

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER  
September 8, 2015, REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.  
MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Albert Vertefeuille, Chairman	Lori Jahoda
	James Mello, Vice Chairman	Jason Nowosad
	Sandra Tremblay, Secretary	Keith Wentworth
	Stephen Nelson	Bert Bosse

**ABSENT:** Donna Skaats

**ALSO PRESENT:** Superintendent of Schools Robert Angeli, James Apicelli, LMHS, Principal, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS Principal, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services, Andrew Gonzalez, LES Principal, Ann Birrell, LMHSA Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum and Instruction – Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Don Neel, Business Manager, Kevin French, Director Facilities, Jacques DuLac, Information Technology Director, Kathleen Smith, teacher, Jeannette Picard, teacher, Megan Grogan, teacher.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Albert Vertefeuille called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE**

1. Teachers of the Year

Principal Andrew Gonzalez spoke about Lebanon Elementary School Teacher of the Year – Kathleen Smith. Principal Gonzalez outlined her career at Lebanon, and her contributions to Lebanon Elementary.

Principal Laskarzewski spoke of the career of Jeannette Picard – Lebanon Middle School Teacher of the Year. He also spoke of her committee involvement at the school.

Principal Apicelli spoke about Megan Grogan – Lyman High School Teacher of the Year and her involvement in the community and at Lyman.

**III. COMMUNICATION**

1. Letter of Resignation

Al Vertefeuille noted the letter of resignation from Brittany Pestey. This will be an action item further on in the agenda.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9300**

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes  
None.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Approval of Minutes**

1. Superintendent Evaluation Subcommittee – 8/11/15
2. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – 8/11/15
3. Regular Meeting – 8/11/15
4. Budget Transfers

**A motion was made by S. Nelson and seconded by J. Nowosad to approve the Consent Agenda. K. Wentworth questioned why Budget Transfers were included in the Consent Agenda. Motion passed with B. Bosse abstaining.**

**VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – no report.
2. Communications Subcommittee – no report.
3. Curriculum Subcommittee – no report.
4. Transportation/Residency Subcommittee – no report.
5. Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – J. Nowosad reported they had met tonight. Have a framework and advisory committees. Hope to distribute next month the draft model. Data from recent superintendent search will be used. Not all advisory committees are filled. J. Nowosad went over the roles of the advisory committees. B. Bosse asked if Board needs to approve draft. A. Vertefeuille responded no.
6. Negotiations Subcommittee – no report.
7. Board Policy Subcommittee – no report.
8. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – J. Mello reported they had met this evening. Discussed the Uncas Health District upcoming visit to schools. Oil tank remediation at Lyman was discussed. May explore solar options as another town has some solar panels. This may entail a site visit to that school. There is interest by Verizon to install a cell phone tower near the high school. This is in the exploratory phase. Discussed contract negotiations for this and the health issues involved. J. Nowosad noted a permit would be needed for the tower.
9. Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee – no report.

**VII. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS**

Principal Gonzalez noted the start of school is an exciting time. Open House is tomorrow. Principal Laskarzewski noted it was a smooth start to school. It is exciting to have new staff. The building looks amazing, cafeteria was painted. Principal Apicelli noted the opening of school was fantastic. School started before sports this year. Kevin and the custodians were thanked for all the work done over the summer. New fish tanks have been installed. There will be a drama production in the fall. Smartboards will be installed next week. Sports teams will be in action Friday and Saturday. Thursday is the Open House. J. Mello went over the list of projects that were completed this summer. A. Vertefeuille noted it is the most work that has been done in several years. Kevin was thanked for his work.

**VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT**

Superintendent Angeli introduced Jacques DuLac, Information Technology Director. He has been working on the computer system so that everything was up and running for staff and students.

1. 2015-2016 Budget  
D. Neel reported that as of today there are no major variances in the budget. The new bookkeeper will be processing payroll this week. Magnet school numbers are in. Funds were received by the Town from CRMA, hoping that these will be apportioned back to us. J. Mello

asked if the diesel fuel method from the Town will be the same. D. Neel noted that there are timing issues with this method, and he had suggested changes.

2. Facilities Update

K. French noted a walk-through of the buildings was done. There are some windows at the high school that need replacing. Options for replacing the windows were discussed. The line striping and sealing job went out to bid again. The north wall at the high school project was also sent out to bid. A special meeting can be held if bids are received.

3. Smarter Balance Assessment report

K. Mozak-Pezza discussed the scores as compared to the DRG. This was the first year the test was taken on the computer. New standards were discussed. J. Nowosad noted that every school took the test. This was a pilot year. The N/A's were discussed. J. Mello noted that 76% of E. O. Smith opted out of the test. Superintendent Angeli explained the law regarding opting out. Need to have 95% participation in or Title 1 Funds may be in jeopardy. Using the SAT for 11<sup>th</sup> graders was discussed. This was a Legislative directive, not from the State Board of Education.

Superintendent Angeli noted that overall the first two days of school went well. He met with the freshmen class during their orientation. He also met with FFA alumni and parent group. There were early release days this week in other districts due to hot weather. The buildings here were cool enough for students and staff. Sport practices at the middle school were cancelled. Superintendent Angeli will be attending a meeting this Thursday regarding food service contracts for districts that contract out. State guidelines will be coming out. S. Nelson inquired if the third part time position in Information Technology will be filled. At this time, Jacques is doing an inventory. It is expected that the hiring for that position will go forward. S. Tremblay asked if the district is using the \$90,000.00 for technology in SIP. The State Department of Education has not released the funds for the technology grant because the Bonding Commission has not met yet. Some computers have been swapped out.

## IX. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approve Out of State Field Trips

**Motion made by S. Nelson and seconded by K. Wentworth to approve the Out of State Field Trips as presented.** Lori Jahoda asked how many days Nature's Classroom is, and if we have an estimate for it yet. Principal Laskarzewski reported it is three days, and the price depends on how many students participate, 90% of the fifth grade participated. J. Mello noted that if the Great East Music Festival is competitive and it is comparable to the baseball trip, parents should not have to pay for the trip. **Motion passed unanimously.**

2. Approve Special Education Teacher Position

**Motion made by S. Tremblay, seconded by J. Nowosad to approve a Special Education Teacher Position: Discussion.**

Superintendent Angeli discussed the need for this position. C. Biekert noted that there are more students that need Special Education services this year. We bill out to the incoming student's town. B. Bosse asked if budget wise are there funds to cover this position.

Superintendent Angeli noted that it would have to be covered with other accounts, and it may not be a full fiscal year by the time the teacher is hired. A. Vertefeuille noted that the Board of Finance will be notified that a position has been added. J. Nowosad asked if it could be quantifiable in dollars as to how much the incoming students costs would be. K. Wentworth

asked about the cost benefits of hiring a new teacher vs. placing students in out-of-district special education programs. S. Nelson asked if we have an estimate of Special Education funds this year. Discussion of using Special Education funds. C. Biekert noted that she had projected in April that the numbers were climbing. The new identification of dyslexia was discussed. C. Biekert discussed transition services and academic support. Also discussed was the Life Skills class. The numbers are up in that class. C. Biekert explained the delivery of instruction hours. Last year there were seven students, now there are 18. It is harder now to get admission into technical schools. B. Bosse noted that the IEP hours need to be met. J. Nowosad noted that data needs to be gathered. Don't know at this time if we will need another Special Education teacher beyond this position. The Special Education rates are set annually.

**S. Tremblay moved the question. Seconded by J. Nowosad. Motion passed with K. Wentworth abstaining.** The rough number to add a new teacher will be available at the next meeting.

### **3. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion made by J. Mello and seconded by Sandra Tremblay to add to the agenda Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a counsel and client matter, and to invite the Superintendent to attend. Motion passed. Executive Session began at 9:07 p.m.**

Returned to Regular Session at 9:30 p.m.

**Motion by B. Bosse and seconded by Jim Mello to direct the superintendent, BOE Chairman and BOE Vice Chairman to draft a letter for the Board's consideration on the relationship between the Lebanon Board of Education and the Lebanon Board of Finance.**

**Motion: Voted Yes: Sandra Tremblay, Jim Mello, Bert Bosse, Lori Jahoda Voted No: Keith Wentworth, Steve Nelson, Jason Nowosad.**

### **X. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion made by Steve Nelson and seconded by Jason Nowosad to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Motion passes unanimously.**

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman

Board Clerk