

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
SEPTEMBER 12, 2017 REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:	Albert Vertefeuille, Chairman	Nicole McGillicuddy
	James Mello, Vice Chairman	Jason Nowosad
	Bert Bosse	Keith Wentworth
	Stephen Nelson	Silas Olsen, Student Representative

ABSENT: Sandra Tremblay, Mary Ellen Wieczorek

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Robert Angeli, James Apicelli, LMHS, Principal, Ann Birell, LMHS Assistant Principal, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS Principal, Rita Quiles-Grover, LES Principal, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum, Robert Sirpenski, Business Manager, Jacque Dulac, Information Technology Director, Kevin French, Facilities Manager, Kathleen Smith, teacher, John Cote, teacher

I. CALL TO ORDER

Albert Vertefeuille called the meeting to order at 7:31 P.M. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

1. New Teachers
Each principal introduced the new teachers that were present. They were welcomed by Board members. All present enjoyed refreshments. Umbrellas with the district logo that were presented to staff at convocation were presented to Board members.

III. COMMUNICATION

1. Thank you note
A thank you note from Mary Ellen Wieczorek was read by the Superintendent.
2. Letter of resignation
A letter of resignation from Cory Albert, IT Technician was read by the Superintendent.
3. Letter from Lebanon Elementary PTA
A letter from the LES PTA was read by Superintendent Angeli regarding a donation that they made to the district. This an action item later in the agenda.
Superintendent Angeli noted that CABA is having a conference in November and some of the student's work will be displayed at the conference. The students are Zachary Allard, Eliza Olsen, and Grace Rodgers..

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9324

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes

Sarah Haynes who is a parent and has three children in the district is concerned about the traffic at the entrance to the middle school. She has witnessed two minor accidents. There was an

accident today at the driveway to the school. She feels additional signage is needed. Traffic is a concern there mostly at dismissal time.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of minutes
 - 1. Regular Meeting – 8/8/17
 - 2. Budget Transfers

Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by J. Mello to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed with K. Wentworth abstaining.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 1. Finance/Budget Committee – no report
- 2. Communications Subcommittee – no report
- 3. Curriculum Subcommittee – no report
- 4. Transportation Subcommittee – no report
- 5. Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – no report
- 6. Negotiations Subcommittee – no report
- 7. Board Policy Subcommittee – no report
- 8. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – no report
- 9. Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee – no report
- 10. VOAG Liaison Subcommittee – N. McGillicuddy reported that they had met earlier today and she gave a Power Point presentation regarding the garden at the elementary school. There was community help with the project. LMHS students will help with the tulip garden on October 11th. Each grade level will have a plot to plant tulips. The subcommittee is exploring as part of the Strategic Plan incorporating agricultural science and environmental science into the curriculum. Administrators are recruiting staff for the subcommittee. They will continue to meet during the school year. There is National Institute of Food and Agriculture curriculum online that can be used.

VII. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS (Oral Reports)

Superintendent Angeli noted that Cheryl Biekert was not able to stay for the meeting, and will do a written report if one is requested. Principal Laskarzewski reported that they had an excellent opening to school. Facilities did an excellent job over the summer with all the projects. The gym floors look great. There was a smooth opening day. Professional Development was very good. Changes at the middle school are contained in a letter that went home to parents and was distributed to Board members.

Principal Apicelli noted the new schedule this year. Teacher John Cote and a subcommittee did visit other schools to review their schedules. The core period was explained. A Professional Learning Community which was teacher driven has begun. Principal Apicelli thanked Kevin and Jacque for the work done over the summer at the high school. Chromebooks have been issued to students.

Principal Quiles-Grover thanked everyone for their support over the summer. The elementary school now has 342 students enrolled. Pre K has increased over the last three years. Open house has been held with 89% of parents coming in. The support of families is great.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

S. Olsen reported the elementary school had a successful summer reading program. It has been a great start to the year. The facilities projects completed over the summer put a new face on the high school which is appreciated by the students. Fall athletics; girls volleyball, boys and girls soccer, and cross country have started. The football coop has been a success thus far. The first home game in Coventry is this Friday. Chrome books were distributed, and were put to use immediately. The new schedule will take getting used to. Superintendent Angeli noted that the schedule change will make the students balance their time better and teach time management. J. Nowosad noted the schedule change will prep students for college.

IX. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Facilities Update

K. French reviewed the summer highlights. A sanitary survey by CT Department of Public Health has reviewed the water system at the elementary school and found no deficiencies were noted. The abandoned well at the middle school was tested, and results are pending. This may be able to be used for irrigation. The main breakers at LES and LMS were replaced. The track at the high school was resurfaced. K. French reviewed other completed projects. The solar project is on schedule. The only cost for the project so far has been the removal of three trees.

2. Enrollment

The report was reviewed. The greatest decrease is at the elementary school. LMS has an increase of eight students, and the high school has a decrease of 19 from this time last year. The magnet school enrollment has decreased from last year. There are currently 34 students that the tuition is being paid for at magnet schools. K. Wentworth requested a chart with two, three or five year trends. With fewer enrollments there should be cuts. B. Bosse commented that this is the beginning of the year. J. Nowosad noted that the enrollment from past years is in the minutes of the Board. We usually pick up about 20 students during the year. B. Bosse noted it would be easier to analyze if the numbers were side by side. N. McGillicuddy noted that several towns have been experiencing a bubble in enrollment. She gave the numbers since 2015-2016.

3. 2017-2018 Budget

K. Wentworth noted we need to discuss the budget cuts as well. The lack of a State budget and the possible legislative vote this Thursday were discussed. R. Sirpenski discussed the ECS payments that were previously paid in October, January and April. He discussed the Governor's Executive Order and the Governor's proposed budget. He noted that OPM Secretary Barnes had requested of municipalities their fund balance. A. Vertefeuille noted that the Town has a healthy fund balance and a surplus last fiscal year. Superintendent Angeli noted that the Town Board of Finance special meeting that was scheduled for this Thursday has been cancelled. He discussed a \$100,000.00 reduction and a 0% increase for a final budget. The district has been holding spending and has soft and hard freezes in place. Newly hired teachers this year required less in salaries. J. Nowosad discussed cash flow and that taxes were paid in July. There is no direction from the state or the Board of Finance so we don't have to make cuts yet. Need State guidance. B. Bosse suggested we wait until we know definitely. J. Mello requested a list and the dollar amounts for tuition students coming into the district. The Governor's Executive Order and budget proposal were discussed. R. Sirpenski distributed a budget savings document. The Board of Finance has reduced the budget. Superintendent Angeli discussed the freezes that are in place. The Special Education line items will be looked at next week. A. Vertefeuille asked for the budget impact of the expelled student law.

Superintendent Angeli explained the change in the law and alternative programming. There are no Department of Education guidelines yet.

X. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept letter of resignation
Motion made by K. Wentworth and seconded by B. Bosse to accept the resignation of Cory Albert with regret. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Approve out of state field trips
Motion made by K. Wentworth and seconded by J. Nowosad to approve the list of out of state field trips as presented. J. Mello questioned the 6th grade trip to the Museum of Science and Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Principal Laskarzewski explained that the district bus company is not able to accommodate buses for the field trips, and coach buses have to be hired. The cost of admission in Boston is also less, and the museums are more aligned to the curriculum. **Motion passed unanimously.**
3. Accept donation from the Lebanon Elementary PTA
Motion made by J. Nowosad and seconded by K. Wentworth to accept the donation from the Lebanon Elementary PTA with thanks. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Angeli will contact the Resident State Trooper to see if he can provide data regarding traffic accidents at the entry and exit to the middle school. He may have suggestions for changes. R. Sirpenski noted that Rt. 207 is a state road, and a DOT study would need to be made of traffic patterns. The first selectman would have to make the request. Principal Laskarzewski has contacted DOT in the past regarding flashing lights at the elementary school. It is not known if there was ever a resolution to that problem. B. Bosse suggested contacting the first selectman and having a constable stationed at the driveway during peak traffic times. This item will be on the next meeting agenda.

XII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Traffic problem at middle school pick up and drop off.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by K. Wentworth to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen E, Chapman, Board Clerk