

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 22, 2009

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 in the Intermediate School art room.

Present were: Mr. Katzin, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Mrs. Fabbri; Mrs. Reardon; Messrs. Falcetti, Gorman, Noone, Shuhi, Simone; Dr. Wheeler; Ms. DellaVolpe; Mrs. Longobucco; and members of the public and the press.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mrs. Fabbri: to approve the consent agenda:

- a. Approve the minutes of Regular Meeting of April 7, 2009
- b. Approve the payment of invoices and adjustments to line item expenditures for 2008-09 budget as required.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

Mr. Waugh reported on the last Building Committee meeting including the following: settlement with Connecticut Carpentry; gym roof issue solutions and alternatives; settlement with Richards Corporation regarding soil issues; resolving sidewalk issue; town rejection to cost of repairs to sidewalks; punch list status; issues of security for the buildings; and Board priority list.

Board members discussed the following: former security system that was disabled; use money from capital budget for security expense; security being top priority; and possible warranty affect when gym roof is repaired.

Rachel Clarkin-Breslin reported on the Student Council activities at the high school.

Mr. Dranginis, Litchfield swim coach, commented on the status of the swim program with the closing of CJR and requested that the Board find a way to keep the program alive.

Mr. Burgess reported on the status of the Ad Hoc Committee on Holiday Traditions and Cultural Education including the following: process is on time; policy and regulation issues; Superintendent's responsibility; 20 committee members; using other town benchmarks; process gaps; philosophic principals; administration prerogative; responsibilities of the drafting committee and steering committee; May 19th share with entire committee; May 20th meet with Superintendent for feedback; bring back to committee and discuss how to bring the findings to the Board.

Litchfield Board of Education Regular Meeting, April 22, 2009

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following:

- Scheduled pool meeting on Friday at 1:30 with administration, Athletic Director, and people from Wamogo to move forward as quickly as possible.
- Successful lockdown held this week at the high school.
- Transportation meeting to be held on May 5th with the business office and Allstar transportation regarding policies and overview of the whole system.

Old Business

Board members discussed the scheduled retreat date for Thursday, May 7th at 6:00 p.m.

New Business

Rachel Clarkin-Breslin and Graham Maharg reported on their experience participating in the Rain Forest Project and how it has affected their lives and invited the Board to attend their dissertation to be held on the 28th at Forman School.

Catherine Lavoie, Sarah Jeanfavre; Camile Richards and Andrea Irwin outlined and reviewed the upcoming Health Fair that is scheduled for Friday, April 24th and invited Board members to participate.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Ms. Carr: to accept the Litchfield Center School Flat Roof Project #074-0037RR as complete pending the Superintendent's and Chair's review of the paperwork.

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

Committee ReportsFacilities and Technology Committee

Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee met this evening and was updated by Mr. Crowe on the surveillance cameras' costs and grant money. Also the technology plan for 09-12 was reviewed including makeup, content, and timeline.

Finance Committee

Mr. Noone reported that the committee met this evening to discuss ECS funding, adjustments to revenues and formulas. The town budget hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, the 29th at LIS at 7:00 p.m.

Litchfield Board of Education Regular Meeting, April 22, 2009

Programs and Personnel Committee

Mrs. Reardon reported that the committee will meet to discuss the evaluation process and early college experience on May 14th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Policy Committee

Ms. Carr reported that the committee will meet on May 14th from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to move to Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss a student disciplinary matter and confidential student records protected by law.

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

Mr. Simone recused himself. Dr. Wheeler and Kristen Della Volpe (LHS principal) were invited to attend.

Open session resumed at 8:31 p.m.

MOTION made by Mr. Katzin and seconded by Ms. Carr: that based on the evidence in the record, that Student A be expelled for a period of one calendar year, effective April 15, 2009 and continuing through April 15, 2010, based on Student A's conduct in possessing and offering for sale and/or distribution a controlled substance, on or about April 1, 2009, subject to the following conditions:

- a) During the period of expulsion, the board will provide Student A with an alternative educational opportunity deemed appropriate by the Administration.
- b) During the period of his expulsion, Student A will not be permitted to be on school grounds and will not be permitted to attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities, with the sole exception of his participation in the alternative education opportunity provided by the Board in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

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

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mrs. Fabbri: to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Reardon, Secretary
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary