

## LISBON

May 17, 2010

The regular meeting of the Lisbon Board of Education was held on Monday, May 17, 2010 and was called to order by R. Baah at 6:30 pm.

**Members Present:** R. Baah, M. Burelle, J. Marshall, M. Krauss, R. Browne, S. McCabe,  
L. Herring-Sylvestre

**Members Absent:** R. Rogers, I. Rogers

**Administrators Present:** S. Keating, R. Austin, H. Mileski, D. Cormier

**Administrators Absent:** L. Slocum

**Student Ambassadors Present:** K. Hong, R. Arpin

**Student Ambassadors Absent:** Ben Way

**Others:** N. Smigiel, Mr. & Mrs. Tirocchi & family, D. Cloutier, A. Davis,  
K. Rizzuto, Mr. Rizzuto

The Student Ambassador led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Public Comments:**

Nancy Smigiel was present to report to the Board that the Volleyball equipment has been installed. Brian and the installers also checked the cafeteria and learned that a full serve court could be put in the cafeteria at minimal cost. The Recreation Commission would pay for the full installation. She was requesting the Board's approval to have this project move forward.

Motion by M. Burelle to go to 11a be added to the agenda at this time to make a motion for this request. Seconded by B. Browne. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

Motion to add Lisbon Recreation Volleyball proposal to the agenda. Seconded by L. Herring-Sylvestre. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

Motion by M. Burelle to allow the Recreation Commission to have the new net system for volleyball installed in the cafeteria, with no cost to the Lisbon Board of Education, and that all safety precautions are taken to maintain safety. Seconded by R. Browne. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

### **Lisbon Central School Ambassadors Report:**

Kenny Hong reported that the 6<sup>th</sup> grades are working on a DARE report and why drugs are bad. Their Puppet shows are being shown to the other classes now. He thanked everyone for the money donated to their Pennies For Peace Have a Heart for Haiti contest.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by R. Browne to approve minutes of the April 26, 2010 meeting as presented. Seconded by M. Krauss. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

## **Superintendent/Principal Report:**

- a) Mr. Austin reported to the Board of Education that he and Mrs. Gallagher met with the students who will be attending the Boston Trip. They discussed the itinerary for the two days and what behavior is expected of the students. T-shirts have been purchased that each student will wear on one of their tours, so they are easy to keep track of them. He reported that Mrs. Townsend, Art Teacher, presents each 8<sup>th</sup> grade student with a portfolio of their art work since they were in Kindergarten at LCS. He said she always says that students can learn to draw and the work they have done appears to show that she is correct. Each 8<sup>th</sup> grader does a portrait of themselves and they are hung in the gym for graduation. Mr. Austin also reported that the girls softball team continues to “mow down” their competition. They are undefeated and look to continue to be undefeated for the rest of the season. They are coached by Mr. Arico and LCS’s very own Mrs. Hungerford. Mr. Austin stated that the last four hours of Smartboard training was used up. There was a free training offered from Valley Communications, the company from which we purchased the Smartboards. Mentors were trained and they will be training other teachers. That is our Teachers Teaching Teachers Program. The PTO Basket Raffle was a success. It was held in the gym this past Friday and included a silent auction. Some of the items auctioned off were a pizza party with Trooper Washburn, breakfast for two with Mr. Austin, and a party in the gym with Mrs. Joly. Every year this event gets bigger and bigger. He thanked Tom Brodeur, Mrs. Hungerford, Mrs. Zelasky and other PTO members for all their hard work in making this event such a success. Mr. Austin reported that Brian McGlew picked up the rest of the computers from Mitzi Wohlleben and a thank you letter went out to her. Mr. Austin also thanked the front office for helping with bus dismissal when we had the train situation. He indicated that he can always count on their support and help in an emergency. Mr. Austin presented the CAFE Leadership Award to Kayla Rizzuto and Matthew Tirocchi. Both students have shown leadership qualities in their class.
- b) H. Mileski reported to the Board that there will be a Mentor Celebration on May 27, 2010 at 6:30 at CCHS. She invited the Board members to attend. She also reported that there was a nice article in The Reminder and she was very pleased when they came to the school. The CCHS Graduation will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. at CCHS and issued an invitation to anyone who could attend. Mrs. Mileski introduced two students who now attend CCHS and they gave the following reports:

David Cloutier – sophomore at CCHS talked to the Board. He said that this school has helped him in many ways. Heather was very helpful to him to find the direction that he wants to pursue. He indicated that Heather and the advisors at CCHS are wonderful. He has greatly improved in his public speaking and now works as an Intern at Mystic Aquarium and really loves it. He now has a real interest in Marine Biology and learning with this program has been tremendous for him. He stated work time at the school includes a 1 on 1 education in Science and Math. Heather said he did a presentation to the staff at Mystic Aquarium and even gave them information about the Black Sea that they didn’t even know. They were very impressed with his speaking. He will be pursuing a new internship next year and can return to the aquarium if this is what he wants in the future.

Amanda Davis – freshman at CCHS talked to the Board. She graduated from St. Joseph in Baltic and indicated she has always had a difficult time sitting for long periods of time and needs to be moving around. At CCHS she has the opportunity to expand and is enjoying learning. She has worked on various projects throughout the school year: one was to help

Go Green at the school, Toy Drive, and collected money for Haiti. She said she has learned to take criticism much better, and not getting as frustrated as she used to. At CCHS the 1 on 1 helps you interact with kids, family and staff. The staff gives great encouragement and she highly complimented Heather for helping the students. Her internships included catering, and florist work. Heather reported that she was very well liked by all.

David Cloutier's father talked with the Board and indicated that he is extremely pleased with the progress David has made since being at CCHS. He told the Board that the school has made a significant change in David, all for the better. He thanked Heather for making this possible for his son.

- c) Report from Mrs. Slocum was tabled until the next meeting, since Mrs. Slocum was out sick.
- d) Mrs. Cormier provided an update on the 2009-10 expenditure projections. She said money has been tightened and she does not see a deficit at this time, but it is difficult to call at this time.
- e) Mrs. Keating discussed the roof. Brian and she met with Ken Washburn and discussed issues relating to the roof project. Mrs. Keating read a letter from the Roof Committee stating that the roof project has been completed and that the funding for this project is in place. Mrs. Keating reported that presently there are no leaks and the roof has a warranty of 30 years.

Motion by L. Herring-Sylvestre to accept the letter of completion from the Roof Committee. Seconded by B. Browne. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

Mrs. Keating reported that there was a Food Allergy Workshop on May 7, 2010, presented by nurses trained by the Connecticut State Department of Education. It was a very good workshop and the feedback from the staff was very positive. She complimented Theresa Svab, school nurse, for putting this together.

### **Consent Agenda:**

Motion by M. Krauss to approve monthly expenditures for April, 2010 in the amount of \$668,871.55. Seconded by J. Marshall. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

Motion by L. Herring-Sylvestre to approve the financial statement for April, 2010 as presented. Seconded by R. Baah. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

### **New Business/Old Business:**

- a) School Improvement Plan

Mr. Austin reported that we now have a School Improvement Plan. He gave a brief history of the LCS students' performance on the CMT. Mrs. Keating reviewed the highlights of the School Improvement Plan. Discussion was held.

Motion by R. Browne to approve the School Improvement Plan as presented by the Administration at the May 17, 2010 Board of Education meeting. Seconded by S. McCabe. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

- b) The 2010-11 School Calendar draft was reviewed and discussed.

Motion by R. Browne to approve the proposed calendar as presented for Lisbon Central School and Community Connections High School for the 2010-11 School Year. Seconded by L. Herring-Sylvestre. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

- c) Mrs. Keating provided a preliminary discussion of the Race To The Top Grant. She discussed the recommended MOU between the CSBE and the LEA regarding Connecticut's Race To The Top (RTTT) Phase II. She indicated the district has 90 days from the award date of the grant to opt out of the grant project. She also indicated that the LEA is on board with this. It was also discussed that Lisbon would join a consortium at EASTCONN for this grant project.

Motion by L. Herring-Sylvestre to approve the signing of the MOU by the Lisbon Board of Education indicating an agreement between the CSBE and the LEA to establish a framework of collaboration, as well as articulate roles and responsibilities in support of the state in its implementation of an approved Race To The Top (RTTT) grant project. Seconded by R. Browne. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

- d) The Policy Revision Committee members brought a draft of the AED Policy to the Board for a First Reading. The Defibrillator will be maintained by the District Fire Department and the nurse will monitor on a daily basis to make sure it is working. It was also noted to delete the word Lisbon Fire to District Fire Department, in order to cover CCHS in Plainfield as well.

### **Committee Reports:**

- a) Ad-hoc Food Allergy Committee – No report at this time.
- b) Hot Lunch Committee – R. Browne reported on the meeting they had with Mike Rossi. There is software that does not have licensing and it was felt by the committee that paying the \$800.00 fee for the licensing would be a good place to help. Discussion was held. Diana reported that there is already a pending bill for \$1000.00 for equipment repair that needs to be paid.

Motion by M. Burelle to cover the costs for the licensing of the software for the computers in the cafeteria for approximately \$800.00. Seconded by M. Krauss. Vote: Unanimously No. Motion denied.

Discussion was held on putting this idea on hold for now and concentrate on paying the repair bills first. Board members want to talk with Mr. Rossi and requested that he come to the next meeting.

Student Ambassador Rebecca Arpin arrived late, and gave her report. She informed the Board that the 8<sup>th</sup> grade is going on their trip to Boston tomorrow morning and will go on a dinner cruise and tour the city for two days. She said the track team had a meet today and also on Monday.

**Additions to the Agenda:**

L. Herring-Sylvestre wanted some clarification on some contracts. There is confusion on some of the language regarding vacation time and discretionary time. Mrs. Keating discussed these issues and explained that each contract is different depending on the job.

After discussion, it was decided that more information should be made available where all Board members can see what changes have been made to individual contracts.

M. Krauss and J. Marshall requested new and old contracts be sent to the Board members after the attorney sees them, so they can review the changes that were made.

**Next Agenda Planning:**

- 1) Contracts
- 2) AED Policy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- 3) Hot Lunch – Mike Rossi to attend meeting

Motion by S. McCabe to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Seconded by M. Burelle. Unanimously voted. Motion carried.

The Board adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Approved

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Recording Secretary