

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
MARCH 22, 2017 SPECIAL SESSION – 6:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Albert Vertefeuille, Chairman Nicole McGillicuddy
 Jason Nowosad Bert Bosse
 Sandra Tremblay, Secretary Christine Lugli, Student Representative
 Keith Wentworth (6:39 p.m.)
 Mary Ellen Wieczorek

ABSENT: James Mello, Stephen Nelson

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Robert Angeli, James Apicelli, LMHS, Ann Birell, Assistant Principal, LMHS, Robert Laskarzewski, LMS Principal, Andrew Gonzalez, LES Principal, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum, Cheryl Biekert, Director Pupil Services, Jacques Dulac, Director of Information Technology, Kathleen Smith teacher, Emily Blanchard, teacher

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Vertefeuille called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

1. Lyman Music Students
Emily Blanchard introduced Lyman students Alyssa Nadeau, Madison Dominique, Christine Lugli, Sierra Speight, Taylor Speight, and Abby Bundy (not present) who had performed at the Eastern Region Chorus. The students performed a choral piece acapella which was enjoyed by all in attendance. Refreshments were served.

III. COMMUNICATION

1. Letter of retirement
Superintendent Angeli read a letter of retirement from Gwendolyn Cross, Instructional Assistant at LMS. She has served the district for 38 years. K. Wentworth recalled when she was a chaperone on a school trip to Montreal Canada.

IV. DISCUSS

1. Recommend bid for replacement of lockers in Lyman Memorial High School boy's locker room.
Superintendent Angeli discussed the two bids that were received. This contract would install the exact same lockers, and funds would come from the Athletic Capital Account. Superintendent Angeli is recommending awarding the contract to the low bidder Construction Specialties of New England in the amount of \$21,135.00. S. Tremblay asked when this would be done. It will be done when the installation does not impact

programs. Principal Apicelli noted that the lockers need to be fabricated before installation.

2. Recommend adoption of new phonics program at Lebanon Elementary School
Principal Gonzalez, K. Mozak-Pezza, and Greta Skiles, Reading Specialist, presented information on a new phonics program. Principal Gonzalez thanked the Board for the Reading Specialist position which connects to the Strategic Plan. Principal Gonzalez discussed the goals of the Phonics Study Group. G. Skiles discussed the phonics program. LES does not have a consistent phonics program. This program would provide consistency and would lead into the Writers Workshop. The choice of program was not based on cost. Discussion of other programs that were researched. The total cost would be \$15,647.00, with \$3,545.00 in teacher materials. J. Nowosad noted that this expenditure was discussed at a Budget Meeting. N. McGillicuddy asked if this program can be linked with technology. Yes, it can be linked. G. Skiles gave an overview of the program. There are lots of manipulatives and is heavy on teacher prep in the first year. Students would problem solve and have reinforcement patterns.
3. Recommend adoption of benchmark assessment system at Lebanon Elementary School. Principal Gonzalez discussed updating the current assessment that is used. Fountas & Pinnel Literacy is more recent and is aligned to other assessments. J. Nowosad questioned why assessments keep changing. K. Wentworth stated that staff is teaching to the test. K. Mozak-Pezza noted that an assessment is needed to establish a reading level for the child. It is not a State mandate and aligns with Common Core and Smarter Balance. B. Bosse noted that State and Federal mandates are not funded. K. Mozak-Pezza noted that teachers communicate with each other and that students fall back in the summer. Superintendent Angeli noted that data from assessments are used to meet goals. Need to chart progress. Professional Development is needed in this area. Strides have been made in this area. There have been increases in teacher training, and with more information they can intervene on a student's behalf. There is no Smarter Balance at this grade level. Principal Gonzalez noted that there are a lot of assessments, and staff are aware of this. Might be able to do away with some assessments. N. McGillicuddy noted that this would replace the DRA2 that has two levels with questions at the end that are subjective. The NWEA was discussed. K – 2 will be required to take the test. The NWEA is given in the fall, winter, and spring. C. Biekert noted that some material from the phonics program could be used for assessment. She discussed this assessment from a Special Education perspective. B. Bosse noted that it would be good to eliminate some testing. Superintendent Angeli discussed teacher generated assessments. Discussion of the time it takes to take tests over the school year. J. Nowosad questioned if assessments could classify a student as exceptional and then could be classified as Special Education through an IEP. Lebanon does not have a gifted and talented program, but does offer except AP level classes at the high school. B. Bosse questioned the time for test preparation. This is a summative test. Cannot prepare for a reading test in kindergarten except by teaching students to read. The system would cost \$11,580.00. Each teacher would have a kit.

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept letter of retirement
Motion made by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by B. Bosse to accept with regret the letter of retirement of Gwendolyn Cross, Instructional Assistant, effective at the end of the school year. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approve bid for replacement of lockers in Lyman Memorial High School boys locker room
Motion made by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by J. Nowosad to accept the bid from Construction Specialties of New England in the amount of \$21,135.00 for replacement of lockers in the Lyman Memorial School boys locker room. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Approve adoption of new phonics program at Lebanon Elementary School
Motion made by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by S. Tremblay to purchase a new phonics program at the Lebanon Elementary School. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Approve adoption of benchmark assessment system at Lebanon Elementary School
Motion made by N. McGillicuddy and seconded by J. Nowosad to approve adoption of a new benchmark assessment system at Lebanon Elementary School. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion made by K. Wentworth and seconded by B. Bosse to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.**

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman

Board Clerk