

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER**  
**LEBANON, CONNECTICUT**  
Regular Session – January 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 Vice-Chairman at 7:35 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Chairman, Donna Lafontaine

ALSO PRESENT: Robert McGray, Superintendent, Stephen Salisbury, Rob Laskarzewski, Brian Tedeschi, Maryanne Leichter, Mal Leichter

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS - Letters of resignation for retirement from Barbara Bostrom, guidance counselor, Middle School and Jennifer Blevins, 6<sup>th</sup> grade science, Middle School.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – none.

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Beth Damble to approve minutes of:

1. Regular Meeting – 12/11/07; correction – Darcy Battye present
  2. Policy Subcommittee – 12/11/07; Budget/Finance Subcommittee – 1/8/08, Budget/Finance Subcommittee 1/9/08; correction: Donna Skaats present; Budget/Finance Subcommittee – 1/15/08
- Abstaining: Darcy Battye; motion passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

**CURRICULUM** – The Subcommittee met this evening. A presentation of the X Block at the High School was made by Principal Stephen Salisbury and Ann Birrell. Students have the opportunity to select various activities from social to academics every other Friday. Feedback has been positive and NEASC has given this block period a positive report.

**FINANCE/BUDGET** – The Subcommittee has met on several occasions to review mid-point spending; reviewed the budget for 2008/09 for each school and department; the Superintendent has received direction for final cuts to the budget; a budget presentation to the full Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

**GOALS** – no report.

**NEGOTIATIONS** – no report.

**POLICY** - no report.

**TRANSPORTATION** – no report.

**COMMUNICATIONS** - no report.

**VO-AG ADVISORY** – A meeting will be scheduled within one week.

**PHYSICAL PLANT/FACILITIES** – The Subcommittee met this evening and the following was discussed: 1) concerns with no outdoor lighting at times due to communication and scheduling; additional solar lighting, if funds permit, will be explored further. 2) The Town Building Committee will continue to monitor issues with the burner and roof.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT** – Mid-term exams continue for the next two days and the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter marking period begins on Friday; lower classman and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students begin to review course selections for next year as well as applying for honor classes; 30 applications have been received by the AG Dept. from upcoming Freshman; Senior Project rough drafts were due.

## **VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –**

1. Updates:
  - Lyman has been identified as an alternate choice high school for students from Bozrah and Franklin is receptive as well. The installation process has begun for the Automatic External Defibrillators at the elementary school and middle school as a result of the generosity of town residents, John Rogers and Marianne Freschlin, DVM.
2. The district has received a \$65,000 “Wired for Writing Grant” sponsored by the State Department of Education to purchase thirty-eight Apple laptops, two wireless carts, projectors and printers at the high school to focus on CAPT activities and student participation in the on-line writing program “My Access”.
3. The faculty and staff donated \$1,500 to the United Way for the fall campaign.
4. High School Reform: Mr. McGray outlined some of the initiatives being proposed by the Commissioner of Education to reform high schools in Connecticut. The Commissioner and/or designees have been throughout the state on a “Listening Tour” to gather feedback and input. Some of the changes proposed in the near future include: increasing the number of graduation credits; proficiency of foreign language for all students, end-of-course tests to receive course credit and end-of-year assessment for graduation. The proposed model is available for review on the State Department of Education website.

## **VIII. ACTION ITEMS –**

1. Moved by Beth Damble and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the resignations of Barbara Bostrom, guidance counselor, Middle School and Jennifer Blevins, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science at the Middle School effective end of school year. Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Melissa Hofmann to approve the appointment of Keith Wentworth for the vacant Board seat. Motion unanimously passed.
3. Moved by Donna Skaats and seconded by Beth Damble to approve establishing a partnership with the Arts at Capital Theater Magnet High School committing an allocation of one seat a year. Motion unanimously passed.
4. Moved by Darcy Battye and seconded by Rene Wentworth to approve high school tuition at \$10,000.00 for non contract sending towns. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – 1) Special Meeting to present budget, Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>; 2) A presentation of initiatives and goals for Middle School students who did not reach goal in math portion of CMT; 3) An update on the Early Child Committee; 4) Condition of the greenhouse at the Middle School.

## **X. ADJOURNMENT –**

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Donna Skaats to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary