



Thursday, December 18, 2014
Regular Meeting of the New Lebanon Central School Board of Education
JSHS-Library at 7:00pm

1. 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 President Lambert at 7:00pm and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: (P=Present A=Absent)

Tim Lambert _____
Mike Bienes _____
Tracy Bingham _____
Martha Esposito _____
Sharon Putnam _____
Christine Sotek _____
Monique Wood _____
Galen Martin _____

Also in attendance:

Leslie Whitcomb _____
Matt Klafehn _____
Andrew Kourt _____
Mike Los _____
Rick Arket _____

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS

A. Student Representative Update given by Galen Martin

Galen updated the Board on the canned food drive class competition. The food will be donated to a local food pantry. There is currently a survey in place to get feedback regarding the morning announcements.

B. WBH Update

None

C. JSHS Update given by Matt Klafehn

In the school's first quarter, 128 students were on Honor roll- 68 on high honors, 60 on honors. That is 59% of student population. NYS just released the 2013-14 cohort graduation rate data. New Lebanon had 100 percent of the cohort graduated in four years. The Appetites Anonymous Club's Thanksgiving Dinner was held last month. 70 individuals were served. The Winter Concert on December 17 was outstanding and well attended. Jennifer Allard's Participation in Government class identified two issues of concern to them (morning announcements and student parking). They are in the data collection stage and will share information collected on each subject with him. The College Board has redesigned the SAT to align with college and career readiness standards, otherwise known as the Common Core standards. School Resource Officer Todd Hyson visited 11th and 12th grade ELA classes to talk about internet safety and the caution that needs to be exercised when using social media. He will be doing the same in the remaining grade levels in the months ahead. His classroom visit coincides with a 9-12 assembly program held last week conducted by Mildred Elley Community Outreach Representative

Matthew Martin. He gave an interesting perspective, coming from a college admissions standpoint, as to how the things that students post on their social media accounts can impact their ability to get into a college program, or remain in a program. The discussion also led to how perspective employers are also looking into an applicant's social media history as a determinant to hiring or maintaining employment status.

D. Athletic Report given by Rick Arket

He is very happy to announce that two fall varsity teams earned scholar athlete distinction. Both Girls' Varsity Soccer and Volleyball teams had a cohort of players with an academic average at or above 90. The Boys' Varsity Soccer team missed the distinction by one point, with a cohort average of 89. Section II held both boys' and girls' soccer banquets in early December. The CHVL nominated Justin Bingham for the Section II Class D player of the year, as well as Dan Evans for Coach of the Year. While neither won, earning a nomination in itself is quite an accolade. Winter teams are hitting their stride working within a very busy gym schedule. With the addition of a JV boys volleyball team, New Lebanon has 8 teams of its own, as well as 2 merged teams with Berlin, which he finds truly amazing, and is a testament to the dedication of players and coaches.

E. Business Office/Facilities and Grounds Update given by Mike Los

Any taxes that were not paid by October 31st, 2014 are sent to the counties to collect. Last year taxpayers eligible for STAR had to reregister. There was concern that a lot of people wouldn't, but there have only been two cases so far, and they can get a waiver from the state if they are entitled to it. Refurbishing the JSJS Library was discussed at the last meeting. The Librarians met with a vendor. They are working together in the design planning that will meet student needs now, for the future and will also fit in with the technology plan. Mr. Los met with Verizon in regards to the poor cellular service in the building and what options might be available. There is a safety concern with not being able to access service if the situation ever arises. If there was a better signal there could be more options for security cameras.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve item 4A. Board President Lambert seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve the November 12, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes.

5. CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

Action

Board member Wood made the motion to approve item 5A. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to approve policies 7240 and 7232.

6. FINANCIAL

Non-Action

A. School Tax Collection Report given by Michael Los.

B. Discussion of Budget Goals for 2015-16 by Superintendent Whitcomb and Business Administrator Los.

Action

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve items 6C-D. Board member Esposito seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

- C. Motion to approve the sale or disposal of obsolete items: Bus #125, Year: 2006, Chassis: GMC, Body: Corbeil, Seating capacity: 22, Mileage: 103,956, Vehicle has extensive rust underneath (the floor is extremely bad), has a major leak in the rear axle, needs all new tires; and Library discards (see attached).
- D. Motion to approve October 2014 Treasurer's Report.

7. PERSONNEL

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to approve items 7A-C. Board member Wood seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

A. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, the following substitutes, effective December 11, 2014:

Matthew Sanford (currently employed)	Uncertified teacher/\$85 per day
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B. Motion to appoint, upon the recommendation of Superintendent Whitcomb, the following coordinators and officers replacing Tamara Thorpe-Odom, effective November 17, 2014:

DASA Coordinator at WBH	Andrew Kourt
Health & Safety Coordinator	Mike Los
Title IX Coordinator	Leslie Whitcomb
CPSE Chair	Jennifer Morris
McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison	Matt Klafehn

C. Motion to appoint Kurt Hassenpflug as a Varsity Swim Coach for the 2014-15 school year, effective November 10, 2014 with a stipend of \$2500.

8. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION

Board Vice President Bienes asked about the bus that is up for surplus and the undercarriage rust. Business Administrator Los reminded the Board that there used to be a dirt floor in the bus garage that held a lot of moisture. The new concrete floor there should help alleviate this issue in the future. Superintendent Whitcomb asked if the Board had any questions on the email regarding a survey regarding a county school boards group. They have not yet received the email.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

10. PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Board President Lambert made the motion to enter into executive session at 7:25pm. Board Vice President Bienes seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

Board Vice President Bienes made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. Board member Wood seconded. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstained.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly McGivern

Kelly McGivern, District Clerk