A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education Ad Hoc Collaboration Committee was held on Monday, August 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in the Central Office Conference Room.

Members present: Mr. Morosani (chair); Superintendent Turner, Mr. Fiorillo and Dr. Tenney. Also present: Members of the public.

MOTION made by Dr. Tenney and seconded by Mr. Fiorillo: to add agenda item to follow up on other collaborative endeavors.

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

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION made by Dr. Tenney and seconded by Mr. Fiorillo: to approve the minutes of April 30, 2018, May 14, 2018 and May 21, 2018.

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

New Business:

a. Collaboration between Litchfield and Wamogo drama departments: Litchfield and Wamogo theater staff were in attendance along with two school principals. One parent, Mr. Kuegler was also in attendance. Mr. Kuegler had sent a letter with concerns to Mr. Morosani and Supt. Turner and at the meeting main concerns were addressed: wanting students to remain the focus of program, not wanting students who have been doing theater which has been valuable experience to get cut, what is focus – the show or the students? Litchfield stage is smaller than Wamogo’s stage. Litchfield can only have 25 students on stage. Currently, two students are registered to try out for the Wamogo show. Not sure how many will audition for Litchfield and spaces are limited. Overall summary: Decision was made to offer more opportunities for students, there will be bumps in the road, all parties want to do what is right for students as well as put on a good production, school directors and theater staff will use professional judgement to cast shows considering both the needs of students and the needs of the production, two producers will communicate with one another to work together for schedules, student academic standing, etc.

b. Update on enrollment in courses shared by Litchfield and Wamogo: eight Wamogo students attending Litchfield courses, two Litchfield students attending Wamogo. Some numbers still need to be confirmed.
c. Update on logistics for students in shared courses: Ms. Della Volpe will touch base with Wamogo principal to confirm bus routes, PowerSchool issues. Teachers should be able to add students to Google Classroom.

d. Plans for parents to be briefed on transportation between the two schools (see below)

e. Plans to welcome parents and students to the other school: Ms. Della Volpe will call parents to reach out. Also, need to give parents a Wamogo number to call in case any issues with transportation.

f. Plans for coordinating meeting between Litchfield and Region 6 Boards: Mr. Morosani proposed that the BOE approve a smaller planning group comprised of the chair of the Ad Hoc Collaboration subcommittee and his counterpart from the Region 6 Long Term Planning Committee, the two district BOE chairs, and the two district superintendents to prepare for a meeting between Region 6 and Litchfield boards of education. The planning group would determine goals for the larger meeting, topics to discuss, and how to organize the meeting so that an effective structure is in place before we sit down together.

g. Follow up on other collaborative endeavors: Torrington Superintendent resigned so there was no meeting with Torrington to discuss PD. Ms. Turner would still like to collaborate with Torrington and will continue to follow up.

Mr. Fiorillo reached out to Thomaston for food services. No change. Still as planned. Mr. Fiorillo has been meeting regularly about food services. Though Region 6 was considering collaborating for food services, they pulled out. Expressed that this was not the direction we were hoping as we are hoping to increase collaboration with Region 6

Technology – We were looking at plan with EdAdvance for Chrome Book purchases but we got a better deal on our own.

Mr. Morosani asked about collaboration on curriculum development. Could be future area for collaborative efforts. Superintendent Turner said that she would reach out to adjacent school systems to see if there is interest.

Ms. Scozzafava was present and mentioned that the legacy program would be a great program to open to other districts. Currently, any tuition reimbursement that the district receives goes to the town, not to the schools so we would not want to take on more tuition-based students until this is changed. Mr. Fiorillo will put tuition reimbursement motion on next BOE agenda.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday September 24th at 5:00 p.m.
MOTION made by Dr. Tenney and seconded by Mr. Fiorillo: to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Morosani
Recording Secretary