



# Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes  
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, April 4, 2012  
Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.

## Minutes

School Committee  
David Reif

Gregory Berthiaume  
Michael Mackin  
Donna White - absent  
Colleen Shapiro – arrived at 7:03 p.m.

Superintendent  
Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary  
Mary Landi

Student Representative  
Emma Degrace

Guests  
Karen Martin, Christine Bonci  
Sam Arciprete, Amelia McDonald

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\* Call to Order – Dr. Reif called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

\* Chairman's Report

\* Review and Approve Minutes

- March 7, 2012 Regular Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
- March 7, 2012 Executive Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
- March 21, 2012 Executive Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.

\* Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signatures. There was one line item transfer from Special Services.

\* Superintendent's Report

- Student Presentations – Lunenburg High School students Sam Arciprete and Amelia McDonald reported on the Massachusetts Student Council conference they recently attended. There were keynote speakers and motivational speakers who focused on student leadership skills. Twelve students from Lunenburg attended the conference, which had about 1200 students from across the State.
- Superintendent Calmes reported on the special education budget and announced that we will be receiving additional circuit breaker funds under extraordinary relief due to our increased expenses.
- Twelve students are participating on a new track team under a grant program.
- Many seniors are getting their acceptance letters from colleges.
- Baccalaureate and graduation ceremonies are being planned.
- Recent Grant Awards – \$58,000 Title I Partnership Grant – This grant will be used to share best practices with the Gardner Public Schools. Ms. Karen Martin provided details of the grant.
- Ms. Martin announced her resignation from the Lunenburg Public Schools. She thanked the School Committee for its support throughout her tenure. She also thanked the teachers/staff, administrative staff, and the superintendent for all the support over the years. Dr. Reif thanked Ms. Martin for everything she has done for the students and the district. Superintendent Calmes presented Ms. Martin with a certificate and flowers.
- Ms. Martin read the Instructional Services Impact Statement.

\* Student Report – Ms. Degrace reported the following:

- Students are choosing schedules for next year.

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- The LHS band will be going to the symphony.
- The girls track team won its meet against Bromfield.
- The high school will have an Awareness Week after the vacation week – each day will raise awareness of a different cause.

\* New Business

Action

a. First Reading - Revised and New Policies: Electronic Communications, Animals in School, and Research - Superintendent Calmes gave a brief overview of the three policies. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to waive the first reading of the policies. Vote: unanimous.

\* New Business (continued)

Discussion

- Early Learning Program - expanded opportunities – Ms. Bonci and Ms. Perry provided some background information on the proposed Early Learning Program, which would be housed at the Primary School and take place Monday through Friday, with two sessions (8:45-11:15 and 12:00 – 2:30); cost is \$15.00 per session. There was discussion around curriculum. This would be a self-sustaining program. Ms. Bonci said they would like to begin this program next year and begin advertising as soon as possible. Enrollment would be on a first-come, first-served basis. The 16-slot program will be developmentally appropriate with many learning opportunities. Superintendent Calmes indicated we need to make sure it's in compliance with regulations and make the appropriate changes in the handbook.
- Superintendent's self-assessment and FY13 goal setting (new process - DESE model system) – Superintendent Calmes talked about the new model of assessment. She stated in which areas she thinks there is room for improvement and stressed that we must have an effective implementation of this new model. Discussion of this subject will continue over the next couple of meetings. The superintendent listed some initial talking points for strategic goal settings for district improvement. This will be in place for next year and will address facility needs for all schools – not just the high school. Dr. Berthiaume cautioned against using the word ALL.

\* Old Business

Action

- FY 2013 School Budget – \$16,626,574. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommended FY13 budget of \$16,626,574. Vote: unanimous.
- Third Reading - Revised and New Policies: Section 1000 and Acceptable Use – Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to waive the third reading and accept the policies as written. Vote: unanimous.

*Public Comment* – Ms. Shapiro informed the committee and the public that some Girl Scout troops that will be offering babysitting services for Town Meeting. Five young ladies from Troop 30751 who are graduating this year, as well as some 8<sup>th</sup> graders from Troop 30638, are giving up a very important Girl Scout event to give back this service to the community.

Mr. Mackin reminded everyone that voter registration deadline is fast approaching. Anyone 18 on or before May 19 can register to vote. Also, April is World Autism Awareness month. The incidence rate is 1 in 88. The Finance Committee meets tomorrow night to discuss the override warrant.

\* Reports

a. School Building Committee – Mr. Mackin reported that the SBC met last week. It is working on a FAQ document. A presentation to the BOS was made last night for the \$750K feasibility/schematic phase. We will get 53.53% reimbursement from the MSBA on the feasibility portion.

- Finance Committee
- School Councils
- PTO – Ms. Shapiro reported on the Barn Dance, which was a huge success and raised over \$7,000. She thanked everyone who attended and donated and supported the PTO. The next meeting is on April 9 at the Lunenburg Public Library.
- Policy Sub-Committee
- Capital Planning Committee

