



Wednesday, September 10, 2014
Tenure Reception and
Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Central School Board of Education
JSHS-Library at 6:30pm

1. 6:30 PM TENURE RECEPTION

2. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Regular Board of Education Meeting was held in the Library at the JSHS. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Bienes at 7:01pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: (P=Present A=Absent)

Tim Lambert	_____
Mike Bienes	_____
Tracy Bingham	_____
Martha Esposito	_____ (7:09pm)
Sharon Putnam	_____
Christine Sotek	_____
Monique Wood	_____
Galen Martin	_____

Also in attendance:

Leslie Whitcomb	_____
Matt Klafehn	_____
Andrew Kourt	_____
Michael Los	_____
Tamara Thorpe-Odom	_____
Rick Arket	_____

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. PROCLAMATION

Non-Action

Board Vice President Bienes read a proclamation on behalf of the Board of Education to retired Superintendent Karen McGraw and presented her with a framed copy of the proclamation signed by Board President Lambert.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS**Non-Action**

- A. Communications update given by Erin Clary. Erin was introduced as the new Communications Specialist. She updated the board on projects she is working on for the year: eNews publication (50% of newsletters were opened), print publications (hopes to put out 4-5 publications throughout the year with the first being mailed the week of September 22) and the District's new Facebook page which was launched on August 19 and currently have 176 "likes."
- B. District update given by Superintendent Whitcomb with Deputy Todd Hyson. Deputy Hyson outlined how he will support the District, specifically by becoming involved in the development and updating of safety protocols.
- C. Transportation Department update given by Patty Gallup. She described the Pre-K and Kindergarten orientation program as well as giving an overview of the transportation program. She elaborated on outside placements, field trips, athletics and explained training and safety protocols. They had a 100% bus pass rate of the recent department of transportation inspection. She expressed her appreciation for the recent bus garage renovations.
- D. Student Representative update given by Galen Martin. Galen gave some background information on himself to the board. He described the bad condition of the boy's locker room, especially the lockers. He said curtains are needed for the showers. He updated the board on fundraising and homecoming. Student picture day is coming up. Student council is considering and electronic notification system.
- E. Business Office/Facilities and Grounds update given by Michael Los. The pool bathroom is complete with the exception of trim work, which is in its last stages. They are also in the finishing stages of the JSHS roof. New bleachers are being installed in the high school gymnasium.
- F. Special Education update given by Tamara Thorpe-Odom. Special Education Department is off to a great start. Student programs and services have been scheduled and they began the year with a smooth transition. She welcomed Chelsea Mastin to the special education department as she will be providing services in both second and fifth grades. She congratulated School Psychologist Tylea Gebbie on the birth of a daughter. Tricia White is covering duties for Tylea while she is out on leave. This year the Special Education department will continue working on aligning goals and services. Professional development will be targeted directly to address alignment and progress monitoring.
- G. WBH update given by Andrew Kourt. The school year is off to a great start. A focus this school year is early intervention. The goal is to ensure that children are reading at or above grade level by the third grade by having AIS teachers provide support in grades K-2. They had a very successful preschool and kindergarten orientation with almost 100% participation. Open house will be on Tuesday at 6pm. The first PTA meeting will be on Wednesday at 6pm. They will have the first family evening activity of an outdoor movie night on the WBH front lawn.

H. JSHS High School update was given by Matthew Klafehn. The seventh grade is settling in very well. He expressed the success of the communication system in the return of parent signed information. He updated the board on the 7th and 8th grade excursion to the Berkshire Outdoor Center in Beckett, MA. He spoke about the Data Driven Instruction Initiative- change in the way that they look at classroom assessments. They are not just looking for a grade, but looking to target individualized areas of weakness and tailoring instruction to address deficiencies along the way.

I. Athletic Report given by Rick Arket. The fall season is underway, with the New Lebanon Soccer Tournament kicking things off. The event was very well attended and was a great fundraiser for the booster club, who he thanked for the long hours they put in. While NL placed 3rd in both boys and girls, the games were competitive and exciting to watch. Boys' Modified soccer currently has 21 players, and Varsity has 20 players. There was a strong turn-out for Girls' Volleyball that they have enough 7th grade girls to create a Modified team. This should strengthen the program. Meet the coaches night was held with a solid turn out. Kate Rose, a Rensselaer County Probation Officer, gave a presentation on appropriate use of social media that was highly impactful. Homecoming is scheduled for Friday, October 10.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action

A. Board member Bingham made the motion to approve item 6A. Board member Putnam seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the August 20, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes.

7. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Non-Action

A. Report on Summer 2014 K-6 Program given by Tamara Thorpe-Odom. A handout was provided and summarized to the board.

Action

Board member Putnam made the motion to approve items 7B-D. Board member Esposito seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. Motion to approve CSE/CPSE recommendations of programs and placements for the following special education students: 092100350, 000002034, 092100370, 000002409.

C. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Maureen Squier to the position of Instagram Club advisor with no stipend (first year).

D. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Lenny Brown to the position of Girls Modified Volleyball Coach for the 2014-15 Fall Season with a stipend of \$2100.

8. FINANCIAL

Non-Action

A. Enrollment Report given by Michael Los.

Action

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve items 8B. Board member Bingham seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, the following items to be declared surplus or obsolete: 1- Milton Piano – Kohler and Campbell, 1- Kay String Bass - older but workable condition, 2 lockers, 72"x15"x15".

9. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**Action**

A. Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to enter into executive session at 8:05pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular employee. Board member Esposito seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to return to regular session at 8:11pm. Board member Sotek seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

10. PERSONNEL**Action**

Board member Esposito made the motion to approve items 10A-I. Board member Sotek seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Stacey Hopkins to the probationary position of Clerk/Typist, Step 1, effective September 1, 2014 at a salary of \$20,761.65.

B. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, the following volunteers:

Jed Luchow	Volunteer Reading consultant at WBH Elementary School
Scott Carson (previously volunteered)	Boys' Modified Soccer Volunteer Assistant Coach

C. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Hilary Watts as a mentor to Chelsea Mastin with a stipend of \$1,150.00 and Laura Jubie as a mentor to Kadie Ertel with a stipend of \$575.00 (half year).

D. Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Michelle Daus and Kelsey Norberg as co-advisors for the class of 2017 (previously Michelle Daus) with a shared stipend of \$731.

E. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Shannon Adams as a substitute bus aide, effective September 4, 2014, Step 1, at a rate of \$12.18 per hour.

F. Motion to reappoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb the following substitute teachers effective September 4, 2014:

Jacqueline Fisher	Certified substitute teacher/\$100 per day
Claudia Cass	Certified substitute teacher/\$100 per day
Michelle Schrader	Certified substitute teacher/\$100 per day

G. Motion to extend, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Shannon Manning as an intern until December 31, 2014.

H. Motion to accept a resignation from Denise Wallace.

I. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, Susan Mitchell as an interim Dispatcher (until the position is filled) and a substitute dispatcher at a rate of \$15.46 per hour effective September 5, 2014.

11. SUPERINTENDENT

Non-Action

A. Superintendent Whitcomb presented the Superintendent's goals which support the Board goals.

12. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION

The Board thanked Galen Martin for his presentation. Superintendent Whitcomb mentioned policy updates will be coming to comply with recent legislation and FERPA. Superintendent Whitcomb let the Board know that the policy committee will discuss policies related to the Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act as well as acceleration policy review to align with the districts goals.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

14. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Board member Bingham made the motion to enter into executive session at 8:15pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular employee. Board member Putnam seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. Board Member Bingham made the motion to appoint Superintendent Whitcomb as Clerk Pro-Tem. Board member Esposito seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. Board member Putnam seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly McGivern

Kelly McGivern, District Clerk