



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, June 20, 2012 Brooks House – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

David Reif
Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Colleen Shapiro
Brendan Grady – arrived at 7:15 p.m.

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

Student Representative

Guests

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- * Call to Order – Dr. Reif called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- * Chairman's Report – Dr. Reif turned the meeting over to Superintendent Calmes, who recognized Wendy Bertrand for her service as PTO president for the past five years. Wendy will still be involved but is passing on the gavel to Heather Sroka. On behalf of our schools, students and community, the superintendent thanked Ms. Bertrand for all she has done, and she presented her with flowers and a certificate. Ms. Bertrand said it's been her pleasure and she looks forward to continuing her work with the PTO in a different capacity.

Superintendent Calmes recognized Dr. Reif for his service on the school committee for the past ten years. This is his last meeting, but his legacy will live on. Dr. Reif led many committees over the years; he was always there to help plan for the future and always there for the students. Superintendent Calmes thanked Dr. Reif, on behalf of the students. Dr. Berthiaume said a few words to Dr. Reif as well, stating he would be a tough act to follow. Dr. Reif thanked everyone.

- * Review and Approve Minutes
- June 6, 2012 Regular Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - June 6, 2012 Executive Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - June 13, 2012 Regular Session Minutes – tabled.
- * Review and Approve Warrants
- * Superintendent's Report
- Update on consolidation of schools – Superintendent Calmes reported that rooms are packed and ready to be moved. Teachers continued with year-end closure activities and also got students ready for moving to another school. We are working through extended day program details. Schedules are being set; start and end times are in place. Elaine Blaisdell has been appointed interim principal at the Primary School.
 - Acknowledge work by Monty Tech students – Students from Monty Tech have completed work on the handicap accessible ramp at the front of the high school. This project began last year and finished up this year. Thank you to Mr. Londa for his supervision of this project.

- Rick Hill and Steve Powell – Citizens for Making a Difference, Lunenburg Relief Project – Mr. Hill and Mr. Powell informed the committee that their group sent letters to 165 local businesses in an effort to rally the town together in support of the schools, library, senior center, etc. Their goal is to make a positive change. On July 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the group will set up at the Lunenburg Public Library with six buckets to collect donations. There was a discussion around the process and what the priorities would be for the schools. Mr. Hill asked the committee and superintendent for their support in getting out the word and awareness. Checks should be made out to Lunenburg Gift Fund for donations to the schools.

* Old Business

- FY13 Line Item Budget - Superintendent Calmes reviewed the line item budget, which showed the movement of funds, and she recommended approval of it. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Mr. Mackin seconded a motion to accept the budget as presented. Vote: unanimous.
- FY13 Bus Fees & Transportation of students living less than 2.0 miles from their school – Superintendent Calmes affirmed that transportation of students in grades K-6 who live more than two miles from the school they attend is required at no charge to the student, per Massachusetts law. A brief discussion of fee increases followed, including school lunch prices increasing by 25 cents and athletic fees increasing to \$210. Dr. Berthiaume wanted to see the buss fee put in place for grades 8-12 only; it would be administratively easier than including grade 7. No fee would be imposed if the student is on free/reduced lunch. Dr. Berthiaume authorized the superintendent to manage the process. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Mr. Mackin seconded a motion to institute a new bus fee of \$1.00 per day for all students in grades 8-12 as of first day of school. Vote: unanimous. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to increase lunch fees 25 cents per meal and increase athletic fees by \$25. Vote: unanimous.
- Superintendent’s Evaluation and Contract – Dr. Reif reviewed the superintendent’s evaluation, which indicated she consistently exceeded expectations during the previous year. He read the summary comments into the record. Dr. Reif also gave a brief review of the new contract to consider for the superintendent. It is a six-year contract; the FY13 salary base is \$126,000 and a \$2,000 merit bonus. The contract will be reviewed annually. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the superintendent’s contract. Vote: unanimous.
- FY13 School Committee Org Chart – Tabled to a future meeting. The new committee member must be a joint appointment between the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen. A meeting will be scheduled to interview the three candidates that expressed interest. Mr. Grady announced he would be gone for the entire month of August. This will be just under a two-year appointment.
- FY13 School Committee Calendar – Tabled.

* New Business

- Brooks House Rental – Superintendent Calmes reported that she is talking with Mr. David Grossman (Lunenburg Ledger) about renting space at Brooks House. He would be able to provide internship opportunities for students. The rental agreement would be similar to the one we currently have with the cable folks (\$500 month). The superintendent recommended approval of a yearly lease. The internship opportunities would be in working toward a student newspaper. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Mr. Mackin seconded a motion to approve the superintendent’s recommendation. Vote: unanimous.

* Public Comment

- Bob Meek-LaVeck expressed his interest in the open seat on the school committee. He has one child in the Primary School and one in Turkey Hill Middle School.
- Anthony Caiozzo also expressed interest in the school committee seat. He thanked Dave Reif for his work on the committee.

* Reports

- School Building Committee
- Finance Committee
- School Councils
- PTO
- Policy Sub-Committee

- f. Capital Planning Committee
- g. Health Advisory Committee
- h. PAC/SAL
- i. Regional Planning Committee
- j. Rep. Benson's Advisory
- k. Other

* Continuing Projects/Estimated Date of Completion

* Items for Future Discussion

- Workshop Sessions
- Facilities Use Procedure
- Civic Engagement

* Executive Session - M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B [3] To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. At 8:35 p.m. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to enter into executive session, not to return to regular session, to discuss strategy related to collective bargaining. Vote: unanimous.

* Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at the end of executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,

M. Landi

Mary Landi
Recording Secretary

c/5/28/27/mel

APPROVED

Lunenburg School Committee

Date: 7.18.12

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Initials