

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
Basement of G.A. Sihler School
601 South State St. Litchfield, IL. 62056
Thursday, April 15, 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. Gregg Hires was absent. 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.; Amy Newkirk, LEA representative. Emily Spindler of FGM Architects and Cory Noder of Poettker Construction. Concerned parents and citizens.

New Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the FGM Architects and Poettker Construction site and floor plan for State street project as presented. Representatives from each company were on hand to present the latest plans for the new elementary building. The layout presented would be the footprint of the building and the traffic flow. The City has established that St. John street will now be one way from Jefferson Street to State Street. The building will be 2-story with ten classrooms on each floor. The new elementary will house grade 2-5. Renderings were presented to the board. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the OPAA Food Service 2021-2022 renewal contract with the District. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the new K-8 Math curriculum beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Jennifer Thompson, Curriculum Coordinator for the District presented the Envision Math curriculum for Kindergarten through eighth grade. The cost will be \$160,000.00 for the next six years. The math curriculum will include workbooks and online instruction. Mrs. Thompson and her committee have worked to bring this new math curriculum to the district. It allows teachers to monitor a students' progress and where on the spectrum the student falls as compared to state standards. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the 2020-2021 amended calendar. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the 2021-2022 school calendar. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the update to Board Policy 7:260-Exemption from Physical Education. An error as brought to the attention of the District. When Press Plus presented the last updates to 7:260, they neglected to include the last sentence of update. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

Consent agenda

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

- Approve regular and closed session minutes from March 18, 2021
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for April total \$357,574. Total from Education fund is \$281,771; from Operations & Maintenance \$32,704; from Transportation \$31,733; from Capital Projects \$10,096; from Tort \$1,569. Ending balance in all funds at March 31,

2021 is \$29,961,214. Balance in operating funds is \$7,641,399. Balance in Capital Projects is \$13,465,399; balance in Health Life Safety is \$7,666,253. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried. 6-0.

Information

Enrollment for March was 1306. 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. Dr. Fuerstenau with Mr. Favre and Mr. Heigert introduced the 2021-2023 Literacy program for the elementary. "Language at the Speed of Sight" is the book the elementary teachers are using for a book study. This book has teachers looking at how the brain learns to read. New curriculum was not introduced. This program is focused on the skills teachers will utilize in guiding their students forward in individual reading goals. Camp Panther, June 1st to July 1st will be a summer camp to not only start new practices in reading but also sharpen math skills as well. By the 2022-2023 school year, implementation of the reading practices should be in full swing. This fall an inventory of resources, teacher development and conferences will be part of the road map for success of this program. Camp Panther has 110 students signed up for this summer. A literacy program from Scholastic was purchased as the curriculum for the camp across the grade levels. Dr. Tepen reported that approximately 40 middle school students would need to attend summer school in order to be promoted to the next grade. The Middle School will have a virtual 8th grade recognition ceremony on May 24th. The High School was gearing up for graduation on May 21st. Prom is scheduled for April 24th. The High School musical "High School Musical" will be shown at the Skyview Drive In. Dr. Fuerstenau once again praised the staff for all of their hard work during this unprecedented year. The Illinois State Board of Education is no longer requiring school districts to offer a remote learning option in the Fall.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to enter into closed session at 7:41 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) 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: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0. A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to return to open session at 8:31pm. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the settlement agreement between the *Doe Family* and the Board of Education of Litchfield Community Unit School District #12. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the purchase agreement with Litchfield Sports Incorporated for property located at 120 West St. John Street, Litchfield, IL. 62056. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0. The purchase price is \$300,000.00.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Mike Fleming to accept the resignation of Melissa Allen, Instructional Tutor effective May 24, 2021. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mike Fleming and seconded by Valerie Cain to accept the resignation of Patrice Corso as Middle School Girls Basketball Coach at the end of the current season. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to accept the resignation of Scott Zobrist as Freshmen Boys Basketball Coach effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mike Fleming and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Mitchell Floyd as an aide to the Make It program pending proper completion of all employment paperwork. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Taylor Henley as Elementary Music Teacher beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by David Belusko to approve the hire of Derek Odle as full time 30hr. per week/ 12-month custodian effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the involuntary transfer of Whitney McSperritt from 1st grade Elementary teacher to 2nd grade Elementary Teacher effective the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Mike Fleming to approve the voluntary transfer of Alexandria Plovich from Special Education Classroom Aide to Instructional Tutor with professional educator's license effective the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Valerie Cain and seconded by Mike Fleming to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Able, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0