

MINUTES OF THE LISBON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2008 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE LISBON TOWN OFFICE MEETING ROOM. (NOTE: These Minutes are not official until approved by the School Committee. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the April 14, 2008 meeting.)

Members Present: Prudence Grant, Traci Austin, Deborah Danuski, Janice Comber, Fay Ingersoll; Shannon L. Welsh, Ed.D, Superintendent of Schools

Members Absent:

Administrators Present: James Churchill, Technology Director; Jim Damsgaard, School Nutrition Director; Warren Galway, Assistant Principal; Richard Green, Principal; Carlene Iverson, Principal; Susan Matthews, Special Education Director; Catherine Messmer, Business Manager; Darrell Orr, Interim Director of Facilities Maintenance and Pupil Transportation; Kate Race, Assistant Principal; Jeff Ramich, Co-Curricular Director; and Alene Staley, Adult Education Director

Administrators Absent: Kenneth Healey, Principal

Others Present: Several members of the staff and public

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairperson Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. MINUTES:

A. **VOTED: (1)** To receive and approve the Minutes of February 11, 2008 and February 25, 2008 meeting of the School Committee as amended. (Danuski – Austin (5 – 0) Amended to read: “when students pass the AP exam they are eligible for college credit, depending upon a decision by the individual college.”

5. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

Move (#19 and #20) Director Executive Session and Action to future agenda

6. GOOD NEWS & RECOGNITION:

A. Jeff Ramich – 2008 State Wrestling Championship Mr. Ramich congratulated

Head Coach - Mark Stevens, Forrest Cornell - State Champion, Marcus Bubar - State Champion, Matt Nicholson - State Runner up and Cam Bubar - State Runner up for their accomplishments.

B. LHS Band Qualified for the State Jazz Festival

7. REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS/EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION:

- A. Susan Matthews – Special Education Update: A PowerPoint presentation was given by classroom teacher Heather Perry with a focus on Autism in the Classroom at Lisbon Community School. Heather talked about behavior, population by percentage, cost comparison if in Out of District Placement, and the history of the Autism Program. She also spoke about the importance of on-going training for the teachers and gave an overview of what the Autism Leadership team envisions going forward. Ms. Perry provided a snapshot of what type of instructional setting and technical support a child might need during a typical week. She concluded with the following message: the small steps that a child with autism takes, in the long run, will make the greatest difference in their lives and the lives of those around them.
- B. Jim Damsgaard – Nutrition Update Mr. Damsgaard reported that State review of the nutrition program is complete. The inspection is done by the Department of Education, Child Nutrition. They review every five years, this year the High School and PWS were reviewed on December 18th & 19th. Some of the things they look at are: Free and reduced application; HACCP; accountability program; financial records/record keeping; recording of labor; breakfast and menu analysis. The overall comment on the review was Great Job! So far this year our numbers indicate that 3 out of 4 students eat lunch and breakfast is also up over last year.
- C. Alene Staley – Adult Education Update: Ms. Staley shared information on enrollment from 1999 through 2007 and appropriations. She pointed out that the adult transitions; college prep has decreased from 93 to 25 directly related to the loss of Carl Perkins fund and how the rules changed with the loss of these monies. Ms. Staley described the courses offered and those that were more popular than others. One of the highlights of the semester are the on-line programs and the increased numbers which may or may not be directly related to Lewiston no longer offering the on-line courses.
- D. Darrell Orr – Maintenance Update: Darrell commended the bus drivers on having logged a total of 35,147 miles from December 2007 with 0 accidents. He reported that the roofs of our buildings have been checked and continue to be monitored for snow as well as repairs and maintenance. We will be receiving assistance from the Androscoggin County Sheriff's Department with painting and cleaning of our schools again this year. Mr. Orr has been talking with SAD 75 Transportation Director, Mike Kelley for ways that working together might gain budgetary savings. In summary, Darrell reported that the drivers, custodians and administrative teams work very well together to meet and exceed the expectations

of Union 30's Mission Statement.

The board asked questions regarding the spare buses and Mr. Orr stated that these are used for field trips or replacement due to buses being repaired. Members have received several calls asking why our bus is located in Topsham – Mr. Orr explained the arrangement between Lisbon and Topsham regarding the extra bus.

8. REPORT FROM SUPERINTENDENT:

- A. Legislative Update: Superintendent Welsh congratulated the Committee on completing the survey and reported that the Commissioner has pulled the High School Reform Bill. The Legislature created a committee including teachers, administrators, school committee members and others who would have input on what the Bill would look like when it is presented to the Legislature next January 2009. The goal was to bring a group of people together to help influence the writing of what this statute would look like, as well as Chapters 125 and 127 that have to do with length of day, the number of days per year and the graduation requirements set by the state. Special Education Legislation based on recent court case in SAD75 and what prompts specialized instruction has been introduced. The impact may reduce funding for special education and increase services needed to provide.

The Legislature is looking at finishing up in early April.

- B. Draft Consolidation Plan Update: Dr. Welsh does not have the draft plan and will be meeting Wednesday night at 6:30 to finalize the plan. March 15th is our Hearings on the Plan. The Hearings are scheduled for 10:00 in Lisbon and 1:00 at Mt. Ararat. The goal is to meet the deadline of March 28th to submit the plan. The Commissioner will provide feedback in early April to meet the deadline of April 25th for warrant language for the June 10th referendum. The challenge is there is some language change being considered by the Legislature. The work we're doing isn't significantly impacted by the language changes and the plan we will be presenting.
- C. Lisbon Proposed 2008-2009 Subsidy Update: The Superintendent met with the Town Council and provided subsidy information to them. There is a reduction of \$600,000 from the State and there was a mistake on the special education computation. They will be working on revising the subsidy reports. . The Governor's budget is the best case scenario; we would lose approx \$520,000 but the report from the Governor also included the special education error. The state had targeted 55% of EPS funding but instead are going with 53%. Recent revenue reports indicate April's revenues may be lower than anticipated which may have an additional subsidy impact. The School Committee approved a 1.9% increase knowing the times are difficult with increased oil and household costs. Dr Welsh praised the Committee for their efforts.

- D. Calendar 2007-2008 Update - The Superintendent stated we have 6 school days to make up which takes us to June 23rd and staff's last day is on June 24th. The Commissioner has been asked to provide a State-wide waiver for seniors as graduation dates had been established. She is considering this request.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Brian Hirst discussed the procedure for informing staff of policies. He wants a procedure on policies that affect staff. He asked the School Committee to consider how policy adversely impacts a staff member. School Nurse, Laurie Pitcher stated that we have stringent rules and nobody wants to listen to us. She feels the staff needs to be informed of policies that impact us negatively. There was much discussion between the committee members and Mr. Hirst on the policy and procedures. The School Committee noted that the Association is continuously informed throughout the policy adoption process and that Policy books are available in each school.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **VOTED: (2)** To approve an out of state trip to Boston, Massachusetts for the fifth-grade students on Friday, June 6, 2008. (Danuski – Comber) (5 – 0)
- B. **VOTED: (3)** To allow the Lamp Alzheimer's Residential Care Facility to use the Lisbon Community School in case of an evacuation or other emergency until June 30, 2009. (Austin – Ingersoll) (5 – 0)

12. FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- A. Lisbon High School – Month Ending January 31, 2008
B. Philip W. Sugg Middle School – Month Ending January 31, 2008
C. Lisbon Community School – Month Ending January 31, 2008
D. Lisbon School Department – As of March 06, 2008

13. COMMUNICATIONS (Consent Agenda):

- A. List of Lisbon Committees
B. Index of Lisbon's Adopted Policies and Procedures
C. NEASC Two-Year Progress Report of LHS

14. COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

Member Austin also thanked the teachers for inviting her in to read to the 1st grade. She congratulated the wrestling team for their achievements. Member Comber mentioned how much she enjoyed watching the students cross country skiing by the school. Member Danuski read to the 1st grade class last Friday and thoroughly enjoyed it. Chair Grant read to the 3rd grade class and commented that it has been a few years since she has done this and enjoyed it. Member Ingersoll read to the Kindergarten class and commented on how wonderful the children were.

15. PERSONNEL:

A. New Hires:

B. Resignations:

1. Laurie Pitcher, RN as Nurse at the Lisbon Community School effective March 21, 2008
2. Nicole J. Clark Educational Technician II at the Lisbon High School effective March 14, 2008.
3. Alison Sequin Speech Therapist for the Lisbon School Department effective end of 2007-2008 school year.

C. Retirement:

16. POLICY REVIEW:

A. Policies 08 Packet #6 was distributed for review with plans for 1st Read on April 14, 2008 and Final Adoption on May 12, 2008.

B. 1st Read on the Following Policies: 08 Packet #5

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| 1. | IHBA | Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) |
| 2. | IHBAA | Referral/Pre-Referral of Students with Disabilities |
| 3. | IHBAC | Child Find |
| 4. | IHBGB | Supplemental Statement of Rights for Private School Students with Disabilities |
| 5. | JKF | Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities |
| 6. | JKGA | Time Out Rooms and Therapeutic Restraint |

C. 1st Read on the Following Policies: 08 Packet #4

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| 1. | ADC | Tobacco Use and Possession |
| 2. | EBCA | Compressive Emergency Management Plan |
| 3. | EBCF | Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) |

4. JEA Compulsory Attendance
5. JHB Truancy
6. JLF Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect
7. KE Public Concerns and Complaints
8. KHB Advertising in the Schools
9. KE Public Concerns and Complaints

D. **VOTED: (4)** 2nd Read/Adoption on the Following Policies: 08 Packet #3 (Danuski – Comber) (5 – 0)

1. AC Non Discrimination/Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action
2. ACA Non-Sexist Language
3. ACAA Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
4. ACAA-R Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure
5. ACAB Harassment and Sexual Harassment of School Employees
6. ACAB-R Employee Discrimination and Harassment Complaint Procedure
7. ACAD Hazing
8. AD Educational Philosophy/Mission
9. ADA School System Goals and Objectives
10. ADAA School System Commitment to Standards for Ethical and Responsible Behavior
11. ADC Tobacco Use and Possession
12. ADF School District Commitment to Learning Results
13. AEC Accountability – Reporting to the Public

E. 08 Packet #2 was distributed for policy book update.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- A. **VOTED: (5)** To go into executive session to discuss LAA Negotiations, pursuant to Freedom of Access Statute, 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(D). (Danuski – Comber) (5 – 0) (9:22 p.m.)

18. GENERAL SESSION:

Returned to General Session at 10:19 p.m.

- A. **VOTED: (5)** TO authorize the Superintendent of Schools to ratify the LAA Agreement as discussed in Executive Session. (Danuski – Austin) (3 – 1 Comber – 1 Ingersoll)

19. ADJOURNMENT:

VOTED: (6) To adjourn. (Danuski – Ingersoll) (5 – 0) (10:20 p.m.)

Shannon L. Welsh
Secretary, Lisbon School Committee

SLW:sjc