

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
NOVEMBER 18, 2014 SPECIAL SESSION – 7:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:	Stephen Nelson , Chairman	James Mello, Vice Chairman
	Sandra Tremblay	Albert Vertefeuille, Secretary
	Lori Jahoda	Keith Wentworth
	Donna Skaats	Jason Nowosad
	Berthier Bosse	

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Janet Tyler, James Apicelli, LMHS Principal, Ann Birrell LMHS Assistant Principal, Robert Laskarzewski LMS Principal, Andrew Gonzalez LES Principal, Anne Axton-Jones, Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. BOARD REORGANIZATION

1. Election of BOE Officers

Per policy, Jim Mello, Vice Chairperson, explained the process for voting for officers. Nomination by Bert Bosse to nominate Albert Vertefeuille as Chairman. Seconded by Keith Wentworth. Nominations were closed. Vote: Unanimous

Albert Vertefeuille assumed role of Chairperson.

Keith Wentworth nominated James Mello for Vice Chairman. Seconded by Bert Bosse. Nominations were closed. Vote: Unanimous

Bert Bosse nominated Sandra Tremblay for Secretary. Seconded by Jim Mello. Nominations were closed. Vote: Unanimous

Subcommittee Assignment Input

A form for request of subcommittee assignments was explained and distributed by Albert Vertefeuille to members of the Board. Requests of members should be prioritized.

III. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Superintendent Tyler introduced Amanda Minicucci, LMHS student representative to the BOE members. The Superintendent then introduced and read biographies of the students who received the CAPSS Superintendent's Awards. They are Hannah McAdam and Luke Shaner, LMS grade eight students, and Madeline Ouellette and Blake Smith, LMHS seniors.

IV. COMMUNICATION

1. Letter of Retirement

Renee Gibson has submitted her letter of retirement from her position as Art teacher at Lyman Memorial at the end of the school year.

2. Letter from NESDEC

3. Letter from LEA.

V: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9300

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes

Nicole McGillicuddy asked for the pre-kindergarten bus to be reinstated.

Amy McKinney asked the BOE to resolve the drop off bus process.

Christine Johnson talked about an online petition and asked for reinstatement of the pre-kindergarten bus, especially when the bad weather begins.

Danelle Pierson asked for public access to BOE packets.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Superintendent Search Committee – 10/14/14

2. Regular Meeting – 10/14/14

3. Superintendent Search Committee – 10/21/14

Motion by Bert Bosse and seconded by Donna Skaats to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – no report

2. Communications Committee – no report

3. Curriculum Subcommittee – Lori Jahoda shared that the revised LES reports cards, grades 1-4 was presented and are recommended for adoption this evening.

4. Transportation/Residency Subcommittee – Keith Wentworth stated that although the subcommittee did not meet, he did investigate the issue. The primary objective is safety of students and the principal in concert with the Resident Trooper, the Fire Marshall, and the Superintendent agree that the current procedure and practice is the best. There is nothing the BOE can do further since there are no funds allocated in the budget for the additional transportation.

5. Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – no report

6. Negotiations Subcommittee – no report

7. Board Policy Subcommittee – Donna Skaats stated that there is a minor change that needs to be made in the Physical Activity and Student Discipline Policy. Elementary students must receive 20 minutes of recess/movement time each day.

8. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – no report

9. Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee – no report

10. Superintendent Search Subcommittee – Bert Bosse stated that the Subcommittee interviewed representatives from three search firms.

VIII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS/ STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Jay Apicelli stated that the high school was one of seventeen schools to receive the Michael's Cup. Students will be honored at the Aqua Turf later this week.

Amanda Minicucci told the BOE and audience about the activities taking place at the high school. Some activities include the Model UN trip, the drama production of *The Crucible*, the National FFA Convention, the two dances that have taken place thus far this year, and students are singing the National Anthem at games and they are including the Lebanon Community Choir.

IX. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Speed Limit Signs

Steve Nelson shared that he sent a letter to the First Selectman and then spoke with her on the phone. She will be sending the exact verbiage to be written in a request letter to her, re: speed limit signs, and she will forward the letter to the CT State Department of Transportation.

2. NEASC Preliminary Report

Jay Apicelli and Ann Birrell gave an overview of the NEASC Report. The school has received continued accreditation. He identified some commendations and some recommendations. Ann Birrell stated that the committee is already working on some of the identified areas.

Jim Mello suggested that they review the report from ten years ago to see if there are similarities.

3. Enrollment

Superintendent Tyler stated that there are six less students in the district than there were a month ago. The families moved out of Lebanon. Al Vertefeuille asked if a report can be generated to identify where the students are going since the magnet school attendance is not increasing.

4. 2014-2015 Budget

Superintendent Tyler stated that Don Neel, Business Manager, is closely tracking the salary and wages line. The Special Education scenario is still developing since all transportation costs, etc. have not yet been received. The Excess Cost projection will not be available until the SEDAC state report is completed. Steve Nelson asked about the insurance line and Jim Mello asked about balances inline items.

X. ACTION ITEMS DISCUSS AND ACT UPON

1. Accept Letter of Resignation

Motion by Donna Skaats and seconded by Keith Wentworth to accept the retirement of Renee Gibson, art teacher at LMHS. Vote: Unanimous

2. Approve first reading of revised policy #5115 Physical Activity and Student Discipline

Motion by Jason Nowosad and seconded by Donna Skaats to accept the first reading of revised policy #5115 Physical and Student Discipline. Vote: Unanimous

3. Approve 2015 BOE Meeting Dates

Motion by Donna Skaats and seconded by Keith Wentworth to accept as proposed meeting dates with change from November 10 to November 17. Vote: Unanimous

4. Approve LES Report Cards , Grades 1-4

Motion by Keith Wentworth and seconded by Lori Jahoda to accept the revised reports cards for LES, Grades 1-4. Vote: Unanimous

5. Appoint Superintendent Search Firm

Motion by Bert Bosse and seconded by Jim Mello that we select the Cooperative Education Service to be the Superintendent Search Firm with Dr. Kaye Griffin doing the search pending available funding prior to entering in to a contract.

The BOE requested funding of \$25,000 from the BOF for the Search. They, in turn, asked the BOE to try to self-fund and find the money to reallocate to pay for the search. Until the funds are identified, no contract can be solidified. The Superintendent and Business Manager will review the budget for potential funding.

Vote: Unanimous

X. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

1. Speed Limit Signs
2. Reinstatement of the Academic Awards Banquet
3. Pre-school transportation

XI. Adjournment

Motion made by Donna Skaats to adjourn and seconded by Bert Bosse. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Tremblay
BOE Secretary