

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER
April 10, 2018 REGULAR SESSION – 7:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT:	Jason Nowosad, Chairman	William Meese, Secretary
	Bert Bosse, Vice Chairman	Alexis Margerelli-Hussey
	Maureen McCall	Al Vertefeuille
	Keith Wentworth	Dawn Whitcher
	Sarah Haynes	Silas Olsen, Student Representative

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Robert Angeli, James Apicelli, LMHS Principal, Ann Birell, LMHS Assistant Principal, Rita Quiles-Grover, LES Principal, Kathleen Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum, Robert Sirpenski, Business Manager, Jacques Dulac, Director of Information Technology, Kathleen Smith, teacher, John Cote, teacher, Pia Perry, teacher, Alison Zimnoch, Cianna Brown, Clark Smithwick, Calleigh Seagrave, Michelle Firestone, Willimantic Chronicle

I. CALL TO ORDER

J. Nowosad called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. COMMUNICATION

1. Letter of Resignation
Superintendent Angeli read the letter of resignation from Margaret Wilson.
2. Letter from Pond View Farm Excavating & Trucking LLC
J. Nowosad read portions of the letter.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – BYLAWS OF THE BOARD #9300

Public participation – 30 minutes; Individual speaker – 2 minutes
Dennis Cronin, Babcock Hill Road, has concerns with the \$100,000.00 for the SRO officer. He feels it is a reactive position. Wants to know if the request was from the Board of Finance or the Board of Education. Is it policy driven. Question of State Police involvement.

Motion made by A. Vertefeuille and seconded by D. Whitcher to suspend the rules and move up Item V Celebration of Excellence up on the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by A. Vertefeuille to consider Item V before Item IV. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

Principal Quiles-Grover noted that the Invention Convention had 27 inventors participating this year. Judges chose four students who competed in the regional convention that was held on April 9th. They will be moving onto the state level on April 28th at UConn. P. Perry introduced each student who demonstrated their robot and their inventions. Refreshments were enjoyed by all.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – 3/5/18
 - 2. Goals/SP/Communication Subcommittee – 3/15/18
 - 3. Policy Subcommittee – 3/15/18
 - 4. Physical Plant/Facilities Subcommittee – 3/15/18
 - 5. Regular Meeting – 3/15/18
 - 6. Special Meeting – 3/19/18
 - 7. Special Meeting – 3/28/18
 - 8. Finance/Budget Subcommittee – 4/2/18
 - 9. Special Meeting – 4/2/18
 - 10. Budget Transfers

Motion made by A. Vertefeuille and seconded by B. Bosse to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. REPORT OF COMMITTEES

S. Haynes reported the Curriculum Subcommittee had met last Thursday and the minutes will be in the next meeting.

VII. ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

No additional information.

VIII. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

S. Olsen reported that this past month, Lyman welcomed the Looking in Theatre from the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts. This student group performed sketches that tackled some of the most controversial and difficult topics that high schoolers face on a daily basis, and had a very real impact on most of the students. High School Prom is also upcoming, which will be held at St. Clement's castle. Grease the musical was a success, and had sold out shows. Student Council also held a clothing drive, including prom dresses and tuxedos for the Lebanon Children's Clothing Wardrobe. Because of the cost, the deli at the high school closed for good this week, which was extremely disappointing to many students who used it as a healthy option. Students have also noticed that the quantity and quality of specialty hot lunches, such as make your own days, has decreased since earlier this year. Spring sports have started, although the continuing winter weather has postponed many games. Lyman track and field had an invitational last Saturday. Lyman baseball is off to a 1-1 start and the softball team is up to a 2-0 start. Boys' tennis is 1-0 as of yesterday. The spring concert at the middle school will be held on April 26th at 7:00.

IX. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

1. Enrollment – there are eight more students than last year. Magnet schools are the same.
2. Free/Reduced Lunch - there has been a change at the State level. Medicaid can now be billed. This means there are an additional 80 students in the program. The average for the district is 25%. K. Wentworth asked if there was any gain for the schools. The superintendent reported there may not be a gain for the schools. Some districts bill Medicaid.
3. Cell Tower Project Update – the Town is moving forward with the project. There is a Public Hearing scheduled for May 1st at 6:30 PM at the Fire Safety Complex. This will generate revenue for the Town.
4. Transportation Bid – the superintendent and business manager have met with the bus company. Would like to hold off on going out to bid for the contract. M & J would like to work with us. The superintendent and business manager would like to see flat funded. The contract may be 2 ½% to double digits if we go out to bid. K. Wentworth noted we may have to go out to bid due to Town ordinance. The superintendent noted that the Town purchasing policy doesn't have control. BOE policy controls education spending. The contract expires at the end of the school year. R. Sirpenski noted that the bids are higher in the region due to higher health insurance costs, shortage of drivers, wages and sick days for drivers. W. Meese noted that they may be motivated to come in low. R. Sirpenski noted the competition of Sprague, Franklin and Windham. They have a physical presence in Windham. We could extend the contract. Consensus was to negotiate with M & J.
5. Snow/Ice Removal Bid – we manage but the Town pays for it. The letter from the contractor is included tonight. The superintendent has spoken with the First Selectman and it is her expectation that the contract will go out to bid for one year with annual renewals. An RFP will be built. B. Bosse suggested a provision for extensions in the one year contract. D. Whitcher questioned the quality of service of the contractor and if there is immediate feedback. The superintendent noted that there is immediate feedback from administrators and teachers. The contractor is obligated to make any repairs. Any concerned parent should talk to administrator of the respective building.
6. Health Insurance Update – there will be meetings for district staff this Thursday, April 12. This will be ahead of negotiations with the bargaining units. The Board attorney will also attend. The First Selectman was invited.
B. Bosse questioned the progress of negotiations with the custodians. The superintendent noted that there have been some e-mail exchanges. He has met the union representative. They are waiting on the union. The representative has met with the attorney.

X. FINANCE REPORT

1. 2017-2018 Budget
R. Sirpenski noted we are on track. Fuel oil may be over due to continued cold weather. K. Wentworth inquired if the fuel oil is bid by the gallon. R. Sirpenski responded we contract for a number of gallons. We get a monthly report. If we go, over pay market price.

XI. DISCUSS/ACT ON

1. Letter of Resignation
Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by K. Wentworth to accept the resignation of Margaret Wilson with regret. Motion passed unanimously.
2. 2018-2019 Special Education Rates for Tuition Students
Motion made by A. Vertefeuille and seconded by B. Bosse to accept the 2018-2019 Special Education Rates for Tuition Students as presented. Superintendent Angeli

noted the rates are slightly different than in the past. The rates in the DRG were looked at. K. Wentworth inquired if this would be revenue positive. The rate for instructional assistants was discussed. This will be billed out. Motion passed with D. Whitcher and S. Haynes abstaining.

3. Copier/Service/Supplies Bid

Superintendent Angeli noted that the bids came in last Friday. Some bids were on different machines. R. Sirpenski and J. Dulac need to analyze bids and compare with the budget. They are very detailed bids. Some machines are five years old, and some contracts expire in 2020. One vendor included the number of copies in the bid. We own one machine. No action taken.

4. Staffing

Motion made by K. Wentworth and seconded by M. McCall to discuss staffing. B.

Bosse noted that we need to see where we are financially before the final budget is set. K. Wentworth feels we are top heavy. There has been a decrease of 30% of students. This issue has been brought to him by the community. D. Whitcher noted the superintendent has been hired to do staffing. It is not the board's duty to reduce staff. W. Meese noted the Board will be presented with three options in May. The proposed budget was reduced from 1.2% to flat. There has been previous discussion involving EMCOR and the Curriculum Director. **K. Wentworth withdrew his motion. M. McCall withdrew her second.**

5. Anticipated Executive Session to discuss Superintendent job performance

Motion made by K. Wentworth and seconded by M. McCall to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing superintendent job performance, and to include the superintendent. VOTE– in favor – K. Wentworth, M. McCall, W. Meese. Opposed – A. Vertefeuille, D. Whitcher, B. Bosse. Abstentions – A. Margerelli-Hussey, S. Haynes. Motion failed.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

B. Bosse discussed the previous item and having a phone discussion. He feels phone discussion was illegal and should not take place. K. Wentworth noted he had called only two people in his party. The Town attorney had discussed having a caucus.

XIII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Recording meetings.

Funds for marketing our system as a way to increase enrollment.

Superintendent Evaluation – members will receive a copy and have a couple of weeks to complete. M. McCall questioned how to get information for the evaluation. B. Bosse noted it is personally what you feel. The question can be skipped.

Town Hearing on the budget is scheduled for Monday at 7:00

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by B. Bosse and seconded by K. Wentworth to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Kathleen E. Chapman, Board Clerk