

Litchfield Community Unit District No. 12
Board of Education Meeting
District Office
1100 N Old Route 66
Litchfield, IL. 62056
Tuesday, February 20, 2024
6:00p.m.

The Litchfield Board of Education started their monthly meeting at the Colt School construction location, 615 East Tyler Ave., Litchfield, IL. 62056 The meeting began at 5:30pm with a tour of the Litchfield Primary School project site. Board members in attendance included: Julie Abel, 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. Concerned parents and citizens.

The meeting reconvened at the District Office, 1100 N. Old Route 66, Litchfield, IL. 62056 beginning at 6:00p.m.

Citizens agenda

N/A

Consent Agenda

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

- Approve regular and closed session minutes from January 16, 2024
- Approve monthly bills
- Approve Treasurer's report

Bills payable for the month of February 2024 total \$1,627,296.48. Totals per fund: Education: \$146,004.78. Operations & Maintenance: \$136,820.54. Debt Service: \$436,115.02. Transportation: \$34,498.69. Capital Projects: \$95,726.28. Tort: \$11,976.50. Health, Life, Safety: \$766,154.67. Ending balance in all funds at Jan 31, 2024 is \$23,377,614. Total in operating funds is \$13,675,208. Total in Capital Projects is \$4,205,775. Total in Health-Life-Safety is \$3,531,288. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, 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. This was the first tour of the site for the Board. Mr. Ratermann stated that the project was on schedule.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the contract change order PCCO # 011 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Primary School project in the amount of \$ 2,217.87. This change event is to track the cost associated with ASI 01. This includes visual display changes and providing an insulated metal panel in lieu of brick at the boiler room door. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, 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 contract change order PCCO # 012 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Primary School project in the amount of \$ 10,600.70. This change event is to track the cost associated with RFP 07. This includes providing camera rough-in locations and conduit for fiber optic cable as requested by the Litchfield Technology Department. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, 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 contract change order PCCO # 013 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Primary School project in the amount of \$ 3,561.50. This change event is to track the cost associated with the additional plaster repair and patching work that exceeds the patching allowance built into the project. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the contract change order PCCO # 004 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Prekindergarten project in the amount of \$ 1,885.50. This change event is to track the cost associated with demolishing the existing building foundation that was uncovered when the north parking lot pavement was removed. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the contract change order PCCO # 005 with Poettker construction for the Litchfield Prekindergarten project in the amount of \$ 27,912.55. This change event is to track the cost associated with importing rock in lieu of soil to bring the building pad to subgrade elevation due to the wet soil conditions at both the site and the borrow site. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, 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 contract change order with DeLaurent Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$ 36,238.00 for expansion of parking lot at SCI (South Central Illinois Career and Technical Center). This change event is to track the cost associated with the expansion of parking at SCI. It will add 36 parking spots. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Mark Bloome and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve to approve the Bank and Trust Company of Litchfield as its depository and Cindy K. Bergman, as its treasurer, effective for the period of 2024-2025 through 2026-2027 fiscal years. It is requested that the Board of Education name the Bank and Trust Company of Litchfield as its depository and Cindy K. Bergman as its treasurer for the period of 2024-2025 through 2026-2027. (3-year period) Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, 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 intergovernmental agreement with the Regional Office of Education #3 for the said Safe Schools Programs and Alternative High School. This intergovernmental agreement provides our district alternative safe school services through the ROE #3. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

Adam Favre, Jeremy Heigert, and Russ Tepen presented the Board with the winter IREADY test results for their students. A chart comparing the beginning of the year to now shows great growth. The administrators all praised their staff and students for making great strides and working hard to achieve the results in both math and reading. Students will be tested again in the spring.

Information Items

Enrollment is at 1309 Make IT presented their financial and directors report. Mr. Witter thanked his custodial staff for the extra work that they did during the snowy days this month. Juletta Ellis, high school principal played a video for the board entitled a day in the life of a student at LHS. The music departments and students were gearing up for the spring musical. This year's musical will be performed at the district office. Roger Jennings in Hillsboro, IL. donated a vehicle to the automotive program held at SCI. Mr. Heigert acknowledged Mrs. Stephanie Reynolds and the students of her Science Olympiad team. They look forward to more successes in the future.

Closed Session

The Board chose not to go into closed session.

Personnel

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to accept the resignation of Patricia Goforth High School Spanish teacher and National Honor Society sponsor at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Chelsey Shutt as the Behavioral Technician for the District effective January 25, 2024. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Mark Bloome to approve the hire of Ellie Ashmore as an aide for the Make It program effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Valerie Cain and seconded by Gregg Hires to approve the hire of Ashton Peacock as an aide for the Make It program effective immediately. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the hire of Clay Murphy as the Junior Varsity Baseball coach beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Jimmy Gorowski to approve Tom Melchert as the volunteer coach for the high school Bass Fishing team beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve Wyatt Pence as a volunteer assistant coach for the high school Bass Fishing team beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve John Fenton as a volunteer assistant coach for the high school Bass Fishing team beginning the 2023-2024 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by David Belusko to approve the hire of James Moore as the High School Athletic Director and Physical Education and Behind the wheel teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the involuntary transfer of Kerri Frensko from 3rd grade elementary teacher to 2nd grade elementary teacher beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. NAY: Belusko and Bloome. Motion carried 4-2.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by David Belusko to approve the voluntary transfer of Victoria Knoche, Middle School Life Skills teacher to Health Education Teacher at the Middle School and High School beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Gregg Hires and seconded by Valerie Cain to approve the voluntary transfer of Kaylie Ripley from Mental Health Interventionist to Elementary Counselor beginning the 2024-2025 school year. Roll Call Vote: YEA: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski, and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.

Seeing no further action to be taken, a motion was made Matt Belusko and seconded by Valerie Cain to adjourn the meeting at 7:20p.m. Voice Vote: AYE: Abel, Belusko, Bloome, Cain, Gorowski and Hires. Motion carried 6-0.