

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2008

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 19, 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; Mrs. Longobucco; Ms. Marinelli; Mr. Zaremski; and members of the public.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to add to the agenda as item 7b. a discussion on the purchase of fuel oil.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Ms. Carr: to add to the agenda as item VIII(e) an Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent search status.

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

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

- a. Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 5, 2008
- 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. Mr. Simone abstained.

Public Comment and Correspondence

Mr. Murray commented on the status of the hiring of the Superintendent, past superintendents, impressive interim Superintendent, and reluctance of the Board to publish contracts of the professionals on the website.

Board members received the following correspondence: a letter from a parent requesting transportation out of district for their child, and a letter (read by Mr. Katzin) from Mrs. Scozzafava giving praise and honor to the educational support professionals.

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Administrative Reports

Mrs. Longobucco reported on the following activities at Center School: a successful Veteran's Day event; end of trimester with different assessments in reading; and conferences scheduled for December 10, 11 and 12.

Mrs. Marinelli reported on the following activities at the Intermediate School: thanks to the Board for attending the demonstration this evening of the ropes course; and scheduling conferences for December 10, 11, and 12.

Mr. Zaremski reported on the Litchfield 2006-07 Annual Performance on Connecticut's State Performance Plan.

Mr. Johnson reported on issues with the Rosetta Stone on-line language program; ABC Cleo on-line service; Turn it in service and full day pull outs of the departments at the High School and Middle School for curriculum writing that should be ready for the end of the year.

Mr. Buccitelli reported that the business department is making progress.

Mr. Crowe reported on the following: status of the FF&E requests from the building committee; and the construction issues list has been addressed.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Papallo reported on the following:

- Interacting and conversing with the staff
- Potential savings in the budget
- Assisting Mr. Buccitelli
- Board management
- Tour of buildings and grounds
- Parking issues
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Old (Unfinished) Business

Mr. Katzin reported that the Superintendent's search committee interviewed 2 candidates last week and further discussion will be held in Executive Session regarding the candidates.

Ms. Carr presented the series of policies from 0000 and 1000 with the Policies addressed as follows:

Policy #0100 – Second Reading for revisions and adoption

Policy #0200 – Second Reading to rescind

Policy #0400 – Second Reading for revisions and adoption

Policy #0521 – Second Reading to rescind

Policy #0600 – Second Reading for revision and adoption

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Policy #1110 – Second Reading for revision and adoption
 Policy #1112.11 - Second Reading to rescind
 Policy #1112.13 - Second Reading to rescind
 Policy #1120 - Second Reading for revision and adoption
 Policy #1210 – Second Reading for revision and adoption
 Policy #1220 – Second Reading for revision and adoption
 Policy #1250 – Second Reading for revision and adoption
 Policy #1251 – Second Reading to rescind
 Policy #1314 – Second Reading for revision and adoption
 Policy #1330 – Second Reading for revision and adoption

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mrs. Reardon: to adopt the policies that were discussed after the first read and second reading.

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

New Business

The agenda item regarding notice of retirement should read June 2009 and not 2008.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to accept the notice of retirement from Gary Abel effective June 30, 2009, with regret.

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

Board members discussed the fuel oil issues including the following: purchases for this year; \$3.52.9/gallon for 90,000 gallons; consortium issues; contracting for fuel without the consortium; \$2.35/gallon as of today; happens once every 10 years; usually beneficial; agreements signed; have legal opinion; need to lock in prices to budget for it; timing for locking in the price for next year; input from petroleum advisor; town fuel purchases; possible joint purchase with town for better price/gallon; surrounding town practices; need to get a guarantee from local oil company with a formal contract; and possible savings over last year.

Committee Reports

Mr. None reported that representative of Finance Committee met with the Board of Finance a week ago Monday, to discuss the upcoming budget process and is off to a good start.

Ms. Carr reported that the Policy Committee will meet on Monday, the 24th to discuss the 2000 policies in the book.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to move to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss Superintendent Search process.

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

Open session resumed at 9:15 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by D. Falcetti: to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m.

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

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