

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT**

Regular Meeting – January 26, 2010

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

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

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

ALSO PRESENT: Robert McGray, Superintendent, Sandye Simon, Dr. Bonnie Hanna, Rob Laskarzewski, Carol Moore, Stephen Salisbury, Maryanne Leichter, Jody Walsh

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – Letter from the Lebanon Education Association

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Jody Walsh thanked the Board for their condolences on the passing of his father.

V. CONSENT AGENDA –

Moved by Melissa Hoffman and seconded by Lori Jahoda to approve the consent agenda.

A. Approval of minutes.

- 1) Regular Meeting 12/15/09
- 2) Goals/Strategic Planning Subcommittee – 12/15/09, Finance/Budget Subcommittee 12/15/09, Curriculum Subcommittee – 12/15/09, Special Meeting 1/5/10, Special Meeting 1/12/10. Abstaining: Motion unanimously passed.

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES –

1. Curriculum – No report.
2. Finance/Budget – The subcommittee met today to discuss their meeting with the Board of Finance last week; input received from the meeting and the direction they wished to proceed; a 0% budget which equals \$985,000 in cuts and/or a presentation of a 3-tier budget. This matter will be discussed further under the Superintendent's Report.
3. Goals – No report.
4. Negotiations – No report.
5. Policy – No report.
6. Transportation/Residency – No report.
7. Communications – No report.
8. Vo-AG Advisory – No report, cancellation of the past 2-month's meetings.
9. Physical Plant/Facilities – No report.
10. Student Representative – National Honor Society held food drive; Ms. Marocchini joined English Dept. after winter break; senior projects have ended and monitors met on January 19th to discuss the process and make possible changes; On January 11th, Guidance gave freshman a presentation, sophomores wrote letters to soldiers, juniors gave presentation regarding teen driving laws, senior class received a presentation about the Peace Corp; winter sports continue with boys and girls track, basketball and wrestling; 8th grade Open house was on January 12th and department heads gave a presentation on freshman programs, tour of the school and visitors invited to girls' basketball game against Griswold High School; midterms were January 14-21; National Honor Society is sponsoring a fundraiser for Haiti.

VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT –

1. Updates:

- A written report dated December 17, 2009 was received by OSHA from their random inspection of Lyman on 9/16-9/21. An informal oral report was provided at the conclusion of the inspection. The district is addressing the identified problems (which were not related to students) and have continued to abate problems since receiving the written report. A meeting was held on January 7, 2010 with Jody Walsh, Mr. Salisbury, Mr. McGray and OSHA to review progress and status. The District will participate in an OSHA Consultant Program on a voluntary basis and due to progress and good faith efforts, the initial fine has been reduced. The Superintendent reported that most violations have been resolved and all will be completed by February 22, 2010.
- Early Childhood Committee-
Dr. Bonnie Hanna reported on the status and progress of the Lebanon Early Childhood Council (LECC). The Council last met in November and since then has been proceeding with the NEAC accreditation and is currently in the Self-Assessment Evaluation phase for teachers, continuing to work on teacher portfolios; 38 of the 40 slots in school readiness program have been filled; 3 teacher assistants are pursuing free certification offered in Colchester and receiving stipends for their course work. The Council will meet again on February 17. Dr. Hanna will provide progress reports to the Board.

2. Budget Development BOE Discussion -

The Board discussed the input received from the Board of Finance. The Board discussed a 2-tier budget presentation showing a 0% budget, equaled to \$985,000 in cuts and providing a total operating budget with increases. The Board will have a Special Meeting on February 9 to discuss the cuts, which could impact extra-curricular activities, middle school sports, and high school transportation for sports. At the BOE Regular Meeting on February 23, the Board will vote on a budget to present and March 6 is the public presentation of the budget.

3. Superintendent Search BOE discussion -

The Board discussed the organization and process of a Search Committee and a Steering Committee. Donna Lafontaine will appoint a Steering Committee to be chaired by Melissa Hofmann and BOE members, Jim Mello and Lori Jahoda. The Board will hear a presentation from CABE and CES, on February 2nd at 7:00, Library Media Center on the services they offer for the Superintendent Search followed by a Search Committee meeting.

4. Procedures for administrators on leave -

Mr. McGray discussed the importance of identifying any individual's responsibilities, which are usually covered by other administrators in the event of an extended leave of absence. It may be necessary to look at outside resources if these responsibilities are unable to be covered within the district. Major areas will need to be identified between now and July 1.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS –

1. Moved by D. Battye and seconded by K. Wentworth to approve Lyman field trip to New York. Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by K. Wentworth and seconded by M. Hofmann to appoint BOE Superintendent Search Steering Committee with the following BOE members: Jim Mello, Lori Jahoda and Melissa Hofmann. Motion unanimously passed.
3. Moved by K. Wentworth and seconded by D. Skaats to approve second reading of Student Discipline – Removal/Suspension/Expulsion policy #5114. Motion unanimously passed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA –

Participation of home school children in school activities; BOE retreat scheduled for January 30th, 9 AM.-noon at the Senior Center.

X. ADJOURNMENT –

Moved by D. Skaats and seconded by M. Hofmann to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary