

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 2, 2011

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Intermediate School art room.

Present were: Mr. Simone, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Ms. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Messrs. Falcetti, Noone, Shuhi, Katzin (at 7:15 p.m.) and Gorman (at 7:35 p.m.).

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to add to the agenda as II c. letter of resignation and VIII. a first reading of Policy # 3310 Purchasing Guides.

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

Billy Bochicchio presented a thank you letter to the Board for their dedication to the students of Litchfield along with refreshments in honor of BOE recognition month.

MOTION made by Ms. Fabbri and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve the consent agenda with the following corrections: on age 2538, remove "Mr." from Shuhi in the second paragraph; under Public Comment and Correspondence add STPC/PTO Update – no report; add LHS Student Council – no report; move the comments made from Jodianne Tenney and Rich Sandrib that are under Old Business to Other Public Comment; add Correspondence with Kim D’Andrea – email regarding the Litchfield swim team; Edward Miller – letter regarding the budget; Mr. & Mrs. Hannon – letter regarding student discipline matter; Sean Dawson – letter regarding student discipline matter; L.E.F. – flyer for February 26, 2011 activity and Joe Lefkowski – letter of resignation from coaching position.

- a. Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting February 23, 2011.
- b. Approve the payment of invoices for 2010-2011 budget as required.
- c. Letter of resignation from Emile Bantea, Latin teacher, effective the end of the 2010-2011 school year.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

- a. STPC/PTO – no report

- b. LHS Student Council – Allison Irwin, Kaylee Cappello, Madeline Bove and Meghan Shipp reported on the student council sponsored Random Acts of Kindness Week activities, that focused on preventing bullying, at the high school.

Mr. Katzin arrived at 7:15 p.m.

- c. Other public comment

- Mr. Sandrib - commented on the bullying program presented this evening and had some budget reduction suggestions.
- Ms. Garden - commented on the budget and the Strategic Plan.

- d. Correspondence – no report

- e. Administrators' Reports – no report

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following:

- Phone call from referee Art Hamm commenting on the spirited, well behaved students at the basketball game last night.
- Leadership Council met March 1st and worked on enhancing our instructional practice and the next meeting will address designing professional learning activities for the faculty for 2011-2012.

Mr. Gorman arrived at 7:35 p.m.

Old Business - none

New Business

- a. Dr. Wheeler presented the 2011-2012 budget as proposed with input from the Facilities and Technology Committee; the Finance Committee and Administrative Council; bus contract; cost reductions and efficiencies; need to review Policy #3310 Purchasing Guides and Policy # 3320 Bid Requirements; budget for leasing or purchasing computers; long term budgeting commitments; job funds monies in the list of cuts; bidding for heating oil figure; FTE conversations; need for \$22,000 for special education tuition; reduction of staff over the next several years; flexible use of teaching time; elimination of programs for students if eliminate world language teacher at L.I.S.; science/supplemental skills position; keeping the world language position and revisiting the science position; 10 years of data demonstrates 232 less students and 18.4 FTE eliminated.

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Board consensus was to have a special meeting next Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. to further discuss the budget reductions.

Committee Reports

Facilities and Technology - Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met on February 22nd and discussed the following: budget issues; status of maintenance agreement; meeting with the First Selectman, Board of Finance, Chair, Superintendent, and Director of Business Operations; further discussion of the maintenance agreement will continue at the special meeting to be held on March 14th.

Programs and Personnel - Ms. Fabbri reported that the next meeting will be held on Thursday; March 20th.

Finance - Mr. Noone reported that the committee met on February 28th and discussed the budget. The next regular meeting will be Monday, March 28th.

Policies

- a. First Reading – Policy # 3310 Purchasing Guides – no changes noted, return for second reading at next regular meeting.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Gorman: to move to Executive Session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter. Dr. Wheeler was invited into the session.

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 resumes at 9:30 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Ms. Fabbri: to non-renew the contract of Christopher Vicare at the end of the current school year.

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

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MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Ms. Carr: to adjourn the meeting
at 9:07 p.m.

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

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