

**LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 25, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at the Litchfield Intermediate School art room.

Present were: Mr. Katzin, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Mrs. Fabbri; Mrs. Reardon; Messrs. Falcetti, Gorman, Noone, Shuhi, Simone; Dr. Papallo; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Marinelli; Mrs. Longobucco; Mr. Buccitelli; Mr. Zaremski; and member of the press and the community.

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

- a. Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 11, 2009 with the following correction on page 2749 Mr. Shuhi commented that the Board could make comments regarding the technology plan.
- b. Approve the payment of invoices and adjustments to line item expenditures for 2008-09 budget as required
- c. Out-of-State Field Trip Requests (All-Eastern Honor Ensemble competition, Providence, RI). Timing did not allow the 6 week advance notice.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

Board members suggested that Mr. Waugh make a presentation to the Board regarding the Building Committee since one hasn't been made in a long time.

Chloe Calabrese reported on the student council activities at the high school.

Mr. Murray complimented the Board Chairperson for making public information regarding the new Superintendent's salary and compensation package.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Papallo reported on the following:

- Introduction of the newly selected Superintendent of Schools, Deb Wheeler who will be starting early in April. A reception will be held on Monday at the high school from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. to meet the new Superintendent.

Litchfield Board of Education Regular Meeting, February 25, 2009

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- Letter from state representative Chris Murphy regarding flexible application of IDEA money which might result in more money for Litchfield.
- Discussion with Cynthia Politano to request that Blue Cross to sharpen their pencils regarding rates that they presented.

New Business

Dr. Papallo recommended that the Board of Education nonrenew the teaching contract of

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Matthew McDevitt	Jessica DeLucia	Emily McAdam
Amy Killiany	Daniel Porri	Julie Tracy
Erin Casey	Seth Newton	Leah Schultz
Randi Donahue	Patrick Brintle	Jamie Sidella
Rachel Caporuscio	Geoffrey Brookes	Benjamin Storrs
Lisa Nobes	James Tornatore	Lindsay White
Melanie O'Leary	Diana Melendez	
Andrew Parker	Kathryn Oparowski	

at the end of the 2008-09 school year in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, and that the Board accept, adopt and ratify my determination that these contracts be nonrenewed.

He made this recommendation for the following reasons, any one or all of which he viewed to be sufficient basis for the recommended action:

Budgetary concerns, fiscal problems, student enrollment status, concerns about State financial aid, staff reorganization, administrative recommendation, classroom performance, and other due and sufficient cause.

The above-named teachers have been advised prior to this meeting that he intended to make this recommendation; and, if the Board takes action, the teacher has the right under Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151 to request the reasons for the Board's action to nonrenew his/her contract of employment and that further, depending upon those reasons, may be entitled to a due-process hearing to consider the Board's decision to nonrenew the contract of employment.

He also recommended that he be authorized and instructed to communicate notice of this action in writing to the affected parties and to respond for the Board to any appropriate requests which may be forthcoming from the teacher or his/her representatives as provided in the Teacher Tenure Law.

Litchfield Board of Education Regular Meeting, February 25, 2009

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MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to move that pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-151, the Litchfield Board of Education nonrenew the teacher contracts of:

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at the end of the 2008-09 school year as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools to ratify adopt and accept the Superintendent's determination that the contract be nonrenewed.

Further move that the Superintendent of Schools be directed to communicate this action of the Board in writing to the above-named teachers and that the Superintendent of Schools be authorized to respond on behalf of the Board of Education to any requests for a hearing, if required by law, or for other data which may be forthcoming from the above-named teachers and/or his/her representative pursuant to applicable provisions of Connecticut General Statutes 10-151; and further move that the Superintendent be directed that any response to a request for a hearing, if a hearing is required by law, indicate that such hearing is to be before the Board of Education.

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

Dr. Papallo presented the 2009-10 budget documents with 0% increase and a reduction of 5.5 FTE's with no teachers to be let go.

Board members discussed the following: recommendations from the Board of Finance for a zero percent increase; difficult budget for the administrators; Dr. Papallo expressed the loss to students with the elimination of Director of Curriculum and Instruction and referred to his cover letter included with the 2009-2010 budget; federal and state law mandates; deficits for students in the system; preparing them for the world; issue of test scores; Superintendent's job; difficult times; and need to come together for the students.

MOTION made by Mrs. Reardon and seconded by Mr. Noone: to approve the Board of Education 2009-2010 proposed budget as presented.

Litchfield Board of Education Regular Meeting, February 25, 2009

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MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative except Ms. Carr who voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.

Committee Reports

Facilities and Technology Committee

Mr. Shuhi reported that a meeting will be held soon to discuss the technology plan that is due to Education Connection in June.

Finance Committee

Mr. Noone reminded the Board that the budget will be presented to the Board of Finance on Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Intermediate School art room.

Programs and Personnel Committee

Mrs. Reardon reported that a joint meeting was held last Thursday with the Finance Committee.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

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

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