

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12  
Board of Education Meeting  
District Office  
1100 N Old Route 66  
Litchfield, IL. 62056  
Tuesday, January 16, 2024  
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 beginning at 6:00p.m. Due to weather the Board did not begin the meeting at 5:30pm with a tour of the Litchfield Primary School project site. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, President; Ron Anglin, Vice-President; Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko, Mark Bloome, Jimmy Gorowski. Gregg Hires was absent. Also, in attendance were: Dr. Gregg Fuerstenau, Superintendent; Jennifer Thompson, Director of Curriculum; Kris Adamson, Recording Secretary and Administrators: Adam Favre, Jeremy Heigert, Russ Teppen, 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 Herschelman, Journal News. Concerned parents and citizens.

Citizens agenda

Members of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl's basketball team were recognized. Coached Drew Logan and Jennifer Fleming introduced the 8<sup>th</sup> grade girl's basketball state qualifiers. The team finished the season with a record of 20-5. It is a great start to the program as these ladies' transition into high school. Members of the team included: Allison Belusko, Jada Carroll, Emma Estell, Mckenna Harmon, Kinley Hemken, Jennah Longwell, Adia Melchert, Kayleigh Morgan, Lynzie Reid, Charlotte Reyes, Samantha Rieke, Sarah Rieke, Halle Rogers, Emma Weidner.

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 December 19, 2023
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for January 2024 total \$1,434,641.05. From the Education fund, \$145,633.51. From Operations & Maintenance, \$81,452.73. From Transportation, \$15,800.21. From Capital Projects, \$779,896.81. From Tort, \$2,799.95. From Health Life Safety, \$409,057.84. Ending balance in all funds at Dec 31, 2023 is \$23,203,929. Balance in Operating funds is \$12,489,149. Balance in Capital Projects is \$4,889,305. Balance in Health Life Safety is \$3,832,930. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

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.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the change order PCCO #0032 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Elementary School project in the amount of \$ 1,422.50. This change event is to track the cost associated with Kane Mechanical hiring a balancing contractor to rebalance the hot water flowrate. The cost associated with this change order will be back charged to the design team. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO #027 with Poettker construction for the South Central Illinois (SCI) Regional Workforce Training and Innovation Center in the amount of \$ 11,108.74. This change event is to provide JCI BacNet Integration to DOAS-1/ITouch Manager. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Banking decision was tabled until February.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the Middle School and High School roof project with Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc. (TREMCO) in the amount of \$ 999,637.71. Information was presented to the board. After this project is completed the roofs on schools in the district will be basically new and under warranty. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

### Information Items

Enrollment is at 1309 Make IT presented their financial and directors report. December Make It was filled with Christmas activities. OPAA Food services report: 8638 breakfasts and 10421 lunches were served in December. Numbers reflect the Christmas break. Mr. Favre stated that students would be taking the winter IREADY test for reading and math soon. The staff is setting up appointments with parents for a second round of conferences. This extra step seems to work well for communication on the student's needs and accomplishments. A survey was given to Madison Park students to choose the playground that will be installed at the new primary school. LES had their first spelling bee. It was a success and student Grayson Short was announced the winner. According to Dr. Russ Teppen, principal the Middle School is preparing for IAR (Illinois Assessment of Readiness) testing. STEM night was a big success. The Billiter foundation helped to make these nights possible. Student Council collected shoes as a community awareness project. Their goal was 200 but 2700 were actually collected. Many in the community as well as churches from Hillsboro donated. Mrs. Wagenblast and Mrs. Cress announced the 2024-2025 Career Pathway course catalogs were published. A business pathway and STEM were added at the recommendation of Mrs. Jo Brummet, business teacher and Mrs. Amy Jones, science teacher at the high school. Mrs. Ellis informed the board that the high school hosted a "senior" panel in which recent graduates spoke with current seniors of their experience both during and after their high school career.

### Closed Session

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain for the board of education to enter into closed session at 6:47p.m. for the purpose of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the District. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (21) Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0. A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to return to open session at 7:21p.m. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve that the need for confidentiality still exists pertaining to the minutes of closed sessions for the months of July 2023 to December 2023 and that the Board has determined for those minutes to remain closed. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

### Personnel

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Jade Parish as an aide for the Make It program. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Megan Lee as an aide for the Make It program. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Emma Wilson as a substitute aide for the Make It program. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Cheyenne Klemme as a substitute aide for the Make It program. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the voluntary transfer of Justin Ripley from High School Health teacher to High School Drivers Education/Behind the Wheel teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Ron Anglin and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the reassignment of Patricia Fenton from Elementary Teacher to Middle School Physical Education teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to adjourn the meeting at 7:24p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, and Gorowski. Motion carried 6-0.