

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 22, 2015

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, April 22, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield High School Library/ Media Center.

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

Absent were: Mr. Bongiorno.

Also present were: Superintendent McMullin; Mr. Fiorillo; Ms. Mongeau; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Murphy; Ms. Turner; and members of the public.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to add to the agenda another retirement request under VII b 1.

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

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve the minutes of regular meeting of April 1, 2015 with the following corrections on page 3355 “safety hazards needs” to safety hazards need,” and page 3353 Ms. Rosser was absent.

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

Approve Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve the payment of FY2014-15 invoices on Accounts Payable warrant dated 4/23/2015 in the amount of \$160,618.94 and approve the payment of FY 2014-15 invoices on Food Service warrant dated 4/23/2015 in the amount of \$40,915.90.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence Communications

- a. STPC – none.
- PTO- none.

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- b. LHS Student Council – none.
- c. Litchfield Prevention Council – none.
- d. Other Public Comment – none.
- e. Correspondence
 - Letter from Diane Wilson regarding facilities and maintenance.
 - Letter from Jonathan Pelto regarding SBAC testing classroom.
- f. Administrators' Reports
 - Ms. Murphy reported – SBAC testing to resume shortly and issues with the end of the year coming quickly.
 - Ms. Della Volpe reported – thanks to Administrative Assistants; chorus and band concerts Thursday and Tuesday; voter registration held on the 27th; Smarter Balance testing for grades 7 and 8 on April 28th to May 6th; Grade 11 later in year; AP testing to be scheduled; and Robotics Club to Killingly this week.
 - Ms. Turner reported – SBEC testing to begin on Monday finish the 21st of May; Ms. Clementson's Art show now taking place; through building; Art recycling project hanging in hallway to the cafeteria; add color to hallway; traced student bodies and outlined with bottle caps; and AOK club to come on Friday as Disney characters to meet students at end of day.
 - Mr. Fiorillo reported – smooth transition with Mr. Poole; budget report; food service; facilities; information technology; website; parent/staff communication; C.S. sidewalk status and regular meetings to be held with Mr. Holzman to review progress of maintenance issues.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent McMullin reported: projects started and completed during vacation week; C.S. sidewalk completion; status of flagpole and bricks; status of Music Baffles and their use; status of RFP bid and completion dates; new vacuums in use; SBAC issues for parents who opt out students from testing; input from principals regarding SBAC comfortable setting for students; SBAC testing schedule; National Latin Exam participants did well; thanks to Board members for their attendance at additional budget meetings; meeting with Prevention Council regarding survey results and making survey results available to the Board and the community.

Board members discussed: parent's concern for students who want to opt out of testing; having separate areas for students to go to; law notes nothing as "opting-out;" students can sit at computer in testing room and can read or work on computer; input from State department; no hostile environment; laws need to be obeyed; exemptions through IEP or English Language Learner; need 95% participation rate; and kids get results but not reported in newspaper.

Old Business

- a. 2015-2016 Budget

Mr. Simone reported – budget approved at seventeen million at 2.5% increase; and next Wednesday public hearing held.

New Business

a. Resignation

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to accept the resignation of Mike Roy as Latin teacher with regret and thanks.

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

b. Retirement

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the retirement of Barbara Salinger as Art teacher at L.H.S. with regret and thanks.

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

B1. Retirement

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Waugh: to approve the retirement of Jan Wilson as school psychologist with regret and thanks.

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

c. Child Nutrition Program

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve to reassign the **authorization change form** related to the National School Lunch Program; removing Herbert Pandiscio, Interim Superintendent and Arthur Poole, Interim Director of Business Operations and assigning Lynn McMullin, Superintendent and David Fiorillo, Director Business Operations effective April 22, 2015.

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

d. First Review – Text Book Proposal – A.P. US History.

Board members could review the book proposal available in the Central Office before the next Board meeting.

e. First Review – Text Book Proposal – A.P. Literature & Composition.

Board members could review the book proposal available in the Central Office before the next Board meeting.

Committee Reports

Curriculum Program and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the committee met and discussed: SRBI update with Ms. Mongeau; positives – supports lessons, alignment programs have begun; negatives – not consistent from building-to-building; need for point person in each building; data team training; goal to align in all buildings; update State Education Resource Center; SRBI intervention at MS; transition issues; teachers informed about student needs from SRBI; issues with being labeled; possible need for parent teacher conferences again; need for power school to be up and running; possible IEP Direct use; need for 504 to be included; cost module for Inform; book proposals to be reviewed; student survey and results; report in numbers and not percentages; May 20th formal presentation to Board; programs going forward; numbers included in survey; and curriculum update “Envision” and “Eureka,” on May 20th.

Scholarship Committee - Mr. Waugh reported that the committee will meet next week the 28th and 29th; extraordinary effort on the students’ part and the facilitators; and scholarship funding can even go as far as graduate school.

Finance Committee - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met on Monday and discussed: financial report update; issues with food service; need to make changes; too late to make changes for September; Superintendent and Business Manager will look in updating food service information; work with existing program for now; budget brought to Board of Finance; next Wednesday town hearing; figures left from Mr. Poole; issues with math program impact; and other options with remaining balance.

Policy - Ms. Carr reported that the meeting scheduled for tomorrow is cancelled.

Policies

a. Second Reading – Policy # 1325 Advertising and Promotion.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Clock: to approve Policy # 1325 Advertising and Promotion as revised.

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

b. Second Reading – Policy # 1330 Use of School Facilities.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Clock: to approve Policy # 1330 Use of School Facilities as revised.

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

c. Second Reading – Policy # 6115 Ceremonies and Observances.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve Policy # 6115 Ceremonies and Observances as revised.

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

d. Second Reading – Policy # 6144 Controversial Issues.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to approve Policy # 6114 Controversial Issues as revised.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Ms. Carr: 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