

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
APRIL 2, 2018 SPECIAL SESSION – 7:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: Jason Nowosad, Chairman Bert Bosse, Vice Chair
William Meese, Secretary Alexis Margerelli-Hussey
Maureen McCall Al Vertefeuille
Sarah Haynes Dawn Whitcher

ABSENT: Keith Wentworth, Silas Olsen, Student Representative

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Robert Angeli, James Apicelli, LMHS Principal, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum, Robert Sirpenski, Business Manager, Kathleen Smith, teacher, Sandy Belisle, R.N., Betsy Petrie, First Selectman, Resident Trooper Colin Konow

I. CALL TO ORDER

J. Nowosad called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM

II. PRESENTATION

1. Presentation by Trooper Konow on School Resource Officers
Trooper Konow outlined the goals and objectives of a resource officer. An MOU is being worked on between the Town and the district. The position would be more of a mentor role. Trooper Konow discussed the duties of the position. He discussed a Juvenile Review Board. The position would report to the resident trooper. Discussion of hiring the right person. The Board of Finance would have to decide to keep in the budget. The full Board would have to approve the MOU. B. Petrie noted the position would be an employee of the Town. She reviewed the roles of everyone in the process. She distributed a CABA article. She hoped that this could be worked on as a community. She explained the steps in the process. She would appreciate support. B. Bosse noted that the potential cost of the position may be up to \$100,000.00 and is not in the BOE budget. B. Petrie noted the position is a stand-alone item. It may cost up to \$32,000.00 for health insurance. D. Whitcher questioned if the person would be available to the elementary school and if there are issues with the officer who they would go to.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9300

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes - None

IV. DISCUSS AND ACT ON

1. Requesting School Resource Officer

Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by J. Nowosad that the Board of Education request the Board of Selectmen to provide the school community with a proactive Police

presence in the form of a School Resource Officer, acknowledging that roles/responsibilities and hours shall be determined at a later date prior to assignment of the officer.

W. Meese noted that the Board of Finance put the position in the budget. He questioned the process and if things were vetted properly. Training, physical security and security drills were discussed. Are we up to date on security drills? Superintendent Angeli noted that every school is running drills. The resident trooper cannot be present at all drills. He has observed drills. The SRO could be there for drills. An older model was being used for drills. New drills and training are being worked on. There is also a new lock down procedure. B. Bosse spoke in favor of the position. There is a tremendous advantage to having an officer at the high school. He described his previous experience at Hale Ray and Tolland. The position could be assessed at the end of a year to see the benefit. It would not be a lifelong contract. The Town could remove the position contingent upon Board of Finance funding. Criminal activity in the schools was discussed. What data exists on criminal activity? The superintendent responded that any community has criminal activity. Students may bring activities into school. The position would not be the same as guidance, social worker or psychologist. S. Haynes questioned who would collect the data. Trooper Konow noted that he has data. There has been an increase in incidents. There have been multiple incidents linked to social media and comments in school. There have been two sexual assault investigations this year. He feels the trend is of less regard for the law and respect is less and less every year. The SRO could intervene and educate students at a younger age. Behavior could be curtailed through education. He noted that has been no formal training of staff. Superintendent Angeli corrected by saying the staff were still operating on older training. The staff just received new training in the Run/Hide/Fight protocol. J. Nowosad noted there has been a shift since Newtown. The SRO could compile data. Trooper Konow noted that juveniles are protected by law. Discussion of the data that could be provided and what is confidential. W. Meese questioned the chain of command and not being responsible to the school. This would need to be in the MOU. Trooper Konow noted that public safety is victim driven. D. Whitcher questioned if the officer could work off campus. Trooper Konow responded that the officer would have misdemeanor and felony arrest authority within the town. M. McCall questioned if the SRO would work with psychologist to identify troubled students. Trooper Konow noted that the FBI has a program on awareness. There is an FBI agent from New Haven that has trained troopers at Troop K. Training could be explored.

Vote – in favor – B. Bosse, J. Nowosad, M. McCall, D. Whitcher. A. Vertefeuille. A. Margerelli-Hussey. S. Haynes. Opposed – W. Meese. Motion passed.

J. Nowosad will generate letter to the Board of Selectmen.

2. Set 2018 Graduation Date

Superintendent Angeli noted that barring any additional cancellations the last day of school would be June 22, 2018.

Motion made by W. Meese and seconded by M. McCall to set the graduation date as June 22, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by A. Vertefeuille to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.
Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman, Board Clerk