



# Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes  
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, May 15, 2013  
Thomas C. Passios Meeting Room #13 – 7:00 p.m.

## Minutes

### School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume  
Michael Mackin  
Colleen Shapiro  
Brendan Grady – arrived at 7:07 p.m.  
Todd Blake – absent

### Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

### Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

### Student Representative

Abbey Clark

### Guests

Carrie Ford, Dawn Johnson, Peg Proctor, Kerry Speidel

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- \* Call to Order – Dr. Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
  - \* Chair's Report
  - \* Review and Approve Minutes
    - April 24, 2013 Regular Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Berthiaume.
    - May 1, 2013 Regular Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Berthiaume.
  - \* Review and Approve Warrants
  - \* Superintendent's Report
    - Wizard of Oz musical performances began with a matinee today.
    - The POPS concert, under the direction of Ms. Caryn Wardwell, was held last Friday; it was a great performance.
    - Three LHS seniors, Gregory Abare, Molly O'Connell, and Alexandra Widstrand, were recently awarded scholarships at the Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Breakfast.
    - The Senate Ways and Means recommended an increase to Circuit Breaker and Chapter 70 funds. This is a positive step after a disappointing round in the Senate.
    - Town Manager Kerry Speidel joined the committee to give an update on the new agreement the Town reached with the Public Employees Committee regarding health insurance changes. The new agreement will go into effect starting in FY14. The agreement is an extension of the existing agreement and will go through FY16. The health insurance will still be a Blue Cross/Blue Shield product. Ms. Speidel provided some details around the changes in terms of premiums and various co-pays, as well as the savings that should be realized over time for the Town.
    - Superintendent Calmes presented a line item transfer and gave explanations around the changes reflected in the various lines – some small, others large. Circuit Breaker funds have been spent down completely. Some adjustments were made because the initial budgeted amounts were not good numbers. Others, such as special education private tuitions, increased due to out-of-district placements. The superintendent thanked building principals and central office personnel for being on top of the changes and recommended approval of the transfers. There were no questions from the committee.
  - \* Student Representative's Report – Ms. Clark reported the following:
    - The Wizard of Oz musical started today with a matinee performance; there will also be three evening performances.

- Competitive class relay is next Wednesday and all funds will go to the Boston Fund.
- There was a transition night for 7<sup>th</sup> graders on May 3.
- On May 19 the *Are We There Yet* charity 5K walk/run for the Boys and Girls Club will take place.
- The World Hunger Taskforce assisted at the Lunenburg Food Bank last Monday.
- Prom is next weekend.
- The girls track team won the district championship.
- The district meet for unified track takes place this weekend.
- Memorial Day programs at the schools will be held on May 24.
- The Relay for Life event takes place on June 8 at Mount Wachusett Community College.

\* New Business

- a. Donation – Lunenburg Memorial Fund – Dawn Johnson from the Lunenburg Memorial Fund addressed the committee. She brought forth a donation of \$970.00 in memory of Helena Ware, long-time girls' basketball coach in the 70s and 80s. The donation is designated to go toward the purchase of two 30-second clocks for the LHS basketball court. The total cost of the clocks is approximately \$3,700. The Basketball Boosters will be making a contribution toward the purchase, and funds have also been allocated in the FY14 budget. Superintendent Calmes recommended acceptance of the donation of \$970.00 with thanks and gratitude. She also noted that no more than \$1,500.00 would come from the budget for the purchase of the clocks. Ms. Shapiro moved and Mr. Mackin seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- b. Proposed Puerto Rico Trip 2014 – LHS Spanish teacher, Ms. Peggy Proctor, joined the committee at the table to discuss a proposed trip to Puerto Rico in 2014. She indicated that the trip had been tweaked a bit from the recent trip to Puerto Rico. A sixth day was added to the trip, which increased the cost a bit. There was discussion on the rotation of the Puerto Rico trip and if it would conflict with the France/Spain trip. Superintendent Calmes recommended the school committee grant initial approval of the trip. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- c. First Reading – Service Animals Policy – Superintendent Calmes gave an overview of the draft policy. She will post the draft policy at the website and ask for public comment. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to waive the first reading of the policy. Discussion around service animals ensued. Vote: unanimous.
- d. Representative to BOS Ad Hoc Committee – Future of TCP – Selectman David Matthews joined the committee at the table to discuss the board of selectmen decision to form an ad hoc committee to discuss the future of TCP. Some options include using TCP as a community center or municipal building, leasing the building, housing, office space, combining with the Ritter and Town Hall, and possibly the Eagle House. Jamie Toale will be the BOS representative. This agenda item will be brought back to the table at the next meeting.

\* Old Business

- a. FY14 Fees – Superintendent Calmes informed the committee that she received feedback around the FY14 fees from one person; that feedback was supportive. The superintendent reviewed the proposed fee increases for FY14, and she recommended approval of the fees at this time so they can be advertised. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to adopt the fee increases. Vote: unanimous.
- b. Committee Assignments – No changes were made to the committee assignments at this time.

\* Public Comment

\* Reports

- a. School Building Committee – Mr. Mackin reported on the last meeting stating the project remains on schedule.
- b. Finance Committee – Ms. Shapiro moved and Mr. Grady seconded a motion to appoint Mr. Mackin to the finance committee appointing committee.
- c. School Councils
- d. PTO – The PTO met last Monday night. It is helping out with end-of-year events. The group also discussed fundraising options for next year.

- e. Policy Sub-Committee – Superintendent Calmes reported the group is working on a whistle blower policy, which will be brought to the school committee in the fall. Also, the 3000 section will be reviewed next year.
  - f. Capital Planning Committee – Ms. Shapiro said the CPC is meeting tomorrow.
  - g. Wellness Advisory Committee
  - h. PAC/SAL – Superintendent Calmes reported that PAC/SAL met last Friday. They elected officers for the upcoming year.
  - i. Other – The retiree reception will be at 6:30 p.m. at the next school committee meeting.
- \* Items for Future Discussion – At the next meeting, school committee goals will be discussed and then voted on at the following meeting. The superintendent’s goals will also be discussed.
- \* 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 8:04 p.m. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to enter into executive session not to return to regular session. Vote: unanimous.

Roll Call

Dr. Berthiaume – yes  
 Mr. Mackin – yes  
 Ms. Shapiro – yes  
 Mr. Grady – yes

- \* Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at the end of executive session. Vote: unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Mary Landi*

Mary E. Landi  
 Recording Secretary

c/5/31/24/mel

**APPROVED**

**Lunenburg School Committee**

Date: 6-5-13

*ML*  
**Initials**