

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT
August 24, 2010
REGULAR MEETING SESSION

The Chairman will vote only to make or break a tie.

PRESENT: Donna Lafontaine, Chairman, Darcy Battye, Keith Wentworth (7:32 p.m.), James Mello, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda, Sandra Tremblay, Deanna Kokoszka, Vanessa Gray, student representative

ABSENT: Donna Skaats

ALSO PRESENT: Janet Tyler, Superintendent, Sandye Simon, Dr. Bonnie Hanna, Rob Laskarzewski, Stephen Salisbury, Carol Moore, Maryanne Leichter, Mal Leichter, Jerome Walsh, Phil Chester, Town Planner

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:30 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – Thank you card from Robert McGray; letter from State Education Commissioner, Mark McQuillan

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

- Ron Cowles, resident, expressed concerns with high school CAPT test results and the 2.5% improvement from previous year; concerns with non-representation of the teachers' union for students and the lack of education in the district.
- Miguel Garcia, LEA President, encouraged the Board to rehire teachers with the expected federal stimulus money to the state in order to reduce class size and would also like to meet with administration to discuss further input on this matter.
- Steve Nelson, resident, requested the Board to use federal stimulus money to rehire teachers and to move quickly.
- Phil Chester, Town Planner presented on: 1) The owner of the parcel of land known as "Jasper's" located between the middle school and high school is for sale and the town has been offered "right of 1st refusal". The parcel is zoned commercial and is approximately 2.7 acres that could be subdivided in 1+/- parcels. 2) A draft of the Plan of Conservation and Development was distributed to each Board member. The POCD is Lebanon's vision for the decade when making short/long term decisions. Recommendations have been made to the BOE related to agriculture and expanding food services with the 'Farm to School Program through grants and other initiatives. A public hearing is scheduled on October 12.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Approval of minutes

1. Regular Meeting – 7/27/10

2. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – 7/27/10

Moved by M. Hoffman and seconded by L. Jahoda to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Curriculum – no report.
2. Finance/Budget – no report.
3. Goals – no report.
4. Negotiations – no report.
5. Policy – no report.
6. Transportation/Resident – no report.
7. Communications – no report
8. Vo-Ag Advisory – no report.

9. Physical Plant/Facilities – The Subcommittee met this evening to discuss: 1) snow removal for the district. 2) High School roof and warranty.
10. Student Representative – Orientation for freshmen went well; class schedules have been distributed; 1st day of is Wednesday, August 25th, more to follow next month.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Food Service Presentation – Beth Gankofski, Director of Food Services presented on the school lunch program and the “Principals of the Program”. A presentation of the program will be displayed at the LES Open House and parents will have an opportunity to view and sample lunch foods. Beth has also requested the BOE to approve a 25-cent increase in school lunches for 2010/2011 in order to avoid a deficit in the food service program. An overview of the purchase of foods with food vendors, Guida milk bids and out-of-state produce purchases.
2. Recreation Department proposals – Alexis Hussey, representing the Recreation Department presented on the need to relocate the power cord switch from the floor at the LES gym to the wall. This is at no cost to the BOE and the \$2,000 funds have been allocated through the Rec Department.
3. Resignation – Sam Ralston, high school psychologist.
4. Hiring - All opened positions have been filled. Administration will re-address classroom sizes when the final enrollment figures have been totaled.
5. Multiage Classroom – Rob Laskarzewski, Middle School Principal presented on the status of the 5/6 multiage programs. Due to a lack of enrollment over the summer of 5th grade students, the multiage program will be taught by 1 multiage teacher for 6th grade. Mr. Reynolds will teach traditional 5th grade and will continue to teach math to the 6th grade multiage students.
6. Building and Grounds – Jody Walsh presented: all schools are ready for opening day and all floors have been waxed with an all ‘green’ product. The district is ahead of the ‘green’ mandate which is effective July 1, 2011. LES and LMS are using ‘green’ paper towels in dispensers; LMS hallways have been painted, duct work project to be completed, 30 new projectors and 17 new smart boards have been installed in the district; LMHS gym floor has been completed; broken coupling in septic system have been repaired; hot water heater has gone out to bid with funding from Capitol Non-Recurring; Emcor Services has been a great addition to the team, service reports will be provided and a full-time staff started today. The wind turbine will be up and running next week and will require fencing at the cost of \$2,100. To date total expense to BOE equals \$14,100 (not including fence).
7. Convocation and Professional Development Days - Convocation was held for the entire district with faculty meeting and a luncheon provided. Professional Development Day - Principals outlined the day with CAPT and CMT data and preparing Action Plans for the year for testing, analysis of data and needs of children.
8. CABE – The Board wishes to become members of the organization at a cost of \$6,500.
Moved by J. Mello and seconded by M. Hofmann to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add an Action Item. VOTING IN FAVOR: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, D. Battye, M. Hofmann, J. Mello, D. Kokoszka OPPOSED: K. Wentworth. Motion passed.
Moved by J. Mello and seconded to S. Tremblay to add CABE as Action Item #8. VOTING IN FAVOR: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, D. Battye, M. Hofmann, J. Mello, D. Kokoszka OPPOSED: K. Wentworth. Motion passed.
9. Budget 2009-2010 – A few outstanding bills remain and will be closed out soon. State reports are due on or about September 1.
10. Budget 2010-2011 – Sample handouts were provided to BOE members and reflect the cuts made in June as well as the approved budget figure. A cover sheet will be provided with each report to provide more detail of monthly spending in each category for clarity on account balances.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Moved by D. Battye and seconded L. Jahoda to approve school lunch prices for 2010-2011 school year by 25 cents. Motion unanimously passed.

2. Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by J. Mello to approve Lebanon Recreation Department proposal to move power and control point in LES gym at no cost to the district. Abstaining: S. Tremblay. Motion passed.
3. Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by D. Battye to approve out-of-state field trips to Big E – 9/18, Big E – 9/20, National FFA, Indiana – 10/19-10/23, Model UN to NYC – 11/2. Motion unanimously passed.
4. Moved by D. Battye and seconded by D. Kokoszka to consider establishing two Board of Education meetings per month. All opposed. Motion failed.
5. Moved by L. Jahoda and seconded by K. Wentworth to consider Report of Committees to consist of four standing committees. K. Wentworth withdraws his second and with no further second to the motion, the motion failed.
6. Motion tabled.
7. Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by D. Battye to approve an unaffiliated salary not included in the original action item of 3% for Director of Facilities. Motion unanimously passed.
8. Moved by J. Mello and seconded by M. Hofmann to join CABE. VOTING IN FAVOR: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, D. Battye, M. Hofmann, J. Mello, D. Kokoszka OPPOSED: K. Wentworth. Motion passed. K. Wentworth moved to clarify the motion for CABE membership. Moved by J. Mello and seconded by M. Hofmann to join CABE and to include paying annual dues/fees for CABE membership. VOTING IN FAVOR: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, D. Battye, M. Hofmann, J. Mello, D. Kokoszka OPPOSED: K. Wentworth. Motion passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – 1) Open House: LES - 9/14, 9/15 6-7:30 p.m., LMS – 9/22, 6:30-8:00 p.m., LMHS – 9/23, 6-9 p.m. 2) Subcommittee meetings for Finance, Facilities, Curriculum 3) Class size figures 4) meet/greet date for community and parents 5) BOE Retreat Dates: 9/21, 10/5 recommendations should be emailed to the Superintendent.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by K. Wentworth to adjourn the Regular Meeting Session at 9:17 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary