

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
Basement of G.A. Sihler School
601 South State St. Litchfield, IL. 62056
Thursday, November 17, 2020
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 6:08 p.m. at G.A. Sihler School ,601 South State Street, Litchfield, IL. 62056. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice President, Valerie Cain, David Belusko; Mark Bloome, Mike Fleming and Gregg Hires. Also in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Kris Adamson, recording secretary. Administrators: Doug Hoster; Jennifer Thompson; Russ Teppen; and Adam Favre. John Hanafin of News Herald and Mary Herschelman, Journal News.; Mark Elvers, LEA representative.; Chief Ryker of the Litchfield Police Department. Kevin Meyer, FGM Engineers and Cory Noder of Poettker Construction. Concerned parents and citizens. Masks were worn and social distancing was adhered to the guidelines.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:08pm. Julie Abel, president announced that the motion to approve the renewal of the comprehensive roof management contract with Tremco Service Corporation would be tabled.

Citizens Agenda

Chief Ryker addressed the Board of Education in regards to the School Resource Officer(SOR). Officer Shane Grammer has been named the SOR for the district. He will begin his duties in December. Officer Grammer is currently in training for the new position. Chief Ryker believes that with an officer working with the district, will help bridge a gap with students and the community at large.

Consent agenda

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approve regular meeting on October 15, 2020
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for November 2020 total \$484,521. From Education Fund \$298,151; from Operations & Maintenance \$51,697; from Transportation \$31,712; from Capital Projects \$102,000; from Tort Immunity \$961. Balance in all funds at October 30, 2020 is \$9,480, 404. Balance in Operating Funds is \$7,034,993; balance in Capital Projects is \$624,569. Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 7-0

New Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the preliminary 2020 tax levy. A five- year history of the tax levy was presented. This year's tax rate would be 4.66979. Last year's rate was 4.65. Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the Elementary School Building plan as presented by FGM Architects. Kevin Meyer, FGM Architects and Cody Noder of Poettker Construction presented the latest drawings for the proposed remodel and new building construction. FGM Architects met with teachers and staff to develop wants and needs for the proposed remodel and new construction. The Architects were requesting that the Board approve the footprint so that they may move on to the next phase of planning. Dr. Fuerstenau meets with FGM Architects and Poettker Construction on a weekly basis. Board members questions this month included but not limited to the façade as well as utilization of space. Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 7-0

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Ron Anglin to approve the 2020-2021 Winter Athletic schedule and action plan. Mark Elvers, Athletic Director, received information from the IHSA suspending all winter sports until after the new year. He received this information just moments before addressing the Board. All practices and games

will be suspended until after the first of the year. Mr. Elvers will work with the IHSA and South Central Conference to reschedule activities. Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 7-0

Information

Enrollment for October was 1313. Board members were honored for School Board members' day on November 15th. Julie Abel, Valerie Cain and Gregg Hires received pins for their achievement of master board member status. Ron Anglin had already received this honor. Approximately 100 students have returned from remote learning to in-person learning for all grade levels. Annual Parent Teacher conference reports were included in the board packet. Most conferences were held by phone. The High School is still looking at the best way to administer final exams. They will present plan to students when complete. Dr. Fuerstenau presented the district's report card. There was no student testing last spring, so data was collected. Each building received a commendable. The annual report card is posted on the district website each year. Jennifer Thompson announced that thirty hot spots for internet access were delivered to families in the district. If a family is in need of a hot spot, they should contact their students school. It was announced that the District would be taking Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th as remote learning days for all students. Staff will deep clean prior to the Thanksgiving break. Grab and Go Food services would be provided on those days. Meals may be picked at the Middle School Complex. Board members inquired to when it was planned for students to return to five days a week in person learning. Dr. Fuerstenau said the district staff is working with the Montgomery Health Department to see what would be the best practice for the second half of the school year.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome at 8:35 p.m. for the board to enter into closed session for the purpose to discuss: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 6-0 At 8:54 p.m. a motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Ron Anglin to return to open session. Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 6-0

Personnel

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Ron Anglin to approve the following personnel report: Approve the hire of Robyn Engstrom as a school nurse for the District with a start date of November 10, 2020. Approve family medical leave for Katie Hoerchler, 3rd grade teacher beginning approximately March 19, 2021 until the end of the school year on May 24, 2021. Roll Call Vote: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Fleming and Hires. Motion carried 6-0

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Gregg Hires and seconded by Ron Anglin to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Able, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.