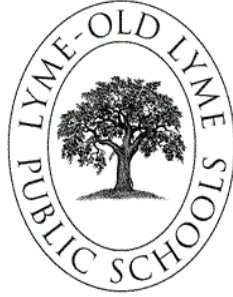


LYME-OLD LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Small Schools, Big Ideas



*Challenging * Achieving * Excelling*

REGION #18

Regular Board of Education Meeting

Center School

November 2, 2016

Board Present: Michelle Roche, Chairwoman; Jean Wilczynski, Treasurer; Rick Goulding, Secretary; Diane Linderman; Nancy Lucas Edson; Mary Powell St. Louis; Stacy Winchell

Absent by Previous Arrangement: Beth Jones; Erick Cushman

Administration Present: Ian Neviaser, Superintendent of Schools; Elizabeth Borden, Director of Curriculum; James Cavalieri, Principal of Lyme School; Michelle Dean, Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School; Melissa Dougherty, Director of Special Services; Patricia Downes, Principal of Mile Creek School; Holly McCalla, Business Manager; Jeanne Manfredi, Assistant Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School; John Rhodes, Director of Facilities & Technology; Neil Sullivan, Assistant Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School; James Wygonik, Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School

Others Present: Patricia Bugbee, AFT Representative; Madeline Zrenda and Matthew McCarthy, High School Student Representatives; 25 Townsperson from LOL

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chairwoman Roche. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Goulding made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Linderman, to approve the minutes of Regular Meeting of October 5, 2016.

VOTE: the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Dr. Powell St. Louis made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Goulding, to approve the minutes of Executive Session of October 5, 2016 and Special Meeting of October 26, 2016.

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VOTE: the motion passed unanimously.

III. Visitors

1. CAPSS Student Recognition

Caleigh O'Neil and Graham Aird were recognized as this year's recipients of the CAPSS Superintendent's Award. This award is based on the students' service, leadership and academic prowess. Mr. Wygonik, Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School, presented the awards to the students and spoke to the many accomplishments of these two high school seniors.

2. Public Comment

The following parents of high school students expressed their concern regarding the high school grading practices: Cynthia Ritchie, Tricia Swaney, David Williams, Lori Sulmasy, Jennifer Alexander, Laura Dean-Frazier, Virginia Wiese.

The following students also spoke on this subject: Julia Ritchie, Amanda Marsh, Jordan Lewis.

VOTE: the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

3. Report from Student Representatives

Madeline Zrenda and Matthew McCarthy reported on the following activities taking place at the schools:

At LOLHS: Tomorrow is the end of the first marking period. Next Thursday, November 10, will be the annual Report Card Night that provides parents with an opportunity to meet with teachers to discuss their children's progress. Spirit week took place last week and culminated with a pep rally and a dance Friday night. The Old Lyme Players will present Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" on November 18 and 19. Tickets will be on sale soon. The girls and boys soccer teams both played in the Shoreline Conference on November 1. The girls' team advanced to the finals and will play on November 4 in Portland.

At LOLMS: First quarter closed today and the final game of the soccer season was held. Members of the new Upstanders Club, along with their advisor Renee Molnar, are working to support positive school culture through outreach and involvement in school-wide events. The Upstanders are helping to support the Veterans Day program next Friday by selling flags that will line the front drive welcoming the veterans on November 11. This past Saturday, Laura Gladd, LOLMS Music Teacher, took the Honor Choir to UConn for a state-wide honor choir event; Ms. Gladd also has an upcoming trip planned this month for 1:1 workshops with the choral students at UConn. Bill Eydman had three students invited to the STEM Innovation Day held at Pfizer where students met and worked with nationally recognized innovators. Tours of the facility were also offered. Auditions for the school musical, *Alice in Wonderland*, are being held this week. There will be two casts and four performances in February. The Math Counts program, advised by Dave Dander, is proud to have made great progress so far and is excited to host the upcoming Math Counts competition.

At Lyme Consolidated School: On October 13, Karen Pasiuk, District Math Coach, along with many teachers organized a very successful "Math Night" for parents and students with over 100 students in attendance with their parents. On November 11, the staff and students will be honoring veterans at a Veterans Day Tea and Town Meeting. On November 17, the Mile Creek kindergarten students will be visiting the Lyme kindergarten students. They all will share in Thanksgiving activities and then have a "Garden Feast." On November 21 and 22, students have a half day of school as parent/teacher conferences will be held in the afternoon.

At Mile Creek School: October was packed with special activities. Teachers attended district grade-level meetings as a way to calibrate and align curriculum expectations and to develop student learning outcomes. This past Friday, the Mile Creek PTO sponsored Trunk or Treat. The bus circle was lined with thematically decorated cars; this annual event is beloved by students and parents. On November 7, the students and staff will engage in the democratic process by exercising their right to vote for their favorite type of cookies. This event is sponsored by the fourth grade under the guidance of Kathy Hancock. Speeches were presented on the Mile Creek broadcast news, and campaign posters are hanging throughout the school. Voting will take place in the cafeteria at lunch time. Among the November events, Mile Creek will be honoring veterans on November 11 with a special all-school assembly and a tea. Decorations and refreshments are courtesy of the Mile Creek staff. As a way to reinforce the love and power of reading, the Mile Creek PTO will sponsor its annual fall Book Fair on November 14-18. On November 17, Mile Creek kindergarten Pilgrims and Native Americans will travel north to Lyme School for the Kindergarten Thanksgiving Feast. This is just the first in a number of opportunities the students of the two elementary schools get together before joining as one class in grade 6. Report cards will be sent home for grades 1-5 on November 18. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on November 21 and 22.

In the Preschool Program: The preschool will be learning about community helpers, the seasons, nutrition and healthy food this month. The color yellow, shape of a square and the letters E, F and G will be a focus. The students will spend time writing in their picture journals. Music group and riding at High Hopes will continue. The preschool would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

IV. Administrative Reports

1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Neviasher reviewed the November personnel report which reflected several vacancies in the Support Services Department.

Mr. Neviasher reported that the November enrollment report will be emailed to the Board within the next several days.

Mr. Neviasher extended congratulations to several staff members: Michelle Dean, Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School, was asked to speak at the International Institute for Restorative Practices World Conference in Pennsylvania last week. She spoke about the transition to the use of restorative practices.

Andy Raucci, Instructional Technology Specialist, and MaryBeth Schreindorfer, High School Physical Ed Teacher, were invited to speak at the annual CECA (Connecticut Educators Computer Association) conference where they presented their award winning project titled *Physical Fitness Training Exercises Videos*.

Mr. Neviasser reported that the newly revised version of the *Focus on Education* newsletter is expected to be out as an insert in the *Lyme Times* either this week or next.

Mr. Neviasser reminded the Board about the upcoming CABA/CAPSS Convention being held on November 18 and 19.

2. Business Manager's Report

Mrs. McCalla reviewed the Executive Budget Summary as of October 31, 2016. Fluctuations of note: Certified & Non-Certified Salaries: does not include the October 28 payroll.

Administrative Services: reclassification of technology spending to instruction.

Instructional Programs: general purchasing is down year over year.

Special Education: tuition costs are down year over year.

Pupil Transportation: timing of invoices.

Mrs. McCalla reviewed the Contingency Maintenance Report noting that an additional \$19,305 has been encumbered for the main campus water related issues. The total available balance is currently \$108,216. Invoices have yet to be received for any work done since July 1 so this amount will change, most likely for the good, once invoices start to come in.

V. Educational Presentation

The Library Media presentation was postponed due to the length of the public comment section of the agenda.

VI. Chairman & Board Report

Mrs. Roche reported on the upcoming Board of Education officer elections and distributed a proposal for committee structure.

VII. New Business

MOTION: Mrs. Lucas Edson made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Winchell, to add a New Business agenda item for the purpose of discussing the public's comments on the high school's grading practices.

1. High School Grading Practices

After discussing the issue, the Board recommended the administration hold a parent forum next week to respond to the concerns presented under public comment.

2. Well Connection to Lyme Street Campus Water Systems

Mr. Rhodes, Director of Facilities and Technology, provided the following background information on this agenda item:

Since the installation of the Lyme Street Campus water system in 2003, the well field pumping rates from the four wells has significantly decreased. Over the past two years, the well field has struggled to meet the summer irrigation demands of the two competition athletic fields. This project abandons one of the existing wells which has ceased production and replaces it with a newly drilled well resulting in an estimated 20 to 25% system pumping increase. The newly drilled well has already been tested and approved by the Connecticut Department of Public Health. Following connection of this new well, the final application for use of the new well will be submitted.

This project was publicly bid in accordance with Policy 6330. Results of the bidding are listed below:

Sima Drilling Company Inc.	\$15,953
B&W Paving and Landscaping, LLC	\$50,000

The school district has successfully worked with Sima Drilling Company in the past. This project will be funded from the facilities contingency account.

MOTION: Dr. Goulding made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Wilczynski, to award the bid to Sima Corporation for the drilling of the Lyme Street campus well in the amount of \$15,953.

VOTE: the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

3. Policy 4600 Use of School Facilities, Buildings and Grounds

The Board reviewed recommended changes to Policy 4600 Use of School Facilities, Buildings and Grounds. This is a first read of this policy and did not require Board approval.

VIII. Old Business

1. Policy Review

This was a second reading of Instruction Policy 3410 Acceptable Technology Use and associated Regulations and Personnel Policy 5282 Acceptable Technology Use. There was also a second read of Policy 2310 Use of Electronic and Telecommunications Devices which was recommended for elimination.

MOTION: Mrs. Winchell made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Goulding, to approve Instruction Policy 3410 Acceptable Technology Use (and its associated Regulations) and Personnel Policy 5282 Acceptable Technology Use and to eliminate Policy 2310 Use of Electronic and Telecommunications Devices.

VOTE: the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

2. Closing of LOLHS Project

The district is still waiting for the final change order from the State so there is no action required on this agenda item.

3. Reports of Committees

- a. *Facilities*. Dr. Goulding discussed the hiring of a landscape architect to evaluate the athletic fields and provide information to address the artificial turf question.
- b. *Building*. No report.
- c. *Technology*. No report.
- d. *Policy*. No report.
- e. *Communications*. As reported earlier, the new version of the *Focus* newsletter will be available as an insert in the *Lyme Times*.
- f. *Finance*. A Special Board meeting was held earlier in the evening to begin discussion on the 2017-2018 budget with the Boards of Finance and Selectmen from both towns.
- g. *Human Resources*. No report.
- h. *Enrollment & Equity*. No report.
- i. *LEARN*. No report.

IX. Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

X. Executive Session

There was no need for an executive session.

XI. Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. upon motion by Dr. Goulding and a second by Mrs. Winchell.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Goulding, Secretary