

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
Radius Room of Litchfield High School
1705 N State St. Litchfield, IL. 62056
Thursday, December 16, 2021
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held a 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, Mark Bloome, Mike Fleming. Gregg Hires was absent. Also in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Jennifer Thompson, Director of Curriculum & Instruction/ Special Education Liaison; Kris Adamson, Recording Secretary and Administrators: Juleta Ellis, Adam Favre and Jeremy Heigert. Attending: Chris Kuntzman, Technology Director; Josh Hughes, LEA representative; Steve Dougherty, Mayor of the City of Litchfield; John Hanafin, Litchfield News Herald. Concerned parents and citizens.

Citizens Agenda

Mike Fleming shared good news stories that he had heard from the community and also witnessed first-hand. He recognized Mrs. Ellis and the high school staff for their handling of the severe storm that swept through Litchfield on Friday, December 10th. The storm that was barreling down on Litchfield included strong winds and possible tornadic activity. Simmons gym was full of basketball teams and fans. Mrs. Ellis and staff immediately took necessary precautions for the safety of all those in attendance. Mr. Fleming recognized Mrs. Darla Jubelt and staff for their incredible Christmas display in the Middle School Lobby area. He believed it was a welcome sight for the district students to see into and out of the building. Mrs. Jubelt always goes above and beyond for the students in her building. Finally, Mr. Fleming recognized Mr. Matt Belusko and the students of the FFA program for their recent community project. This group helped a lady in our community that had recently lost her spouse by cleaning our barns etc. around her farm.

Consent Agenda

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

- o Approve adding High School activity account Science Olympiad
- o Approve regular minutes from meeting on November 16, 2021
- o Approve monthly bills
- o Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable in December 2021 total \$510,388.37. From Education fund, \$131,529.12; from Operations & Maintenance \$47,799.70; from Transportation \$39,422.08; from Capital Projects \$262,411.88; from Tort \$29,225.59. Total balance in all funds at November 30, 2021 is \$31,815,092. Balance in operating funds is \$9,486,977. Balance in Capital Projects is \$12,605,289; balance in Health-Life-Safety is \$7,754,507. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried: 6-0.

Old Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to adopt a resolution to establish a property tax levy for 2021. The 2021 proposed levy was presented at the November 2021 board meeting. No changes were made to the proposed document since that time. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried: 6-0.

New Business

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 as listed from Press Plus issue #108:

2:20; 2:105; 2:110;2:120;2:150;2:150-AP;2:220;2:220-E1;2:220-E3;2:220-E5;2:220-E6;2:220-E8;2:250-E2;2:260
3:40;3:50;3:60 4:60;4:60-AP1;4:60-AP4;4:80;4:110;4:120;4:150;4:160;4:170;4:170-AP1;4:170-AP2;4:170-AP2,
E5;4:175;4:175-AP1 7:10;7:30;7:20-AP;7:30;7:50;7:60;7:60-AP1;7:60-AP2;7:60-AP2,E2;7:60-
P2,E3;7:70;7:80;7:150;7:160;7:165;7:180;7:190;7:190-AP3;7:190-AP4;7:190-AP5;7:190-AP6;7:190-E1;7:190-E2;7:190-
E3;7:190-E4;7:200;7:200-E1;7:200-E2;7:210;7:210-E1;7:240;7:240-AP1;7:250;7:250-AP2;7:260;7:280-E2;7:290;7:290-
AP;7:310;7:310-AP;7:315;7:315-AP;7:340;7:340-AP1;7:340-AP1,E1;7:345;7:345-AP;7:345-AP, E4;7:345-AP, E5; 7:345-
AP,E68;70; 8:95-AP;8:100 Revisions in sections 500 and 600 were tabled until district council and administration could meet to discussion these changes. Voice 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 contract change order #001 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield State Street Elementary project in the amount of \$19,249.53. Mr. Peter Ratermann, project manager for the new elementary school gave an update to the project. Plans are for construction to begin Monday, January 10th. Steel should arrive onsite in February. The Board agreed to submit drawings early for structural materials such as steel to be bid. Drawings of the gym which is also the buildings storm shelter were finalized which in turn caused additional materials to be bid. This is the reasoning behind the change order. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain. NAY: Fleming Motion carried: 5-1.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the renewal of the indoor air quality professional service contract with Environmental Consultants. This is an annual contract. The company provides quarterly indoor air quality testing for the safety of our students and staff. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried: 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mike Fleming to approve the reimbursement in the amount of \$282.24 to Julie Abel, board member, for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Board members attend the annual board conferences to build their knowledge of school operating systems and practices. Just as the district does with all professional development mileage is reimbursed. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Abstain: Abel. Motion Carried: 5-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Mike Fleming to approve the reimbursement in the amount of \$282.24 to Ron Anglin board member, for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Abstain: Anglin. Motion Carried: 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mike Fleming to approve the reimbursement in the amount of \$282.24 to Gregg Hires board member, for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0.

Information

Enrollment for November is 1307. Make It program included their report and financials in the Board packet. OPAA Food services included their monthly report. 14,312 lunches were served. Mr. Heigert let the board know that the staff was already meeting to plan the 2nd annual Camp Panther this summer. He stated that the new math curriculum was helping students that struggled with math. Students and parents are able to track their progress and then set goals as an individual. Mr. Favre announced that the entire district helped sponsor thirty-four families with a total of 95 kids this year through the Angel Tree program. Holy Family Catholic church donated pajamas for each child. Families were also given a gift card to Aldi's. Mrs. Cheryl Bishop secretary for the Pre-Kindergarten program coordinates this community project. Mrs. Juletta Ellis, principal of the high school gave a presentation entitled: "Reimagined LHS". A committee of both faculty and students has been formed to look at current data for the high school, including graduation rate; test results; dual credit enrollment and future plans. A school wide survey was taken with 65% response rate. First meetings will begin after Christmas break. Staff suggested new class offerings. Some of the new class offerings will be available starting the 2022-2023 school year; while others will need additional time and planning before offering to students. The High School is looking to add both archery club and rocketry club. All essential items are already on hand at the high school for archery and Mr. Eric Gray has stepped up to sponsor it. Rocketry club is being funded through a grant. Dr. Fuerstenau reported that the literacy program will be updated with future curriculum updates. School will resume on January 4, 2022 for all students.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by David Belusko for the board to enter into closed session at 7:08p.m. 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: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0. A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Ron Anglin for the board to return to open session at 8:23 p.m. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0.

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the letter of intent to retire from Jill Huff, Middle School Math Teacher, at the conclusion of the 2025-2026 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the family medical leave request of Megan Becker, elementary teacher that is intermittent from the dates of October 20, 2021 to November 29, 2021 and then continuous from the dates of November 30, 2021 through December 17, 2021. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve Cody Younker as a volunteer coach to the wrestling program. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve Shamera Robinson as a volunteer to the Cheer program. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Fleming. Motion Carried: 6-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Valerie Cain and seconded by David Belusko to adjourn the meeting at 8:26p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Fleming. Motion carried 6-0.