

**LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Intermediate School Art Room.

Board members present were: Mr. Katzin, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Mrs. Fabbri; Mrs. Reardon; Messrs. Falcetti, Gorman, Noone, Shuhi, and Simone.

Also present were: Dr. Papallo; Mr. Buccitelli; Mr. Johnson; Ms. Marinelli; Mr. Zaremski; and members of the public and the press.

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

- a. Approved the Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 19, 2008.
- b. Approve the payment of invoices and adjustments to line item expenditures for 2008-09 budget as required.
- c. Approve request for extended child rearing leave to end at the 2008-09 school year for Lianne Ambrusco (8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies teacher LHS).
- d. Vote to accept Notices(s) of retirement effective June 30, 2009 – Ellen Koser (Supplemental Skills Mathematics K-6), John Salvestrini (Grade 6 LIS), Elizabeth Werner (Grade 1), Maureen Mancini (Kindergarten), and Marilyn Guerrera (Art LIS/LHS).

Board members thanked all that will be retiring in June for their many year of service to the system.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

Rhiann Peterson reported on the student council activities at the high school.

Mrs. Deering commented on the elimination of some of the celebrations for younger children and how important they were for her son when he was younger. Trevor read a letter from his mom to the Board regarding decisions that affect our children and suggested two options: to ignore all cultural diversity by not allowing any recognition of any celebration or encourage recognition of different cultures and use this opportunity as an excellent learning experience for our students.

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Board consensus was to place this topic on the agenda in the near future to further discuss the issue which is not a Board policy but CAFE had published some guidelines.

Administrative Reports

Ms. Marinelli reported on the following activities at the Intermediate School: conferences held this evening, tomorrow and Friday; winter concert to be held on December 18<sup>th</sup>; and report cards issued last Friday.

Mr. Crowe reported on the following: building project punch list; heating issues; analysis report due on the system; and meeting next week to evaluate the system.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Papallo reported on the following:

- Working with the principal's to "green" the schools.
- Assessing energy use of electricity.
- Initiating the budget process.
- Meeting held with First Selectman yesterday.
- Updated buses.
- Kitchen repairs.

Old Business

Dr. Papallo reported that he spoke with Tom Jokubaitis regarding candidates and hoped to identify one or more to interview soon. Other options are being considered including looking at sitting Assistant Superintendent's as candidates.

New Business

Board members reviewed for the first reading the Policies including – Series 2000, Bullying Policy #5131.2, Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Policies #4111.1/#4211.1, and Equal Education Opportunity/Non-Discrimination Statement (Students) #5000.

Board members discussed issues and possibly revisions within Bullying policy #5131.2.

Mr. Katzin distributed a copy of the 2009-2010 Fuel Oil Purchase Savings outline with fuel bid comparison from the consortium and Bantam Fuel and the Bantam Fuel bid savings for the cost of savings from 2008-09 to 2009-10.

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Board members discussed the following: possible opening bids to other vendors besides Bantam Fuel; fuel never has been bid out before; is administrative decision; bid policy guidelines; need to finalize contract before budget is completed; bio-fuel offered by Bantam Fuel; standardized language in the contract; timing is critical to lock in a good price; and final decision should be made by superintendent and may be made before the next meeting.

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mr. Simone: to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

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

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