



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

MEETING NOTICE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, May 1, 2013
Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Colleen Shapiro
Brendan Grady - absent
Todd Blake

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

Student Representative

Abbey Clark

Guests

Sharon Kimball, Peter McCauliff, Kerry Speidel
Taylor Burke, Jake DeGrace, Dylan Riley

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- * Call to Order – Superintendent Calmes called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - * Committee Reorganization
 - Mr. Mackin nominated Dr. Berthiaume as Chair. Mr. Blake seconded. Vote: unanimous.
 - Mr. Blake nominated Mr. Mackin as Vice-Chair. Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: unanimous.
 - * Chair's Report
 - Proclamation – Dr. Berthiaume read a Proclamation for National Teacher Day. Dr. Berthiaume signed the Proclamation and the Board of Selectmen Chair will sign next Tuesday at its meeting.
 - * Review and Approve Minutes
 - April 24, 2013 Regular Session Minutes – tabled to next meeting.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants
 - * Superintendent's Report
 - Superintendent Calmes introduced Sharon Kimball, LHS teacher, who began a slideshow of pictures of the recent student trip to Italy. Ms. Kimball pointed out the highlights of the trip as she gave an explanation of each of the pictures. Next, the three students with Ms. Kimball – Jake Degrace, Dylan Riley, and Taylor Burke - each talked about their experience. Highlights for the students included the delicious food, seeing the Pope, the museums, the gardens, and the churches, swimming in the Mediterranean Sea, and making new friendships. All the students thanked the School Committee for approving the trip and reiterated that it was a great trip and they made memories that would last a lifetime. Ms. Kimball also thanked the Committee for its support of these trips abroad. Superintendent Calmes noted the compliments our students receive when they travel either out of the country or locally. They are indeed responsible community members.

- Superintendent Calmes reminded everyone about Empty Bowls at TCP from 5:00-8:00 p.m. on May 2. It is a grade 3 and grade 4 fundraiser to assist a school that was devastated by the hurricane.
- The Director of Special Services position has been posted and a request has gone out requesting search committee members.
- The Special Olympics event was held last Friday at Fitchburg State University.

* Student Representative's Report

* Old Business

- a. FY14 Budget – Dr. Berthiaume invited Ms. Speidel to join the committee at the table. He explained that Lunenburg will not receive any additional funds from the state even with the additional 5.3 million dollars the State added to Chapter 70. The Town Manager's recommended school budget is \$16,123,122. Superintendent Calmes stated we were hopeful that we would receive additional funds with the 15% narrowing of the gap, but it was a 15% reduction in the required contribution, which does not free up any funds. Superintendent Calmes reviewed what we are doing to help close the gap. Dr. Berthiaume recommended the committee accept Ms. Speidel's recommended school budget, acknowledging it is not a level service budget or what is necessary. Ms. Shapiro moved and Mr. Blake seconded a motion to approve a budget of \$16,123,122. The difference between the Town Manager's recommended budget and the Superintendent's recommended budget is \$446,000. Vote: unanimous.
- b. FY14 Fees – Tabled to next meeting. Superintendent Calmes will post on the website and send out an email message asking for feedback.
- c. Extended Day Facilities Use Charge – Superintendent Calmes recommended approval of a facilities use charge of approximately \$12,000 per year for the extended day program. The program is self-funding. Mr. Mackin moved and Mr. Blake seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- d. Non-Affiliated Agreement – Superintendent Calmes recommended adding the position of Director of Extended Day back into the non-affiliated agreement. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- e. FY14 Calendar – Superintendent Calmes talked about the suggestions and responses around the calendar for FY14. The calendar committee is very appreciative of the comments received to date; it is not recommending that we make any changes at this time. It was suggested the School Committee form an advisory committee to look into possibly changing to a March break instead of the traditional February and April breaks. Also, it was suggested that the February 1 change-by date be revised to a two-week notice instead of a specific date. There was discussion on the advisory committee and the reasons why we have the vacation schedule we have. Superintendent Calmes recommended changing the wording to "with appropriate notice the School Committee reserves the right to modify the calendar." Mr. Mackin moved and Mr. Blake seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- f. Mr. McCauliff talked about the participation of students in athletics. Participation has not dropped off even given the increase in fees. There are more students trying out for the sport than there are spots available. Each athlete receives a pass for the season in which they play and they also get one adult pass for that season. In the fall, only night games have a gate charge. Supt Calmes explained that the activity fee is paid by everyone at the high school and at the middle school the student pays only if they participate in a particular program. Ms. Shapiro asked that we add the 7th and 8th grade girls field hockey athletic fee to the fees document.

* New Business

- a. FY14 School Choice – Superintendent Calmes recommended opening 10 slots at the grade 9 level for FY14. Twelve choice students are graduating this year. Students in grades 11 and 12 will be allowed to continue their education at LHS as choice students if their family moves out of Lunenburg during the school year. There are no kindergarten siblings for FY14. Mr. Blake moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. There was discussion around enrollment numbers and the new school. Vote: unanimous.
- b. Donations – Hannaford Helps & Box Tops for Education – Superintendent Calmes recommended acceptance of the following donations to the Primary School: \$1,302.20 from Box Tops for Education and \$462.00 from Hannaford Helps. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: unanimous.

c. Search Committee for the Director of Special Services – Mr. Mackin moved and Mr. Blake seconded a motion to appoint Ms. Shapiro as the School Committee representative to the search committee for the Director of Special Services, with Dr. Berthiaume as the alternate. Vote: unanimous.

* Public Comment – Mr. Meek-LaVeck asked about the box tops program and if we've looked at expanding it to the schools other than the Primary. He will bring it up at the next PTO meeting.

* Reports

a. School Building Committee – Mr. Mackin reported the group met today with the MSBA to present the preliminary review of the proposed option. The presentation was made by Superintendent Calmes and Charlie Hay. The SBC will meet on the 8th and will start scheduling a working group to review design and make some decisions.

b. Finance Committee

c. School Councils

d. PTO

e. Policy Sub-Committee – Mr. Blake reported that Ms. Carrie Ford, school nurse at the Primary School, joined the policy committee last evening to discuss a new policy around service animals in school. The policy will be brought to the school committee at the next meeting.

f. Capital Planning Committee – The CPC will be meeting at some point following Town Meeting.

g. Wellness Advisory Committee

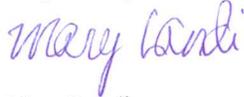
h. PAC/SAL

i. Other

* Items for Future Discussion

* Adjournment – At 8:41 p.m. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vote: unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



Mary Landi

c/5/31/22/mel

APPROVED

Lunenburg School Committee

Date: 5-15-13


Initials