

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12  
Board of Education  
Radius Room of Litchfield High School  
1705 N State St. Litchfield, IL. 62056  
Tuesday, July 20, 2021  
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 6:00p.m. in the Radius Room of Litchfield High School ,1705 N State Street, Litchfield, IL. 62056. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko, Mike Fleming and Gregg Hires. Also in attendance: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Kris Adamson, Recording Secretary. Administrators: Juletta Ellis, high school principal. Steve Dougherty, Mayor of the City of Litchfield and Carol Burk , City Clerk. Amy Newkirk, LEA representative. John Hanafin of News Herald and Mary Herschelmann of the Journal News. Concerned parents and citizens.

Consent Agenda

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

- Authorize preparation of the 2021-2022 budget
- Approve renewal of hazardous transportation areas
- Approve minutes from public hearing on June 17, 2021
- Approve regular and closed session minutes from June 17, 2021
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Each school board must budget its income and expenses for the fiscal year and make the budget available for public inspection. The school district's plan for receipt and expenditures of money is prepared by the district's chief fiscal officer. The budget is the basis for the school district's tax levy; therefore, the board is being asked to approve Superintendent Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau as the district's chief fiscal officer in preparing a budget for the 2021-2022 school year. Annual approval from the Board of Education is required for areas previously approved by the State of Illinois for transportation, due to being hazardous for elementary students who would otherwise walk to and from school. Specifically, these areas have railroad tracks that pose a danger to students in grades kindergarten through sixth and are less than 1.5 miles from the school. Bills payable in July 2021 total \$878,587. From Education fund: \$427,847; O&M: \$30,272; Transportation: \$48,671; Capital Projects: \$199,375; Tort: \$172,422. Ending balance in all funds at June 30, 2021 is \$29,489,658. Balance in Operating Funds is \$7,174,752. Balance in Capital Projects is \$13,602,592. Balance in Health/Life/Safety is \$7,671,408. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

New Business

Emily Spindler of FGM Architects and Eric Lohman of Poettker Construction were in attendance to give a monthly update on the State Street Elementary Building project. The final renderings were presented with no changes from the June presentation. Ameren will be starting the soil removal process where the future parking lot for the elementary school will be located. Mr. Lohman state that the project is still on budget at \$13.5 million. There is a 5 percent contingency built into the figure. Precast concrete and steel bids will be presented at the August 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. It is estimated that ground breaking will begin in the spring of 2022 and the project completed in December 2023.

A motion was made by Mike Fleming and seconded by Ron Anglin to grant Poettker Construction permission to issue a Solicitation for Bids for the New Elementary Building at State Street. This approval does not constitute any approval for acceptance of submitted bids nor shall it bind the District to award any bids. Separate approval from the Board of Education shall be obtained to obligate any bidder. This approval is strictly to allow Poettker Construction to act, on the District's behalf, to issue a Solicitation for Bid, advertise and collect bids, and prepare results for the District's consideration for award. Be advised that previous approval has released the issuance of bid solicitation for the Steel and Precast Concrete under separate approval and this is for the balance of the work packages. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the first reading of board revisions to Policy, Administrative Procedures, and exhibits: 1:10; 1:20;1:20-AP;1:30  
2:10;2:20;2:30;2:120-E1;2:120E2;2:125-E3;2:130;2:150-AP;2:200-AP;2:220-E4;2:220-E7;2:240;2:240-E1;2:240-E2;2:250-E2;2:250-E3  
3:30;3:30-E;3:70-AP  
4:15-E1;4:15-E2;4:15-E3;4:40-AP;4:60-AP3;4:140-AP4;140-E1;4:140-E2;4:140-E3;4:170-AP5  
5:10;5:30;5:30AP2;5:30AP2,E1;5:30-AP2,E2;5:40-AP;5:125-E;5:170-AP1;5:170-AP2;5:170-AP3;5:170-E1;5:190-E1;5:190-E2;5:190-E3;5:240-AP  
6:100;6:100-AP;6:100-E1;6:100-E2;6:120-AP4;6:145;6:160;6:170;6:17-AP1;6:170-AP1,E1;6:170-AP1,E2;6:170-AP2;6:190-AP;6:235;6:235-AP1;6:235AP1,E1;6:235-AP1,E2;6:235-AP2;6:235-E3;6:35-E4;6:250-P;6:255;6:260;  
6:260-E  
7:220;7:230;7:240-AP2,E1;7:280;7:340-AP1,E3;7:340-AP1,E4;7:340-AP2;7:345-AP,E4  
8:90;8:95-E2  
Voice Vote: YEA: 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 updated 2021-2022 Board Calendar for regular School Board meetings and Fogleman Trustee meetings. The regular meetings of the Board of Education for the 2021-2022 school year will be held at 6:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Radius Room of Litchfield High School unless otherwise specified; and that said meetings will be limited to 11:00 p.m. adjournment. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

Juletta Ellis, High School Principal presented the 2021-2022 Freshmen Orientation plan to the board. Panther 100 will take place on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> from 2:00p.m. to 6:30p.m. This event is get Freshmen off the right foot for their high school experience. Reaching for 100 percent participation, fun activities and incentives are part of the plan. Ultimate goal is 100 percent graduation rate in the future.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the 2021-2022 Litchfield Community Unit School District #12 reopening plan. The motion opened the topic for discussion. The plan was similar to last year's plan. Social distancing will go from 6 feet to 3 feet. Temperatures will not be checked at arrival. Hand washing and other cleaning measures will stay in place. District nurses will still be able to conduct testing on site. The district will be back to five days with full hours for attendance. At this time no mandates have been received regarding athletics and extracurricular activities. As similar to last year, protocol and expectations may change throughout the year. Remote learning will not be an option this year accept for extreme circumstances. Dr. Fuerstenau stated that American Academy of Pediatrics is recommending all students need to wear masks. Parents have been contacting Board members to voice their concerns and ask questions about the 2021-2022 school year. Board members welcome the input. The decision to or not wear masks will be up to a vote by the board. Additional wording was added to the opening plan stating that masks were recommend by not required for students and staff that were not vaccinated. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 requiring masks on all students and staff on school buses. Roll call vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Bloome, Cain, and Fleming. NAY: Belusko and Hires. Motion carried 5-2.

#### Information

The monthly MAKE IT reports were included in the packet. Bob Witter, Buildings and Grounds/Transportation included his monthly update in the board packet. Summer projects are completed or coming to a close. Dr. Fuerstenau stated online registration is up and running and will continue until August 6<sup>th</sup>. The district is working again a grant to provide free breakfast and lunch at no cost.

#### Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by David Belusko for the Board of Education to enter into closed session at 7:48pm for the purpose of: 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) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the

minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (21) Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0. A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to return to open session at 8:35pm Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

#### Action after closed session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome approve that the need for confidentiality still exists pertaining to the minutes of closed sessions for the months of January 2021 to June 2021 and that the Board has determined for those minutes to remain closed. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to adopt a resolution to rescind any and all disciplinary actions taken against said staff member on October 23, 2018. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Present: Hires Motion carried. 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the Family Medical leave request for Cassie Lord- Remmert-McKorkle High School/Middle School Band director beginning October 17, 2021 and continuing until January 3, 2022. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Lance Boldt as High School Social Sciences Teacher and Head Boys Basketball Coach effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. NAYE: Hires Motion carried. 6-1.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Brittany Boldt as High School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. NAYE: Hires Motion carried. 6-1.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Leanne Tumpach, Instructional Tutor with a professional educators' license effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 voluntary transfer of Misty Tooley from Life Skills Special Education Classroom aide at Colt School to 5<sup>th</sup> grade Special Education classroom aide beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Tamera Cleaver as 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Special Education Classroom Aide at Colt School beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the voluntary transfer of Nicole Logan from 5<sup>th</sup> grade Special Education Classroom aide at Russell School to Kitchen Manager for the district cafeteria beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 voluntary transfer of Katie Steinbach, Clerical Aide from Russell Elementary School to the High School beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by David Belusko to accept the resignation of Alexandria Plovich, Instructional Tutor with a professional educators' license, effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Janice Fleming as an Instructional Tutor with a professional educators' license at Colt School beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Hires. Abstain: Fleming Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hires of Justin Ripley as Audio Visual Coordinator(Streaming) beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 hire of Patty Goforth as the National Honor Society sponsor beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Chris Bates as the Head Boys Soccer Coach beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 approve the hire of Keating Monroe as the Assistant Boys Soccer Coach beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Dr. Russ Tepen as the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball Coach at Litchfield Middle School beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Clay Murphy as an Assistant Football Coach beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 hire of Colten Faure as an Assistant Football Coach beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: 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 addition of a paid Middle School Assistant Wrestling Coach position beginning the 2021-2022 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming, and Hires. Motion carried. 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by David Belusko to approve the increase from 178 to 180 working days for Non- Certified personnel: Classroom Aides, Special Education Aides, Instructional tutors, Instructional Tutors with Professional Educators' License. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Cain, Hires. Present: Bloome and Fleming. Motion carried 5-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to adjourn the meeting at 8:48p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming and Hires Motion carried 7-0.