

Our mission is to provide rigorous and varied educational opportunities that challenge and engage all students to attain their highest level of intellectual, social, physical, and emotional growth. (2007)

LITCHFIELD SCHOOL BOARD - SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT NO. 27

Litchfield, New Hampshire 03052

APPROVED MINUTES

March 5, 2008

(approved as amended 3-12-08)

Present:

Mr. Dennis Miller, Chair
Mrs. Cindy Couture, Vice Chair
Mr. Ralph Boehm, Board Member
Mrs. Pat Jewett, Board Member
Mrs. Dot Beauregard, Board Member
Dr. Elaine Cutler, Superintendent
Ms. Amanda Lecaroz, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Robert Manseau, Principal CHS
Mrs. Michele E. Flynn, Secretary

1) Public Session – Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

2) Review & Revision of Agenda

Revisions to the agenda include: CHS Graduation Date; Discussion of Proposed Math Curriculum. These items will be addressed following the CHS Course of Studies presentation.

3) School Board Members' Comments

>>NHSBA Scholarship Program – Dr. Cutler

Dr. Cutler briefly reviewed the Scholarship Program with the Board.

Mr. Boehm was concerned that some students did not take the NH Youth Risk Behavior Survey seriously and indicated that the next time it is presented to students it is done with more discipline.

Mrs. Couture reported that she received more information on the Retirement issue previously discussed. Copies of the information will be provided to the Board in the next meeting packet.

Mrs. Jewett congratulated the Girls' basketball team. Mrs. Couture concurred and commended the behavior of the students that attended the game. Mr. Miller commended the students that attended the game as well, noting that they were very enthusiastic.

Mr. Miller mentioned that Candidates Night is being held at the Town Hall on Friday at 7:00 p.m. and seating is limited. The event will be broadcast on cable channel 22. He also mentioned that GMS will be open for public tours Thursday evening and Monday evening.

4) Presentations to the Board

>>CHS Course of Studies – Robert Manseau, Principal CHS

Mr. Manseau presented the draft CHS Course of Studies for the 2008-2009 school year and reviewed all changes. Changes included:

- change pre-requisite grade B to B+ for Honors course
- add Reading Lab course in English
- change World Studies (for juniors) back to a non-honors course
- reinstate Journalism for juniors and seniors
- rename Senior English to correspond to transcripts
- add Lincoln Reconstructed semester for seniors
- drop Trigonometry and add Advanced Math Topics

- add Basic Biology, Forensic Science, Astrobiology and drop Chemistry in the Community
- add French V
- reinstate Advanced Graphic Art
- add Lodging Management Program for juniors and seniors, and list the Highland Program START Hospitality

Mrs. Couture suggested using the following language with all pre-requisite criteria for Honors classes: “*or with permission of instructor*”, which will keep all language consistent.

Mr. Boehm was concerned with why students who take either Honors English or Honors Social Studies must take an Honors course in both subjects. Mr. Manseau indicated that the courses are currently set up as team teaching. Mr. Boehm commented that the courses should be separate and not a team teaching structure. Mrs. Couture suggested Mr. Manseau check into the matter and report to the Board at the March 12 meeting.

Mr. Manseau also requested to leave the Math program the way it is in the Course of Studies, and if the Board makes a decision on the proposed Math Curriculum we can inform parents and students as it happens.

Mrs. Beauregard made a motion to approve the 2008-2009 CHS Course of Studies with edits for printing. Mrs. Couture seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Dr. Cutler discussed possible dates for CHS graduation with the Board. She presented five options. The Board discussed the options and decided to set graduation for June 13 with one Saturday make up day for seniors and apply for a one day waiver from the NH DOE.

Dr. Cutler acknowledged a communication from Mrs. Couture stating observations about the proposed Math curriculum. Mrs. Couture recommended that the Board have more discussion and not hold public input at this time. She felt more information is needed in order to make a sound decision.

Mr. Boehm commented that it would be interesting to see what other school districts are doing. Mr. Manseau suggested sending a visiting team to the Hollis and Souhegan school districts to research their Math curriculum. Board members were in agreement. Dr. Cutler noted that Ms. Lecaroz will report to the Board on March 26.

5) Community Input

There was no community input.

6) Recommended Action:

a) Business Affairs

1) Draft School Board Minutes:

a) Public Minutes of February 13, 2008

There were minor edits to the minutes.

Mrs. Couture made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mrs. Jewett seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

b) Public Minutes of February 20, 2008

The minutes were deferred to the March 12 meeting.

2) Manifest

The manifest was circulated and signed by the Board.

7) Policy Work Session:

SECTION E: SUPPORT SERVICES

a) Use of Private Vehicles to Transport Students (EEAG)

Board members discussed the policy and suggested some revisions. The policy will go to a 1st Reading.

SECTION I: INSTRUCTION

a) Instructional Approach (IF)

Board members discussed the policy and suggested some revisions. The policy will go to a 1st Reading.

b) Assessment (ILBA)

Board members discussed the policy and suggested some revisions. The policy will go to a 1st Reading.

c) High School Competency Assessments (ILBAA)

Board members discussed the policy and suggested some revisions. The policy will go to a 1st Reading.

SECTION J: STUDENTS

a) Age of Entrance (JEB)

Board members discussed the policy and suggested some revisions. The policy will go to a 1st Reading.

8) **Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3II (a-c)**

[Minutes of Non-Public Session are written under separate cover.]

Mrs. Jewett made a motion to go into non-public session at 8:40 p.m. under RSA 92-A3II (a) The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. (c) Matters, which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. Mrs. Couture seconded. The motion carried by roll call vote: Mr. Miller, yes; Mrs. Couture, yes; Mr. Boehm, yes.

9) **Return to Public Session**

Mrs. Couture made a motion to return to public session at 9:06 p.m. Mrs. Jewett seconded. The motion carried by roll call vote: Mr. Miller, yes; Mrs. Couture, yes; Mrs. Beauregard, yes; Mr. Boehm, yes; Mrs. Jewett, yes.

10) **Adjourn**

Mrs. Jewett made a motion to adjourn at 9:07 p.m.

11) **Upcoming Meetings** - *Litchfield School Board: March 12, 26, 2008 – CHS Media Room - 6:30 PM*

Respectfully submitted,

Michele E. Flynn
School Board Secretary