

Approved 4/22/2015
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**LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**APRIL 1, 2015**

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield High School Media Center.

Members Present: Mr. Simone, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Mr. Bongiorno, Mr. Clock, Mr. Falcetti, Mr. Shuhi and Mr. Waugh.

Members Absent: Ms. Rosser

Also present: Superintendent McMullin; Mr. Fiorillo; Ms. Mongeau; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Murphy; Ms. Turner; Ms. Kubisek; the public and the press.

**Approval of Minutes**

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the minutes of regular meeting of March 18, 2015 with the following corrections: on page 3350, under the second motion on the page add “Mr. Shuhi voted in the negative.”

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Ms. Fabbri abstained.

Mr. Simone welcomed Mr. Fiorillo as the new Business Manager for the Litchfield School system.

**Approve Payment of Invoices**

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve the payment of FY 2014-15 invoices on Accounts Payable warrant dated 4/2/2015 in the amount of \$145,211.53 and FY 2014-15 invoices on Food Service warrant dated 4/2/2015 in the amount of \$20,773.01.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Mr. Simone abstained.

**Public Comment and Correspondence Communications**

a. STPC – none.

PTO – Ms. Stone reported: Musical program last Thursday; canned goods collected; good attendance; more LIS students than CS students; big event this weekend, Joanne McCormick memorial run/walk race at 10:00 a.m.; biggest fundraiser; and boys’ night out on April 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 at LIS.

- b. LHS Student Council – none
- c. Litchfield Prevention Council – Mr. Simone reported – need for liaison from the school system to attend meetings; meeting next Thursday to show results from survey; have plan in place and issues with the community and not just the school.
- d. Public Comment
  - Ms. Wilson commented – need to support the budget regarding School Safety Standards set by the State, the School Security and Safety Committee, and the school maintenance contract with the town.
- e. Correspondence
  - A thank you note from Ms. Scozzafava and Ms. Crowe for the Board participation in the NEASC evaluation.
- f. Administrators' Reports
  - Ms. Murphy reported – conferences next week and testing planned soon.
  - Ms. Della Volpe reported – successful spring blood drive held; PowerSchool workshop held; grades closed yesterday and grades posted soon.
  - Ms. Turner reported – whole school field trip to the Warner Theater to see *Charlotte's Web*; book club for next year; parent conferences next week; SBEC testing soon; will end in May; Act of Kindness club, Ms. Johnson facilitates, will visit the school soon as Disney characters for the students to interact with; and thanks to HS administrators for allowing students to participate.
  - Ms. Mongeau included a report for the Board.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent McMullin reported: with input from Ms. Turner and Ms. Mongeau all 29 applicants for the preschool programs will be serviced; registration for before-school and after-school programs going on now; Region 6 students included; and 12-15 signed up as of earlier this evening.

### **Old Business**

- a. 2015-2016 Budget

Board members reviewed the handout with tiers for possible reductions and discussed: input from Board of Finance; suggested reduction to 2.15% – 2.25%; reductions already made; original was 4.6%; reduced to 3.64%; guidance from the Board of Finance regarding numbers people could afford; discussed all tiers at Monday's meeting; library needs included; math needs; zero increase in library in past budgets; issues with 1.0 FTE; sub/interim costs; issues with technology needs; math curriculum budgeted for 2 years; implement program first year; and keeping the budget as voted on to present to the public.

**New Business**

## a. Resignation

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the resignation of Susan Duffany as LMS Special Education teacher.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

## b. High School Graduation date for June 2015

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to set the High School graduation date as Saturday, June 20, 2015.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

**Committee Reports**

Curriculum Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported the committee will meet next Thursday.

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Bongiorno reported that the committee will meet next week.

Board members discussed the possibility of terminating the maintenance contract with the town: need for input from administrators; need for data to show issues; issues with use of “school dudes,” complaints have not been heard; need for immediate service during emergencies; shortages in cleaning supplies; issues with costs for returning maintenance over to the Board; concerns with filing system; response from town maintenance managers; concerns from the public; issues with substitutes; breakdown in the process; town does not use “school dudes” program; hole in communication; need to have Board member included in communications for needs; safety hazards need to be corrected instantly; need for a list of maintenance needs available; and input from the administrators with their concerns with the maintenance at their schools.

Finance - Mr. Shuhi reported – reviewing monthly statements; issues with food service; where want to go from here; explore dropping federal regulations; look into other vendors; and need for students to receive food positively. Board consensus was to have the Superintendent and Business Manager explore new possibilities for food service.

**Policies**

- a. Rescind – Policy # 6115.1 Religious Observances and Displays to be rolled into Policy #6115.
- b. First Reading – Policy # 1325 Advertising and Promotion – return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.
- c. First Reading – Policy # 1330 Use of School Facilities - return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.
- d. First Reading – Policy # 6115 Ceremonies and Observances - return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.
- e. First Reading – Policy # 6144 Controversial Issues - return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.
- f. Second Reading – Policy # 5113 Attendance and Excuses.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve Policy # 5113 Attendance and Excuses as presented.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

- g. Second Reading – Policy # 5121 Examination / Grading / Rating

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to approve Policy # 5121 Examination / Grading / Rating as amended.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

- h. Second Reading – Policy # 6000 Concept and Roles in Instructions

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve Policy # 6000 as revised.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

- i. Second Reading – Policy # 6112.1 School Day

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve Policy # 6112.1 School Day as amended.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

## j. Second Reading – Policy # 6173 Homebound and Hospitalized Instruction

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve Policy # 6173 Homebound and Hospitalized Instruction as amended.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Falcetti, Secretary  
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary