

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
MARCH 10, REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Albert Vertefeuille, Chairman	Lori Jahoda
Jason Nowosad	Stephen Nelson
Sandra Tremblay, Secretary	Amanda Minicucci, Student Representative
Keith Wentworth	

ABSENT: Bert Bosse, James Mello, Donna Skaats

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Janet Tyler, James Apicelli, LMHS, Principal, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS Principal, Andrew Gonzalez, LES Principal, Anne Axton-Jones, Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services, Don Neel, Business Manager. Member of the press.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Albert Vertefeuille called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Maddy Dominique and Halley Neal entertained the Board and audience by performing one of the songs from the upcoming musical Once on This Island. Emily Blanchard, music teacher, is directing the performance and Molly Lathrop, teacher, is piano accompanist. The musical will be held on March 20-21 with performances at 7:30, 2:30 and 7:30. The tickets will be \$10.00 per person.

III. COMMUNICATION

1. Letters of resignation have been received.
2. A letter from the LEA has been received and a thank you note from Al Vertefeuille will be sent.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF TE BOARD #9324

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes

Linda Russo, teacher, discussed next year calendar especially November. Feels school should not be closed on Election Day as none of the schools are used as a voting place. Thanked the Board for putting Professional Days with holidays but feels November is too chopped up.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Steve Nelson requested that item 1 be removed.

Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by Steve Nelson to approve the Consent Agenda items 2 – 5. Motion passed unanimously.

Item # 1 – Steve Nelson’s name added as being present at the 2/10/15 meeting. Motion made by Jason Nowosad to approve the minutes of 2/10/15 Regular Meeting as corrected. Seconded by Keith Wentworth. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – Jason Nowosad reported the budget has been approved by the Board and will be meeting with the Board of Finance next Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
2. Communication Subcommittee – no report
3. Curriculum Subcommittee – no report
4. Transportation/Residency Subcommittee
5. Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – Jason Nowosad reported they will begin meeting in May.
6. Negotiations Subcommittee – no report
7. Board Policy Subcommittee – there are second readings of some policies tonight.
8. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – no report
9. Superintendent’s Evaluation Subcommittee – no report
10. Superintendent Search Subcommittee – Al Vertefeuille reported that things are moving along. A letter to key communicators has been sent. Some interviews have been done based on the on line responses and focus groups.

VII. ADMINISTRATORS’ REPORTS/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT

Andrew Gonzalez added to his report that the Invention Convention will be held this Thursday, March 12 as it was postponed due to weather. It is an all-day event with the public invited from 2:00 – 3:00. A family read in event was held with about 200 people attending.

Robert Laskarzewski added to his report that after school activities and clubs are getting underway. There is a crochet club, and a cooking club. They meet for two months, once a week. A book club is also being held on Fridays.

Amanda Minicucci reported that two cabarets were held. One 90 people attended. The French cabaret raised over \$100.00 for the Haitian Health Foundation. On March 16th the Chorus will perform in the Hartt Choral Festival at the Hartt School of Music. On April 9th the spring concert will be “Music Around the World”. The Girl’s Indoor Track team placed 3rd at ECC which is the best ranking in Mr. Gray’s coaching career. Eleven girls and one boy qualified for the Class S state meet. Eleven female indoor track records were broken and one male record broken. Mr. Picard’s forestry class will be tapping maple trees and hope to sell to the public this year. Blake Smith was named a National Merit Scholar. Holly Gagnon was named a National Merit Commended Scholar. Annalee Mears and Alexandra Jacob submitted applications and were selected as two out of 10 students in Connecticut to be part of the UConn Avery Point Marine Scholars Program which began on February 10th. Students of the month for February: Senior Jessy Stanavage, Sophomore Olivia Sidman, and Sophomore Katy Konow. Today Cadet Mason Madison came to speak to Public Speaking Classes about his experiences in ROTC and how the class helped develop his speaking abilities and confidence.

VIII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Speed Limit Signs

Robert Laskarzewski reported that he had contacted headquarters of DOT in Newington and found out information regarding the speed limit signs. They have a manual from 2009 that regulates what signs are to look like. Most signs have been removed by DOT. A traffic study

would have to be requested, and Mr. Laskarzewski has a contact name and number at DOT. The local traffic authority would be the 1st Selectmen, Joyce Okonuk, who would have to request the traffic study. DOT would pay to install new signs but the Town would have to maintain them i.e. electricity. Sandra Tremblay asked what is the criteria for the study. The DOT would have that answer. Jason Nowosad noted that Windham has the same problem. Hebron has also discussed this issue. The study could be done following request in a couple of months. Mr. Laskarzewski was thanked by the Board for getting the background information.

2. Enrollment

Superintendent Tyler noted enrollment overall is the same. Steve Nelson noted that this does not include magnet schools. These should be included in enrollment report.

3. 2014-2015 Budget

Don Neel reported that the budget is not in deficit but is very tight. Of concern is the recent expense of \$14,000.00 for snow removal on the roofs, pupil transportation and special education. Tuition has a small surplus. The ECS payment of \$50,000.00 has been received but is less than what was budgeted. Heat and energy have a small deficit. Transfers were done in December and have tried to be prudent. There is \$33,000.00 in technology purchases that haven't been made yet. The painting of the gym has been held off. Superintendent Tyler noted there is a tight freeze except for resources needed for the classroom. This is the tightest budget in five years.

4. 2013-2014 Audit

Don Neel reported that the audit was an unmodified audit. The auditor has noted that the surplus in several major categories come out of this year's budget, we don't have this. Steve Nelson asked what the options are. Don Neel has been in touch with council and shared his analysis of the variances in the audit. Have not done anything formal as of yet.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept Resignations

Letters of resignation were read by Al Vertefeuille.

Motion by Steve Nelson and seconded by Jason Nowosad to accept the resignations of teacher Adam Coleman, teacher Emily Stallings and Administrative Assistant Deborah Saucier with regret. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approve second reading of revised policy #3511 Policy regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Motion by Steve Nelson and seconded by Keith Wentworth to approve the second reading of revised policy #3511 Policy regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approve second reading of revised policy #5114 Student Discipline

Motion by Steve Nelson and seconded by Keith Wentworth to approve second reading of revised policy #5114 Student Discipline. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Steve Nelson and seconded by Sandra Tremblay to suspend the rules and add action item #4 to approve budget transfers. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approve budget transfers

Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by Keith Wentworth to transfer \$193.00 to pay invoice for Air Gas Propane and \$100.00 for Foreign Language dues and fees. Motion passed unanimously.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by Keith Wentworth to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman

Board Clerk