

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 4, 2016

Approved 5/18/2016

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Intermediate School Auditorium.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chairperson: Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick; and Mr. Shuhi. Mr. Waugh (7:55 p.m.).

Also present were: Superintendent Mc Mullin; Mr. Fiorillo; Ms. Kubisek; Ms. Murphy; Ms. Turner; and the press and members of the public.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to add to the agenda a letter of recognition discussion.

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

Recognition Award

Mr. Fiorillo presented a Recognition Award to Ann Deering for her bravery in avoiding a dangerous driver on Route 254 last Thursday. Her quick thinking avoided a very dangerous situation.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to add to adjourn the regular Board of Education meeting until 8:00 p.m. to allow the Town Facilities Committee to hold a special meeting that the Board of Education has been invited to attend.

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

Board members met with the Town Facilities Committee who presented the Consultants who will be examining the school's facilities and needs.

Mr. Waugh arrived at 7:55 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Bongiorno: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 6, 2016 as presented.

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

Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Mr. Bongiorno and seconded by Ms. Carr: approve the payment of FY 2015-16 invoices on Accounts Payable warrant dated 4/21/2016 in the amount of \$200,323.48; warrant dated 5/5/2016 in the amount of \$145,815.46; invoices on Food Service warrant dated 4/23/2016 in the amount of \$30,261.24

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

Public Comment and Correspondence Communications

- a. STPC – none.
PTO – Ms. Stone reported that Teacher Appreciation Day has been taking place all this week.
- b. LHS Student Council – none.
- c. Litchfield Prevention Council – none.
- d. Other public comment: Ms. Stone read a letter complimenting Ms. D’Amore-Jenks for her dedication, enthusiasm and skills when working with students.
- e. Correspondence
 - Thank you notes to the Board from the nurses and office professionals for being recognized with flowers on their special days.
 - A letter from Amado J. Vargas, Attorney at Law regarding a bullying incident involving a student.
- f. Administrators’ Reports
 - Ms. Turner reported: thanks to PTO for Teacher Appreciation events; Smarter Balance testing schedules; early dismissal scheduling Preschool and Kindergarten orientation during the afternoon.
 - Ms. Kubisek reported: Booster Club support in funding; Nature’s Classroom updates; Teacher Appreciation Week covered by Booster Club; Smarter Balance scheduling; updates on Scholarship participation of 29 students and appreciation for being on the committee.
 - Mr. Fiorillo reported: distributed monthly report and reported on the following; budget update; big items listed; excess costs issues; input from Ms. Haggard; update on Special Ed budget; educational costs sharing; goes to town and not the Board; MOU addendum; enrollment projection from 2 studies; projections for 10 years; birth rates; Kindergarten enrollment; pre-Kindergarten expansion; alternative learning program; 12 students different than 3 years ago; progress of lighting issue; electricity adjustments; update on grant for oil; summer plans; carpet issues; window issues; sidewalks; status of agreement with Plymouth, Wamogo and Litchfield in hiring a food service director and FTE issues for next year.

- Ms. Murphy reported: Smarter Balance testing schedules; thanks to PTO for Teacher Appreciation events this week; and thanks to ED Connection for Immigration Nation funding and the successful field trip to Ellis Island.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent McMullin reported on the following: SAT updates; available on Guidance website; gives comparisons; ranked 24 out of 193 schools by *US World and News Report*; awarded silver status; ½ of the schools from Gold Coast status; listing of more local schools; status and timing of CS Principal interviews; update on Google Analytics Report; daily activities report; languages translated into; and a listing of upcoming events for the remainder of the year up to Graduation.

Board members added Pediatric Eye Screening at CS for ages 2-5.

Old Business

- a. Establish Last Day of School.

MOTION made by Mr. Bongiorno and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to establish the last day of school on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 for students.

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

- b. Teachers' Professional Development Day.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve the Teachers' Professional Development Day on June 16th, make up from February 16th.

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

- c. China Trip

Ms. Della Volpe and Ms. Haggard distributed a handout outlining the trip to China. Further discussion at the next meeting.

- d. Budget Discussion – none.

New Businessa. Teacher Retirements/Resignations.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to accept the retirements of Cynthia Blazek and Dr. James McGoldrick and the resignation of Kathryn Langlois as presented with thanks for all their efforts.

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

b. Tuition Student Request.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the tuition request from Stuart and Donielle Hawley for their children in grade 3, grade 2 and Kindergarten as presented.

Board members discussed the possible increase in tuition fees.

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

c. Overnight Fieldtrip Request

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve the overnight field trip request on June 21-22, 2016 – CT Appalachian Trail.

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

d. Textbook Approval Form.

MOTION made by Mr. Clock and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the Spanish textbooks as presented.

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

Committee Reports

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Bongiorno reported that the committee met and discussed the following: 7th and 8th grade devices; technology types; new phone provider; Optonline.net; and timing with the phones.

Curriculum Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the committee met April 15th and discussed the following: music program updates; art department updates; new courses offered; update on negotiations with teachers and AFSME; process of hiring principal; and textbook review.

Ed Connection - Mr. Waugh reported the new director has begun and will be interacting with all the schools in the group; and first meeting upcoming.

Scholarship - Mr. Waugh reported that the committee met and discussed the following: met 2 times; extraordinary students; very articulate; \$300,000 in scholarships; \$130,000 to graduates; meets students' needs; and input from the principal and vice-principal.

Finance - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met on the 2nd and discussed the following: budget updates; maintenance agreement with town; numbers involved; possible modification to the agreement; and food service updates.

Policies

a. Second Review

i. Policy # 6180.1 Student Wellness, Nutrition and Physical Activity.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to return policy to Policy Committee for clarification.

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

ii. Bylaw # 9270 Conflict of Interest

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the bylaw # 9270 Conflict of Interest as revised.

MOTION denied. Ms. Carr, Mr. Clock, Mr. Pavlick, and Mr. Waugh voted in the affirmative. Ms. Fabbri, Mr. Bongiorno, Mr. Shuhi, Mr. Falcetti and Mr. Simone voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

iii. Bylaw # 9217 Code of Ethics

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve bylaw # 9271 Code of Ethics presented.

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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 8:50 p.m.

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

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