

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
District Office
1100 N Old Route 66
Litchfield, IL. 62056
Tuesday, January 17, 2023
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 5:30p.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. Jimmy Gorowski and Gregg Hires were not able to attend. 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: Abel Loveless, 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. Eric Kohlen, Poettker Construction, walked the Board through the progress at the job site. Inside work is continuing. Painting, floors, and masonry work is continuing throughout the project. The building project is still on schedule to be completed at the end of February. The playground will be completed when weather permits. 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 6:18p.m. Roll Call was taken with Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain were in attendance. Gorowski and Hires were absent.

Citizens agenda

It was announced that Dr. Ross Billiter donated to the Litchfield Student Education Foundation in the amount of \$100,000.00. Each teacher in the District will receive \$500.00 to be used for materials for their classroom. A portion of the funds will be used at the new Litchfield Elementary Building. The remainder of the funds were allocated to the former library at the High School. The area being called "the Billiter Boardroom" is to be used by students to work in a relaxed environment. It was noted that Dr. Billiter had donated \$20,000.00 to the foundation the previous year.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approve adding Trapshooting as a High School Activity account
- Approve minutes from the December 20, 2022 meeting
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for January 2023 total \$817,273.82. From Education fund: \$144,438.95. From O&M: \$78,758.61. From Transportation: \$33,553.82. From Capital Projects: \$558,991.69. From Tort: \$304.75. From Health Life Safety: \$1,226.00 Ending balance in all funds at December 31, 2022 is \$23,188,089. Balance in operating funds is \$10,091,516. Balance in Capital Projects is \$3,611,446. Balance in Health Life Safety is \$7,647,865. Roll Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

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 form issue #110. As presented by IASB:

2:20;2:30;2:50;2:100;2:105;2:210;2:250;2:250-AP1;2:250-E2; 2:265;2:265-E;3:10;3:50;3:60;3:60-E
4:10;4:60-AP1;4:120;4:140;4:140-AP; 4:140-E1;4:140-E2;4:140-E3;4:140-E4;4:165;4:170-AP1;4:190;4:190-AP1;4:190-AP2
5:10;5:20;5:120;5:120AP-1;5:120AP2;5:120-2,E;5:190;5:200;5:220;5:250;5:270;5:280;5:290;5:320;5:330
6:15;6:20;6:20AP;6:50;6:60;6:60AP-1;6:65;6:160;6:220;6:250;6:255;6:260;6:260-AP;6:260-AP,E;
6:270;6:280;6:300;6:300-E2;6:300-E3;6:310;6:340

7:10;7:20;7:50;7:70;7:100;7:180;7:190;7:190-AP3;7:190-AP4;7:190-E2;7:190-E3;7:250;7:250-AP2; 7:285;7:285-AP;7:285-AP,E;7:290;7:290-AP;7:340;7:340-AP1;7:340-AP1,E4;7:340-AP2;7:340-AP2,E1

8:30-AP;8:95-AP Voice Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Emily Spindler of FGM Architects brought the board up to date on the State Street Elementary, SCI, and Colt projects. Bids for the Colt School Elementary project will go out the end of February. Most work will begin there in the Fall due to contract schedules. Demolition on the SCI center as begun as well as procuring items and equipment.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO #016 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield State Street Elementary project in the amount of \$ 30,710.47. This change event is tracking the cost associated with adding two (2) additional basketball goals inside the ICC-500 shelter based on the owner's request. Included in this change event is furnishing/installing two (2) basketball goal, adding additional floor striping for a court, replacing the blue on the existing goals with purple, and additional electrical work to operate the new goals. Per third party structural designer, there are no structural concerns on this change. Roll Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

Information Items

Enrollment was presented. 1318 students including the prekindergarten program. Make It reports were included in the packet. OPAA stated that 10,343 breakfasts and 10,442 lunches were served in December. Dan Stewart Athletic Director and Bob Witter, Buildings and Grounds/Transportation included their monthly reports in the board packet of information. Administration gave monthly building reports. Staff will be trained on the new literacy curriculum on March 3rd. Dr. Tepen presented the Middle School schedule for the 2023-2024 school year. The new schedule and class times will align with the high school to allow for shared staffing. Mrs. Ellis, high school principal introduced staff members Dan Carlson, Amanda Lamore, Hilary Wagenblast and Jon Yoch who introduced the board to the new flexible scheduling that will be used at the high school for the 2023-2024 school year. Mrs. Karen Cress, counselor will work with students to best suit their individual needs. This flexible scheduling will help to eliminate some of the current issues with the traditional scheduling. Shortage of substitutes, lunch room antics with extra supervision needed, and early dismissal schedules. The new pathway classes will allow students to take advantage of the CTE courses being offered at the SCI center and surrounding districts. Other students may use this time for credit recovery or work study. Mrs. Ellis presented the Board with an update on her "portrait of a graduate" program as well. Staff is working to update the course handbook for the 2023-2024 school year. Dr. Fuerstenau will be meeting with all of the seniors for exit interviews in the next few weeks.

Closed Session

The Board chose not to go into closed session.

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve that the need for confidentiality still exists pertaining to the minutes of closed sessions for the months of July 2022 to December 2022 and that the Board has determined for those minutes to remain closed. Roll Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Betty Gilgen as an aide to the Make It program effective immediately. Roll Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Debra Jones-Willis, classroom aide- Special Education effective January 12, 2023. Roll Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Shea Murray Classroom Aide for special education effective immediately. Roll Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, and Cain. Motion carried 5-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Valerie Cain and seconded by Mark Bloome to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain. Motion carried 5-0.