



Wednesday, November 13, 2013
Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Central School Board of Education
Jr/Sr High School Library 7:00pm

1. POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING- 6:00pm

2. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Regular Board of Education Meeting held at the Jr/Sr High School in the library. The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Bienes at 7:00 pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Michael Bienes, Board Vice President; Christine Sotek, Board Member; Sharon Putnam, Board Member; Monique Wood, Board Member; Martha Esposito, Board Member; Tracy Bingham; Board Member

Absent: Tim Lambert, Board President; Usman Sadiq, Student Representative

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action

Board Member Wood made the motion to approve items 4A-B. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 6 Ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the October 16, 2013 minutes.

B. Motion to approve the November 6, 2013 minutes.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

A. Superintendent McGraw introduced Dr. Jim Baldwin, Questar III's Superintendent, to the Board. He and his colleagues shared information on Questar III's strategic plan and on online testing.

B. Business Administrator Michael Los presented on changing over our school lunch Point of Sales system to Nutrakids. Nutrakids should be a big improvement as far as the types of reports that can be generated. The greatest benefit will be seen by parents who will now be able to put money into their children's accounts online. As a follow-up to last month's discussion of the new requirement for homeowner's to reapply for the STAR incentive, we will be offering a session on December 11th from 5-7 pm in the JR/SR HS library for members of the community to apply online. Mailers will be sent out and this opportunity is being promoted on the district website.

Work on the bus garage storage floor is finishing up. The new concrete floor looks good and should make a huge difference in preserving our bus fleet. Per our Facilities Committee Meeting, we are looking to move forward with a bathroom facility for the pool. This improvement will improve safety by creating direct access to a bathroom and it will eliminate the need to send wet students to an unsupervised area.

C. WBH update by Leslie Whitcomb. Parents are now being provided with quarterly reporting and mid-quarter progress reports (no longer on a trimester basis). They have moved to electronic grade reporting. The feedback from the WBH faculty has been positive. We are now awaiting our parent's feedback. Numeric grades for students in grades 3-6 are now being used, a decision made by the faculty at the beginning of the year. They can now create an academic honor roll for students in those grades. The primary program will be hosting a Thanksgiving family feast. We have also scheduled a meeting to provide parents with a primary program update - including our plans for next year. The Trunk or Treat Halloween event was well attended and positive parent feedback was received. The Talent Club is up and running and is very active. It is a new, student-requested club, in support of the Board's goal to increase after school opportunities, and is being advised by a first year faculty member.

D. Jr/Sr High School update by Matthew Klafehn: Jesse Houts was selected by his CTE program for a week long internship at the University of Albany. He will be working with the automotive facilities shop at the UAlbany campus to service vehicles. David Knudsen and his 9th grade Global Studies students recently went to Proctor's Theater in Schenectady to see Merchants of Bollywood, an Indian dance performance. Superintendent McGraw joined the trip and was able to share some of her recent India trip experiences. Seventh and eighth grade students in the Futures Cities Club recently toured the Rensselaer Rail Station. Our Appetites Anonymous/Food Club sponsored a Chili Cook-Off this past Monday in honor of our veterans. The proceeds will go toward the second annual free Thanksgiving Dinner held for the community on Saturday, Nov. 23. Turkey dinners will be provided to individuals and families who might not be able to have such a feast otherwise. Mr. Christiansen's health class designed and printed holiday cards to be sent to troops overseas. Students, faculty and staff were invited to write messages and sign them. More than 150 handmade cards will be sent to US soldiers. A coat drive, sponsored by the newly formed Community Service Club, is also in the works to benefit local families. Patty Metzler, cafeteria supervisor, has been experimenting with a new "Breakfast on the Go" program at the High School. She has a table set up inside the main entrance where students can grab their breakfast in a brown bag on their way in the door. Students enrolled in Mrs. Noel's algebra lab studied ADA specifications, took measurements of our access ramps, and used their understanding of slope, proportions, and the Pythagorean Theorem to determine ADA compliance. Meghan Pepe, School Counselor, has been asked by the College of Saint Rose to sit on a panel at the 4th Annual

Induction Conference to discuss the influence of social media and technology on learning and interaction, understanding the multiple challenges students face outside the classroom that can affect learning, working with LGBT youth in schools, diversity, and special education.

E. Athletic report presented by Rick Arket. The Fall sports season came to a close earlier this month. Both the boys' and girls' soccer teams competed in sectional matches. The girls advanced as far as the sectional semifinals. He was pleased with the turn out for the Fall Sports Award Banquet. The winter season began on Tuesday, December 11. Early signs indicate player participation is strong for each sport. Games begin the first week of December. He has introduced a new mechanism to track and communicate medical clearance for students. The athletic department is now on Twitter (@NLCSD_Athletics). This medium will provide an easy way to communicate scores and schedule changes.

6. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Action

Board Member Sotek made the motion to approve items 6A-B. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve CSE recommendations of programs and placements of the following special education students: 092100314, 092100255, 092100325, 092100261, 092100131, 000002485 and 092100322.

B. Motion to approve new policy 7135.

Non-Action

C. Superintendent McGraw discussed an article on the new High School credentials for special needs students.

7. AUDIT COMMITTEE

Non-Action

A. Scott Preusser, auditor, presented information on the extra classroom activity fund and financial statements.

Action

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve item 7B. Board Member Sotek seconded. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

B. To approve the External Audit Report for year ending 6-30-2013 as submitted by Raymond G. Preusser, CPA, P.C.

8. FINANCIAL

Non-Action

A. Michael Los presented on the Long Term Financial Series: Debt Service/Facilities Projects.

D. Michael Los presented on School Tax Collection report.

Action

Board Member Putnam made the motion to approve items 8B-H. Board Member Bingham seconded. 0 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained. Board Member Putnam made the motion to approve items 8B-C, 8E-H. Board Member Bingham seconded. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

- B. To approve the September 2013 Treasurer's report.
- C. To approve the 2014-2015 budget calendar.
- E. To authorize Business Administrator Los to enter into New York/Island cooperative bid.
- F. To approve budget transfers totaling \$77,353.00
- G. To accept, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, a donation from the New Lebanon Alumni Association in the amount of \$250 for the Jr/Sr High School Library.
- H. To increase budget line A26104504, Materials and Supplies for the Jr/Sr High School Library, in the amount of \$250 from a donation.

9. PERSONNEL

Action

Board Member Esposito made the motion to approve items 9A-D. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Clint Garrigan and David Knudsen as boys and girls basketball scoreboard operators and Mary Beth Liles as Boys volleyball scorekeeper for the 2013-2014 Winter sports season with a stipend of \$30 per game.

B. To approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, the following substitutes:

Claudia Cass	Certified teacher substitute	\$100/day
Shannon Adams	Cook/server cashier substitute	\$10.82/hour
Shannon Adams	Teacher aide substitute	\$11.94/hour
Shannon Adams	Bus aide substitute	\$11.94/hour
Shaina Dulberg	Uncertified teacher substitute	\$85/day

C. To approve, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Phillip Gadowski as a volunteer basketball coach for the 2013-14 school year.

D. To appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent McGraw, Ann Mabeus as cook/server cashier, effective November 13, 2013 at a rate of \$10.82 per hour.

10. SUPERINTENDENT

Non-Action

A. Superintendent McGraw gave a progress report on goals.

11. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION

Non-Action

A. Board Members Bingham and Wood shared information on their recent conference experiences. Board Member Bingham spoke on the Internal Audit and Safety seminars she attended. Board Member Wood discussed seminars on Dr. King, Civil Service discipline and School climate.

B. The Board discussed a commencement time for the December 4th Executive Session meeting and decided on a 6:30 start time.

C. Board Vice President Bienes shared information on the Questar III Saturday Workshop Series: Building Connections to the Community: Effective

Communications by Boards & Districts. A communications committee was established and consists of Board Members Bienes, Putnam and Bingham.

D. The Board discussed two candidates who applied for the NYSSBA Area 7 Director.

Action

Board Member Wood made a motion to approve 11D. Board Member Sotek seconded. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

D. To endorse Matt Wade as NYSSBA Area 7 Director.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Chris Southard commented that he appreciated the professionalism of the Board and the District's direction.

13. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action

A. Board Member Wood made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:10 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular employee. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. Motion carried. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Action

B. Board Member Wood made the motion to appoint Superintendent McGraw as Clerk Pro-Tem. Board Member Putnam seconded. Motion carried. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Action

A. Board Member Wood made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 pm. Board Member Esposito seconded. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly McGivern, District Clerk