

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 18, 2011

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Center School library.

Present were: Ms. Carr, Vice-Chairperson; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Messrs. Falcetti, Katzin, Noone, Shuhi, and Mr. Gorman (at 7:50 p.m.). Mr. Simone was absent.

Also present were: Dr. Wheeler; Mr. Buccitelli, Mr. Zaremski; Ms. DellaVolpe; Ms. Longobucco; Ms. Murphy; Ms. Kubisek, the public and the press.

MOTION made by Ms. Rosser and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to move item VI a. to before the Consent Agenda.

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

Board members went to the computer lab at Center School to view a demonstration by Center School students, grades K- 3, on computer art taught by Rochelle Clementson and Roe Cook.

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Noone: to approve the consent agenda:

- a. Approve the Minutes of Special Meeting April 29, 2011.
- b. Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting May 4, 2011.
- c. Approve the payment of invoices for 2010-2011 budget as required.
- d. Review request for admission – tuition based student.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

- a. STPC/PTO - Mrs. Moore reported on the financial status of the PTO including the April 9th Joanne McCormick Memorial Road Race donating \$5,000 to the pancreatic cancer research network and a book fair held at Center School and the Intermediate School. A “Son” Event will be held on the 25th at Center School from 6 – 7 p.m.
- b. LHS Student Council – no update
- c. Other Public Comment - none

d. Correspondence -

Board members received the following correspondence:

- Thank you note from the Intermediate School secretaries for flowers for Secretary's Day.
- A letter from CAFE announcing a freeze on their membership dues for this year.

e. Administrators' Reports - noneSuperintendent's Report

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following: a May 10th conference with the State Board of Education regarding school safety in the district; Senate bill #1138 to include cyber-bullying; safe school environment plan and time lines; appointment of a specialist for the district; material that supports our anti-bullying measures; need to bring to Policy Committee as statutes change; need to view other district's policies; and need to get information from CAPSS.

Old Business

Dr. Wheeler requested the Strategic Plan Discussion to be placed on the July 13th meeting agenda to review progress towards the goals and set goals for next year including activities to take place, to achieve goals and how to measure goals.

New Business

- b. Healthy Foods Certification - Dr. Wheeler presented the annual Healthy Foods Certification with the State Board of Education including following strict standards and guidelines for food on school grounds.

MOTION made by Mr. Katzin and seconded by Mr. Noone: to approve and certify that all food items offered for sale to students under the school district's jurisdiction, and not exempted from the nutrition standards published by the Connecticut State Department of Education on August 1, 2006, will meet said standards for the 2011-2012 school year, and will exclude from certification such food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards, provided that such food is sold in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend, such sale is at the location of the event, and such food is not sold from a vending machine or school store.

Board members discussed the following: possibly higher standards than the State outlines; junk food available; ice cream sale limited to two days at Center School; Ed Connection will not be

able to do the program if too restricted; need to make a profit; snacks brought in by students; need for volume for revenue; need to design menu attractive to kids; and possible meeting with Ed Connection personnel.

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

- c. 2009-2010 Strategic School Profile - Dr. Wheeler presented the 2009-2010 Strategic School Profile including the following: enrollment lost; free and reduced lunch eligibility; ELL; Gifted and Talented program; pre-school and nursery school attendance; homeless students; juniors and seniors working more than 16 hours; qualification for gifted and talented; physical fitness; SAT scores for 2009; % tested; graduates; resources and expenditures; error in Special Ed teachers; paraprofessionals; class size slowly increasing; athletic director included in administrators; hours of instruction; special education expenditures; diplomas; and least restrictive environment.

Board members discussed the 11% who don't go to our school.

Committee Reports

Personnel and Curriculum - Ms. Fabbri reported that the committee met May 12th and discussed the following: social studies 7-12 curriculum; possibility of eliminating mid-term exam schedule; need for more fact finding; student feed-back form; and 2 year contract for the Director of Business Operations.

Finance Committee - Mr. Noone reported that the Committee will meet May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Central Office conference room.

Facilities Committee - Mr. Shuhi reported that the Committee met on May 16th and discussed the following: Litchfield Hills Food System; garden proposal at Center School; background from Mr. Burgess; and old business.

Mr. Crowe reported on the following: installation of 2 new boilers at Center School next week; plays scape at Center School approved by historic commission; possible funding from Seherr - Thoss Foundation; contract to local contractor; bid for intrusion alarm system going out for Intermediate School and High School; replacing carpeting at Center School; issue of lead time; need to buy and install as we can; new shades in all windows at Center School; railings and gate to play scape at Intermediate School are being built; lower tennis courts being replaced this summer; and hot water heater at High School installed.

Policy Committee - Ms. Carr reported that the Committee will meet on May 19th.

MOTION made by Mr. Gorman and seconded by Ms. Rosser: to move to Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation.

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

Executive Session

Present were: all the above Board members and Dr. Wheeler.

Open session resumed at 8:40 p.m.

No action was taken.

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Gorman : to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Falcetti, Secretary

Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary