

**LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**JANUARY 20, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Intermediate School Art room.

Present were: Mr. Katzin, Chairperson; Ms. Carr; Mrs. Fabbri; Ms. Rosser; Messrs. Falcetti, Gorman, Noone, Shuhi, Simone; Dr. Wheeler; Mr. Buccitelli; Ms. Della Volpe; Ms. Marinelli; Mrs. Kubisek; Mr. Zaremski; the public and the press.

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

- a. Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting, January 6, 2010 and Special Meeting, January 11, 2010 with the following correction on page 2012 (January 6<sup>th</sup> minutes) under STPC change "internet safety," to "drug and alcohol abuse."
- b. Approve the payment of invoices for 2009-2010 budget as required.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence

Mrs. Moore reported on the following PTO activities: next meeting January 25<sup>th</sup> at Center School; Dr. Wheeler will present the budget process; and Mrs. Fabbri will present information concerning the Parent Academies.

Haley Didomizio reported on the student council activities at the high school.

Board members received a thank you note from Sue and Peter Carpenter for supporting funding for the rainforest chaperone.

Ms. Marinelli reported on the following activities at the Intermediate School: during early release last week teachers worked on professional goals, Language Arts benchmarks, student data, incorporating skills into units; relief efforts with Hats for Haiti which raised \$800.

Ms. Della Volpe reported on the following activities at the High School: upcoming mid-term exam schedule; possible grant opportunities by Nick Primo to supplement the art program; and thanks from Wamogo administrators for supporting the pasta supper for the Gravel family.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to switch agenda item V with item IV.

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

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Student Presentation – Mrs. Orefice’s Sewing Essentials Course (LHS)

Mrs. Orefice introduced Alison Irwin and Rianne Petersen as student presenters and explained about the Sewing Essentials course including: hands-on applications through literacy, mathematics, real life applications, integration of the content areas; and direct application to life skills. The students presented their classmates’ projects including: aprons, hats, machine covers, sweat shirts; purses and an embroidery sample. They thanked the Board for the support of the program and shared that they plan to move to community involvement with fundraiser products.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following:

- Community Connection portal has been launched with access to questions/answers and information on the district web site.
- Being selected to sit on the Small District Committee for CAPSS.
- Update on RTTT including attending information meeting with Mrs. Mongeau and Mr. Katzin and concluding not to sign on at this time.
- The district has the opportunity to apply for a grant that would fund activities and staffing for a Cooperative Work Experience program at Litchfield High School. Wayne Prescott will develop the grant proposal.
- Board members agreed to support the application process for the Cooperative Work Application grant.

Old Business

Board members discussed the Strategic Plan including the following: budget reduction options; impact of declining enrollment; reductions needed; different ways of delivering programs; 5-year projections; input from Board of Finance; effects on class sizes; staff reductions; expectations for students to enter college; Foreign language requirements; adjust to student needs; need to be competitive; NCLB expectations; CWE impact on staff; school improvement plan; NEASC expectations; maximize effectiveness; reflect how students learn; and input from the Superintendent on areas that might be impacted; graduation requirements; Ct. Economic Develop Council input; and next meeting set for Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

New Business

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Shuhi: to approve the out of state field trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC for 12<sup>th</sup> graders on May 25, 2010 and to Museum of Natural History in NYC for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade on March 25, 2010.

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

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Mr. Noone reported the committee met this evening and discussed the Superintendent’s preliminary review of possible budget reductions for 2010-2011.

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Curriculum/Programs and Personnel Committee

Mrs. Fabbri reported the committee met January 14<sup>th</sup> and discussed the mid-year evaluation of the Superintendent and her goals and the Strategic Plan. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11th.

Policy Committee

Ms. Carr reported that the next meeting is tomorrow evening, January 21.

Policies: Policies #9010 Limits of Authority, and #9230 Orientation of Board Members were presented for a second reading and adoption of revisions:

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: to approve revisions to Policy #9010 Limits of Authority, and #9230 Orientation of Board Members.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Ms. Carr: to move to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss the Superintendent's goals. The Superintendent was invited to attend.

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

Executive Session

Present: All the above Board members and Dr. Wheeler. (Mr. Gorman left the meeting at 7:34 p.m.)

Open session resumed at 9:30 p.m.

No action was taken.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mrs. Fabbri: to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

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

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