

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT
April 27, 2010
REGULAR MEETING SESSION

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

PRESENT: Donna Lafontaine, Chairman, Darcy Battye, Keith Wentworth, James Mello, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda, Sandra Tremblay, Deanna Kokoszka, Felicia Bakaj, student representative

ABSENT: Donna Skaats

ALSO PRESENT: Robert McGray, Superintendent, Sandye Simon, Rob Laskarzewski, Stephen Salisbury, Maryanne Leichter, Bonnie Hanna, Mal Leichter, Jerome Walsh

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – Letters of resignation: Sally May, LES, Patricia Friedman, LES, Richard Rivers, LMHS

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: none

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes

1. Regular Meeting – 3/23/10
2. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – 3/23/10, Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – 3/23/10, Finance/Budget Subcommittee - 3/26/10, Finance/Budget Subcommittee – 4/6/10, Finance/Budget Subcommittee – 4/9/10, Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – 4/13/10, Policy Subcommittee – 4/13/10, Special Meeting/Superintendent Search Committee – 4/13/10.

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

Moved by J. Mello and seconded by D. Battye to suspend the rules and amend the agenda to add Action Item #5 to approve a town meeting statement regarding the budget in support of a 5.3% budget. Voting Aye: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, K. Wentworth, D. Battye, M. Hofmann, J. Mello Opposed: Deanna Kokoszka. Motion passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Curriculum – The subcommittee met tonight and Principal Salisbury gave an overview of the current academic requirements for graduation which is 23 credits. By 2016, the State will require 25 credits which may include 2 credits for foreign language; the addition of community service piece to the senior project will be further discussed.
2. Finance/Budget – The Board of Finance will allocate the BOE \$300,000 towards next year's budget; town meeting is scheduled for May 3 and the referendum is May 11.
3. Goals – no report.
4. Negotiations – no report.
5. Policy – First reading of Search and Seizure Policy under Action Items tonight.
6. Transportation/Resident – no report.
7. Communications – no report
8. Vo-Ag Advisory – no report.

9. Physical Plant/Facilities – The subcommittee discussed going out to bid for maintenance and requested Board input on this topic; discussion of lawn contracts is an Action Item this evening; discussion on temporary repairs to windows at the high school.
10. Superintendent Search – The subcommittee will meet on May 4th.
11. Student Representative – Success of the play, Once Upon a Mattress; April 16 – Lyman Idol was won by Maya Keleher; spring sports are doing well and improving teamwork and skills; girls softball team took an annual trip to Florida over spring break; band concert on Thursday, April 29, chorus concert on May 9; AP testing begins on Monday; sophomore career choices; Lyman’s “Go Green Team” competed at ESCU and placed 3rd out of 16 teams; Vo-Ag is expanding the garden behind the school; Juniors have begun senior projects and proposals are due May 28th; Mayfest is the week of May 17th; Prom is Saturday, May 8 at the Mystic Marriott with a pre-prom meeting on the 7th; Academic Awards Recognition is May 18th.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:

- The guest speaker for the Board of Education Academic Awards Ceremony will be Dr. Mark McQuillan, Commissioner of Education for Connecticut.
 - A handout to Board members of a summary of spring events and the addition of the middle school play on May 28th and 29th.
 - Jody Walsh provided the Board with the status of spring maintenance: buildings have been cleaned before the end of the year; floors have been swept and buffed; catch basins cleaned, drives swept, septic at LES has been pumped; a delivery of mulch for plantings; Contractor has been doing roof repairs at each of the schools. In summary, 51 projects have been completed in 9 days and 24 projects remain open.
2. Professional Development: Each principal presented on Professional Development Activities that took place this year. Sandye Simon – NAEYC classroom portfolios for preschool and kindergarten teachers continues; SRBI work with a focus on goals and special education; technology work with Lynette Braunhardt. Robert Laskarzewski – “Powerschool” and “Powerteacher” the student management software; SRBI developing intervention with students; reading curriculum work and a focus on the 6th grade individual teacher skills; CMT review is addressed throughout the year; Transition of 4th grade students; working on individual teacher units and different areas of curriculum. Stephen Salisbury – “Powerschool” training and an ongoing commitment with teachers; SRBI looking at instruction, early intervention; CAPT focus on reading and writing, Connecticut Writing Project; Presentations on Drug/Alcohol and Bullying Programs. The Superintendent thanked the administration for their hard work on Professional Development days and keeping a balance with mandates and internal conflicts.
 3. The Superintendent provided a summary of Phase II of the Federal Race to the Top RTTT grant, which Connecticut will apply. The Board was asked to support the Phase II application through signing a “Memorandum of Understanding” which will be provided at a future date. Mr. McGray outlined the changes of the Phase II application as outlined in the Commissioner’s recent letter.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Moved by D. Battye and seconded by M. Hofmann to approve representatives to the Regional Vocational Agriculture Committee – Marilu Soileu, Dave Smith, Cindy Fields. Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by D. Battye to approve lawn cutting contract with C. Audette LLC. Motion unanimously passed.
3. Moved by D. Battye and seconded by J. Mello to approve the first reading of Search and Seizure Policy #5145.12. Voting Aye: J. Mello, D. Kokoszka. Opposed: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, K. Wentworth, M. Hofmann, D. Battye. Motion failed.
4. Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by J. Mello to accept the resignations of Sally May, LES, Patricia Friedman, LES, Richard Rivers, LMHS. Motion unanimously passed.
5. Moved by D. Battye and seconded by L. Jahoda to approve a BOE statement to be read at the town meeting in support of the 5.3% budget. Voting Aye: S. Tremblay, L. Jahoda, D. Battye, M. Hofmann, J. Mello. Opposed: K. Wentworth, Deanna Kokoszka. Motion passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – 1) Possible search for new attorney. 2) Board members should email the Superintendent on their availability for the June Regular Meeting. A possible Special Meeting may be required if there is not a quorum. 3) Possible dates for retreat. 4) Contact Trooper Kalkus. 5) Handouts for SRBI.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by M. Hofmann and seconded by L. Jahoda to adjourn the Regular Meeting Session at 8:43 p.m.
Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary