

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM  
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT  
February 18, 2010  
**SPECIAL SESSION**

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

PRESENT: Donna Lafontaine, Chairman, Darcy Battye, Keith Wentworth, Donna Skaats (7:34 p.m.), James Mello, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda, Sandra Tremblay

ABSENT: Deanna Kokoszka, Felicia Bakaj, student representative

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

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

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. COMMUNICATIONS – Letter from NEASC

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

- Carolyn Wheeler - teacher of the Science & Technology Enrichment at the Elementary School. Ms. Wheeler expressed concerns regarding the possible cuts to the position and the impact of the program if eliminated: No Inquiry Based Science instruction/experience; five units of science instruction would be incorporated into classroom curriculum; six units of science instruction would be eliminated; no keyboard instruction; no Talented and Gifted programs, no Invention Convention opportunities, no Science Fair opportunities, no new network users would be added to the district network (i.e. new first grade students).
- Kathleen Smith - resident, parent, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at LES expressed support of the Science & Technology Enrichment program and the position at the Elementary School; the Board should look at refinance bonding projects to save money.
- Blake Smith – Middle School student asked the Board not to take away educational programs; the French/Spanish program at the Middle School; more options for athletics at the middle school, specifically for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- Mrs. Solari – teacher at the Elementary School, expressed the importance of Science/Technology education; classroom size at the high school; elimination of the French/Spanish program at the middle school; class size the elementary school and the need to keep small classroom size and the impacts this has on children.
- Ron Cowles, resident, expressed concerns on the future education of students and the need for concessions by teachers to keep programs.

V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Curriculum – no report.
2. Finance/Budget – no report.
3. Goals – no report
4. Negotiations – no report.
5. Policy – no report.
6. Transportation/Resident – no report.
7. Communications – no report
8. Vo-Ag Advisory – no report.
9. Physical Plant/Facilities – The subcommittee met this evening to discuss the overall maintenance issues and will meet in the next couple of weeks to discuss further.

10. Superintendent Search – The subcommittee met last night and there are Action Items.
11. Student Representative - no report.

## VII. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

### 1. Board discussion of 2010-2011 Budget

The Board continued budget discussions, the process, challenges and impacts to reach a 0% percent increase as requested by the Board of Finance. The Board has chosen to proceed with presenting a 5.5% status quo budget as well as the 0% impact summary. The BOE will need to vote on the final budget to be given to the Board on Finance at the next Regular Meeting. The Board of Finance is scheduled to hear the BOE presentation on Saturday, March 6 at the Fire Safety Complex. Everyone is encouraged to attend for public participation and voice an opinion. The following were distributed: 1) 2010-2011 Budget Projection Increase Summary; 2) List of interscholastic activities; 3) School programs at LES, LMS, LMHS. Budget book to be presented at next regular meeting.

## VII. ACTION ITEMS

1. Moved by K. Wentworth and seconded by J. Mello to appoint the Lebanon Board of Education as a personnel search committee for the purpose of filling the Superintendent vacancy as in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 1-200(7). Motion unanimously passed.
2. Moved by M. Hoffmann and seconded by L. Jahoda to appoint the Superintendent Steering Committee as a personnel search committee for the purpose of filling the Superintendent vacancy as in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 1-200(7). Motion unanimously passed.
3. Moved by J. Mello and seconded by M. Hofmann to appoint the Lebanon Board of Education and Representatives, Claudio Bazzano, parent, Suzanne Yeo, community member, Sandye Simon, LES Principal, Kathleen Smith, LES teacher as the Superintendent's Steering Committee for the selection of the new superintendent. Motion unanimously passed.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS/ ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – 1) Darcy Battye will act as Chairman at the next Regular Meeting on February 23<sup>rd</sup>; 2) Finance Subcommittee will schedule meeting.

## X. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by D. Skaats and seconded K. Wentworth to adjourn the Regular Meeting Session at 8:35 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brenda Bennett, Recording Secretary