

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2011

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, at 7:05 p.m. in the Litchfield Intermediate School art room.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Messrs. Falcetti; Noone and Shuhi. Absent were Mr. Gorman and Mr. Katzin.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: Add item Iie Out of State Field Trip (Obolewicz).

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

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

- a. Approve the minutes of regular meeting February 9, 2011
- b. Approve the minutes of special meeting February 16, 2011
- c. Approve the payment of invoices for 2010-2011 budget as required
- d. Approve out of state field trip – New England Musical Festival, Burlington, VT
- e. Approve out of state field trip – Music in the Parks competition, Agawam, MA

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. Mr. Simone abstained. Mr. Shuhi abstained due to absence on February 9, 2011.

Public Comment and Correspondence

- a. STPC/PTO Update – no report.
- b. LHS Student Council – no report.
- c. Other Public Comment:
 - David Hannon – discussed a student discipline matter
 - Sean Dawson – discussed a student discipline matter
 - Jodianne Tenney – discussed the budget and appreciation for time and attention by BOE and administration
 - Rich Sandrib – discussed the budget

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d. Correspondence:

Kim D'Andrea – email regarding the Litchfield swim team
 Edward Miller – letter regarding the budget
 Mr. and Mrs. Hannon – letter regarding student discipline matter
 Sean Dawson – letter regarding student discipline matter
 L.E.F. – flyer for February 26, 2011 activity
 Joe Lefkowski – letter of resignation from coaching position

e. Administrators' Reports – no report

Superintendent's Report

- a. Received a letter from NEASC regarding Center School's five year progress report which has been accepted. The next site visit will be in the year 2015.
- b. LEF meeting – 3 upcoming fundraisers
 1. Saturday – “The Groove” at Bantam Firehouse
 2. LEF Palooza – at Litchfield Intermediate school on March 19th
 3. Evening with Clinton Kelly, including a meet and greet on May 6th
- c. Music Parents event – Jim Scott, guitarist. Rehearsing with choraleers and will hold a master guitar class on April 13th.

Old Business

- a. Strategic Plan Discussion – ready for finalization and adoption. Only two goals, eight objectives and activities; will be posted on district website; need to re-evaluate annually. Thanks were offered to Mr. Petricone for his work with the group.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Ms. Carr: to accept the Strategic Plan and adopt as board plan.

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

- b. All-Star Proposal – Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Buccitelli have met with owners of All-Star; to discuss a proposal for extension of the contract and for leasing of vans. The 2011-2012 rate maintained at \$259/day; next year flat at \$245/day then a 35 increase/per day. To purchase a new van we must budget \$8-9,000 for maintenance plus \$6,000 to purchase one new van. If we lease two vans from All-Star they would be new and completely equipped for \$1,000/month and All-Star would be solely responsible for all maintenance.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mr. Noone: to accept the extension of the bus contract.

MOTION withdrawn by Mr. Falcetti and second withdrawn by Mr. Noone.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to give provisional authority to Dr. Wheeler to enter into an extension of the All-Star bus contract subject to review by counsel that it is an extension and not a new contract subject to bid under our policy.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to accept the contract for two vans for leasing over the next four years.

MOTION withdrawn by Ms. Fabbri and second withdrawn by Mr. Falcetti.

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to go to bid on the two vans.

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

- c. 2011-2012 Draft Budget Proposal – had a discussion as to what options are available to make reductions in the proposed budget to satisfy the BOF requirements.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Noone: to reduce budget to 1.84% subject to further review as to how to adjust the individual items.

MOTION carried. Ms. Fabbri, Ms. Rosser, Ms. Carr and Mr. Noone voted in the affirmative and Mr. Shuhi and Mr. Falcetti voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

Committee Reports

Facilities and Technology – leasing and licensing, maintenance agreement; intrusion detection system; there is renewed interest on Town of Litchfield side to take the maintenance. Mr. Simone, Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Buccitelli, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Shuhi and Mr. Paul to hold meeting and discuss.

Curriculum, Programs and Personnel – K-6 Language Arts – very complete and includes Core Standards. Gender Parity Report – test scores from CMT to CAPT – we are doing well but after scrutiny see gap between boys’ and girls’ writing. The Middle School schedule was reviewed to consider moving it to block scheduling like the High School. Next meeting is in two weeks.

Finance – on going budget development discussions.

Policies

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Policy # 4100/4200 – Concept and Roles in Personnel.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Policy # 4111/4211 – Recruitment and Selection and regulation.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Policy # 4111.2 – Minority Teacher Recruitment Plan.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Policy # 4111.3 – Hiring.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative except for Mr. Shuhi who voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Policy # 4112.2 – Placement on Salary Schedule.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve Policy # 4112.6/4212.6 Personnel Records.

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

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MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Falcetti, Secretary
Gayle Carr, Recording Secretary