

Lisbon Board of Education

Lisbon, Connecticut 06351

Regular Board of Education Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 21, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Lisbon Central School

Media Center

Board Members Present: M. Krauss, J. Jencks, M. Avery, L. Baah, J. Danburg, J. Lewerk, J. Marshall, S. McCabe and D. Nowakowski

Board Members Absent: None

Administrators Present: S. Keating (Superintendent), D. Cormier (Business Manager), B. Apperson (Principal), B. McGlew (Building and Grounds), and S. Trepanier (Director of Special Education)

Administrators Absent: None

Student Ambassadors Present: B. Nowakowski

Student Ambassadors Absent: D. Jeffs and A. Cuff

Others: Mrs. Gilgenbach, Mr. & Mrs. Gosselin, Ms. Stacey Guertin, Ms. Hungerford,

Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Jolly, Mr. and Mrs. Rickard, Mr. Rogulski, Mrs. Svab, Mrs. Vane, Mrs. Wood

1. **Call to Order** – M. Krauss called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Public Comment** – Mr. Rickard read his objection regarding MobyMax being utilized effective January 4, 2021 for remote learners.

Please note: The Lisbon Board of Education welcomes comments and suggestions from citizens of the Lisbon community. Citizens who wish to speak with the Board of Education about a particular subject or concern shall be recognized during the public comment portion of the meeting. Each citizen wishing to speak at that time shall be restricted to three (3) minutes. As provided in Robert's Rules of Order, speakers shall be courteous, avoid personal attacks and refrain from the use of vulgarity. Public comment is an opportunity for citizens to bring concerns to the attention of the Board, but not an appropriate time to engage the Board in conversation. The Board may choose to direct the Superintendent to follow up on a matter as warranted.

5. **Correspondence to Board of Education** – Mrs. Sara Gadson requested that her letter be read at the Board meeting regarding her unhappiness towards the decision for remote learners moving to learning, utilizing MobyMax.

6. **Report from Lisbon Central School Student Ambassadors** –

B. Nowakowski reported that the 8th grade students are learning the following: In Language Arts, he reported they are reading the book, "City of Ember" and today they watched a movie about it to see the difference between the two. In Math, they are working on slope, slope intercept and y-intercept. In Science, they are creating, testing and racing paper dragsters and they are seeing if weight contributes to its speed and distance. In Social Studies, they are learning about the Revolutionary War and the pioneers that stood out from the rest. In Spanish, they are describing the weather in photographs. Lastly, he stated he hopes you all have an amazing holiday break, be safe and he hopes that you get many presents.

Read by Mr. Apperson, A. Cuff reported that the 6th grade students are learning the following: In Language Arts, she reported they are reading the book "The Egypt Game", chapter 10. The Egypt Game is about three girls and one boy who play a game behind an antique shop owned by a creepy professor. In Math, they are working on greatest common factors and least common multipliers. In Science, they are learning the main muscles in our bodies. For online school on Friday, we made up funny exercises for some of the muscles. In Social Studies, they are learning about Ancient Greek Myths. They have already read two of the myths, "The Gift of Fire" and Pandora's Box". In Art, they are shading their Ancient Greece portraits. Her portrait is of Aphrodite, the goddess of love and beauty.

7. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion: J. Lewerk motioned to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2020 Regular Board of Education meeting; J. Marshall seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

8. **Administrators' / Superintendent's Report**

- a) Lisbon Central School – Mr. Brian Apperson provided a report on the following: He named the students for November-Student of the Month. He commented on PBIS Activities. He stated the Parent/Teacher Conferences went well even though they were done differently this year due to Covid-19. Lastly, he mentioned that the second marking period grading will resume back to letter grading for in-person students.
- b) Special Education –Mr. Scott Trepanier reported on Special Education Enrollment Numbers. He also commented that he has completed 108 PPTs to date and some of these PPTs helped to realign some IEPs. He stated that during these meeting, it has helped him to become better acquainted with the students, staff, the high school staff and the parents.
- c) Business Office – Mrs. Diana Cormier reported on the Medicaid Report Activity. She also reported that the State accepted the Medicaid Cost report.
- d) Building and Grounds –Mr. Brian McGlew reported that the company, Service Station Equipment came to inspect the underground storage tanks and the inspection went well. He also reported on the recent snowstorm clean up.
- e) Information – Mrs. Sally Keating reviewed the 2020-2021 budget development timeline. Our budget is due to the Town by March 9, 2021. She stated today was the first meeting on the budget review. The next Finance Committee meeting is January 11th at 4:30 pm and it is open to the public. Next, she spoke of the LCS Technology Committee. Mr. Apperson is the point person for this committee. Mr. Apperson is finalizing the schedule for the New Year. She will forward this schedule to the Board members in case the members wish to attend. Mrs. Keating went on to address a question that Mr. Lewerk had during a previous meeting, asking how many renters LCS had mainly regarding the eviction moratorium addressed in the COVID Relief bill. There are 39 families, which include 66 LCS students with rental agreements. This moratorium has been extended until February 19, 2021. She is unsure if any of our families are impacted by this moratorium.

9. **Consent Agenda**

- a) Approval of Monthly Expenditures

Motion: J. Lewerk motioned to approve monthly expenditures for November 2020, Fiscal Year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$1,103,303.19; J. Marshall seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

- b) Financial Statement

Motion: J. Marshall motioned to approve the financial statement for November 2020, Fiscal Year 2020-2021 as presented by the Administration; J. Lewerk seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

- c) Transfers – Mrs. Diana Cormier reported regarding transfers.

Motion: J. Marshall motioned to acknowledge the November 2020, Fiscal Year 2020-2021 transfers as presented by Administration; M. Avery seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

10. New Business / Old Business

- a) Discussion re: Acceptance and Approval of Employees' Letters of Retirement/Resignation and Possible Action – Mrs. Claudia Conway, one of our dedicated PreK teachers, has submitted her letter of retirement, effective the last day of this school year. She will be missed. I am sure that you join me in congratulating her and wishing her the best. In addition, Ms. Dawn Maclean, one of our dedicated Educational Assistant/Aides is resigning, effective January 1, 2021. She will be missed.

Motion: J. Jencks motioned to accept and approve Mrs. Conway's letter of retirement, with regret, and to wish her much success in the future; J. Lewerk seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

Motion: J. Marshall motioned to accept and approve Mrs. Maclean's resignation, with regret, and to wish her much success in the future; S. McCabe seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

- b) Discussion re: Reopening of School Efforts – Mrs. Sally Keating led the discussion on this agenda item. We have had our students in school 4 days per week. We have not had any transmission of Covid-19 within the school as of yet. The cases that have been reported are from outside the school. After the school break, depending on the data from the State Commissioner and Department of Health, we will continue with in-person school 4 days per week until January 14, 2021. We will then begin in-person learning 5 days per week. On January 4th, the remote learners will begin using MobyMax. Mrs. Jenkins will be the manager for remote learners. Mr. Apperson reviewed the components of this program such as attendance tracking and pass/fail grading. Mrs. Jenkins has reached out to all remote students, setting up passwords and guidance for operating the different activities of learning. She is available for all students and parents needing guidance. She stated that this learning program is common-core approved and our students have been using this program in the past.
- c) Discussion re: Policy # 4113.6/4213.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified-Remote Work/Telecommuting Policy/Telework and Possible Action– This is a newly developed policy. Mrs. Joan Marshall did a brief summary of this policy recommended by CABE.

Motion: J. Marshall motioned to waive the 1st read of Policy # 4113.6/4213.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified-Remote Work/Telecommuting Policy/Telework; J. Jencks seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

Motion: J. Marshall motioned to adopt Policy # 4113.6/4213.6 – Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified-Remote Work/Telecommuting Policy/Telework; J. Jencks seconded

Vote: Unanimous

Motion Carried

- d) Discussion re: Agreement Between Ledyard School District and Lisbon School District and Possible Action – Mrs. Sally Keating commented that she had another conversation with Superintendent Jay Hartling of Ledyard Public Schools regarding the agreement between Ledyard School District and Lisbon School District. It was decided to put this agreement on hold until the spring due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Mrs. Keating also stated she spoke with Superintendent Sean McKenna with the Griswold Public Schools. Mr. McKenna wanted our Board members to know that if ever needed, his district could accommodate all of our LCS students.
- e) Update re: Revamping of LCS Website – Mr. Scott McCabe provided an update regarding the work being done on our website project. Mrs. Jenkins, Mr. Apperson and Mr. McCabe have been working with Novus regarding the redesign of our website. They are reviewing Novus's quote of approximately \$4,100 and the timeline for completion. The students are doing research for ideas of what they would like on the website.

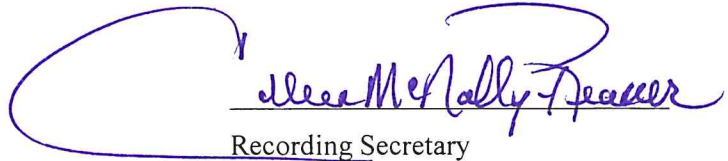
f) Update re: 2020-2021 Budget Projections – Mrs. Diana Cormier provided a summary of how we are faring with the expenditures thus far concerning this year’s budget.

11. **Committee Reports** – Mrs. Krauss commented that the first BOE Finance Committee meeting was held today and the next meeting will be January 11, 2021.
12. **Additions to the Agenda-** Mrs. Keating discussed an email she received from the State Commissioner dated December 17, 2020, notifying the Superintendents that the CDC has published new quarantine guidance, effective December 2, 2020, shortening the quarantine days from 14 to 10 days and down to 7 days with a negative test results.
13. **Next Agenda Planning** – Tuition Policy and Title IX Policy
14. **Public Comment** –Mr. Rickard spoke a second time regarding his displeasure of remote learners utilizing MobyMax. Mr. Rogulski spoke regarding his discomfort regarding the ratio of the remote learners to one manager overlooking all of the students. Mrs. Wood also expressed her concerns of the ratios and the lack of motivation for her child with the MobyMax program.

Please note: The Lisbon Board of Education welcomes comments and suggestions from citizens of the Lisbon community. Citizens who wish to speak with the Board of Education about a particular subject or concern shall be recognized during the public comment portion of the meeting. Each citizen wishing to speak at that time shall be restricted to three (3) minutes. As provided in Robert’s Rules of Order, speakers shall be courteous, avoid personal attacks and refrain from the use of vulgarity. Public comment is an opportunity for citizens to bring concerns to the attention of the Board, but not an appropriate time to engage the Board in conversation. The Board may choose to direct the Superintendent to follow up on a matter as warranted.

15. **Adjournment** - 7:48 p.m.

Approved


Recording Secretary

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT LISBON
CT ON 12/29/2020 AT 9:40am
ATTEST. LAURIE TIROCCHI, TOWN CLERK
Marylou Wakely, Asst