be held in November rather than October; Superintendent budget presentations to Parent Associations as well as website and Lebanon Life for better communication.

VO-AG ADVISORY – no report.

PHYSICAL PLANT/FACILITIES – Jody Walsh updated the Board on the summer maintenance work, which is on schedule and full staffed. Mal Leichter reported that the baseball field was completed a week ago and is being watered 2x per day; the contractor will inspect the field on Wednesday and make recommendations for the 1st cutting; over seeding, fertilization and weed control will take place later in the year.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – The Superintendent will present the new student representative at the August Regular Meeting.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:

- Mr. McGray, Mal Leichter and Maryanne Leichter met with Senators Edith Prague and Thomas Gaffey and Rep. Kevin Ryan to describe the impact Lebanon and surrounding towns face regarding special education funding related to reimbursement and with the high cost transfer students.

- Strategic Planning: A copy of the last Strategic Plan in preparation for the Goals and Strategic Planning subcommittee and the Board to update goals for the district.
- 2. Baseball Field:
 - This report can be found under the Physical Plant/Facilities report.
- 3. Bus Routes:
 - Mal Leichter reported that the bus company is finalizing all bus routes and making readjustments as appropriate. He presented two options and received input from the Board on the publishing of bus routes. In the past, bus routes have been published in the local newspaper but due to the release of street addresses; he suggested parent notification by bulk mailing. The majority of the Board agreed that this method would be effective.
- 4. Fresh Fruits & Vegetables Grant:
 - The food service program has applied for the fresh fruits and vegetables grant again for the elementary school and the district should receive notification later in the fall.
- 5. Homeland Security Grant:
 - The grant application as been received for the grant and the Superintendent has submitted a letter of intent to apply. Mr. McGray will receive input from the facilities subcommittee and then complete the grant application. This grant could cover electronic monitoring devices, buzzer system, staff i.d. tags, and video surveillance systems.
- 6. Student Management System:
 - Notice has been received that the student management system used for state reporting, student data, general registration information, grade book, attendance, scheduling, parent link, etc. will not be supported after this year. This was discussed with the finance subcommittee.
- 7. Energy Cost Savings:
 - Chris Jordan presented to the Board a summary of his energy cost savings concept.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Rene Wentworth to approve the resignation of Christopher Discordia. Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Beth Damble to approve the Superintendent's contract extension 2008-2011. Voting Aye: Beth Damble; Voting Nay: Darcy Battye, Rene Wentworth, Keith Wentworth, Lori Jahoda; Abstaining: Melissa Hofmann; Motion failed.
3. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Beth Damble to approve the adoption of Math textbooks: Algebra 2, Calculus – Early Transcendental Functions, Precalculus Fifth Edition Mathematics for Calculus. Motion unanimously passed.
4. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Rene Wentworth to approve the increase in school lunch prices by .25 cents. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Retreat Date is scheduled for Saturday morning, September 6; August 25 at 6:00 p.m. is Special Meeting for a walk through of school buildings; July 29 at 6:30 p.m. at Lyman High School, interview new Board member; Subcommittee meetings to be scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday before Regular Meeting.

The Regular Meeting was called to adjournment at 8:21 p.m. by the Chairman to enter into Executive Session to discuss Superintendent's evaluation and contract.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Discuss Superintendent's evaluation and contract.

XI. ADJOURNMENT –

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Darcy Battye to adjourn Executive Session at 9:55 p.m.
Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary