

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
REGULAR MEETING
February 11, 2020 - 7:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: William Meese, Chair Sarah Haynes, Vice-Chair
 Maureen McCall, Secretary John Konow
 Alexis Margerelli-Hussey Nicole McGillicuddy
 Matthew Smith Dawn Whitcher
 Mark DeCaprio Ani Rose Johnson, Student Representative

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent Robert Angeli, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Curriculum Director, Robert Laskarzewski, Principal, Jay Apicelli, Principal, Rita Quiles-Glover, Principal, Samantha McCarthy, Assistant Principal, Robert Sirpenski, Business Manager, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services, Jacques Dulac, IT Director, Kevin Cwikla, First Selectman, Kathleen Smith, Selectman and students and their parents

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. COMMUNICATION

1. Resignation Letter
Superintendent Angeli read a note of resignation from Evan Lazur, Physical Education Teacher, effective immediately.
2. Jonathan Trumbull Library Letter
Superintendent Angeli read a letter from James Russo, chair of the Jonathan Trumbull Library Building Committee asking if there might be some space in any one of the school buildings to temporarily house the library during library renovations that will hopefully begin September 2020 and run for up to 18 months.

III. RECOGNITION

1. CAS Leadership Students and CAS Art Students
Principal Quiles-Glover introduced the students who were honored for their participation in a leadership conference at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich as well as the two students chosen to attend the *Elementary Celebration of the Arts* banquet held at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9324

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes
After a time for adults to congratulate the students, W. Meese called the meeting back to order at 7:56 P.M. Erica Strong read a letter for Jeannette Picard who was not available to attend this evening, voicing Jeannette's dissatisfaction with the planned schedule changes in the Middle School.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of minutes – The chair commended the Board for all of the following committee meetings held during the holiday season.

1. Strategic Plan/Curriculum Subcommittee – 1/14/2020
2. Finance/Facilities Subcommittee – 1/14/2020
3. Enrollment/Communications/Goals Subcommittee – 1/14/2020
4. LBOE Regular Meeting – 1/14/2020
5. Finance/Facilities Subcommittee – 1/15/2020 3:30 P.M.
6. Finance/Facilities Subcommittee – 1/14/2020 7:30 P.M.
7. Finance/Facilities Subcommittee – 1/21/2020
8. Policy Subcommittee Meeting – 1/28/2020
9. Safety & Security Subcommittee – 2/4/2020
10. Enrollment/Communications/Goals Subcommittee – 2/4/2020
11. Finance/Facilities Subcommittee – 2/4/2020
12. LBOE Special Meeting – 2/5/2020
13. Budget Transfers

Motion made by S. Haynes and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Discussion – It was noted that item 10 was not included in the board packet and will be presented at the next meeting. **Motion made by S. Haynes and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to amend the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of item 10. The motion passed unanimously.**

VI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Governance – Bill said that he is amazed at the amount of work that is getting accomplished by the staff and administration as well as the subcommittees. Members attended the Planning and Zoning Commission to help update the Town of Lebanon's Plan of Conservation and Development. Bill noted that a 10-year plan is a challenge but Superintendent Angeli did an outstanding job especially in the discussion of the ASTE program. Board training was held last week from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. with our attorney, Rich Mills. There was good discussion and one take-away was that all subcommittee minutes should be sent to Bob and if any members see anything amiss, to avoid anything that might be construed as an electronic meeting, all updates should be given to Bob. There will be a board retreat sometime shortly after graduation.
- Strategic Plan/Curriculum – Met tonight and discussed at length the proposed Middle School schedule restructuring. The Next Gen reports were also available.

- Safety/Security – The radio project has been completed. The camera project will be completed this coming weekend. Policies were discussed; some were returned to the Policy committee for action and others we are waiting on more information.
- Superintendent's Evaluation – The mid-year review has been completed and delivered.
- Negotiations – Nothing to report at this time.
- Enrollment/Communications/Goals – Met twice. Enrollment was discussed at length and the numbers in and out of district and ASTE. Also discussed recruitment and retention, long and short-term opportunities and what we know about why students make the choices they make.
- Policy – The policies up for acceptance today have been reviewed and simply are renumbered. There is also one up for first reading that was updated by Shipman and Goodwin that will be acted upon under new business. The committee will schedule their next meeting and attack another group of policies.
- Finance/Facilities – Has been meeting weekly to work on the 2020-2021 budget to bring it down to a manageable increase. There is an RFP out on the health care and the committee hopes to have some significant savings there but the changes must go through the union process to be approved. Also there might be an early retirement incentive which would cut costs. The committee is dealing with the Lyman High oil tank replacement and have been approached by the chair of the Jonathan Trumbull Library Building Committee which is looking for space to house the library during renovations. Superintendent Angeli noted that he has been working with the first selectman and the building inspector to see if they can find ways to cut costs on the oil tank replacement.
- EASTCONN – Matt has to meet with the director before he can attend meetings. This has been postponed but will happen soon.

VII. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

These were included in the Board packets. Additionally we were reminded of the art program at Lyman tomorrow from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Ani Rose gave her report on school activities since our last meeting.

LES – On January 28th the second grade class visited the senior center where they played games and interacted with the seniors. The third grade class was visited by employees of Mystic Seaport. Mrs. Lisa Gould gave dental tips to the Pre-K children and the PTA dance was held on February 8th.

LMS – The seventh grade had an Ellis Island simulation day on January 17th. The last week of January was spirit week and the kids raised money for Brothers Trust, an organization that helps smaller charities that don't get as much recognition. This past week was their book fair and Panther Den met on February 7th.

Lyman- January 15th was midterm study night and many students took advantage of that. Midterms were held from January 17th through 22nd. January 23rd was Tri-M Karaoke Night, the seniors got their cap and gown fittings on the 27th and the chorus left on January 31st for their Disney Trip. Last week the students got to select their classes and about 70 attended the Snowflake Dance on the 7th.

IX. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Enrollment - Overall, a loss of one student since last report.
2. Next Generation Accountability Results – Superintendent Angeli gave a more in depth discussion of the results. LES has a slight decrease to a Category 2 School. LMS is a Category 2 School and the 3-year trend is on an upward trajectory. Lyman had a slight decrease and is a Category 3 School. This was caused by the performance gap between the high needs students and the others.
3. Trumbull Library Renovation Request – Superintendent Angeli has talked to each of the principals as to how we might be able to help the Library Building Committee. There are safety concerns as well as spacing concerns. They only met with the Building Committee chair last week so there has not been a lot of time to do walk-throughs and make educated decisions.
4. Book Donation – Copies of three books have been donated to the schools. *India Unveiled* by Robert Arnett is an award-winning book more like a travel guide and donated by “Indian-American Community of CT”. There will be one in each of the libraries at LMS and Lyman. The other book is *Finder’s Keepers*, also by Robert Arnett, is cultural as well as travel and donated by “Dr. Jagdish and Mrs. Madhu Sheth – Sheth Family Foundation” and will be at the LES Library. The third book, *¿Es Mio?* is the Spanish edition of *Finder’s Keepers* and will be used in a Spanish class at Lyman.

X. FINANCE REPORT

1. 2019-2020 Budget
Still anticipating to break even bar any unforeseen setbacks (Special Ed seems to change every day). Winter has been our friend.
2. 2020-2021 Budget
The Business Manager said that the fuel prices have been locked in through June 2021 which is great. Initially with staff input for their wish lists, the increase over current was estimated at 6.12% but through careful examination and culling, is down to 3.86%. Potential savings could be found in health care costs if through union negotiation we go back to a plan close to the prior plan. Also feelers are out to see if there are any teachers interested in early retirement. There is a potential to

bring costs down another 2.5% but this is not something that we can know right now. The changes in the scheduling in LMS affects the budgeting in that there would be a decrease of 1.2 FTE.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. First and Only Reading, Policy #5001 – Academic Progress, Grades 9-12
2. First and Only Reading, Policy #5002 – Student Dress
3. First and Only Reading, Policy #5003 – Period of Silent Meditation
4. First and Only Reading, Policy #5004 – School Lunch Charging
5. First and Only Reading, Policy #6001 – Weighted Grading for Honors Classes
6. First and Only Reading, Policy #6002 – Pledge of Allegiance
7. First and Only Reading, Policy #6003 – Field Trips
8. First and Only Reading, Policy #6004 – Homework
9. First and Only Reading, Policy #9000 – Role of Board and Members
10. First and Only Reading, Policy #9001 – General Organization
11. First and Only Reading, Policy #9002 – Oath of Office
12. First and Only Reading, Policy #9003 – Officers
13. First and Only Reading, Policy #9004 – Filling Vacancies
14. First and Only Reading, Policy #9005 – Removal of Board Officers
15. First Reading, Policy #1006 – Prohibition Against Smoking

Because the first 14 are only updates, Maureen requested that they simply be accepted with their new numbers. There were no objections. The last is for first reading. It is one we had approved but Shipman & Goodwin has updated it so we will act on it in second reading at the next regular meeting.

XII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Act on letter of resignation
Motion made by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by S. Haynes to accept the letter of resignation. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Act on Second Reading new textbooks for CCP Manufacturing course at LMHS:
 - a. *Print Reading for Industry*
 - b. *Mathematics for Machine Technology*
 - c. *Interpreting Engineering Drawings*
 - d. *Precision Machining Technology***Motion made by S. Haynes and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to accept the new textbooks as listed. The motion passed unanimously.**
3. Act on 2020-2021 Operating Budget
Motion made by S. Haynes and seconded by A. Margerelli-Hussey to approve the budget prepared and submitted by the superintendent for 3.86% over the current budget. Much discussion followed concerning not losing any teaching staff and bringing that number down to something that might get approved by the BOF. **The vote was taken. All were opposed.**
Motion made by S. Haynes and seconded by N. McGillicuddy to adopt a budget of 3% over the expiring budget. N. McGillicuddy, M. DeCaprio, S.

Haynes and A. Margerelli-Hussey for, M. McCall, M. Smith and J. Konow against. D. Whitcher abstained. The motion passed. Superintendent Angeli will work with the team to find additional cuts.

4. Act on Lyman Oil Tank School Building Grant
In order to be prepared in case those at the town meeting vote that the town will create a building committee to deal with the oil tank, Superintendent drafted a resolution for the board to act on ahead of time so that we don't miss the monthly deadline (must be in to the state in the first 10 days of each month). **Motion made by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by J. Konow to act on the grant. The motion passed unanimously.**

XIII. ANTICIPATED EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. For the purpose of reviewing the Superintendent's Evaluation
Motion made by M. McCall and seconded by J. Konow to go into executive session at 9:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:00 p.m.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen D. McCall, Secretary