

LITCHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
February 25, 2021

Regular Meeting
Facilities and Technology Committee

- I. Call to Order The Facilities and Technology Committee meeting, held in the Litchfield Intermediate School auditorium and virtually was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Mr. Shuhi.

Members present: Mr. Shuhi, Chair, Mr. Morosani, and Ms. Stone. Also present: Mr. Leone, Superintendent, Mr. Terzian, Board Chair, and Mr. Sattazahn, Chief Operating Officer.

- II. Approval of Minutes

- a. Review the minutes of the regular meeting of January 28, 2021

Ms. Stone made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 28, 2021. Mr. Terzian seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

- III. Communications

None

- IV. Public Participation

None

- V. Old Business

Mr. Leone received notification from the Town of Litchfield, Office of the Fire Marshall in regard to the Litchfield Intermediate School that dates back to 2018. Mr. Leone commented he is unsure if these issues were brought to the Facilities and Technology Committee in the past. Noted from the Fire Marshall report; there are three sets of stairs that have open guards located in the former central office, gym and auditorium. Additionally, the stairs serving as an egress to the gym measures less than forty-two inches wide. Mr. Leone and Mr. Sattazahn have met with the Fire Marshall, Sam Kinkade, and are in the process of pricing out these compliance issues. A remediation plan that includes costs and a budget transfer request will be brought to the committee in March.

Mr. Leone also provided an update from Ms. Jamie Terry, Technology Manager. Some highlights from the update include a detailed report on the number of tickets serviced by LPS and RSD6 Technology team since July 1, a high level report from the Cyber Security Assessment was received, and the team is completing the final verification stages before releasing the Prevention Council survey to parents and guardians.

- VI. New Business

- a. Review 2021-2022 Capital List

Mr. Leone reviewed the proposed Capital Projects –Summer 2021 list with total projects coming in under \$250k. After review and addressing questions, the committee agreed to the recommended project list. The next steps are to gain approval of the project list from the Board of Education at the March meeting.

b. 2020-2021 Expenditure - Discussion

Mr. Leone led a discussion on 2020-2021 expenditures and inquired if the Board approves the Capital Project-Summer 2021 list in March, would the committee want the district to begin securing bids and complete some of these projects in the current fiscal year? This would be accomplished by spending down the surplus and contingency in the May and June time frame.

Mr. Leone added with ESSER2 that passed in December, the district would receive \$270k in revenue to be spent over the next two years. He added if congress passes the \$1.9 trillion stimulus package, an additional amount over \$300k is forthcoming to the district that can be spent on technology, social emotional services and remediation for learning loss.

Following a discussion with the committee, Mr. Leone summarized the capital list will go before the Board in March and Mr. Sattazahn will begin work on pricing some of these projects to expense this fiscal year.

c. Engineering Study for Broadband

At the time the agenda was created Mr. Leone anticipated holding a discussion on executing an engineering study for broadband. However, Mr. Morosani recently attended a meeting with representatives from *Optimum* whereby it is their mission to rollout broadband improvements by 2023 in the towns of Litchfield, Warren, Goshen, Morris, West Cornwall, Torrington and Watertown. Based on the level of detail on the scope of work and timelines provided, Mr. Morosani is cautiously optimistic in *Optimum's* efforts and cannot justify doing a preliminary engineering study at this time.

Mr. Leone commented this service is badly needed for students and staff especially with remote instruction. Mr. Leone plans to introduce a new concept of a virtual school at the next curriculum committee. Students either attend school in-person or remote by way of this virtual school. More information will be forthcoming as details further develop.

VII. Future Agenda Items

None

VIII. Adjournment There being no further business to come before this committee, **Ms. Stone made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Terzian seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Escobar
Secretary, pro-tem