

Regular School Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

Lyme Elementary School

approved as is, 10/27/16

Board Members Present: Jay Davis, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Heidi Lange, Sam Levey, Paul Mayo, Steve Toulmin, Alicia Willette. Staff Members Present: Jeff Valence, Mike Harris, Teresa Thurston. Recorded by R. Lohr

1. Call to Order

Chair Glenshaw called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was rearranged so the action items were handled earlier in the meeting.

3. Business Requiring Action

A. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded (Sam Levey, Jay Davis) to approve the Lyme School Board regular meeting minutes for May 16, 2016 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded (Steve Toulmin, Jay Davis) to approve the Lyme School Board nonpublic meeting minutes for May 16, 2016 as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded (Jay Davis, Alicia Willette) to approve the Lyme School Board public hearing minutes for June 21, 2016 as submitted and amended. The motion passed unanimously. The date of the public hearing minutes should be June 21, 2016.

A motion was made and seconded (Jay Davis, Alicia Willette) to approve the Lyme School Board meeting and retreat minutes for June 21, 2016 as submitted and amended. The motion passed unanimously. The date of the retreat minutes should be June 21, 2016.

A motion was made and seconded (Sam Levey, Paul Mayo) to approve the Lyme School Board special meeting minutes for August 3, 2016 as submitted. The motion passed with 4 in favor and 2 abstentions (Davis, Toulmin).

Superintendent Harris reviewed staff nominations and hiring including four aides and three-part time positions to be confirmed by the Board.

A motion was made and seconded (Jay Davis, Heidi Lange) to elect four nominations as aides at the Lyme School for the 2016-17 school year as submitted by Superintendent Harris. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded (Alicia Willette, Heidi Lange) to appoint three-part time staff at the Lyme School for the 2016-17 school year as submitted by Superintendent Harris. The

motion passed unanimously.

Superintendent Harris explained the tuition rate based on per pupil cost but it was understood that the amount of the rate could be set without applying a per pupil formula. The kindergarten tuition rate is 50% of the established Lyme School tuition rate.

A motion was made and seconded (Paul Mayo, Alicia Willette) to approve the Lyme School tuition rate at \$19,114 for 2016-17. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Glenshaw reviewed the Board meeting schedule and Budget Process Timeline. It was suggested that the proposed 2017-18 school budget be introduced to the Board at the November 17 meeting and a tentative meeting be scheduled on January 19 to address potential town Budget Committee issues related to the school.

A motion was made and seconded (Sam Levey, Heidi Lange) to approve the Lyme School Board meeting schedule for 2016-17. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Business Requiring Discussion

A. Work Plan

Chair Glenshaw distributed and reviewed the Board Work Plan for the upcoming school year. The retreat discussion and strategic plan issues were incorporated in the work plan. A document for the Timeline for the Superintendent Transition was distributed to the Board. Changes to the document included moving posting the position in December, conducting interviews in January-February, and approving the candidate in April-May. It was suggested that the Personnel Committee will look at the search process and create a Search Subcommittee that would include community representation.

B. Full Day Kindergarten

The Board discussed the process that full day kindergarten would be considered in the upcoming year. A parent group is expected to file a petitioned warrant article, but the Board could file such a warrant article itself and drive the process on full day kindergarten. It was felt that the public was expecting to vote on the full day kindergarten issue. There was Board discussion regarding the expectation that there would be a warrant article on the full day kindergarten issue and whether the Board should file such an article. It was expressed that the Board discuss the merits and details associated with full day kindergarten and then see how it stands on the issue. Jay Davis will forward details from the last year's Kindergarten Committee deliberations on the issue. It was also felt that the full day kindergarten issue should be considered within the context of the current school district needs.

C. High School Agreements

The Board discussed inquiring about the high school agreements and looking at the formulas and calculations used to devise the high school tuition rates. It was felt that perhaps a volume discount might be appropriate at the high schools that receive a large number of Lyme high school students.

5. Communications and Reports

A. Superintendent's Report

Business Administrator Teresa Thurston distributed manifest signings and reviewed the end of year financial report for the last school year. There was \$20,000 pulled from the Capital Reserve and nothing pulled from the Special Education Reserve. There was a \$915 end of year fund balance that will be put into the Special Education Reserve.

The auditors reviewed the Lyme School District financials in mid-August and no formal findings were reported. There was a suggestion by the auditors that the school district financial policies be reviewed. Superintendent Harris reported that the budget for this year looks ok and there are increased high school numbers.

C. Principal's Report

Principal reported that the enrollment is 207 (kindergarten = 15; 1st grade = 21; 2nd grade = 23; 3rd = 18; 4th grade = 24; 5th grade = 25; 6th grade = 19; 7th grade = 34; 8th grade = 28. There are two additional students expected to arrive in January. There are soft splits in the second and fourth grades and hard splits in the fifth, seventh and eighth grades.

Principal Valence also stated that the school district received \$5,000 in fundraising efforts and two other similar requests have been floated.

A food program will be looked at by the Curriculum Committee and Principal Valence stated that there are some programs that will happen for health and wellness.

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded (Sam Levey, Steve Toulmin). The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:36 PM.