A special meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the L.C.S. gym.

Present were: Ms. Carr, Chair; Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Morosani; Mr. Pavlick; Mr. Shuhi; Mr. Simone; and Mr. Terzian.

Absent was: Ms. Stone.

Also present were: Superintendent Turner; Mr. Fiorillo; the press and members of the public.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 27, 2019 as submitted.

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

MOTION made by Mr. Clock and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting with the following corrections on page 3812 delete Ms. Kubisek’s name; and capitalize, “Spelling Bee.”

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

Payment of Invoices

MOTION made by Mr. Pavlick and seconded by Mr. Falcetti: approve the payment of FY 2018-19 invoice on Accounts Payable warrant # 2019-20 dated 3/20/2019 in the amount of $301,854.83; on Food Services warrant dated 3/20/2019 in the amount of $13,619.03.

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

Public Comment and Correspondence Communications

a. STPC – none.
   PTO – none.
b. LHS Student Council – none.
d. Litchfield Education Foundation – none.
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e. Other public comment.
   - Mr. Stedronsky commented: distributed a handout, “School unification: collaboration vs regionalization,” and clarified the difference of them both with collaboration recommended.
   - Mr. Burgess commented: shared a voice mail regarding insurance for the town and issues with insurance recommendations and opportunity for the town to be included if possible.

f. Correspondence- none.
g. Administrators’ Report – none

New Business

a. Instructional Rounds.

Superintendent Turner distributed a handout “Instructional Rounds Update,” reviewed the following: background of program; progress update; March 6th faculty meeting; observations on March 27th and April 25th; May 8th sharing of observations; plans for next year; L.H.S.: teams in May; training in May; focus on topics; professional reading included; 3 day visit to sites; 13 classroom visits; 12 more this week; L.M.S.: videos; practice scripting; PD scheduled; shared learning; foster independence; schedules for April 3rd; L.I.S.: 8 teachers involved; add training schedule; complete 2 sets; instructional strategies; L.C.S.: staff to student; student to student; focus of meetings; sample from schools; ending in May; process across district; focus of schools could be different; launching this year; committed to next year; in own buildings; and plans for next year.

Board members discussed: peer review; peer feedback; evidence shared; instructional core; feedback to whole staff; team visits; compile data; next step for stakeholders; and what to do next.

b. Ad Hoc Technology Committee.

A final report “LPS BOE Ad Hoc Tech A Day with Tech, K-8” March 2019, was distributed to Board members to review with the presentation to be done at the next Board meeting.

Old Business


Board members discussed the following: need to focus on students but also the town costs; issues with voicemail heard earlier played by Mr. Burgess; issues with allowing town to apply for ConnectiCare; up to town; possible bid with town; net savings issues; town needs to do own due diligence; Board’s budget at 3.87%; input from BOF; cost savings for the school; issues with not wanting the town included in insurance bid; town should go to
ConnectiCare to get bid; being with town for 29 years; multiple issues with town; HIPAA issues town violated; disturbing facts; town needs to seek own bids; total bid for BOE; input from Mr. Burgess; issues with BOE instructing ConnectiCare to not bid for the town; couldn’t speak at meeting today because special meeting status; need to reconsider vote on budget to allow town to get estimates; issues with ConnectiCare coverage for some families; creating animosity with the town; issues when town jettisoned exterior maintenance; difficulty working with the town; issues with what is good for the school and the town; need time for more discovery; BBB issues with ConnectiCare; expand options; $250,000 savings for Board; issues with town employees coverage; if don’t save $250,000 then budget will go back to over 5% increase; input from Mr. Fiorillo; premature budget; if go in with 139 people get one estimate but if go in with larger number like 180 get bigger savings; better deal with larger numbers; need for town to get their own figures; BOE numbers vs. town numbers; some confusion; issues with staying with town, then more difficult to partner up with other districts in the future, which is the Board’s goal; input from Community Conversation; need to look at plan; move to combine with Region 6; Region 6 has no municipal employees in their policy; makes more difficult to combine systems; 2 year process to combine; issues with covering next year; July 1, 2021; cost to town issues; one town; students important, but so is town needs; need for town to get their insurance; issues with BOF if go in at 5%; will still want to cut, which might mean losing teachers; $250,000 savings, with $30,000 cost with town employees is still a savings of $220,000; having employees pay increase; possible savings for town; one time stop gap; clarifying issues; budget amount from Leo Paul; possible bid for insurance; saving $250,000 best for district; decent package for employees; stand ground; possible access to ConnectiCare; need to get own quote; need to investigate pool; union has to approve; up to unions to examine and approve; complaints about insurance companies are common; Region 6 and 10 have ConnectiCare; town needs to do their own due diligence; issues with town not all coming out; 3.87% increase up to BOF to direct; possible teachers to be eliminated; need to ask questions; courses offered with Region 6; electives offered; students getting primary selections; course selection offerings; issues concerning course numbers; low numbers can choose independent studies; 80% of budget is people; Board not involved in scheduling; department offerings; look at departments with low numbers; how to determine how many teachers will be needed; budget numbers is for kids; how determine staff needs with low number courses; numbers not available when determining budget; low enrollment issues; 8th grade choices; L.H.S. specifications needed; large variation in FTE; conflicts occur; need to support L.H.S. needs; Litchfield demands # 1 schools and willing to pay for it; need for comprehensive education; input from community; need to attract young families; insurance as plan specific; must be comparable to plan they have now; union reps notified; not bidding against ourselves; come back to us if issues; and need to go forth as cooperating with town.

**MOTION** made by Mr. Terzian and seconded by Mr. Morosani: to rescind the budget vote and go back to the town for further cooperation.

**MOTION failed.** Mr. Morosani, Mr. Shuhi, and Mr. Terzian voted in the affirmative. Ms. Carr, Mr. Clock; Mr. Falcetti; Mr. Pavlick; and Mr. Simone voted in the negative. There were no abstentions.
Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Turner distributed a copy of “Superintendent’s Report, March 21, 2019,” and discussed: student achievement; MAP testing on going with analysis after completed; culture; Litchfield Prevention Council hosted Internet Safety program presented by Scott Driscoll on March 11th; appreciate their generosity; communication; District Newsletter distributed last week; thanks to Roe Cook; resources; 2019-2020 budget presented to BOF last night; and need for guidance from them going forward.

Committee Reports - none

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Pavlick: to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Terzian, Secretary
Joanne Bertrand, Recording Secretary