

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 21, 2017

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the Center School gym.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chair; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Stone; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick and Mr. Shuhi.

Absent was: Mr. Bongiorno

Also present were: Superintendent Turner; Mr. Fiorillo; Ms. Haggard; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Kubisek; Ms. Murphy; Mr. Ammary and members of the public.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to add to the agenda under new business eliminate a.; add h. teacher resignation; under Executive Session v. LHS/LMS psychologist; vi. Biology/Physics teacher for LHS.

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

ENERGY STARR Recognition Event

Mr. Fiorillo introduced Mr. Andy Bridges who reported on the following: award congratulating LHS for achieving energy star certification; aggressive standard; 35% less energy than other buildings; variety of changes; lighting; big idea grants; double doors; variety of funding grants; plaque for school; done in local buildings; and thank to the people who worked with the Green Team for their hard work in attaining green status in all the school buildings.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Clock: to move to Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss LIS Principal Candidate interview.

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

Executive Session

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chair; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Stone; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick and Mr. Shuhi.

Superintendent Turner was invited to attend.

Return to public session at 7:50 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to hire Dr. Michael Pascento as Principal of Litchfield Intermediate School.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to add to the agenda as IV i. recommendation for administration hire.

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

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Ms. Stone and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 17, 2017 and June 7, 2017 with the following correction on page 3619 change “cross culture experience” to “cross cultural experience” and on the June 7, 2017 minutes page number should be 3624.

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

Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: approve the payment of FY 2016-17 invoices on Accounts Payable warrant # 2017-24 dated 6/8/2017 in the amount of \$290,371.22; warrant #2017-25 dated 6/22/2017 in the amount of \$35,817.70; and Food Service warrant dated 6/7/2017 in the amount of \$8,636.88 and warrant dated 6/21/2017 in the amount of \$2,853.36.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence Communications

- a. STPC –none.
PTO – none.
- b. LHS Student Council – none.
- c. Litchfield Prevention Council – none.
- d. Litchfield Education Foundation – none.
- e. Other public comment – none
- f. Correspondence-
 - Email from Jodiann Tenney re: policies.
 - Email from Debbie Hodges to Litchfield Concerned Citizens re: FOI Request for Gift Letter.

- Email from Litchfield Concerned Citizens to Superintendent Turner re: FOI Request for Gift Letter.
 - Letter from David Fiorillo to Board of Education Members re: rescinding request.
 - Letter from Stacy Morgan to BOE re: FOIA request regarding defined contribution plan.
 - Email from Superintendent Turner re: FOIA request: school survey results.
 - Email from Debra Cahill to BOE and Superintendent re: aggression towards student.
 - Letter from Debra Cahill to Superintendent Turner re: FOI request for records involving misconduct.
- g. Administrators' Report
- Mr. Ammary reported: overview of first year; inspiring; amazing; thanks to staff and Board; focus on culture and climate; common language; steps to key of good character; curriculum and instruction; standards based report cards; teachers value conversations; successful teacher college PD; collaboration; new content; fun experience; and thanks for all the Board's support.
 - Ms. Haggard reported: handout "2017-2018 Year End BOE Recap;" thanks to all involved in the program; input from school counselors; SRBI update; district wide intervention; remediation needs; expand role of staff; expedite needs of students; initiatives; and thanks to Superintendent and BOE.
 - Ms. Della Volpe reported: positive impact of China trip; input from sister school; positive impact of fundraising groups like raising cans for food; 4,000 flowers; donations over \$3,000; changes in STPC like honoring students on a monthly basis and not just at the end of the year; positive impact on Legacy program; 2 students are going on to college; 2 possibly 3 scheduled for next year; CAPSTONE curriculum going well; process thoughtful; and graduation tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. Board invited.
 - Ms. Kubisek reported: collaborating with staff on social emotional growth; student council night; awards given; moving up last night; and great year in all.
 - Ms. Murphy reported: LIS essay contest; raise awareness; national parks essay winner through garden club; art classes submitted; chocolate bar wrapper contest; 6th grade projects; moving up ceremony; thanks to Board for having heartwarming sendoff and thanks to students and staff for their dedication to learning.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Turner reported: handout distributed; reflecting on school year; visiting schools and classrooms; talk about learning; build relationship with staff in other schools; build relationship with LMS and LHS; accomplishments throughout the schools; preparing for graduation; impressed with Mabry Awards Ceremony; for any student; they present and talk about it; being inspired by students; and thank you to all for welcoming me to new role.

Old Business – none.

New Business

- a. BCBA - tabled.
- b. School Breakfast Pricing - Holli LaBarbera reported on the following; cost to make breakfast \$1.41 for product only and we charge \$1.50; 3 days egg sandwich; 2 days other option like bagel; need to raise to \$2.00; low participation right now; new breakfast plan for next year; compete with Dunkin Donuts; and not making a profit now.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to approve school breakfast pricing increase to \$2.00.

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

- c. Request for Senior Year Tuition Waiver.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to approve the senior year tuition waiver for the son of Lori Stevens as presented.

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

- d. Teacher Resignation.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Bongiorno: to approve the resignation of Margaret Hartshorn, English teacher, as of June 22, 2017.

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

- e. Teacher Retirement.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to accept the retirement of Kevin Dake as presented.

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

- f. 2016-2017 Gifts, Grants and Bequests.

Board members reviewed the outline of “Gifts/Grants 207-207 School Year” as presented and noted that thank you notes have been sent out.

- g. Authorize the Superintendent to submit all state and federal grant applications as necessary to meet the required submission dates.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to authorize the Superintendent to submit all state and federal grant applications as necessary to meet the required submission dates.

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

- h. Teacher Resignation.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to accept, with regret, the resignation of Jose Cerra as submitted.

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

- i. Recommendation for Administration Hire.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve the hiring of Dr. Michael Pascento as Principal of Litchfield Intermediate School.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions. Mr. Shuhi recused himself.

Committee Reports

Curriculum, Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the committee met and discussed: distributed handout "Curriculum Program and Personnel Report: SAT School Day administration, June 25, 2017" and Ms. Della Volpe reported: why students take SAT; in district; students outperform state; 2nd year participation; PSAT as sophomores.

Board members discussed: out of 1600; mandated in 11th grade; math and science scores; standards high in math; look at curriculum; Algebra II before junior year now in sophomore; and 42% don't achieve goal.

Ms. Fabbri reported on Northwest Education assessment as presented by Ms. Haggard including the following: tool for assessment; instructional level; 2 to 3 times a year; fine tune instruction; more differentiation; more on programs; on line testing; different ways to create instruction; effects on SBAC; 3 times a year; K-9 apples to apples; adapt level of instruction for students; standardizing for SBAC; validity and correlation; been around many years; did webinars; staff instruction; have brochures; where students are performing;

another data point; where to challenge students; teacher PD opportunities; are problem solving; use as tool; curriculum writing institute invitation to all teachers in district and 17 will participate.

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met and discussed the following: meeting with Len Fasano; summer projects reviewed; custodian issues; maintenance to grounds; tech update done by Jamie Terry; ongoing audit; solid program; internet capacity; servers and devices; battery backup; technology in education; input from administrators; what's working what is not; standardizing things; good report; audit results coming; going in right direction; and have multi-year plan.

Ed Advance - Ms. Carr reported that the committee met and discussed the following: Head Start program reviewed; distributed materials; and joining program in Torrington.

Policy - Meeting scheduled for tomorrow cancelled due to graduation.

Policy Review

- a. Rescind
 - i. Policy # 4119.1 Teacher
 - ii. #4119.2 School Counselors
 - iii. # 4119.2 School Nurse.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Clock: to rescind Policy # 4119.1 Teacher, # 4119.2 School Counselors and # 4119.2 School Nurse as presented.

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

- b. Review
 - i. Policy # 2130 Job Descriptions – policy reviewed.

- c. First Reading
 - i. Policy # 6172.51 Survey of Students (new) – policy reviewed. Return for second reading at next regular BOE meeting.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to move to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss Personnel Matters and Collective Bargaining Issue.

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

Executive Session

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chair: Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Stone; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick and Mr. Shuhi.

Superintendent Turner, Mr. Ammary, Mr. Fiorillo, Ms. Haggard, Dr. Pascento, Ms. Della Volpe and Ms. Kubisek were invited to attend.

Returned to public session at 9:58 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to hire Marni Smith for a third grade classroom teacher at Center School.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Clock: to hire Meagan McCane as a Special Education Teacher at LHS.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to hire Gabriel Godfrey as a grade 7 Math teacher at LMS.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to hire Katie Brunetto for a Language Arts position at LHS.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to hire Daneille Pickert for a Biology/Physics teacher position at LHS.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to hire Jennifer Valera as LMS/LHS School Psychologist.

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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. Pavlick: to approve the AFSCME Local 1303.392 Custodians contract.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald R. Falcetti, Secretary
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary