

BOARD OF EDUCATION
LYMAN MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
LEBANON, CONNECTICUT
Special Session –September 15, 2009

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

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 6:32 p.m.

PRESENT: Donna Lafontaine, Chairman, Darcy Battye, James Mello, Melissa Hofmann, Lori Jahoda, Rene Wentworth, Marisa Haralson, Keith Wentworth

ABSENT: Donna Skaats

ALSO PRESENT: Robert McGray, Superintendent

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

III. Discussion took place in regard to communication and chain of command. It was suggested that Board members read, at least, Chapter 1 of Becoming a Better Board Member. A consensus agreed that concerns brought to individual Board members should be referred to the teacher or appropriate administrator including the superintendent depending on the concern. Board members should relay concerns brought to them to the Board Chair. Board members may also contact the principal, director or superintendent with a concern. There was discussion regarding what should be considered Board areas of responsibility. It was suggested that it can be determined by the difference between an “incident” and an “issue.” Incidents are the responsibility of the administration who would then report to the Board depending on the severity of the incident. Issues which tend to be policy related would be Board responsibilities. The administration may also deal with issues. It was suggested that as part of the superintendent’s evaluation process that quarterly Executive Sessions be included in the agenda for that purpose. It was suggested that the Board members complete the self-evaluation instrument found in the CABA /CAPPS booklet. It was suggested that at a retreat format a Q&A for new members take place to help transition to the Board. The Board is committed to two retreat format meetings a year, one in April and one in October. A Board member mentor for new members was also suggested.

IV. The structure of the Board agenda took place. It was recommended to move “Public Participation” to after the Superintendents Report. It will be referred to the Policy Subcommittee for revision. It was clarified that Executive Session will not be a permanent agenda item.

V. The draft of Board goals was discussed. Edits were made to the goals. They will be brought forward for approval at the next Board meeting. They will be included on the district website. The Board will review the district and school websites.

VI. ADJOURNMENT-

Moved by Melissa Hofmann and seconded by Marisa Haralson to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Lafontaine, Chair