

LITCHFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 26, 2009

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Wednesday, August 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Intermediate School cafeteria.

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

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

- a. Approve the Minutes of Special Meeting Minutes, July 23, 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. Mr. Simone abstained.

Public Comment and Correspondence

Mrs. Fabbri reported on the STPC update including the following: Yankee Candle fundraiser starting with the opening of school; and first meeting September 17th at LHS Library at 6:30 p.m.

Mitch Dupre reviewed a letter requesting the Board's support of the co-op football program he participates in with Foreman School.

Board members received a letter from Kim Lasky questioning the financial support for the swim team and requesting financial support for the football team.

Mr. Murray commented on curriculum issues and his opinion of the results of the curriculum director's tenure.

Mr. Katzin commented on the budget process and requested that funding for 2009-2010 is established including funding for athletics.

Mrs. Harrison commented potential use of schools as H1N1 vaccination sites and requested that the Board enact a policy to fully inform parents of which vaccinations are legally required for school entry and provide a link to find that information easily.

Ms. Della Volpe outlined the NEASC process/timeline and reviewed the 4 remaining recommendations that need a response by February 1, 2011. Some of these are already in place.

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Superintendent's Report

Dr. Wheeler reported on the following:

- An update on personnel with all positions being filled except the Spanish position.
- Back-to-school activities and schedules including new teacher orientation, PD with Region 6, back-to-school welcome day, and students' return on Wednesday, Sept. 2nd.

Old Business

Board members discussed the Strategic Planning process including the following: scope of the committee; possibility of having a person to coordinate the effort; need organizational skills and drive; helpful to have a point person; possible use of former Superintendent or Board chair; need to have someone that is familiar with the school system and town; need to review plans from other towns; possible use of CABE person/resources; Ed Connection resources; need for community participation in committee meetings; and need for common plan to solicit input from community.

New Business

MOTION made by Ms. Carr and seconded by Mr. Gorman: to adopt AP American Government & Politics curriculum as reviewed and approved by the College Board.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Falcetti and seconded by Mrs. Reardon: to add to the agenda as item VII b a first reading of policy #3110- Budget; 3541.3 – School Approved Trips and as item VII c a first reading of policy 6115 – School Ceremonies and Observances and 6115.1 – Religions Observances and Displays.

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

Along with the above policies Board members reviewed the following policies for the first reading (with revisions):

#3000 Business

#3250 Income – Materials and Fees

#3260 Income – Sale and disposal of Books, Equipment and Materials

#3313.1 Relations With Vendors – This Policy was rescinded.

#3323 Bid Requirements

#3434 Periodic Audit

#3440 Inventories

#3510 Operation and Maintenance of Plant

#3532 Insurance

#3541.3 School Approved Trips

#6115 School Ceremonies and Observations – Pledge of Allegiance and U.S. Flag

#6115.1 Religious Observances and Displays (accompanying regulations will be further reviewed by Administration)

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No Changes were made to the following policies, therefore, they will be marked as reviewed by Board.

#3240 Tuition Fees

#3310 Purchasing Guides

#3313 Local Purchasing

#3313.1 Local Purchasing Administrative Regulation was reviewed – Relations With Vendors subtitled was removed.

#3326 Paying for Goods and Services (since the board did not change the review of bills to “quarterly”, there is no change to this policy)

#3515 Use of Facilities (reference to policies governing same)

#3516 Operation and Maintenance of Plant – Safety

#3517 Operation and Maintenance of Plant – Security of Buildings and Grounds

#3517 AR – Regulation re Security

#3450 Monies in School Buildings

#3533 Employee Bonds

Committee Reports

Facilities and Technology Committee

Mr. Shuhi reported that the committee will meet on September 21st.

Finance Committee

Mr. Noone reported that the committee met last evening and reviewed the year-end financial report. 2010-2011 budget talks will begin in the fall.

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Ms Carr: 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