



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

MEETING NOTICE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, April 6, 2011
Town Hall – 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

School Committee

David Reif, Chair
Jason Poitras
Colleen Shapiro
Donna White
Gregory Berthiaume

Superintendent

Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary

Mary Landi

Student Representative

Jen Markham

Guests

Project 582 Steering Committee
Peter McCauliff, Jessica Beardmore, Kay Hillman

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- * Call to Order – Dr. Reif called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
 - * Chairman's Report – Dr. Reif thanked the parents who have attended the Finance Committee meetings and the showing of support and concern around full-day kindergarten. Full-day kindergarten will not be under consideration as a cut this year.
 - * Review and Approve Minutes
 - March 2, 2011 Regular Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - March 2, 2011 Executive Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - March 9, 2011 Regular Session Minute – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - March 9, 2011 Executive Session Minutes – Approved by Dr. Reif.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for review and signatures. There was one line item transfer from Mr. Londa; Superintendent Calmes recommended approval.
 - * Superintendent's Report - Project 582 Update, Athletic Program Update & Budget Review, FY12 Budget Update.
 - The superintendent introduced three students from Project 582 and gave some background on the group. The three students - Emma Jones, Bethany Hudson, and Autumn Burrell - addressed the committee and the audience and explained the idea around Project 582 including when it will be and what projects will be available. The online Pick-a-Time system will be utilized to schedule times available for volunteers to sign up for the various projects. Superintendent Calmes commended the students for their work on this day of service.
 - Mr. Pete McCauliff gave an update on the winter sports season noting the number of athletes participating and the results of the various teams' season; the spring season is off to a great start with 170 athletes. Tyngsboro is a new district to the Mid-Wach league this year. Mr. McCauliff said the increase in fees last year somewhat offset the decrease in gate receipts. A decrease in gate receipts was seen across all districts. We had more athletes applying for waivers and more are on payment plans than in previous years. Eliminating the middle school basketball program will save \$4,500. Mr. McCauliff reviewed various levels of cuts that are being reviewed to address the deficit of \$13,500. There was discussion about uniform replacement and the tennis court being in disrepair. The track schedule is at the very minimal number of meets. Forty-five games would need to be eliminated if we reduced the fee to \$150. This would be a \$20,000 reduction in fees based on this year's number of athletes.

- Congratulations to the Mock Trial Team, who ended up in March Madness – a competition among the top eight teams in the state. Thanks to Ms. Kay Hillman for all the work she does with this team, as well as thanks to Rob Bowen for this support with the team.
 - Barbara Nelson Scholarship – several fundraising events are currently underway. Thanks to all the teachers and parents who contributed.
 - Thanks to teachers and students who labored through MCAS these past two weeks. National exams are going on at this time
 - TCP Study Island top performers received recognition for the first phase of the assessment.
 - FY12 Budget Update - We don't have an expenditure problem, we have a revenue problem. Superintendent Calmes reviewed the projected budget from the Town Manager, which is level funded. The gap is \$610,000. Additional layoffs will occur this coming year. We will ask for some funds from stabilization for unemployment. Unemployment costs have not been calculated into the superintendent's budget. Superintendent Calmes reviewed federal and state grants, many of which have been decreased - Title 1 decreased by 11%, already decreased by 40% in the prior year; Federal grants down \$350K; State grants down \$10K. Revolving funds are holding steady. Tuition and fees from non-resident and school choice are projected at \$707K. Circuit Breaker reimbursement rate was discussed. Superintendent Calmes listed the cuts and reductions on the expense side that will need to be taken to address the budget gap. Reductions totaled \$610,471. She gave details and an explanation for each. Health insurance is projected to increase 12.74%, which will add an additional gap of \$100K. Elimination of a science teacher at the high school will eliminate science electives.
- * Student Report – Ms. Markham reported that the Multicultural Festival will be held at the high school tomorrow tonight. It will be a wonderful event after a long month of March in school.
- * Public Comment
- * New Business
- a. FY12 School Trip to Paris, France, Spain – Ms. Beardmore and Ms. Hillman were in attendance to propose a trip to Paris, France and Spain in April 2012. Ms. Beardmore first reported on the trip to Quebec, which she said was fabulous. The group enjoyed all the activities of French Canada. The Paris, France and Spain trip will be customized and will expose students to the deep history of France. Ms. Beardmore and Ms. Hillman reviewed the itinerary of the trip. They expect approximately 25-30 students to attend the 13-day trip. The group would depart the evening of April 11 and return the Monday after vacation. Superintendent recommended preliminary approval of the trip. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Mr. Poitras seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
 - b. Overnight Travel - State Latin Convention – Superintendent Calmes reviewed the proposed trip to the upcoming State Latin Convention on Cape Cod. The cost to students is \$175. Ms. Tammy Yourk, Latin teacher, and Mr. Rowley, a parent, will supervise the trip. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval. Mr. Poitras moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
 - c. Superintendent's Evaluation – Dr. Reif asked the committee to send their comments to him by the end of next week. He also asked the superintendent to send to the committee an updated list of her goals. The superintendent's evaluation will be reviewed at the next meeting.
 - d. Donations – Superintendent Calmes recommended acceptance with gratitude the following donations:
 - Sy and Barbara Schnuer Consideration Award matching gift donation from Fidelity
 - \$50 donation from Louise Parent for non-restrictive gift fund.
 Mr. Poitras moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- * Old Business
- * Public Comment
- * Reports
- a. Advisory Committee
 - b. Finance Committee

- c. School Councils – Dr. Berthiaume reported the THMS is working on their School Improvement Plan.
- d. PTO
- e. Policy Sub-Committee
- f. Capital Planning Committee
- g. Health Advisory Committee
- h. PAC/SAL
- i. Regional Planning Committee – Dr. Berthiaume reported that the RPC met last Saturday. A press release was sent out yesterday reporting out on information that was received from the MSBA. Dr. Berthiaume expressed his thanks to Representative Jen Benson and Senator Jen Flanagan for their assistance in getting the information.
- j. Rep. Benson’s Advisory
- l. Other

* Continuing Projects/Estimated Date of Completion

* Items for Future Discussion

- Workshop Sessions
- Facilities Use Procedure
- Civic Engagement

* Executive Session – At 8:34 p.m. Ms. Shapiro moved and Mr. Poitras seconded a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategies related to collective bargaining. Vote: unanimous.

Roll Call

Dr. Reif – yes

Mr. Poitras – yes

Ms. Shapiro – yes

Ms. White – yes

Dr. Berthiaume – yes

* Adjournment – The meeting concluded at the end of executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Landi
Recording Secretary

c/5/25/16/mel