

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
REGULAR MEETING
August 10, 2021 - 7:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Sarah Haynes, Chair
Maureen McCall, Secretary
Nicole McGillicuddy
Dawn Whitcher
Alexis Margerelli-Hussey, Vice-Chair
Mark DeCaprio
Matthew Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Andy Gonzalez, Jay Apicelli, Principal, Jacques Dulac, IT Director, Cheryl Biekert, Director of Pupil Services, Kevin French, Supervisor of Facilities and Custodial Services, and Kathleen Smith, Selectman

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman S. Haynes called the meeting to order at 7:30 and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. COMMUNICATION

Letter of Resignation - Superintendent Gonzalez read portions of the note of resignation from Brittany Guinan.

Letters of Retirement – Superintendent read the letters of retirement from Linda Truax and Lori Duhaime, thanking them for their years of service. He said that he met the new team members, some of whom have rejoined the Lebanon School system. He then welcomed some of the new hires present at this meeting. Jess Scorso is stepping into the position of interim LES principal, Devon Allegro comes back to LES as a 4th grade teacher, Hannah Bowen will be teaching 8th grade Language Arts, Ian Holland will be teaching Spanish, Alyssa Flynn joins us as a Speech Language Pathologist and Stephanie Roberts will be working in the SCALES system. Welcome to all of you.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9324

- Nick Constant of 244 East Hebron Turnpike again spoke of his disappointment that our children will be expecting this mask situation to be the new normal and that masking will not work for his family.
- Chairman Haynes noted that there were a number of email communications both for and against masking.
- Emails were also received in favor of the school using ESSER funds for the athletic project presented by Scott Elliott at the last BOE meeting. Dixie Goodwin, Marylou Beckwith, John Bender and Jamie Bender all wrote communications in favor of using those funds. Superintendent Gonzalez noted that the ESSER Grant includes directions that feedback be solicited;

Jamie Bender's email was read in its entirety, stating that fundraising has begun and \$50,000 from ESSER would help move the project forward more quickly. As requested, Superintendent Gonzalez read a portion of John Bender's missive to the same end. The chair pointed out that emails should include name and address and a statement that their message is for the public participation portion of the meeting.

- Shelly Laibrandt of 126 Old Highway wanted it to be clarified that email respondents specifically ask for their message to be read aloud.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of minutes.

1. Superintendent's Evaluation Subcommittee Meeting – 7/13/2021
2. LBOE Regular Meeting – 7/13/2021
3. LBOE Special Meeting – 7/27/2021
4. Safety & Security Subcommittee Meeting – 7/29/2021

Motion made by A. Margerelli-Hussey and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The amended motion passed unanimously.

V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Negotiations – M. DeCaprio reported that they met on July 26th to discuss the IA contract and will meeting on August 26th to hopefully finalize it.
- Safety and Security – A. Margerelli-Hussey reported that they met on July 29th and addressed the following:
 - Speed in front of the schools – the SRO and constables have been monitoring the situation and things were looking better at the end of the last school year.
 - End of School Zone sign – has been re-installed
 - Radios – all additional necessary radios were purchased and the cost came from the 2021 budget
 - Executive session was used to discuss school security and climate
- Policy – Nothing to report
- Enrollment/Communications/Goals – Nothing to report
- Finance/Facilities – N. McGillicuddy reported that they met this evening. Updates were received as follows:
 - LED Lighting Project – work is being done in all three schools. LMS is at 90% of completion, Lyman is at 80% and LES is at 70%. If the project isn't completed during regular work hours by the time schools open, the work will be done after hours.
 - LES Ventilation – Estimates for windows are approximately \$295,000 for the 66 wing and \$180,000 for the 56 wing. The asbestos estimate will be available at the next regular board meeting.
 - ESSER and American Rescue Funds – staff is being hired
 - Maintenance trackers – a log is being used to track all items reported to the facilities staff. The fuel tank for the generator at LMS has a leak. It will cost

about \$18,000 to replace it. Building a barrier to protect it was discussed as it is affected by the weather.

- M. Smith noted that all dollar amounts may change due rise in lumber prices.
- EASTCONN – Nothing to report

VI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Enrollment - Superintendent Gonzalez has followed up with the home-schoolers. Eight will be coming back, nine have moved or made different choices and sixteen are either undecided or have not replied.
2. New Hires – There were 34 vacancies to fill. 25 were filled. There were 3 new vacancies and 2 internal transfers which causes vacancies.
3. Walk-through – will be held on August 19th beginning at 8:00 AM at Lyman.
4. ARP/ESSER Funds – Rita Quiles-Glover picked up where Holly left off. The itemized breakdown is as follows: \$575,000 on new positions for salaries, \$90,000 for employee benefits for those, and \$114,953 for professional development and curriculum supports.
5. Continuity of Service – The State Department of Education and the Department of Public Health did not hold a meeting last week but held two this week for superintendents only and the District Reopening Committee will be meeting at 3:00 tomorrow regarding the district's reopening.

VII. FACILITIES – K. French reported

1. Lightning damaged the switch controller at LMS and they found that it had not been grounded properly. The cost to fix it comes to \$2,552.40 and those funds will come from the facilities operating budget.
2. Soccer goal posts replacement – With the help of six volunteers and with ten bags of concrete (ten holes needed to be dug), these were replaced. The funding will come from the athletic budget. The school paid \$80 for crushed stone.
3. Relief exhaust fans – had been set to run when the outside air dampers were open above 50%. They have been reprogrammed to run any time the building is occupied.
4. District – summer cleaning is in full swing and on schedule.
5. Annual HVAC, emergency generator, fire protection, fire alarm testing, kitchen hood cleaning and inspections are all underway. Report will be produced and ready for the September board meeting.
6. Lebanon Public Schools ticket support system – tickets are being completed as they are submitted.

VIII. FINANCE REPORT

1. 2020-2021 Budget
 - Superintendent Gonzalez said that there is no report at this time. Bob Sirpenski is currently in the office attempting to complete the year-end reports. The chair asked that he give us a summary as soon as he can.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

1. Act on Letter of Resignation – **Motion by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by M. Smith to accept the resignation with regret. The motion passed unanimously.**
2. Act on Letters of Retirement – **Motion by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by M. Smith to accept the letters of retirement with regret. The motion passed unanimously.**
3. Act on Athletic Training Services Bid - **Motion by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by M. Smith to accept the Athletic Training Services Bid.**
Superintendent Gonzalez stated that only one bid was received and the period of time was left open longer. Principal Apicelli said that we have asked for more hours so that besides injuries, rehabilitation and concussion protocols will be dealt with. S. Haynes is concerned that there is only one bid. **N. McGillicuddy amended her motion to accept the bid for a period of three years. M. Smith seconded the amendment. M. Smith, N. McGillicuddy, D. Whitcher, M. McCall, A. Margerelli-Hussey and M. DeCaprio voted for and S. Haynes voted against. The motion passed.**
4. Act on HP Chromebooks Bids – Jacques Dulac presented the six bids received for the new Chromebooks. The lowest bid was from a small company in South Carolina. He recommends the Connecticut Business Systems (CBS) bid of \$79,677, a larger reputable company. **Motion by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by M. Smith to accept the Connecticut Business Systems bid. M. Smith, N. McGillicuddy, D. Whitcher, S. Haynes, A. Margerelli-Hussey and M. DeCaprio voted for and M. McCall abstained. The motion passed.**
5. Act on LMS Fuel Tank. **Motion by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by M. DeCaprio to approve the replacement of the fuel tank and use the non-lapsing fund for a total of \$18,304 using Cummins Metro. The motion passed unanimously.**

X. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- Enrollment – class size
- M. DeCaprio wanted it to be noted that there was one misspelling in the 7/13/2021 minutes; a “d” should have been a “t”.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen D. McCall, Secretary