



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, November 5, 2014
Town Hall- 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Colleen Shapiro
Brendan Grady-absent
Heather Sroka

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Liz Petersen

Student Representative

Sophia Holman

Guests

John Londa, Carrie Ford, Jacob Fager
Best Buddies- Brook Hansel, Sara Weston, Ellen Harvey, Judith Swift, Rachel Spadafore, Maddison Arpano,
Samantha Day-absent

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- * Call to Order: Dr. Gregory Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - * Review and Approve Minutes: October 1, 2014 Regular Session Minutes, October 7, 2014 Workshop Session Minutes, October 15, 2014 Regular Session Minutes were approved.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants: Warrants were on the table for signature and there were no line item transfers.
 - * Superintendent's Report
 - Superintendent's Award- Superintendent Calmes was pleased to present the 2014 Superintendent's Award to Brook Hansel, senior at LHS and daughter of Mark and Kelly Hansel. Brook for her academic achievement, as well as her leadership in many clubs and activities such as: Best Buddies, National Honor Society, Student Council, LHS Chorus, and Soccer Team Captain. Recently she was awarded the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award, and in 2013 she led workshops at the International Young Leaders Council. She is a MASS. Star Delegate, and an MIIA Ambassador, among many of her accomplishments. She inspires us all with her joy, enthusiasm, and her service to the community.
 - Best Buddies Presentation- Brook Hansel, President of Best Buddies explained that this was an international organization with three main initiatives: to create friendships, leadership development and job opportunities for students with disabilities. Introductions were made to introduce the officers: Brook Hansel-President, Buddy Director-Sara Weston, Judith Swift-Treasurer, Rachel Spadafore & Samantha Day- Vice-Presidents, Maddison Arpano & Ellen Harvey-Secretaries. Ellen Harvey described the fun activities that take place such as pumpkin painting, cookie decorating, bowling, and Special Olympics. A video was shared with the activities that had taken place. Rachel Spadafore described the two types of buddies in the program- a one to one friendship, and a group activity each month. Brook Hansel explained that every week they meet on Tuesday during homeroom, and this year they were working on service projects for the businesses and people who have supported them in the past. A recycling project has been started, and Best Buddies are looking for businesses/people that

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would be willing to have a recycling bin at their location. This year 60 students have joined as opposed to 40 students last year. They encourage the public to email any questions or comments to lunenburgbestbuddies@gmail.com Sara Weston provided a moving speech in which she concluded: "Like Martin Luther King, I have a dream to create a world of inclusion and acceptance for everyone."

- Eagle Scout Project- Superintendent Calmes introduced Jacob Fager, a senior at LHS and a drum major in the LHS Marching Band and thanked him for this community service project that has particularly benefited students at THMS. Jacob Fager spoke and thanked Superintendent Calmes and Mr. Londa for their help in facilitating this project. Slides were shown of the volleyball net and course that Jacob built on THMS school grounds. He explained that when the consolidation happened and THMS housed students in 4th-7th grade, he knew this would be a wonderful addition to field at THMS during recess for the students. The net is available for 3 seasons, and kits will soon be available at the library for the community to access and enjoy the volleyball equipment. Jacob thanked Ms. Moore, the library director for her help in this endeavor.
- David Warner- Superintendent Calmes acknowledged the work of landscape architect David Warner on MS/HS building project. Mr. Warner recently presented to the horticulture class of LHS recently. Teachers have been utilizing aspects of the project for instructional purposes. More presentations from a variety of professionals working on the building project will be forthcoming as more development takes place.
- Report Cards- School report cards are posted at each school's website. These reportcards provide information as to the school's progress as well as information as to licensure, etc. Student report cards will be sent home shortly.
- Calendar Advisory Committee- members have been meeting and a short survey made available to the public. A link to the survey is on the main page of our website. When responses are received they will be reviewed by the committee.
- PTO Membership- PTO is still seeking members for this year. Membership forms will be sent home.
- Shelter-in-Place- Ms. Blaisdell sent a voice message at 1:15pm to all Primary parents concerning a Shelter-in-Place instituted due to a report that a man with a gun was seen close to the Primary school. Police investigated and found no evidence of this individual. Shelter-in-Place means that all outdoor activities are discontinued and students remain in their classrooms doing normal activities while the report is being investigated. Superintendent Calmes thanked administration and staff for reacting quickly and putting the proper procedures in place. She thanked Chief Marino & officers as well for their assistance and for responding quickly. If any parents have additional questions they can contact the school, but 89% of calls were received.

* Student Representative's Report: none noted.

* School Building Committee Report – Mr. Mackin reported that there was a construction meeting today at noon. The project is on schedule for steel to be delivered by December 8th. Sewer and storm will be done by the end of this month. Have completed first layer of paving for West end parking lot, and will be paving first layer of access roads shortly. Foundation/footing on Section A complete, 80% completion on Section B. Beginning footings on Section D, should be done by second week in January. Bids have been open and are being reviewed, in line with budget. Guaranteed maximum price should be by 2nd week in December. SBC meeting will be on 11/12 in TCP Room #13. Abutter's meeting tomorrow in TCP café at 6:30pm. One concern has been addressed from an abutter. See preliminary design from architect of alternative to parking at TCP. This information will be able to give potential cost for this shortly, as additional drainage work would be needed. Superintendent Calmes showed updated pictures of the site. Weather has been cooperating, and a topping off ceremony will be planned in late February. Principals and Superintendent met with the OPM to start the process of preparing to transition to the new school so that there will be a smooth transition. Completion of building is scheduled for March of 2016, with scheduled opening in the Fall of 2016.

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New Business:

- a. Nursing FY16 Proposed Budget: Ms. Ford, nursing manager explained that a 2.5% increase was needed in FY16 for consumable supplies & the school physician. The high priority is Epi-pens and AED devices, but with the Epi-pens for Schools program they were able to meet the supply demand. The AED devices cost \$169, and all batteries were replaced this past summer and school year. Continue to receive the Department of Public Health Grant which provides non-consumable items. The items that were provided this year were shredders, emergency go bags for each building, AED trainer, and field trip bags for the Primary. Additional funds helped to offset costs for sub nurses as well. The summary of data for this year is as follows: 10,585 office visits, 6,000 medication visits, 2,000 screenings, The following number of students were seen with health conditions: 300 emotional/behavioral, 117 allergies, 93 asthma, 15 with cardiovascular disorders, 7 diabetes, and 14 seizure disorders. 10% of students have health plans. Out of 1629 total students there were 1,222 health office visits at least once this year. The return to classroom rate after treatment was 94% this year. Ms. Ford thanked all of the nurses for their care and hard work. Superintendent Calmes mentioned that within the new MS/HS building there would be 1 nurse for the middle school and one for the high school.
Dr. Berthiaume stated that these upcoming recommended budget hearings are to make the public aware of the needs of the school district versus the available resources. These budgets are open to public comment.
- b. Maintenance FY 16 Proposed Budget: Mr. Londa reported that there would be significant increases in the cost for natural gas and electricity. A small component to that would be the new school coming online and having to operate before the building is occupied. In regards to the natural gas line, effective December 1st, there will be a 15% increase in natural gas supply for heating. Mr. Londa recommended increasing the emergency expenditure line from \$2,500 currently to \$5,000. The electricity line showed the largest increase with the supply cost increasing 54%. The kilowatt cost will go from \$.20 to \$.25, which is a 22.6% increase. Water consumption will increase by \$3,600 in order to service the new grass field in front of LHS. Overall impact will be an increase of \$80,000. We have not moved any funds for the adjustments, as there still have time to do this. Dr, Berthiaume expressed concern that we may be underestimating the cost of heating and would like to leave more room for increase unless Mr. Londa was confident with projection. Mr. Londa stated that he was confident with the projected numbers and he had bid out with the FLLAC Collaborative in order to receive better pricing. Mr. Londa additionally recommended another maintenance person for FY16.
- c. Ice Hockey Overnight Travel: Superintendent Calmes discussed that Mr. Short, LHS teacher and Hockey coach was requesting permission for a trip to Waterville Valley for his hockey team that partners with Ayer-Shirley. Costs are covered through the Booster Club, and chaperones will be the 4 coaches and Mr. Dupuis, a committed hockey supporter. They will be staying at the Snowy Owl Inn and will leave on December 5th, returning on December 7th. This trip has been done for many years, and used to go to Lake Placid, NY. This trip is a terrific team building activity and Superintendent Calmes recommended approval. Mr. Mackin made a motion to approve, Ms. Stroka seconded. **Vote: Unanimous**
- d. FLLAC Quarterly Report: Superintendent Calmes explained that under new regulations, this report gives everyone an update as to the space and how collaboratives are governed. This also shows the professional development that has taken place. This report is in hard copy, available at the Superintendent's office or on the FLLAC website. No action is necessary for the school committee.
- e. Donation: Superintendent Calmes acknowledged and recommended a donation from the Community Council for \$360 to support scholarships for Nature's Classroom. In addition, she met with members of the PTO Executive board on Tuesday and they will be making a contribution of \$1,500 to each school-\$1,000 to be used towards an educational assembly on site, and \$500 to go towards supplies/materials that benefit each school. Superintendent Calmes thanked the PTO for all of their support. Mr. Mackin made a motion to accept the donations with gratitude, Ms. Shapiro seconded. **Vote: Unanimous**

- * Old Business:
 - a. Second Reading of Policies: Superintendent Calmes reported that the service animal policy has had no additional feedback to date. Have been working with legal counsel and have responded to previous feedback from the public. Mr. Mackin made a motion to waive the second reading of policies, and Ms. Shapiro seconded. **Vote: Unanimous.** Section 3000 was reported to be the same with no feedback, and Mr. Mackin made a motion to waive the second reading, Ms. Shapiro seconded. Both policies are posted on the website and there is still time for public comment before the deadline.

- * Public Comment – Mr. Mackin reported that the Boys & Girls Club usage has risen substantially, and while budgeting for 40 students this year, there have been a total of 100 students with 50 students utilizing the club daily. He asked for public support and relayed that the public can go to the website to donate. Ms. Sroka mentioned that there will be a Barnes & Noble fundraiser this week for the club, and an annual letter will be going out shortly to solicit donations. Mr. Mackin discussed that they have been trying to keep dues affordable for families, but they are discussing the possibility of an increase. Appealing to the community at large, as the club is completely dependent on donations.

- * Reports
 - a. Finance Committee – Dr. Berthiaume reported that have not met.
 - b. School Councils – No report
 - c. PTO- Ms. Sroka reported that they held the first daytime meeting, only a few parents attended. Next daytime meeting will be in May. Halloween fundraiser was a success, do not have figures yet. Fundraiser at Primary School for Square One Art a huge success with over 300 families participating.
 - d. Policy Sub-Committee- Dr. Berthiaume reported that they had not met but needed to schedule a meeting. Superintendent Calmes will send out possible dates via email.
 - e. Capital Planning Committee – Ms. Sroka reported that they had met yesterday and Technology and the Fire Department had presented. Next meeting will be on November 18th and the Police Department will present.
 - f. Wellness Advisory Committee –Ms. Shapiro relayed that they met last Monday and had a very informative discussion of the marketing of tobacco products to adolescents. LHS student rep was there, and will possibly be involved in the Chapter 84 movement which is a student led movement to encourage other students not to partake in tobacco use.. Next meeting is December 10th at 3:45 in the THMS library.
 - g. PAC/SAL – Ms. Shapiro reported that they will meet next Friday.
 - h. Re-Use: Mr. Mackin reported that they met Monday, and Mr. Mackin was unavailable to attend.
 - i. Calendar Advisory Committee- Ms. Shapiro reported that they had put out a calendar survey for the public to take which can be found on the main page of the website. This is open to the public until November 12th. Next meeting will be on November 13th. Last meeting they put together a preliminary calendar that was taken to the school calendar committee for review and comment. Chair of advisory committee is Ms. Shapiro.

- * Items for Future Discussion: Workshop is scheduled for November 17th at TCP Room #13.

- * Adjournment – Mr. Mackin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Ms. Shapiro seconded. **Vote: Unanimous.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Petersen
Recording Secretary