



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, June 5, 2013, at Town Hall
6:30 p.m. – Retirees' Reception
7:00 p.m. – Meeting

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

DonnaLee Duquette, Helena Louzonis, Nancy Strom,
Elaine Blaisdell, Tim Santry, Brian Spadafino

-
- * Call to Order – Dr. Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - * Recognition of Retirees – Superintendent Calmes recognized the following retirees: Arline Rogers, aide with 11 years of service; DonnaLee Duquette, tutor with 19 years of service; Nancy Strom, IT Director with 3 years of service; and Helena Louzonis, LHS science teacher with 7 years of service. Ms. Rogers was unable to be in attendance. The superintendent provided some background information as well as retirement plans on each of the retirees. Dr. Berthiaume presented each with a certificate, pen, and flowers. All the retirees spoke briefly about their time in Lunenburg and how much they truly enjoyed their jobs.
 - * Chair's Report
 - * Review and Approve Minutes
 - May 15, 2013 Regular Session Minutes - Approved by Dr. Berthiaume.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signatures.
 - * Superintendent's Report
 - This is graduation week. Baccalaureate was held last night. The Community Awards are tomorrow night at 6:15. The THMS end-of-year celebration is tomorrow night. Graduation is Saturday at 4:00 p.m. at Fitchburg State University.
 - Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Richard Kullman, former educator at Lunenburg, who recently passed away, as well as Helena Flaherty who did volunteer work for the school department, who also recently passed. We're also sending prayers to Cooper Mathews, a THMS student with a brain aneurysm. Cooper is on the road to recovery. We are supporting the family; donation areas will be set up at THMS tomorrow night. Superintendent Calmes asked for a Moment of Silence.
 - Update on hiring of director of special services – Site visits for the two finalists have either taken place or are scheduled. The public forum will be aired on channel 8 and YouTube. The selection advisory committee meets next Tuesday night and then the superintendent will bring her recommendation to the next school committee meeting.
 - Relay for Life is on Friday night at Mount Wachusett Community College.
 - * Student Representative's Report – Ms. Clark reported:

- The senior showcase was held last Monday;
- The student council is selling stars at lunch for Relay for Life; and
- A four-by-four football tournament will be held next week; it is a fundraiser for the sophomores.

* New Business

a. School Improvement Plans and Handbooks

- LHS – Brian Spadafino – Mr. Spadafino thanked his school council for their work this year. He reviewed the two goals for next year, which are to increase academic achievement and to utilize our technology to enhance the educational experience; these goals encompass a lot of work. Mr. Spadafino talked about assessments, which include using the flipped classroom model. Dr. Berthiaume made some recommendations around the goals and suggested Mr. Spadafino be more specific in his assessments. Superintendent Calmes said that two master teachers will be working on curriculum mapping which will assist in the job at hand. Mr. Spadafino highlighted the changes to the handbook for next year, some of which are: school counselors will access the appropriate licensed professionals for student mental health issues when necessary; physical education credit change (no credit awarded for varsity sports and marching band beginning with the class of 2017); dual enrollment clarifications; added medically excused as a student grade if necessary for a student who is out for a prolonged period of time for medical issues.
- THMS – Tim Santry – Mr. Santry thanked his school advisory council for bringing together two school improvement plans - elementary and middle. They have three goals for next year – focus on improving student achievement and critical thinking skills, meeting the social/emotional needs of students through instruction, and technology education. Mr. Santry explained how he would measure the effectiveness of each goal. There was some discussion on the SIP, including grading and differentiated instruction for high-performing learners. Mr. Santry reviewed the changes to the handbook, one of which is that the parent needs to sign off on having read it with their student.
- LPS –Ms. Blaisdell thanked her school advisory council. She talked about the various agenda items the council addressed this year. The primary school's SIP has four goals to support high academic achievement including improving students' reading and critical thinking skills; improving students' writing skills; increasing students' ability to effectively communicate their mathematical thinking in writing; and ensuring that all students grow to their potential. Ms. Blaisdell said the primary school will continue its anti-bullying efforts with TIGER and the Cares Pledge. Dr. Berthiaume asked if there is a way Ms. Blaisdell can measure her differentiated instruction. Ms. Blaisdell reviewed the changes to the primary school handbook, which included the addition of Code of Conduct, additional wording around suspension, and the CARE promise that is now one page instead of two.
- Mr. Blake moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the School Improvement Plans. Vote: unanimous. Superintendent Calmes recognized the administrators who were present and those who were not able to be at the meeting tonight; she commended them and their staffs for their leadership and all their hard work.
- Extended Day Handbook – No action taken.

b. Superintendent & School Committee Goals FY14 – Superintendent Calmes suggested that she and the school committee meet this summer to really reflect and work on goal setting and thoughtful analysis. Superintendent Calmes wants to continue to move forward with the technology goal. Dr. Berthiaume agreed with the superintendent. Ms. Shapiro would like to spend time with the administrators as well. Mr. Mackin wants to spend some time on how the meeting will be structured. It was agreed that goals would be in place before school starts in September.

c. School Committee Meeting Calendar - FY14 – The committee will have a regular meeting on July 17 since they will have a quorum. Also, there will be a workshop meeting on August 17 at TCP in room 13.

d. Superintendent's Merit FY13 – Dr. Berthiaume suggested the School Committee award 75 percent of the merit raise to the superintendent. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to approve the award of \$1,500. There was discussion around the superintendent's goals and if they should have been revised after the decision was made to consolidate the schools. Vote: unanimous.

* Old Business

a. Representative to Board of Selectmen Ad Hoc Committee – Future of TCP – Dr. Berthiaume explained the charge of this new committee to Mr. Blake. The committee will be gearing up quickly with much

