

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
District Office
1100 N Old Route 66
Litchfield, IL. 62056
Tuesday, May 16, 2023
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 5:30p.m. at the South-Central Illinois Regional Workforce Training and Innovation Center, 2001 Eilerman Ave., Litchfield, IL. 62056. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; David Belusko, Mark Bloome and Jimmy Gorowski. Valerie Cain and Gregg Hires were 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, Hilary Wagenblast. Attending: Abe Loveless, Technology officer and Shane Cress, LEA representative; John Hanafin, Litchfield News Herald and Mary Herschelman, Journal News. Jim Helton, IASB. Concerned parents and citizens.

Ron Anglin, Jimmy Gorowski and David Belusko all met at the SCI Center for an update. Eric Kohlen, Poettker Construction, walked the Board through the progress at the job site. Work began on the welding area for the center. Painting and window installation would be the next phase of work. The Board left the job site and reconvened at the District Office located at 1100 N. Old Route 66, Litchfield, IL.

Regular Monthly meeting

The regular monthly meeting was called to order at 6:05p.m. Roll Call was taken with Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Gorowski. Cain and Hires were absent.

Citizens agenda

Rob Corso and Dan Newkirk were not able to attend the meeting. Both gentlemen retired at the end of this 2022-2023 school year. They would be presented with a plaque and \$200.00 gift certificate from the board for their many years of service in the District.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approve early graduate request(s) for the 2023-2024 school year
- Approve regular and closed session minutes from the April 18, 2023
- Approve minutes from special meeting on May 8, 2023
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for May 2023 total \$1,293,598.95. From Education fund: \$184,859.31. From O&M: \$66,910.22. From Transportation: \$34,258.11. From Capital Projects \$909,034.88. From Tort: \$6,405.65. From Health-Life-Safety: 92,130.78. Ending balance in all funds at April 30, 2023 is \$26,067,129. Balance in operating funds is \$15,731,046. Balance in Capital Projects is \$1,395,061. Balance in Health-Life-Safety is \$7,446,589. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

Julie Abel, President asked the Board members to look over the brochure for the Superintendent search that was sent to them from Jim Helton, IASB. Mr. Helton was not in attendance put was working with the Board and District staff to set time lines for the stakeholder meetings and release of the brochure. The Superintendent job posting will be released in July. No action was taken.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the second reading of board revisions to Policy, Administrative procedures, and Exhibits from press plus issue #111: As presented by IASB:2:110; 2:250-E2; 3:40; 3:40-E; 4:60; 4:60-AP;4:60-AP2;4:60-AP3; 4:60-AP4; 4:60-AP5;4:60-AP5,E5:30;5:30-AP2;5:30-AP3; 5:30-AP3,E;5:90;5:90-AP1;5:90-AP2;5:125;5:150;5:150-AP;5:170;5:2606135;6:135-AP;6:230;6:230-AP;6:230-AP,E;7:180-AP1,E1;7:180-AP1,E2;7:180-AP1,E3;7:180-AP1,E4;7:180-AP1,E5;7:180-AP1,E6;7:180-AP1,E7;7:185-E;7:190-AP1; 7:190-AP6; 8:20. Voice Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

Dan Griffin of Clean Energy Design addressed the Board regarding solar panel projects at the High School complex, the District Office, and the SCI Center. Mr. Griffin answered several questions that the Board had regarding ownership rights and land right of way. The new Elementary School would not be included at this time. It would take some time to get history of usage. A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to continue moving forward with the information on this project. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0. Mr. Griffin would send a contract to Dr. Fuerstenau so that the District's attorney could review the contents.

Emily Spindler of FGM Architects and Peter Raderman, Poettker Construction brought the board up to date on the State Street Elementary, SCI, and Colt projects. Playground equipment and landscaping would be started at the Elementary school. Fencing around the playground area would be installed after the sod was established. Ms. Spindler stated that she was happy with the small amount of punch list items to be taken care of at this time. She would be presenting up to date drawings for the Litchfield Primary School project at the June Board meeting. Mr. Raterman explained that demolition would begin as well as asbestos abatement as soon as school was out for the summer. Flooring and electrical work were being done at the SCI Center.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the contract change order PCO #010 with Poettker Construction for the Litchfield SCI Center in the amount of \$59,094.78. This change event is for tracking the changes in cost associated with adding approximately 3,700 sf of resinous flooring in the shop area along with deducting the sealed concrete shown on the base bid drawings. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Bloome, Gorowski. NAY: Belusko. Motion carried 4-1.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the contract change order PCCO #11 with Poettker Construction for the Litchfield SCI Center in the amount of \$6943.04. This change event is for tracking the changes in cost associated with RFP 07. The change is associated with providing additional electrified door hardware, additional power receptacles and data rough-in locations, and grounding system for the MDF. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the contract change order PCCO #012 with Poettker Construction for the Litchfield SCI Center in the amount of \$624.00. This change event is for tracking the changes in cost associated with the tree demolition on site. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to approve the District Student Handbook changes for the 2023-2024 school year.

Elementary Schools- Minor changes including dates, and updated Litchfield Elementary School information. Deletion of Russell/ Colt Schools information.

Middle School- Annual changes including dates.

High School- Annual changes including dates. Rules regarding cell phone usage will be updated in handbook to reflect changes that were put into effect this school year.

NURSES: To be added to all student handbooks for parent notification. (required)

Stock/Undesignated Epinephrine and Narcan

LCUSD maintains a supply of undesignated EpiPens (for allergic reactions) and Narcan (for suspected opiate overdose). A Registered Nurse or trained staff may administer to any student who he/she, in good faith, believes they are having an emergency related to the stock medication that is being given even though the parent/guardian has not completed and signed a School Medication Authorization form or otherwise granted permission to administer. The district, school and its employees are exempt from any claims, except for a claim based on willful and wanton misconduct arising out of the administration- regardless of whether authorization was given by parent/guardian or by the student's healthcare provider. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the proposed 2023-2024 Consolidated District Plan for the Litchfield School District. This is an annual document that the district submits to ISBE to consolidate all grant information that is required. Mrs. Thompson updates tests scores, teacher survey information, as well general information for this document on an annual basis. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

Information Items

Enrollment was presented 1309. Make It reports were included in the packet. OPAA stated that 12,424 breakfasts and 13,108 lunches were served in April. Dan Stewart Athletic Director and Bob Witter, Buildings and rounds/Transportation included their monthly reports in the board packet of information. Dr. Lett and Mrs. Abby Carlson gave a presentation of the Career and Technical education programs that are available to the county students. Dr. Lett has been working with the area Administration and Counselors to establish pathway choices for the students in the various Districts. Mrs. Carlson has been working with the district staff and students to establish career path curriculum for the lower levels as well. New this year was a local job fair for Juniors and Seniors at the District Office. Mrs. Carlson believed it to be a big success. The SCI Center should be open for the Fall of 2023 classes. Classes available will be Auto, Welding and Construction Trades. Justin Jackson a member of the Union will split his time between Edwardsville Career Center and Litchfield's SCI teaching classes. Mrs. Ellis stated that 20 different pathways were presented to the high school students for 2023-2024 school year. Lincoln Land Community College would be offering more dual credit classes. Dr. Tepen reported that growth had occurred in reading scores from Fall to Spring at the Middle School. Result showed that 50% of students were reading at grade level. Mr. Favre addressed the reading scores for the Elementary Schools. Staff is working on ways to improve the reading scores and have parents/guardians be more involved in the process. A new reading curriculum will be introduced in the Fall for all Elementary students. Dr. Fuerstenau and the Technology department will man the grill for an end of the year all staff cookout at the District office on May 19th. Jennifer Thompson, Administrator, will coordinate all of the behind the scenes needs including setup, purchase of meat, side dishes, paper products, beverages, desserts etc. The District received \$150,000.00 from the Kilton Foundation. It will be used to renovate the stage area at the District Office. Once completed, it will be revealed as the Kilton Fine Arts Center. There will be a budget hearing on June 20, 2023 in regards to amending the 2022-2023 budget.

Closed Session

The Board chose not to enter into closed session.

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to hire Melissa Rufus as an aide for the Make It program effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Ron Anglin to approve the hire of Lonnie Law as the Assistant Boys Soccer Coach beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. 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 8:16 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.