

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
OCTOBER 8, 2013
REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| PRESENT: | Darcy Battye, Chairperson | Stephen Nelson, Vice Chairperson |
| | Sandra Tremblay, Secretary | James Mello |
| | Donna Skaats | Judd Wardell |
| | Keith Wentworth | Lori Jahoda |

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, Eve Spencer, Business Manager.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. COMMUNICATION

None

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9300

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes

Mr. Jason Nowosad of Trumbull Highway spoke regarding his belief of being an appointed and duly sworn member of the Board of Education..

Mr. Steven Blevins of Lebanon Avenue spoke regarding that it is not acceptable that the position on the Board of Education is not filled, and feels that Mr. Nowosad should be seated on the Board of Education. Mr. Blevins has previously served on the Board.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA/DISCUSS AND ACT UPON

A. Approval of minutes

I. Regular Meeting 9/10/13

Motion by Keith Wentworth to approve the minutes of 9/10/13 (Regular Meeting), seconded by Sandra Tremblay. Note correction will be made to the minutes. The outcome of the paper ballot, which was for Vice Chair. **Vote: 3 in favor of Steve Nelson (Jim Mello, Keith Wentworth, Steve Nelson), 2 in favor of Sandy Tremblay (Judd Wardell, Sandy Tremblay), 1 abstention, Donna Skaats.**

Vote: All in favor: 6 yes, 1 abstention, Lori Jahoda. Motion passes.

Motion by James Mello to approve the minutes of the Physical Plant/Facilities of 9/10/13 (Regular Meeting), Student Disciplinary Matter 9/16/13 (Special Meeting), Student Disciplinary Matter 9/20/13 (Special Meeting), seconded by Lori Jahoda.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. BOE Negotiations Subcommittee

Sandra Tremblay reported that they have met and will continue to meet through the month of October on negotiations with teachers and administrators.

2. Transportation Subcommittee

Keith Wentworth reported that they had met tonight and discussed out of district transportation.

3. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee

James Mello reported they had met tonight and discussed the WiFi project and the wells at the Elementary School. Superintendent Tyler and Mr. French have been proactive in addressing the well concerns. The State is very satisfied with their handling of the issue.

4. Communications Subcommittee

Sandra Tremblay reported they had also met tonight and discussed having an article in the Lebanon Life newspaper. This was well received by the subcommittee.

VI. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

Principal Apicelli updated some news from athletics that Senior Night for the Swim Team will be on October 18 at 3:45 at Windham High School. Principal Apicelli also reported on the CIAC Michael's Cup Award which is for sportsmanship of our teams. The award will be presented on November 18, 2013.

Principal Gonzalez discussed the well water concerns at the Elementary School. Students are staying well hydrated throughout the day.

Lori Jahoda questioned the delay of testing at LMS, as reflected in the LMS Principal's report. Principal Laskarzewski noted that a benchmark test was attempted for Study Island at the same time the State of Pennsylvania was also attempting testing. This caused the servers to crash for this on line testing.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. AP Presentation.

Principal Apicelli reviewed AP results that were distributed. Also discussed were the comparison with surrounding towns and the results from 2009 – 2013. Qualifying scores were discussed.

Principal Apicelli is proud of the work the faculty does. Discussion will be held with students to help them better prepare for the tests. Darcy Battye inquired if more AP courses could be added. Superintendent Tyler noted this could be done with additional staff. Principal Apicelli noted that there is VHS capability is done with other schools. Each AP test costs the student \$90.00. It is their choice but students are encouraged to take the test upon completion of the course. Stephen Nelson questioned if the art design course could be combined with an honors art course. Often AP classes are included with another art class. AP can also be done as an independent study. World Language is also combined.

2. Consolidated Grant

Superintendent Tyler discussed the Title I and Title II grants. We should be receiving increased funds this year for Title I.

3. Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Plan

Superintendent Tyler discussed the Smarter Balance and Common Core standards. We will be purchasing software from NWEA , and will pilot 20 – 25 teachers this year. Software will also be used this year to test 80 – 100 students at the elementary school, 80 – 100 at the middle school, and 75 – 100 at the high school. There will be a waiver this year for CMT and CAPT. Smarter Balance will be on line testing. Measurements will be basis of teacher goals. The Board has already approved a modified document for teachers and administrators.

4. Enrollment

Superintendent Tyler reviewed the enrollment figures that were distributed. The total number of Lebanon Public Schools students is 1,160. There is approximately \$254,000.00 paid in tuition for magnet school students. We also pay for transportation for tech students, per state statute. Enrollment is down in other towns also.

5. 2013-2014 Budget

Eve Spencer, Business Manager gave an updated budget report as of September 30th. Some line items have been encumbered. It is felt that certified salaries are in good shape due in part to hiring at a lower rate. Non certified salaries is over budget. Health care is not known at this point, still working with Anthem. Transportation – a mid-day bus run had to be added, and a larger bus was needed to transport technical school students but they will be going back to a smaller bus. Different early release days will cost more. Tuition will be over budget by about \$9,000.00. Special Education tuition will be over budget due to outplacements late last year. These overages may be offset by how the Excess Cost grant is being refigured. James Mello questioned if the surpluses thus far will be funded by the ECS funds. Discussion of what accounts are encumbered based on historical data. Don't have a way to encumber salaries in the system. There is a more detailed report for each account. To encumber an account a purchase order is issued. The 2013 – 2014 budget will have be closely watched.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS DISCUSS AND ACT UPON

Motion by Donna Skaats to suspend the rules and add to agenda action item approving the WiFi hardware bid. Seconded by Sandra Tremblay.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

1. Award/Approve WiFi Bid

Motion by James Mello to accept the bid from Northeast Communications, LLC in the amount of \$52,052.96 for the cabling portion of the WiFi project at all three schools. Seconded by Sandra Tremblay.

Discussion: This project will take eight weeks to complete and will be done on nights and weekends.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

2. Approve Amended Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Plan

Motion by Keith Wentworth to approve the amended Teacher/Administrator Evaluation Plan for one year to suspend use of standardized indicators for the 2013-2014 school year. Seconded by Lori Jahoda.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

3. Approve Reschedule of November Board of Education Regular Meeting

Motion by Sandra Tremblay to reschedule the November 2013 Board of Education Regular Meeting to November 20th. Seconded by Lori Jahoda.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

4. Award/Approve WiFi hardware bid

Motion by Steve Nelson to approve the bid from Carousel Industries of \$52,052.96 for the hardware portion of the WiFi Project for all three schools. Seconded by Keith Wentworth.

Discussion: The total for the project is \$145,503.71 which is within the amount approved at Town Meeting.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Discuss Superintendent's Evaluation

Motion made by Sandra Tremblay to enter into Executive Session at 8:35 and to invite Superintendent Tyler for the purpose of discussing Superintendent Evaluation, seconded by Judd Wardell.

Discussion: Steve Nelson questioned if there should be a special meeting to complete the Superintendent evaluation.

Vote: All in favor: 7 yes. Motion passes.

Returned to Regular Session at 8:40 p.m.

X. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Steve Nelson and seconded by Lori Jahoda to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Vote: 1 No – Jim Mello, motion passes.

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman
Board Clerk