



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, September 3, 2014
Town Hall- 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee
Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Colleen Shapiro
Brendan Grady
Heather Sroka

Superintendent
Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary
Liz Petersen

Student Representative
Sophia Holman

Guests

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- * Call to Order – Dr. Gregory Berthiaume called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
 - * Chair's Report- Dr. Berthiaume welcomed back students and staff. There was no chair's report discussed.
 - * Review and Approve Minutes: Minutes for the August 7, 2014 Regular Session were approved by the committee.
 - * Review and Approve Warrants – Warrants were on the table for signature. Superintendent Calmes relayed that the first payment on the lease for the new installation of the wireless system had been made. This was a multi-year purchase agreement which was installed at the Primary school and is operational.
 - * Superintendent's Report
 - Superintendent Calmes welcomed back staff and students and extended her appreciation to custodians and secretarial staff for all of their hard work during the summer preparing for the opening day of school.
 - Enrollment update: Superintendent Calmes showed the committee a historical view of enrollment from Oct. 2012 until now. Primary has seen an increase from 515 to 539, an increase in grades 1 and 2. There were 15 students above projection at the end of last year. Kindergarten 110 to 113. Expected an increase in 3rd to 4th grade, as 4 choice slots were opened. This increase is up by 8 students, with 27 students in each class. In 8th grade there was an increase of 9 students, some new move-in residents. 21 students are placed out of district. LHS has enrollment of 559 in district in grades 8-12. THMS has 482 students in daily attendance and enrollment. School committee opened 10 choice slots this year, and we had applications for all. Seven of those have enrolled. Choice slots closing at the end of the week. Enrollment at the end of last year was 1593, now 1604.
 - Back to School- The Superintendent expressed appreciation to the PTO for providing a luncheon for staff during professional development days. PD days were valuable learning experience with positive staff feedback surrounding two days instead of one. Looked at impact to attendance of students with reduced days at beginning of school. Did not seem to impact attendance. Typical adjustments in scheduling of buses, and new traffic flow concerns addressed. Superintendent Calmes expressed sincere appreciation to parents for their patience surrounding the new traffic flow and reminded parents to drop off on the sidewalk side of TCP

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for safety. Town Departments of Police, Fire and DPW thanked for their part in putting together a safe plan. May provide option in inclement weather of a bus pass from December-March for comfort and safety concerns. Fee would most likely be ½ of current bus pass pricing.

- The Superintendent also acknowledged and thanked Lunenburg Police Department for ALICE training. Feedback from staff was very positive. All administration and a faculty member from each building have been trained with police by ALICE personnel- Train the Trainer model. Principals have worked with Officer Sean Connery to provide professional development to staff.

* Student Representative's Report: none noted.

* School Building Committee Report: Mr. Mackin reported off-site removal of topsoil by Powell. Benefit of local business completing this as they have ability to store topsoil off-site and bring back when needed. Kickoff of construction 8/13, now having weekly construction meetings with Shawmut and construction staff. In 3-4 weeks utilities will be at site. Completed site fence to lessen the impact to Abutter's. Turf field will be completed by Mid-October of next year for practice field. Joslin, Lesser working with us to provide a two-week look ahead of construction to inform the public-this will be put in Ledger and on website. SBC looking at webcam capability. Abutter's meeting at 6:30pm tomorrow at TCP which is open to the public. Facebook Page is also available to view recent aerial shots of construction.

* New Business:

1. Excess Property: Superintendent Calmes reviewed excess property of the THMS Media Center. Criteria for removal included outdated books, books in poor condition or books lacking value to current collection. Recommending that this is declared excess & removed from the collection. If they are able to be donated, this will be done instead of just recycling. Mr. Mackin made a motion to declare THMS books excess, Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

* Old Business –

1. Superintendent's Goals FY15:a. Student Learning Goal: Proposal is to use MCAS information that provides for growth measures, and continue to maintain at a high level and increase by one over the average of the last four years. b. Professional Practice Goal: To continue a minimum of 6 classroom visits in each building with the principal, assistant principals, and Special Services director. Will keep monthly logs and will follow the educator evaluation model of continuous improvement. c. District Improvement Goal: Will move forward to adopting by December of 2014 a comprehensive plan to move to a one to one mobile device model while being mindful of sustainability and replacement of devices which will be brought to the School Committee for review. This plan is scheduled to be implemented no later than FY2022. Dr. Berthiaume questioned the timeline surrounding this, and suggested a more aggressive timeline. Mr. Mackin commented a longer roll-out may be a better financing option. Mr. Grady suggested having IT director look at other options instead of buying all of the devices at the same time. He asked if there would be a "bring your own device" policy. Superintendent Calmes wants to make sure that all students have access to these devices for educational purposes. Dr. Berthiaume reminded that with limited IT staff, supporting several platforms may be something the district would not be able to afford. Superintendent Calmes will review with IT team the "Bring your own device" option, and will look at a more aggressive timeline for the device implementation. Motion to approve Superintendent's goals moved by Mr. Mackin, and seconded by Ms. Shapiro. Vote: Unanimous

2. Policies Second Reading: service animal second reading will not be necessary, received substantial feedback on this policy, and policy sub-committee will be reviewing again and incorporating feedback. This is also the same for the fingerprinting policy. CORI and school lunch policy received feedback at last SC meeting which was taken and incorporated into revision. We have not received feedback since. Policies not acted upon tonight will come back to the SC as a first reading as they will be revised. Dr. Berthiaume stated he would accept a motion to waive the second reading of the policies, and he encouraged the public to provide public comments to us before the next SC meeting. Mr. Mackin made a motion to

waive the second reading, and Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous. Dr. Berthiaume stated the next policy sub-committee meeting would be September 11th, and they would be reviewing fingerprinting, service animals, and Superintendent Calmes stated that they would also be discussing CHIPS(Collaborative for High Performing Schools) a sustainable and green initiative, which may require changing or updating policy.

* Public Comment –none noted.

* Reports

- a. Finance Committee – meeting tomorrow.
- b. School Councils – have not been meeting yet.
- c. PTO – have not met.
- d. Policy Sub-Committee- will meet September 11th.
- e. Capital Planning Committee – Ms. Shapiro expressed a desire to step down from her role as representative on this committee. Ms. Sroka appointed new representative. Mr. Grady made a motion to appoint Ms. Sroka, Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous
- f. Wellness Advisory Committee – Meets September 17th at 3:45pm at THMS.
- g. Re-Use: Mr. Mackin reported that they have not met.

* Items for Future Discussion: Workshop date to discuss student performance after MCAS results are here. Dr. Berthiaume suggested a date of October 29th. Also need a date for a goals workshop. Dr. Berthiaume will email committee with dates.

* Adjournment – No need for Executive session. Mr. Mackin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Ms. Shapiro seconded. Vote: Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Petersen
Recording Secretary