

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 - 7:30 PM
MINUTES**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Sarah Haynes (Chair)	John Konow
Alexis Margerelli-Hussey (Vice-Chair)	Nicole McGillicuddy
Maureen McCall (Secretary)	Bruce Calef
Dawn Whitcher	Brian Greene
Danelle Person	Avery Brooks (Student Representative)

ALSO PRESENT: Andrew Gonzalez (Superintendent), Valerie Belles (Business Manager), Jessica Scorso (LES Principal), Chad Johnson (LMS Principal), Dawn DeLia (Director of Pupil Services/Title IX), Rita Quiles-Glover (Director of Curriculum), Jacques Dulac (IT Director)

I. Call to Order

Chair Sarah Haynes called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Recognition

- A. New Hires** - A. Gonzalez read the names of 24 new district hires.
- B. Teachers and Paraeducators of the Year** – The BoE recognized the following educators, with A. Gonzalez sharing many positive comments from students.

1. Paraeducators

- 1. Karen Konow (LES)**
- 2. Margaret Goodrich (LMHS)**
- 3. 2024 Paraeducator of the Year - Nicole Michele (LMS)**

2. Teachers

- 1. Kamila Nowak (LES Kindergarten)**
- 2. Melynda Flanagan (LMHS Math)**
- 3. 2024 Teacher of the Year - Natalia Korzhoff (LMS Math)**

III. Communication

- A. Donation Letter** – Lyman received a \$2,500 donation from the Montgomery Family Foundation following a request from LMHS senior and Foundation consultant Rebecca Risley.

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

None.

V. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of minutes**
 - 1. Long Term Planning Subcommittee Meeting – 07/24/2023**
 - 2. Facilities Subcommittee Meeting – 08/08/2023**
 - 3. BoE Regular Meeting – 08/08/2023**
 - 4. Facilities Subcommittee Meeting – 08/14/2023**
- B. Approval of Budget Transfers**

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

VI. Student Representative's Report – A. Brooks reported the first weeks at all three schools have gone well. Upgrades to the LES kitchen look great. Asbestos removal at LES and LMS are done, and new LMS principal Chad Johnson participated in kickball and other activities. LMHS has welcomed a foreign exchange student from Spain. Freshman orientation went well, with 20 upperclassmen leading tours and welcoming incoming students. Fall sports are underway, with Girls' Soccer beating Wheeler 7-0 in their opening game.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Finance – No report.

B. Facilities – N. McGillicuddy reported they met tonight, discussing the following items:

- 1. LMHS roof repairs** – Temco offered three options for repair, to be discussed further.
- 2. LMHS Girls Locker room** – upgrades are complete.
- 3. Summer Projects** – Following the completion of bigger projects, smaller repairs are in progress.
- 4. LMS Gym Painting** – A quote is in process.
- 5. LES Gym Floor** – Following analysis by William Brewster, determining the source of moisture under the floor should be the next step. The recommendation is to contact Hoffmann Architects.

C. Policy – A full-scale review continues, with five policies scheduled for vote this evening.

D. Negotiations – A tentative agreement has been reached, and is being reviewed by attorneys. It will be brought before the BoE in October.

E. Superintendent's Evaluation – No report.

F. Curriculum – D. Person reported they met tonight, discussing the following items:

- 1. Summer Work** – Including PD and website updates.
- 2. PD for Paras and Certified Staff**
- 3. State Reading Mandate Pilot Process/Grant**
- 4. Financial Literacy Mandate Course for HS Credit**
- 5. Assessment Audit Update**
- 6. Accreditation Updates (NEASC and NYAEC)** – Accreditation updates at LMHS and LES are scheduled for spring of 2026.
- 7. Kindergarten Age Requirement Change** – Beginning next school year, students must be 5 by September 1st.

G. Safety & Security – No report.

H. School Study – S. Haynes reported they heard a presentation from SLAM, and will meet tomorrow to discuss next steps.

I. Long-Term Planning – After a meeting between BoS and BoF members, the following projects will be forwarded to the full BoF for a vote. If approved, they would be sent to Town Meeting.

- 1. 2nd Phase Asbestos Removal _____ \$155,000**

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2. School Study	\$100,000
3. Lyman Roof	\$200,000
4. Burglar Alarm	\$30,000
5. LES Gym Floor	\$100,000

- J. Governance** – S. Haynes reported she attended a CABE conference, and heard presentations on AI in education, utilizing student voices in decision-making, and issues currently facing many boards.

VIII. Administrators' Reports

- A. LES** – J. Scorso noted the elementary school welcomed many new hires this year. Open House is the 28th. Year 2 of i-Ready is underway, as is a pilot team for the new reading curriculum.
- B. LMS** – C. Johnson noted a focus on discipline this year, as well as the implementation of Educators Handbook, an e-resource that has streamlined the discipline process.
- C. Pupil Services** – D. DeLia reported roughly 84 students attended ESY (Extended School Year) this summer. Over 18% of Lebanon students are Special Education students. Safety care was also a focus this summer.
- D. Curriculum** – R. Quiles-Glover reported on state mandates concerning paraprofessional training, ISTE certification for 3 staff members, and the reading pilot team at LES.

IX. Superintendent's Report

- A. Back to School** – A. Gonzalez thanked the administration, families, and community members for a great start to the school year. He also noted enrollment is 991 as of today, which is a positive trend.
- B. STABLE Funds for School Meals & Grant from CT Milk Promotion Board** – The first grant provides free breakfast for all, and free or discounted lunch for qualifying students. The second is for a healthy smoothie program.
- C. ARPA School Mental Health Specialists Grant** - \$209,774.18 has been awarded for a mental health specialist, which will fully cover 2 years of salary and 70% salary in the third year.
- D. NEASC Accreditation Process** – Reaccreditation at the high school will begin with a Collaborative Conference in April 2024, and an accreditation visit in March 2026.
- E. SBDI Grant** - \$37,000 has been awarded, intended to reduce juvenile justice involvement.
- F. Safety & Security Grant** – Tentative approval has been received, with an official decision expected by the end of September.

X. Finance Report

- A. 2023-2024 Budget** – V. Belles noted the first teacher payout occurred on August 31. Medicaid reimbursement is already showing a healthy balance. Electronic timesheet rollout has occurred. Capital funds are roughly \$85,000.

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- B. Non-Lapsing Account** – Projected balance is \$198,404.01 following anticipated payment of 2 bills. A surplus of \$56,787.98 will be requested to be transferred to non-lapsing, representing roughly 0.28% of the operating budget.

XI. Action Items

- 1. Act on Second Reading – Delete – Policy #5118 – Residency Requirements**

Motion by M. McCall and seconded by J. Konow to delete Policy #5118. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2. Act on Second Reading – Update – Policy #6172.6/6013 – Credit for Online Courses**
- 3. Act on Second Reading – Update – Policy #6142.4/6014 – Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Title I Students**
- 4. Act on Second Reading – Update – Policy #1110/1014 – Parent Teacher Communication**
- 5. Act on Second Reading – Update – Policy #3520.1/6015 – Parental Access to Instructional Materials**

Motion by M. McCall and seconded by J. Konow to adopt items 2-5. The motion passed unanimously.

- 6. Act on Use of Non-Lapsing funds for Impact Fire Sprinklers and Maine Line**

Discussion:

This expense, in the amount of \$8,906, covers repairs and replacement parts, including valves and pipes, recommended based upon inspections to the sprinkler system.

Motion by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by B. Green to approve \$8,906 from non-lapsing funds for Impact Fire Sprinklers and Main Line. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Executive Session

Motion by J. Konow and seconded by D. Person to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing exit interviews, and the Superintendent's Evaluation, inviting Superintendent Gonzalez to join. The motion passed unanimously.

The BoE entered Executive Session at 8:59 p.m.

The meeting came out of Executive Session at 9:38 p.m.

XIII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Contract Negotiations

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 9:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Walcott (Board Clerk)