

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
JULY 12, 2022 - 7:30 PM**

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE:

Alexis Margerelli-Hussey (Vice-Chair)
Maureen McCall (Secretary)
Danelle Person

John Konow
Nicole McGillicuddy
Brian Green

ALSO PRESENT: Andrew Gonzalez (Superintendent), Jacques Dulac, IT Director

I. Call to Order

Vice-Chair Alexis Margerelli-Hussey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Communication

A. Letters of Resignation – A. Gonzalez shared the following letters of resignation

1. Karen Ansaldi, Instructional Assistant at LES
2. Emma Mills, Lebanon Regional ASTE Secretary
3. David DeCarli, Science Teacher at LMHS

III. Public Participation (Bylaws of the Board #9011)

None

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of minutes

1. Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting – 06/09/2022
2. Safety/Security Subcommittee Meeting – 06/09/2022
3. Finance/Facilities Subcommittee Meeting – 06/09/2022
4. LBoE Special Meeting – 06/09/2022
5. Budget Transfers

Motion by J. Konow and seconded by M. McCall to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum – D. Person stated there was no report

B. Superintendent's Evaluation – J. Konow stated there was no report

C. Negotiations – A. Margerelli-Hussey stated there was no report

D. Policy – M. McCall noted second readings of several policies on tonight's agenda

E. Finance/Facilities – A. Margerelli-Hussey noted the Finance/Facilities subcommittee did meet, with minutes included in the board packet. A full report was tabled due to the late arrival of Co-Chair N. McGillicuddy.

- F. Governance** – A. Margerelli-Hussey stated they met and discussed the agenda for tonight’s meeting, as well as details for the upcoming BoE retreat on Wednesday, July 27th.
- G. Safety/Security** – Minutes were included in the board packet. A full report was tabled due to the absence of Chair D. Witcher.
- H. Enrollment** – A full report was tabled due to the absence of Chair B. Calef.

VI. Superintendent’s Report – A. Gonzalez reported.

- A. Annual Report** – The district’s 2021-2022 annual report was included in the board packet. A. Gonzalez also shared a brief video highlighting some of the events and achievements within the district this year. He thanked the staff and administrators that contributed. The full report will also be shared online and within the community (such as at the Senior Center, Town Offices, and library.) Several BoE members noted their appreciation for the detailed report, as well as the hard work that went into producing it.
- B. Enrollment** – An enrollment summary was included in the board packet. A. Gonzalez noted one correction, stating current kindergarten enrollment is at 61, not 73 as stated in the summary. He also noted 19 LMS students withdrawing to attend other high schools. Development of a student exit survey is in progress, and will hopefully shed light on why students choose to attend other high schools. A. Gonzalez also stated his intention to reach out individually to those students. Lastly, LMHS has 21 incoming 9th graders from sending towns.
- C. Exit Interviews** – There have been 12 resignations throughout the year, but only 3 exit interview surveys have been received. A. Gonzalez noted the most recent employees to resign have not had much time to complete the surveys, but he is hoping to reach out to these individuals and perhaps gain more insight as to why they are leaving Lebanon schools.
- D. Staffing** – Concerning recent staff vacancies, 5 have been filled, and three are awaiting reference checks. Combined with the most recent resignations, that leaves 8 positions the district is working to fill. A hiring protocol (to establish consistency and fidelity in hiring throughout the district) has been implemented. D. Person asked how the district advertises for vacancies. A. Gonzalez stated positions are posted internally first. They also use CTReap, which tends to yield the most qualified candidates, as well as sites like Indeed, which returns more, though less qualified, applicants.
- E. ASTE Perkins Supplemental Grant** – The district is still awaiting determination regarding this grant, to be used to build a new barn. A. Gonzalez is hopeful it will be awarded, but has received no communication since an email on June 29th.
- F. Food Service** – A. Gonzalez noted two brief items regarding food service.
 - 1. A state-issued memo regarding unpaid meal charges was included in the board packet, and will likely be discussed by the Policy committee and incorporated into district policy accordingly.
 - 2. The summer meals program expired on June 30th. As of today, families will once again be required to pay for school meals. There is a chance the waiver will be reinstated prior to the 2022-2023 school year, but no guarantee.
- G. Flexibilities within the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation** – A. Gonzalez stated this is merely a renewal of an existing practice, pertaining to the evaluation of

teachers within the district. No changes have been made to district policy or practices; they have simply accepted the flexibilities offered by the state again. He also noted the possibility of upcoming, sweeping changes to educator evaluations as regulated by the state.

- H. CT School Based Diversion Initiative** – This initiative is designed to reduce arrests in schools and connect students with behavioral health services. It engages teachers, staffers, and resource officers in training. LMHS Principal J. Apicelli and LMHS counselors have submitted an application, and are waiting to hear the determination.

VII. Facilities Report – A. Gonzalez noted there is \$26,359.74 remaining in SIP, which will roll over into next year. N. McGillicuddy asked if there was any update regarding the Biden/Harris initiative to assist schools with HVAC updates/repairs. A. Gonzalez stated no, there is no update. B. Green reported that a friend who works at the Department of Administrative Services alerted him to the fact that there is roughly \$1.5 million of unencumbered money allocated for HVAC repairs. A. Gonzalez will look into it. Discussion of the remaining \$26k as well as the 2022-2023 facilities project list will be added to the next Finance/Facilities subcommittee meeting agenda. A. Gonzalez also noted the balance of the non-lapsing fund is \$307,517.80.

VIII. Finance Report – A. Gonzalez reported.

- A. 2021-2022 Budget** – There are roughly 147 open Purchase Orders that will hopefully be closed by July 22nd. The audit for 2022 will begin soon with a new auditing firm. Further, the district and town business offices have successfully reconciled all expenditures, with a projected surplus of just under \$30,000 for the year. A. Gonzalez noted there was only a discrepancy of \$148 (out of a \$20 million budget).
- B. 2022-2023 Budget** – Implementation of next year's budget has begun, but there is little to report otherwise. A. Gonzalez publicly thanked everybody who assisted in the construction of the budget and supported its adoption. The budget increase is 2.5% over last year, which will allow the district to keep all current staffing levels, as well preventing any cuts to supplies.

IX. Action Items

1. Act on Letters of Resignation

Motion by J. Konow and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to accept the letters of resignation with regret. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Act on Reinstatement of non-renewals

The BoE previously voted against renewing three district positions due to the anticipated budget for 2022-2023. With the adoption of a larger budget, the district is now able to offer renewal to these positions, which the Superintendent recommends.

Motion by M. McCall and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to reinstate the three previously non-renewed positions. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Act on Second Reading, Policy #5026 – Administration of Student Medications in the Schools

- 4. Act on Second Reading, Policy #5027 – Drug and Alcohol Use by Students**
- 5. Act on Second Reading, Policy #5005 – Student Discipline**
- 6. Act on Second Reading, Policy #5010 – Use of Private Technology Devices by Students**

Motion by M. McCall and seconded by J. Konow to approve action items 3 through 6. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Items for Next Agenda

- A. HVAC Grant**
- B. Food service balance**
- C. Student discipline at LES (inconsistency in application of existing policies)**

XI. Adjournment

Vice-Chair A. Margerelli-Hussey adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Walcott (Board Clerk)