



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGET MEETING
Wednesday, November 4, 2015
Town Hall- 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee

Gregory Berthiaume-present
Michael Mackin-present
Colleen Shapiro-present
Wendy Bertrand-present
Heather Sroka-present

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Liz Petersen

Student Representative

Sophia Holman

Guests

Eric Short, LHS Faculty
Lauren Basque & Emily Bodkin-LHS Students

Call to Order: Dr. Gregory Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Review and Approve Warrants: warrants were on the table for signature. One line item transfers was discussed for Mr. Londa for \$150 from maintenance of ground supply to maintenance of grounds contract. This was needed to cover the cost of removing dead trees near Primary school. The dead trees represented a hazard to an abutter's property. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval.

Chairs Report: Dr. Berthiaume stated the meeting would be televised live on public access television and recorded for later broadcast. A Woman's Club Veteran's luncheon will be held on November 11th from 12-2pm. Please call Eagle House to make a reservation.

Review and Approve Minutes: There were two sets of regular session minutes presented for approval-10/7/15 & 10/21/15 as well as executive session minutes from 9/16/15. All minutes approved by committee.

Superintendent's Report:

- Superintendent Calmes introduced to the community Lauren Basque as the Superintendent's award recipient. Lauren is distinguished as a scholar, leader and athlete. During her four years at LHS she focused her honors and AP course work in the sciences including a virtual forensic science course. Lauren has ranked in the top of her class and attended Girls State. She received a full scholarship to attend a medical leadership conference. Lauren has achieved numerous awards including a certificate of honorable merit on the national Latin exam, and the St. Michael's college book award. She has been president of the class of 2016 three of four years. She delivered a wonderful speech at both the groundbreaking and topping off ceremonies. She is a member and officer of National Honor Society and also a member of the LHS math team and Latin Club. She is a three season athlete, a summer volunteer at Health Alliance, and a religious education teacher. Her parents Ken & Sue Basque were introduced. Lauren recognized her parents and sister Megan for their love and support and thanked her teachers and the administration for helping her to reach her full potential. Superintendent Calmes presented Lauren with a certificate from the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents. She will attend a luncheon for all Superintendent's Award recipients at WPI sponsored by the Worcester County Superintendent's Association.

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- Superintendent Calmes explained the master teacher program as providing an opportunity for teachers to pursue their passion while completing a project that is necessary and meaningful to the District. This is a partnership between teachers and the district – one example of a project was Mr. Short’s SAT prep course, and the leadership group new this year to LHS. Superintendent Calmes introduced Mr. Short who indicated this is a group for any student interested in leadership. The first goal of the group was to advertise by sending an email through Naviance to get students interested, then certain students spoke at class meetings. So far the group has coordinated 8th grade orientation by attending school one day before the regular student body in order to put the 8th grade students minds at ease by taking them on a tour of the building, showing them their lockers, etc. The second goal is to create a student climate survey to gather student opinions as to what they would like to be different within the school, what they feel is working now. Mr. Normandin has been assisting in creating the survey. Their third goal is to set up a virtual tour of the new building facility. Using technology, the students will videotape a tour of the new facility and will have it prepared for the Spring to show to the public. There would also be a FAQ for students to answer questions about the building. Mr. Short thanked this great group of students. He introduced two of the students, Lauren Basque and Emily Bodkin. Lauren spoke about 8th grade orientation . Emily is working through the STEP program with public cable access to eventually film this. Mr. Short commented that the group was student driven. Meetings are once a month and there has been great participation due to flexible scheduling and using email to communicate. Mr. Mackin offered assistance through the School Building Committee for discussions with the architect.
- Recently received a booklet titled *25 Ways Americans with Disabilities Act has Changed Lives*. One of our students is featured in the booklet. The booklet talks about the use of service animals and accommodations that help all individuals succeed. This will be available for viewing within the Superintendent’s Office.
- Foundation budget report has been released after a year and a half of studies. Highlighted is work done through the Superintendent’s Association looking at the formula utilized for funding that is flowing to districts and the disjoint in funding received from the categories of students with disabilities, ELL learners, etc. Sending to the Town Manager and the chair of the Finance Committee. The report is also available on the state website.
- First term ending Friday, parents and guardians should be looking at electronic communications.

Student Representative’s Report: none discussed due to absence.

School Building Committee: Mr. Mackin reported the building is weathertight . Painting continuing, media center is finished with prep work, tile for high school wing complete. The project remains on schedule and budget. Due to Veteran’s Day, the SBC will meet again on Thursday 11/12 at 6pm in room #13 at TCP.

Old Business: none discussed.

New Business:

a. Waterville Valley Trip: Mr. Short presented trip for approval. He explained that the hockey team has taken this trip for at least 8 years to Waterville Valley. The team will leave Friday, December 4th after school at 3pm. Mr. Short reviewed the itinerary. They will stay at the Snowy Owl Inn as before and will scrimmage against Lexington HS while at Waterville Valley. They will play at the Fitchburg Jamboree upon their return on Sunday at 4pm. Purpose of this trip is to develop camaraderie since players are from Ayer-Shirley and Lunenburg. The athletes look forward to this and gain the benefit of teamwork. JV through varsity will participate. There are five chaperones, 4 coaches and Mr. Dupuis attending. They have chartered a bus and everything is paid for by the boosters. Students bring spending money, but all other necessities taken care of. The alumni are huge contributors to this trip. Last year 65 alumni participated and made donations towards this event. Superintendent Calmes relayed that this is a proud tradition, and she is appreciative of all the coaches. She acknowledged Mr. Dupuis for being such a positive force in the ice hockey program and showing the students responsible community membership. She was proud that the students honored him this year as one of the marshal’s in the homecoming parade. Mr. Short pointed out that the can and bottle trailer on Massachusetts Avenue is taken care of totally by Mr. Dupuis. All the money goes to ice hockey program. In addition Mr. Dupuis also works the gate at all home games, books all trips, and buys all shirts for the students

for the trip. Superintendent recommended approval of the overnight trip. Motion made by Ms. Shapiro to approve and seconded by Mr. Mackin. Vote: unanimous

Public Comment – Ms. Luck appreciated the opportunity to hear about master teacher work. Wondered how many projects were put forth this year, Superintendent Calmes directed her to the handout which listed 12 teachers involved in projects this year. Some teachers have one project they are working on, some more. Range of projects read by Superintendent. This information will be posted at website.

Mr. Mackin relayed that this Saturday at the Eagles club in Leominster a benefit would be held for the Lunenburg Boys and Girls Club. Music by Wheelhouse, tickets are \$15 for a single and \$25 dollars per couple, There will be auctions, food, and should be a good time. All proceeds benefit the club which is entirely dependent on donations. The Club is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year and has over 120 members now. Many days have 70-80 students attend. Tickets can be purchased online at the website or you can buy tickets at door if any remain available.

Reports

- a. Finance Committee –next meeting November 12th.
- b. School Councils- Primary: Ms. Sroka reported Dec. 9th will be the next meeting
THMS: was unable to attend.
LHS: have not met since last meeting
- c. PTO- Meeting Dec. 9th Principals will attend.
- d. Policy Sub-Committee- short meeting, meeting again on Nov, 12th 7:30pm.
- e. Capital Planning Committee – Ms. Sroka reported they met with the DPW at the last meeting.
- f. Wellness Advisory- Dec. 9th next meeting
- g. PAC/SAL – Ms. Shapiro reported Looking for people to join, advertised in Pitter Patter.
- h. Re-Use: Mr. Mackin reported presentation of Charlie hay established actual conditions of various town buildings and thoughts surrounding these. Getting matrix similar to school building project to look at scenarios of upsides and downsides. Will look at buildings that are part of reuse-pros and cons and potential uses.
- i. Transition/Reconfiguration- Superintendent Calmes reported team has continued to meet and building teams are working on equipment/furniture. Major focus has been to get bid documents together for moving service and then will put bid out. Mr. Londa has ordered moving boxes. In order to write the bid, we need numbers of boxes. We also need to ensure that safety plans are well articulated before we occupy the building. We are continuing to progress with FAQs. Appreciative of student leadership group putting together an FAQ for students. Teachers have started to identify belongings within their classrooms that will need to move. The work is intense and time consuming but very rewarding as well.
- j. Diversity Advisory Committee- meeting tomorrow at 6pm. One new member, and one has moved. Committee has not met yet this school year.
- k. Start Time Sub-Committee- not met since the start-times were established.

Items for Future Discussion: none discussed.

Adjournment – Mr. Mackin made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Shapiro seconded the motion. Vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Petersen
Recording Secretary