



Lunenburg Public Schools

Loxi Jo Calmes
Superintendent of Schools

MEETING NOTICE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, June 3, 2015
Town Hall
Retiree Reception 6:30 p.m.
Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee
Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Colleen Shapiro
Heather Sroka
Wendy Bertrand

Superintendent
Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary
Liz Petersen

Student Representative
Sophia Holman

Guests

Turkey Hill Family Lions Club President Lisa Normandin and Members;
Brian Spadafino, Lunenburg High School Principal

Call to Order- the meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Dr. Berthiaume.

Review and Approve Warrants- warrants were on the table for signature, no line item transfers. Superintendent Calmes expressed that they are working hard to wrap up the budget, and to see if there are any further adjustments that need to be made currently.

Review and Approve Minutes-Minutes put forth for the May 20, 2015 Regular Session were approved by the committee.

Superintendent's Report-

Retiree Recognition- Superintendent Calmes recognized the 198 combined years of service of this year's retirees. Retirees recognized included: Vivian Butler, THMS Paraprofessional with 15 years of service, Joanne Deming, THMS 7th grade teacher with 23 years of service, Annette Kelly, Primary School Cafeteria Monitor with 15 years of service, Sharon Kimball, LHS Foreign Language teacher with 30 years of service, Sandy Laserte, THMS Physical Education teacher with 31 years of service, Kristin Mackay, Social Worker/Guidance Counselor with 27 years of service, Suzanne Saven, School Psychologist with 7 years of service, and Marlene Wiita, THMS Paraprofessional with 19 years of service. Recognized but unable to attend the ceremony were Phil McMurray, LHS Guidance Counselor with 22 years of service and Mary Ann Weisman, Primary School Special Education teacher with 9 years of service.

Playground for Grades 3-5 – Mr. David Rodgers recognized Mr. Dave Berthiaume as taking the initiative to bring the idea of supporting the playground effort through fundraising to the Turkey Hill Family Lions Club. Mr. Berthiaume was unable to attend, so Mr. Rodgers spoke in his place. Mr. Rodgers announced that an anonymous benefactor agreed to support this endeavor with a \$25,000 donation. The Turkey Hill Lions Club is ready and willing to participate and will start off the fundraising goal with \$25,000, and will be asking the community for their support and effort in reaching the goal for the entire playground. President of the Turkey Hill Family Lions Club would like to ask for the communities support of their Meat Raffle to be held on Saturday June 13th There will be a \$20 entry fee. Mr. Rodgers stated that through the financial support of the community the Lions provide

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food for 65-75 family's every month and 125 Lunenburg families are provided with a complete Thanksgiving dinner annually. Dr. Berthiaume thanked Lions club for coming forward to support and assistance raising funds for the playground.

Decommissioning Ceremony- A ceremony will be held in spring 2016 prior to turning over the current high school for demolition. Mr. Peter Lincoln, former LHS teacher presented an idea in order to preserve the legacy and memory of Lunenburg High School. Mr. Lincoln discussed working with Channel 9 to preserve the past through video with a living history by creating a virtual tour of the current high school with narration describing all of the rooms and their purpose through the years. He would also like to interview people that have had long tenures within the building. This video would be made to the public. Superintendent Calmes recommendation is to support Mr. Lincoln in moving forward and expressed appreciation for Mr. Lincoln volunteering his time and effort. Ms. Sroka suggested putting a copy of this into the time capsule. Mr. Lincoln further suggested having one person from each of the 59 classes that attended Lunenburg High School at the ceremonial closure of the building. Has also discussed a thought about selling bricks as a fundraiser, which he would like to assist with if moving forward.

Summer Programs- Special Services Summer available per students IEP. Asbestos abatement at THMS is in the special education area so these students will have summer program at T.C.Passios Building. FLLAC will have their own summer program at the T.C.Passios Building, as well as Extended Day. LHS & the Primary school will also have summer programs for students with disabilities. Due to proposed construction parking and traffic pattern around TCP and LHS will be impacted but the schools will be open.

Superintendent Calmes stated that administration is busy across the district interviewing candidates for open positions. Ms. Lisa Leblanc has been reassigned from fourth grade to sixth. We will continue to fill positions and make known publicly as individuals are hired.

Student Representative's Report-no report discussed due to absence.

School Building Committee Report - next SBC meeting will be June 10th at 7pm at TCP . Weekly construction meeting was held this morning. Current estimate 32-33% complete. Paving in rear of building for emergency lane will be commencing. Building "A" all concrete is in, working on duct work and heating pipe work. Interior framing 1st floor is complete, working on second floor. Building "B" block is 50% complete which includes the Auditorium and gym. In the auditorium concrete wall work continues and they are leveling the area and preparing for the slab pour. Mr. Mackin clarified the change orders. SBC approved a change order at the May 13th meeting. That comprised of 6 separate items, errors and omissions. With a project of this size it requires that you have a contingency for any changes. Expect certain errors and omissions. Highest error cost was \$14,084. Missing clean outs on plan for plumbing. Expect to see more change orders in the upcoming future. This is a reimbursable cost from the MSBA. Any questions concerning changes, public is welcome to contact Mr. Mackin, and he invited people to attend SBC meeting.

Old Business-

Action

a. Conceptual boundaries for Passios and Brooks House property: Mr. Mackin's recommendation is that this falls within the parameters of the release of the Passios building and is compliant with village by laws. Superintendent Calmes recommendation is for the school committee to approve so that the Reuse Committee can move forward. She also reminded everyone that the Kids Kingdom/Connor Lorenz Playground remains under school control. Conceptual plan will be posted on the school website. These are not officially surveyed plot lines. Ms. Shapiro motioned to move forward, Ms. Sroka seconded. **Vote: Unanimous.**

Discussion

b. 2016-2017 Start Time Recommendation: Vote will not be taken tonight, misreported in local paper. Suggestion made by committee as to new start times for the beginning of the 2016/2017 school year. Proposed new times are as follows: 8am for the MS/HS building, 8:50am for THMS, and 9am for the Primary school. Will have information for parents at Open Houses in the fall and will be seeking public input. Will vote at first school committee meeting in October. Will also be using these new times as a basis for the bus bid.

c. FY16 Budget Update: Superintendent Calmes expressed that we do not have a final state budget at this time and will keep public updated.

New Business-

a. FY16 LHS School Improvement Plan and Handbook: Mr. Spadafino clarified that summer school is solely for special education students. Acknowledged his school council this year that helped to create core values and beliefs, which ended up being respect for self and others, collaboration & engagement, and fostering an environment of mutual respect. Year long process with faculty & and school council. Goals outlined were:

1. Increase student achievement through DDMs- through professional development have teachers focus on student work and assessments and have others critique and evaluate them. Would like to see 8th grade math MCAS scores 65% advanced/proficient rise. 8th grade science/technology scores currently at 38% advanced/proficient, would like to see at 50%. The 8th grade science MCAS test is based on the past three years-6th,7th, and 8th grade. Would like to have conversations with THMS and vertical teaming to collaborate
2. Increase student engagement to improve school culture- would like to implement a student survey, having club fair during the first full week of school so that students can get connected with other students and become engaged. Will look at the athletic/school calendar to make sure students aren't double booked to avoid conflicts. Trying to give students more options. Continue to develop publications through media club to show students the opportunities and offerings at LHS. Advisory for next year will begin the first day of school. This will provide the opportunity for small groups of students and teachers to make connections. Goal is to better organize and utilize leadership teams and department heads to work on school wide initiatives/projects. Coming up with action plans, and delegating responsibilities to make more manageable.
3. Transition plan developed for scheduling committee to discuss transition-Mr. Santry & Mr. Spadafino already have template conceptually. Will develop professional development to address the needs of all staff including vertical teaming and technology work for the new MS/HS. Will also have site tours. Dr. Berthiaume asked about the pace of improvement. Mr. Spadafino replied that students were performing at high levels, would like to see particular areas improve. SAT scores solid, above state average in most areas. PSAT scores excellent. Dr. Berthiaume concerned about pace of improvement of the 8th grade science MCAS and comment of it being potentially easier once integrated into one building. Would like to see a clear focus now and not wait. Superintendent Calmes interjected that the last few years they have had so little time to address all new state initiatives within this timeframe. Vertical teaming is a good start to it. Ms. Bertrand asked if this was across the board in all grade levels or just focused on one grade. Mr. Spadafino relayed that these changes were across the board. Mr. Spadafino appreciated the school committee's support in always working in the best interest of students. This year's handbook had very few changes. Change to e-cigarettes and use rule from MIIA to close gap of language. Big part of next year is to look at handbook as a 6-12 co-located building. Ms. Shapiro stated that it was great updated language for e-cigarettes that supported the last discussion of the wellness committee.

Public Comment- Ms. Luck relayed that the retiree reception was lovely and teachers clearly stated their love of working for the Lunenburg Public Schools. Mr. Mackin commented that on June 26th the Boys and Girls club 10th Anniversary party will be held from 4-6pm at the Teen Center. The club is wholly supported from community support. Invite public to come. Superintendent Calmes mentioned the MASC Massachusetts joint conference information had arrived. \$100 savings on registration fee if registering early. She was asked by the administration at THMS to extend thanks to the PTO and parents for making the end of year celebration wonderful. This was a great community building event.

Reports-

- a. Finance Committee-Dr. Berthiaume stated they will meet next Thursday
- b. School Councils-Primary school met last Wednesday, THMS met last Tuesday, Ms. Bertrand mentioned she had great tour of the new school, there were tweaks in the school improvement plan, looking at appointments of staff-news of 6th grade position, rigorous meeting schedule next year due to transition.
- c. PTO-Ms. Sroka reported they will be meeting Monday.
- d. Policy Sub-Committee-Dr. Berthiaume reported they had not met recently.
- e. Capital Planning Committee-Ms. Sroka reported they had not met recently.
- f. Wellness Advisory Committee-Ms. Shapiro stated they had not met.
- g. PAC/SAL-Ms. Shapiro reported they will meet Friday at 11am for elections.

- h. Reuse Committee-Mr. Mackin reported they meet June 15th at 6:30pm.
- i. Transition/Reconfiguration-Superintendent Calmes relayed that administration is meeting every Wednesday and will continue.
- j. Diversity Advisory Committee- Superintendent Calmes stated they will be meeting on June 10th at 6:30pm at TCP.
- k. Start-Time Sub-Committee-Ms. Shapiro stated that they had not met.

Topics for Future Discussion-

- a. District Improvement/Strategic Plan-The committee discussed and planned a workshop to be held On August 13th at 7pm at T.C. Passios which will include information on the school department master plan.
- b. One-to-One Computing/Technology Plan-will be discussed at a future time.
- c. Update School Department Master Plan/Capital Plan

Adjournment- Mr. Mackin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm, seconded by Ms. Shapiro.

Vote: Unanimous