

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
District Office
1100 N Old Route 66
Litchfield, IL. 62056
Tuesday, December 19, 2023
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting at the District Office, 1100 N. Old Route 66, Litchfield, IL. 62056 A Public Hearing to approve the proposed tax levy increase for the District began at 6:00p.m. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko, Mark Bloome, Jimmy Gorowski and Gregg Hires. Also, in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Jennifer Thompson, Director of Curriculum; Kris Adamson, Recording Secretary and Administrators: Adam Favre, Jeremy Heigert, Russ Tepen, Hilary Wagenblast and Juletta Ellis. Bob Witter, Buildings and Grounds/Transportation Director AND Shane Cress LEA representative were in attendance. John Hanafin, Litchfield News Herald and Kyle Herschelmann, Journal News. Concerned parents and citizens.

Public Hearing

Julie Abel, Board President called the public hearing to order at 6:00p.m. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko, Mark Bloome, Jimmy Gorowski and Gregg Hires. No public input was given regarding the proposed tax levy increase for the Litchfield Community Unit School District #12. A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to adjourn the hearing at 6:03p.m. Voice Vote: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

Regular Meeting

The regular monthly Board meeting was called to order at 6:03p.m. All members were in attendance. Prior to the meeting being called to order Dustin Jones, a concerned parent asked to address the Board during the public input agenda item. Mr. Jones asked the Board to look at the admission fees charged for home sporting events. The cost to family has increased; add in multiple games per week, he felt that some students would not have family / support in the stands. He requested that the Board have administration look into an alternative or lessen fees.

Citizens agenda

NA

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approve regular and closed session minutes from November 21, 2023
- Approve minutes from special meeting November 30, 2023
- Approve minutes from special meetings December 6, 2023; December 7, 2023; December 8, 2023 and December 14, 2023.
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for December 2023 total \$1,139,089.06. From Education fund, \$176,264.82. From Operations & Maintenance: \$49,475.52. From Transportation: \$18,444.94. From Capital Projects, \$83,929.04. From Tort: \$33,208.72. From Health Life Safety, \$777,766.02. Ending balance in all funds at November 30, 2023 is \$24,828,115. Balance in Operating Funds is \$12,911,524. Balance in Capital Projects is \$4,777,693; Balance in Health-Life-Safety is \$4,429,800. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

Old Business

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to adopt a resolution to establish a property tax levy for 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the second reading of board revisions to Policy, Administrative Procedures, and exhibits from Issue #113: As presented by IASB:

2:20;2:110;2:120;2:150AP;2:200;2:220;2:220E-E2;2:220-E6
3:50;4:10;4:30;4:60;4:60-AP1;4:80-AP2;4:90;4:130;4:130-E;4:160;4:170;4:170-AP1
5:30;5:50;5:90;5:90-AP1;5:120;5:120-AP2;5:150;5:150-AP;5:190;5:200;5:210;5:220;
5:220-AP;5:250;5:285-AP;5:330;
6:15;6:20;6:30;6:50;6:60;6:60-AP1; 6:65;6:230;6:230-AP;6:270;6:280
7:50;7:60;7:70;7:160;7:165;7:190;7:190-AP9;7:250;7:270;7:270-AP2;7:285;7:285-AP;7:290;
7:290-AP;7:345;7:245-AP;8:30 Voice Vote: Yea: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

New Business

Updates were given on each of the sites by Peter Ratermann, Poettker Construction and Emily Spindler, FGM Architects on the Litchfield Primary project. Trees that needed to be removed for the project have been taken down. Work is being done to button up the project for winter so that the inside work can continue. Barring inclement weather, excavation for the prekindergarten addition. The Board will tour the project prior to the January 16, 2024 meeting. The grass on the playground at the Litchfield Elementary School will be dug up and replanted since it failed.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 010 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Primary School project in the amount of \$ 4,783.45. This change event is to track the cost associated with providing additional wood blocking where the existing roof meets the CMU wall of the new building addition to allow for the roofing expansion joint material to be fastened. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 001 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Prekindergarten project in the credit amount of \$ 48,126.34(-).: This change event is to track the cost associated with removing the exterior arch form the project documents. This was an architectural feature that is being removed via ASI 01 to help bring the project within budget. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain for consideration and action on a Resolution abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay debt service on the General Obligation School Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2020C of Community Unit School District Number 12, Montgomery and Macoupin Counties, Illinois Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the reimbursement in the amount of \$330.12 to Julie Abel, Board member for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Board members attend the annual board conferences to build their knowledge of school operating systems and practices. Just as we do with all professional development the district has a practice of reimbursing for mileage and parking. Roll call: YEA: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. ABSTAIN: Abel Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the reimbursement in the amount of \$ 330.12 to Ron Anglin, Board member for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Roll call: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. ABSTAIN: Anglin Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the reimbursement in the amount to \$ 330.12 to David Belusko, Board member for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Roll call: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. ABSTAIN: Belusko Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the reimbursement in the amount of \$ 330.12 to Jimmy Gorowski, Board member for mileage to and from the annual Joint Conference. Roll call: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Hires. ABSTAIN: Gorowski Motion carried 6-0.

Information Items

Enrollment is at 1310. Make IT presented their financial and directors report. 34 students are registered with 35 being the maximum at one time. In OPAA Food services report: 12,057 breakfasts and 14,125 lunches were served in November. Dr. Fuerstenau and Bob Witter presented the evolution of the LCUSD #12 Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation from January 2019 through December 2023. The overview gave the Board an idea of the many projects completed in that time period. December 20, 2023 would be last day of attendance before Christmas break. School will resume on January 3, 2024 for staff and January 4, 2024 for students. Dr. Fuerstenau shared the Career and Technical white page filled with information on regional CTE funding.

Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the letter of intent to retire form Kerri Frensko, Elementary teacher at the end of the 2027-2028 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Dan Stewart, teacher and Athletic Director effective December 15, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. ABSTAIN: Hires Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Nick Gerndt, High School Varsity Boys Basketball coach effective December 15, 2023. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. ABSTAIN: Hires Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the voluntary transfer of Juletta Ellis as High School Principal to the Director of the South Central Illinois Training Center effective July 1, 2024. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the voluntary transfer of Hilary Wagenblast as Assistant High School Principal to the Principal of Litchfield High School effective July 1, 2024. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the voluntary transfer of Abigail Carlson from Career Services Coordinator to the Assistant High School Principal and Career Pathways Coordinator effective July 1, 2024 ;contingent upon her completion with the Type 75 certification and the PERA administrator's evaluation training courses by February 28, 2024. Administrators contract will be null and void if Type 75 certification and Administrator's evaluation training courses are not completed by February 28, 2024. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Dr. Kelly McClain as Superintendent of Schools to a three year contract beginning July 1, 2024. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. Motion carried 7-0.

Closed Session

The Board chose not to go into closed session.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski and Hires Motion carried 7-0.