

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
SEPTEMBER 13, REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:	Albert Vertefeuille, Chairman	Nicole McGillicuddy
	James Mello, Vice Chairman	Jason Nowosad
	Sandra Tremblay, Secretary	Bert Bosse
	Mary Ellen Wiczorek	Christine Lugli, Student Representative

ABSENT: Keith Wentworth, Stephen Nelson

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Robert Angeli, James Apicelli, LMHS, Principal, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS Principal, Andrew Gonzalez, LES Principal, Ann Birrell, Assistant Principal, LMHS, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services, Robert Sirpenski, Business Manager, Jacques Dulac, Director of Information Technology, Kathleen Smith, teacher, Marie Langdon, teacher, Joanne Nowosad, teacher, J.F. Halbrooks, teacher, April Arpin, teacher, Gretchen Brochu, teacher, Greta Skiles, Reading Consultant, Kate Slavinski, Library Media Specialist, Shane Morse, teacher, Sarah Manfre, teacher, Catherine Robacker, Special Education teacher, Olwen Chin, teacher, Brenda Wildes, teacher. Sabena Escott, Social Worker

I. CALL TO ORDER

Albert Vertefeuille called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Principal Apicelli introduced Christine Lugli as the new Student Representative to the Board.

III. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

1. Teachers of the Year

Principal Gonzalez introduced Marie Langdon as teacher of the year at LES. Marie expressed her experience in Lebanon and her thanks for being nominated for Teacher of the Year.

Principal Apicelli introduced Joanne Nowosad who was selected as Teacher of the Year for LMHS. Joanne spoke of her experience as a Spanish teacher for 10 years.

Principal Laskarzewski introduced J.F. Halbrooks as Teacher of the Year from LMS. He is a math teacher and District Teacher of the Year Each teacher was presented a plant.

2. New Teachers

Principal Gonzalez introduced new teachers at LES. They are April Arpin, kindergarten teacher, Gretchen Brochu, 2nd grade teacher and Greta Skiles who is a reading consultant.

Principal Laskarzewski introduced Kate Slavinski who is a Library Media Specialist.

Principal Apicelli introduced Shane Morse, math teacher, Sarah Manfre, math teacher, Catherine Robacker, Special Education teacher, Olwen Chin, biology and anatomy teacher.

Cheryl Biekert introduced Sabena Escott who will be the district social worker. Board members wished all well and all enjoyed refreshments.

IV. COMMUNICATION

1. Letter of Resignation
A. Vertefeuille noted a letter of resignation from Danielle Casey, attendance secretary at Lyman
2. Letter of Retirement
A. Vertefeuille noted a letter of retirement from Marian Rychling, VOAG Secretary Both these items are in Action Items later in the agenda.
3. Letter from Lebanon Leo Club
A. Vertefeuille noted the letter from the Lebanon Leo Club who has made a donation to the district.

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9324 None

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by J. Mello and seconded by B. Bosse to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. There will be additional Budget Transfer items.. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – no report
2. Communications Subcommittee – M. Wiczorek reported they met this evening and will be publishing an article in Lebanon Life in the September issue. Submission from administration will be made to the Superintendent. Names for a column were discussed. The impact of social media was discussed. The web master cannot do all the work needed on the web page. It would cost approximately \$14,000.00 for the first year for a company to revamp the web site.
3. Curriculum Subcommittee – No report
4. Transportation/Residency Subcommittee – No report
5. Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – No report
6. Negotiations Subcommittee – S. Tremblay reported that negotiations are in process with the teachers and administrators.
7. Board Policy Subcommittee – no report
8. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – J. Mello reported they met tonight. The list of work done in the summer was reviewed. An outstanding job was done. If all goes well the solar project will be active in October 2017. Superintendent Angeli discussed work on the roofs. A structural study needs to be done. Bids for snow removal will be recommended to the Board tonight.
9. Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee – No report
10. VOAG Liaison Subcommittee – B. Bosse reported he is still waiting to meet with the Superintendent and Principal Apicelli and the property owner on the hydroponic project.

VIII. ADMINSTRATORS' REPORTS

Principal Gonzalez gave an oral report. The opening day of school was very smooth. The students were welcomed on the first day. A Professional Day was held on writing. The school is looking forward to the distribution of Chrome Books. Over 90% of parents attended the Open House.

Principal Laskarzewski gave an oral report noting that the first day was also a smooth opening. Character Counts students were recognized from last year on the first day. The Open House will be held tomorrow night.

Principal Apicelli reported that school had a good start. Kevin French and his staff were thanked for all the work done over the summer. An article on the Girls' Volleyball team was in the Norwich Bulletin. The vacancy made by the resignation of Danielle Casey has already been filled by Monica Wallace.

C. Biekert noted that there has been an increase of one student in Special Education at the high school.

K. Mozak-Pezza noted that a Professional Day was held in August for teachers. There was a full day in August for new teachers.

J. Dulac reported that the Information Technology Department is looking forward to the roll out of the Chrome Books. He realizes it is a huge purchase for the district. There has been good feedback from teachers. There is still a vacant position in the department.

IX. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

C. Lugli reported that a freshman orientation was held. The French Honor Society has fixed the flags so that all countries of foreign exchange students are now displayed. Fall sports have started. One fire drill has been held. Class meetings have been held. Students have signed up for X-Block activities. In English classes students are discussing applying to colleges. The Open House will be held on September 15th. The winter play will be A Christmas Carol.

X. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Wildes, Agriculture teacher and FAA students Abi Christina, Michael Wolff and Emily Sala gave a brief presentation regarding the national competition which will be held this year in Indianapolis Indiana. FAA has done fund raisers to offset the cost of the trip. The use of FAA bucks was discussed. Students were chosen for this trip by doing an essay. Students have competed on teams. Cost options were discussed. The Lebanon FAA Parent & Alumni have also donated to the event. This will be added as an action item.

1. Enrollment

Superintendent Angeli discussed the enrollment decline in each school. There are 1,021 students in the district. The size of classes was discussed. Not all 8th graders were retained. J. Nowosad discussed technical high school students. Magnet school numbers remained the same. Superintendent Angeli reported that the district continues to work with other districts on recruiting students. R. Sirpenski, Business Manager is waiting for confirmation on the numbers from EASTCONN. The number of students attending the Barrow Stem Academy may be different.

2. 2015-2016 Budget

R. Sirpenski, Business Manager reported that the ED001 that was due September 1st has been filed. The audit is underway. \$228,928.00 will be returned to the Town. Some audit adjustments are expected but there are no outstanding invoices. Other revenues were discussed.

3. 2016-2017 Budget

R. Sirpenski, Business Manager reported that the BOE and the Town are now in sync. The returning of funds was discussed. J. Mello asked in the hours for the Finance Office for the Town has changed. R. Sirpenski reported that they are the same, and the Finance Department has been very cooperative. There is a process in place now that is working. A monthly column has been added to the monthly report. It was noted that expenditures for library books and physical education have been processed this month. The payment of the health insurance premium is out of sync. This cost is approximately \$200,000.00 and the auditor agreed we should fix it. Superintendent Angeli has drafted a letter to the Town Board of Finance.

Superintendent Angeli reported he has shared articles with the Board regarding educational funding in Connecticut. Legal opinion is the court case decision is not likely to be appealed until the Legislature brings something forward. There are some legislators calling for an appeal.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

Motion made by J. Nowosad and seconded by B. Bosse to suspend the rules and add agenda item 5. FAA National Funding Options. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Accept Letter of Resignation
Motion made by J. Nowosad and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to accept the resignation of Danielle Casey. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Accept Letter of Retirement
Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to accept the letter of retirement of Marian Rychling. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve out of state field trips
Motion made by S. Tremblay and seconded by J. Nowosad to approve out of state field trips as presented. J. Nowosad asked if there is a backup for funding so that no student is excluded. There is a backup for funding. J. Mello asked why the trip to the Boston Museum of Science when Hartford has a Museum of Science. Principal Laskarzewski reported that there are no buses available and the exhibits in Boston are in better alignment with the curriculum. **Motion passed with J. Mello opposed.**
4. Approve recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for snow removal contract
Motion made by J. Mello and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to recommend Pondview and New England Construction to the Board of Selectmen for snow removal contract. J. Mello reviewed the summary sheet of the bids for the snow removal contract. Jay Tuttle, DPW foreman, J. Nowosad and Kevin French did follow up on references for each contractor. The Board of Selectmen will make the final decision. J. Nowosad will present to the Board of Selectmen. **Motion passed with J. Nowosad abstaining.**
5. FAA National Funding Options
Motion made by J. Nowosad made a motion to fund the FAA National Convention at \$3,500.00. No second. Motion failed.
Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by J. Nowosad to approve funding for the FAA National Convention in the amount of \$3,240.00. Discussion of where the monies would come from. They would have to come from other items in the budget. J. Nowosad

noted this is an educational competition and suggested using funds from the Facilities line item. Superintendent Angeli noted this is a one-time deal. A. Vertefeuille noted this is not setting a precedent but the FAA program is a flagship program in Lebanon and we should support it. B. Bosse suggested creating a line item in the budget for this purpose. It was suggested that the high school principal make this a line item in next year's budget. J. Mello noted that agriculture studies needs to be preserved. **Motion passed with N. McGillicuddy abstaining.**

XII. New Business

J. Mello inquired if the summer goals were accomplished

XIII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Educating Board members on what technology we have
Discuss hydroponic meeting.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by J. Nowosad and seconded by B. Bosse to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman

Board Clerk