

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
South Central Illinois Training and Innovation Center
2001 Eilerman Avenue
Litchfield, IL. 62056
Tuesday, March 19, 2024
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the SCI Campus located at 2001 Eilerman Avenue, Litchfield, IL. 62056. Board members in attendance included: Ron Anglin, Vice President; Valerie Cain, Secretary, David Belusko, Mark Bloome, Jimmy Gorowski and Gregg Hires. Gregg Hires arrived at 6:20p.m. Julie Abel 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 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 Mary Herschelman of the Journal News. Concerned parents and citizens.

Citizens agenda

The Board recognized the High School and Middle School state qualifying wrestlers. Coaches Davidson and Younker gave a brief history for each of the wrestlers. Those recognized were: Vinny Moore, Rilynn Younker, and Jayce Ellinger.

Consent Agenda

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

Approve early graduation requests

Approval of minutes from the meeting February 20, 2024

Approval of bills

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Bills payable for the month of March 2024 total \$1,697,181.94. From Ed fund: \$251,328.02. From O&M: \$78,496.38. From Transportation: \$19,640.08. From Capital Projects: \$473,974.61. From Tort: \$22,240.75. From Health-Life-Safety: \$851,502.10. ending fund balance in all funds at 2/29/24 is \$21,195,147. Balance in operating funds is \$13,078,798. Balance in Capital Projects is \$4,704,720. Balance in Health-Life-Safety is \$2,773,971. Roll Call: YEA: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. Motion carried 5-0.

Fogleman Trustees

The Board of Education acting as the Fogleman Trustees set the 2024 scholarship amount at \$2,800.00. Roger Krabbe and Chad Ruppert of the Bank and Trust gave their annual reports. The financial and farm sides of the trust had good years without any major changes. Last year 69 scholarships at \$3,000.00 each were given the students. A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the Fogleman Scholarship dollar amount to \$2,800.00 for the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. 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 Colt School building project.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the new Prekindergarten through first grade building located at 615 E Tyler Avenue the Litchfield Early Childhood Center. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the annual membership in the Illinois High School Association of Athletics. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. ABSTAIN: Hires Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the amended 2023-2024 school calendar. As of this date, the last day of attendance for students will be May 16, 2024 with an early dismissal for Elementary at 1:15pm and the Middle School and High Schools dismissing at 1:30pm. E-learning days were utilized on January 16, January 19, and January 22, 2024. These are the only changes to the calendar. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the proposed calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the proposed 2024-2025 Board Calendar for regular School Board meetings and Fogleman Trustee meetings. The regular meetings of the Board of Education for the 2024-2025 school year will be held at 6:00pm.m on the third Tuesday of each month at the District Office unless otherwise specified; and that said

meetings will be limited to 11:00 p.m. adjournment. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

Chris Kuntzman and Abe Loveless the district's technology department gave their annual presentation of accomplishments and goals for the future. Cybersecurity is always at the forefront of the technology department. The department has attended conferences on the topic as well as providing security measures and steps to our staff. AI (artificial intelligence) is becoming more popular and used in school settings. The technology pathway has three students who attend class at the district office where under the direction of Mr. Kuntzman they are learning by hands on instruction how to trouble shoot chromebook failures. The department is seeking bids for the printers for the district. The current contract ends this summer 2024.

Information Items

Enrollment is at 1308. Make IT presented their financial and directors report. The musical production of "Mean Girls" will be at the District office running from March 22- March 24th. The District will begin Spring break on Tuesday, March 24- April 1st. Testing will begin the first week of April.

Closed Session

The Board chose not to go into closed session.

Personnel

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Wyman Markle, special education teacher at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Mark Bloome to accept the resignation of Anthony Robinson as the High School Junior Varsity Boys Basketball coach at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. ABSTAIN: Hires Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Lucas Martinez as the High School Spanish and Physical Education Teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Drew Logan as Middle School Athletic Director beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. ABSTAIN: Hires Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the hire of Stacey Carter as the High School National Honor Society sponsor beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Daniel Bonnell as the High School Boys Varsity Basketball coach beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski. ABSTAIN: Hires Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the voluntary transfer of Sarah Malloy from 5th grade Elementary teacher to 3rd grade Elementary teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, Hires. ABSTAIN: Belusko Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the voluntary transfer of James Hannah from Middle School Special Education teacher to Middle School Life Skills teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the voluntary transfer of Lindsey Gibbs from Elementary Life Skill teacher to High School Special education teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to accept the resignation of Brooke Furlow as the High School and Middle School assistant volleyball coach at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Gregg Hires to accept the resignation of Kari Dragoo as a Middle School Volleyball coach at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Gregg Hires to accept the resignation of Brittany Eckhoff as a physical education teacher, behind the wheel instructor, and junior varsity scholastic bowl coach as of April 3, 2024. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to accept the resignation of Ann Helgen, 4th grade elementary teacher at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call: Yea: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. 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 7:34p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Anglin, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski and Hires.