

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
District Office
1100 N Old Route 66
Litchfield, IL. 62056
Tuesday, September 20, 2022
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 5:15p.m. at the State Street Elementary Project Location, 127 West St. John Street, Litchfield, IL. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; Valerie Cain, Secretary; David Belusko, Mark Bloome and Jimmy Gorowski. 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: Juletta Ellis, Russ Tepen, Adam Favre, Jeremy Heigert. Attending: Bob Witter, Building and Grounds/Transportation Director; Abe Loveless, District Technology Officer and Shane Cress, LEA representative; John Hanafin, Litchfield News Herald and Mary Herschelman, Journal News. Concerned parents and citizens.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m. at the State Street Elementary project site located at 127 West St. John St., Litchfield, IL. 62056. Gregg Hires was absent. Eric Kohnen, Poettker Construction, walked the Board through the progress at the job site. Dr. Fuerstenau walked the Board through the staining process that is taking place to camouflage the imperfections in the panels. A concrete pad will be added to the site for a maintenance shed. Code requires that some items not be housed inside of buildings. Some interior work has begun including wiring and drywall. Board members are able to see for themselves the progress each month. The new building is set to be complete in February 2023. The Board left the job site and reconvened at the District Office located at 1100 N. Old Route 66, Litchfield, IL. beginning at 6:18 p.m.

Regular Monthly meeting

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:18p.m. Roll Call was taken with Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski present. Hires was absent.

Citizens agenda

The High School Golf team was recognized for their exciting season. Coach Dan Newkirk and Coach Justin Ripley introduced those in attendance. Laura Boston, a senior this year finished 47th at the state tournament. The Boys Golf team finished 8th overall at the state tournament. Golfer Tug Schwab placed 2nd individually.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approve adding an activity account for Spirit Club at the Middle School
- Approve changing the name of the activity account Pep Club/ Cheerleading to the Cheerleading account at the Middle School
- Approve minutes from special meeting at Elementary School Building project on September 20, 2022
- Approve minutes from Public Hearing on September 20, 2022
- Approve minutes from regular monthly meeting on September 20, 2022
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for October 2022 total \$1,983,072.28. From Education fund \$300,462.11. From O&M \$92,960.10. From Transportation \$37,389.87. From Capital Projects \$1,543,677.70. From Tort \$2,607.50. From Health-life-safety \$5,975.00. Ending balance in all funds at Sept 30, 2022 is \$23,648,374. Balance in operating funds is \$8,733,200. Balance in Capital Projects is \$5,915,719. Balance in HLS is \$7,748,009. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

New Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the to approve the annual financial audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, as presented by of Scheffel Boyle, Certified Public Accountants. The District earned a 3.7 out of 4- recognition status. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to approve renovations at the current Colt School location, 615 East Tyler Avenue in order to house Kindergarten through First grades beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0 Renderings were presented to the Board by FGM Architects.

Board members and the public were invited to the DCEO Project grant announcement at the SCI Training and Innovation Center on October 31, 2022 beginning at 1:00pm.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to The Litchfield Board of Education serving as the Fogleman Scholarship Trustees approves the change in the GPA requirements as follows:

- 1) First time applicants must have a GPA of 3.44 or higher.
- 2) Renewal applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- 3) Due date will be May 1st

Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the reduction of route time for the Triangle Bus from 4.5 hours to 4.25 hours beginning October 25, 2022. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to consider and adopt a resolution of intent to issue \$8,000,000 Working Cash Fund Bonds to increase the District's working cash fund. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

Information Items

Enrollment was presented-1305. Make It reports were included in the packet. OPAA food service monthly report stated that 16,917 lunches were served in September. Dan Stewart, athletic director, included his report in the packet. Winter sports teams are just now meeting. Bob Witter, Building and grounds/transportation director, announced that demolition on the Scherer street house will be completed this next month. The district will be switching from air conditioning to heat soon. Grants were received to cover the costs of new doors and locking mechanisms at the high school. Mrs. Thompson captured these grants to cover the costs. "Roadmap to literacy" was updated by Mr. Favre. The administration and staff are working on creating and establishing this action plan for students. New Reading curriculum will be presented for approval at the November meeting. Students were asked to vote on their favorite playground design for the new elementary 2-5. Mr. Heigert ran the study and presented the winning design. Dr. Teppen presented the Board with the master schedule changes and ideas to bring the "Middle" School back to a "Junior High" concept. Schedule and shared staff with the high school would allow students more opportunities for elective classes. Mrs. Ellis gave her presentation on "Portrait of a Graduate". This program is still in the beginning stages. Students, community members, parents and staff are working to help student set a vision for their own future.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to enter into closed session at 9:10p.m. for the purpose of Recommend closed session for the following purpose as allowed under the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1): 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: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0 A motion

was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to return to open session at 9:25p.m. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by David Belusko to accept the resignation of Sherry Pratt, Special Education teacher at the Middle School effective November 11, 2022. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Troy Burris as 8th grade Boys Basketball coach effective September 23, 2022. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Daniel Bonnell as the 8th grade Boys Basketball coach beginning the 2022-2023 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Cody Younker as the Middle School Assistant Wrestling Coach effective immediately. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve Will Carlile as a Volunteer Coach to the High School wrestling program effective immediately. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by David Belusko to approve the hire of Angel Trader as an aide to the Make It program. Effective immediately. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the family medical leave request for Heather Jackson Elementary Teacher beginning March 1, 2023 and continuing through the end of the 2022-2023 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to accept the resignation of Alesha Good, Special Education Classroom Aide, effective October 28, 2022. Roll Call: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried. 6-0

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.