

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
Basement of G.A. Sihler School
601 South State St. Litchfield, IL. 62056
Thursday, March 18, 2021
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 6:00 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, Secretary, David Belusko; Mark Bloome, Mike Fleming and Gregg Hires. Also in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent. Kris Adamson, Recording Secretary. Administrators: Jennifer Thompson; Russ Tepen; Jeremy Heigert and Adam Favre. John Hanafin of News Herald and Mary Herschelman, Journal News.; Mark Elvers, LEA representative. Concerned parents and citizens. Masks were worn and social distancing was adhered to the guidelines.

Fogleman Quarterly Update

Mr. Roger Krabbe and Mr. Chad Ruppert of the Bank and Trust addressed the Board of Education in regards to the Fogleman Scholarship Trust during the Citizens Agenda portion of the meeting. Mr. Ruppert, farm manager for the trust, announced that it had been a good yield year for the crops overall. The tiling project from last year helped. Renters signed leases in December. Rent would remain the same but would look at increases next year if necessary. Mr. Krabbe gave his report on the investment side of the trust. The Fogleman Trust is estimated to be worth \$8.2 million dollars. With the one-third method of calculating scholarship funds, it was recommended to the Board by Julie Abel and Roger Krabbe to set this year's scholarship amount to \$2300.00. This amount would then save their reserves for the future. At this time, it is estimated that 24 new scholarships and 62 renewals could be given out this year.

New Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the setting of the Fogleman Scholarship dollar amount to \$2,300.00 for the 2020-2021 school year. Roll Call: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, Hires. Motion Carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the one-year contract with Johnson Controls for the HVAC maintenance and service on District Buildings at a sum of \$34,600.00. Roll Call: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, Hires. Motion Carried 7-0.

Consent agenda

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Ron Anglin to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approve minutes and closed session minutes from February 18, 2021
- Approve early graduation for 2021-2022 seniors at Litchfield High School
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

The Students will have met the state and district requirements to earn a high school diploma in December of 2021 They are requesting to graduate at that time. Mr. Hoster and Mrs. Cress have reviewed their educational status and have forwarded their requests to the Board. Packet includes letter of request as well as support letters from parent/guardians. Bills payable in March 2021 total \$250,347. From Education fund \$163,967; from O&M \$43,738; from Transportation \$29,314; from Capital Projects \$11,411; from Tort \$1,916. Ending balance in all funds at February 28, 2021 is \$30,292,607. Balance in operating funds is \$7,919,761; balance in Capital Projects is \$13,407,675; balance in Health-Life-Safety is \$7,664,158.

Information

Enrollment for February was 1309. Kelley Walker, director of the MAKE IT program, submitted her monthly report. Bob Witter, Buildings and Grounds/Transportation Director, submitted his monthly report for the board packet. The evenings presentation was on the status of the District's Career and Technical education program. Dr. David Lett, Career

and technical education coordinator for the district gave a brief overview of where his team started and their goals for the following school year. Starting with kindergarteners and moving up to seniors at the high school, this program is clearing the path for students to decide on their futures. Abby Carlson, Career Services coordinator, spoke on the iDream/ICreate program. The district is working with Val Belusko of the University of Illinois Extension office. The Galaxy program is a careers unit offered to kindergarten through fifth grade. Mr. Ellis Henley currently teaches an eight grade class on careers. One of the main lessons taught is developing soft skills needed for jobs. Next Fall, junior will be offered a new class on consumer education and careers. Dr. Lett stated that the Innovation center is on hold, but is on the governor's radar for funding. CTE programs in the county are strengthening and expanding even prior to the center opening its doors. There are many hurdles still to breach. With each accomplishment a pathway is opening for a student in the Litchfield School District. The Board was interested in ideas of community involvement through mentoring programs, internships, and summer work programs. Administrators gave an update on summer camp programs. The elementary staff is participating in a book study on literacy. They extended the invitation to Board members. Mr. Favre and Mr. Heigert will present the literacy program at the April meeting. Mrs. Thompson stated that MAP testing will continue to April and May. She will present a new Math curriculum at the April meeting for board approval. Dr. Tepen explained that with the threat of mandatory summer school looming over underachieving students' heads, there has been an influx of student work and participation. Dr. Fuerstenau complimented the Athletic Directors and the videotaping crew for their work and time into getting activities live streamed for fans to watch. He thanked Mrs. Jo Brummet and the student council for a successful homecoming week during a pandemic. The administration is working with the city on the State Street building project.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to enter into closed session at 7:34 pm. 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) he 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: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0. A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Ron Anglin to return to open session at 8:37pm. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to app the following non-tenured teachers:

1st year to 2nd year

- Abby Carlson- Career Services Coordinator
- Dan Carlson- High School
- Stacy Carter- High School
- Elizabeth Clark- Elementary
- Scott Durbin- High School
- Emily Frerichs- High School
- Maggie Gunn- Elementary
- Mitchell Hughes- Elementary
- Ashley Schaefer- Prekindergarten
- Stephanie Short- Elementary
- Dan Stewart- Middle School

2nd year to 3rd year

- Matt Belusko- High School
- Taylor Little- Prekindergarten
- Stephanie Luttrell- Elementary
- Adam Taylor- Middle School
- Hannah Tomazzoli- Elementary
- Conor White- High School
- Brittany Winans- Elementary

3rd year to 4th year

Elbert Jones- High School

Scott Zobrist- High School

4 year to Tenure

* Karen Cress- High School

Lindsey Gibbs- Elementary

* Jamie Mortensen- High School

*accelerated

Note: Tenured teachers have a continuing employment relationship that does not require the issuance of an annual contract. The tenured teacher is deemed to be continuously employed from year-to-year unless given proper notice of honorable dismissal(lay-off) or dismissal for cause. Roll Call Vote: AYE: 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 accept the resignation of Drew Logan as Head Boys Basketball coach effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mike Fleming to accept the resignation of Brooke Boehme, Instructional Tutor with a PEL, effective May 24, 2021. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve Steve Aherin as volunteer coach to the High School Baseball Program. (pending completion of proper paperwork and background check.) Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to hire Shane Grammer as a paid Assistant Football Coach beginning 2021 season. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the hire of Tim Rhodus as a paid Assistant Football Coach beginning the 2021 season. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Ron Anglin to approve the voluntary transfer of Mark Elvers from High School Athletic Director to Assistant Athletic Director beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the voluntary transfer of Dan Stewart from Assistant Athletic Director to High School Athletic Director beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Able, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0